



We can do it!
Ecumenical Pilgrimage
for Climate Justice

5th Ecumenical Pilgrimage for Climate Justice

Project overview and impressions

Geht doch!
Ökumenischer Pilgenweg
für Klimagerechtigkeit

Our mission:

77 days on the road

Ca. 1500 km

Poland - Germany - Netherlands - England - Scotland

Several **thousand** people on their way

One purpose: **climate justice!**

We are looking forward to **YOUR** support



Project office



Volker Rotthauwe

Project manager



Thomas
Kamp-Deister

Deputy project
manager



Chris Böer

Planning and
organisation



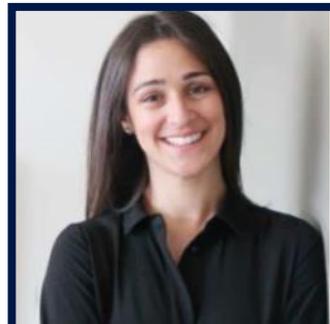
Christian Graf

Planning and
organisation



Karola Wiedemann

Public relations



Joana Pires Heise

Public relations



Christine Koopmann

Intern

Steering committee



Volker Rothauwe

Institute for Church and Society



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Representation Catholic Church



Sabine Udodesku

Representation Evangelical Church in Germany (EKD)



Astrid Hake

Representation Bread for the World



Grzegorz Gienza

Representation Polish Ecumenical Council



Chris Böer

Project office



Christian Graf

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Karola Wiedemann

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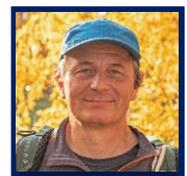
Joana Pires Heise

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Christine Koopmann

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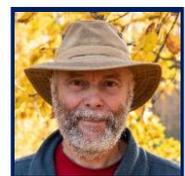
Jens Knölker

Grasroot Pilgrims Paris 2015



Wolfgang Eber

Grasroot Pilgrims Paris 2015



Wolfgang Löbnitz

Grasroot Pilgrims Paris 2015



Ulli Schaich

Grasroot Pilgrims Paris 2015



Christian Seidl

Grasroot Pilgrims Paris 2015

Agenda



Background



Impressions



Climate Pilgrimage
2021



Project support



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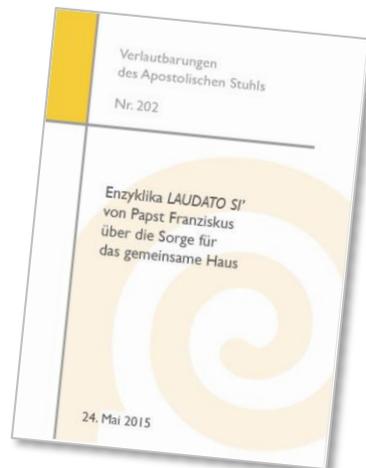
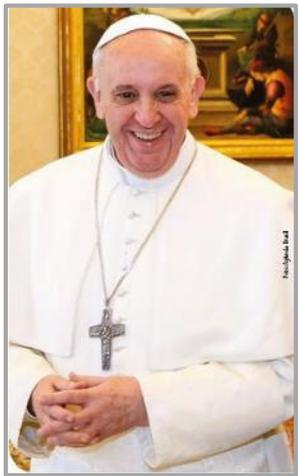
Foundation of the Climate Pilgrimage

Development:

- **2013:** call to action by World Council of Churches (WCC)
- **2014:** kickoff
- **2015:** first Climate Pilgrimage to Paris

Project basis:

- Integrity of creation according to the Environmental Encyclical **Laudato si'**



Claims of the pilgrims



Climate justice: The **wasteful lifestyle** of people living in industrialized countries **hurts the people from poor countries and our children and grandchildren** the most...

Climate pilgrims claim the **integrity of creation** and thereby maintain a healthy environment

- complete **implementation of the Paris Agreement**
- **dealing fairly** with Climate crises in the Global South
- mobility and traffic turnaround **are necessary**
- global sustainable **agriculture and turnaround in nutrition**
- **coal phase-out** and socially agreeable change of structure
- ...



Differentiation between pilgrimage and climate pilgrimage



Similarities:

- **spiritual** contents (visiting churches and chapels, prayers)
- a fixed destination and a fixed route
- conversations and socializing

Differences to "normal" pilgrimage

- a political goal is being pursued
- there is **one fixed schedule** and events
- **seeking a dialogue and contact with the people along the way**
- We travel as a group and are usually provided and accommodated as a group
- being alone is hardly possible because of the other pilgrims
- **public events**



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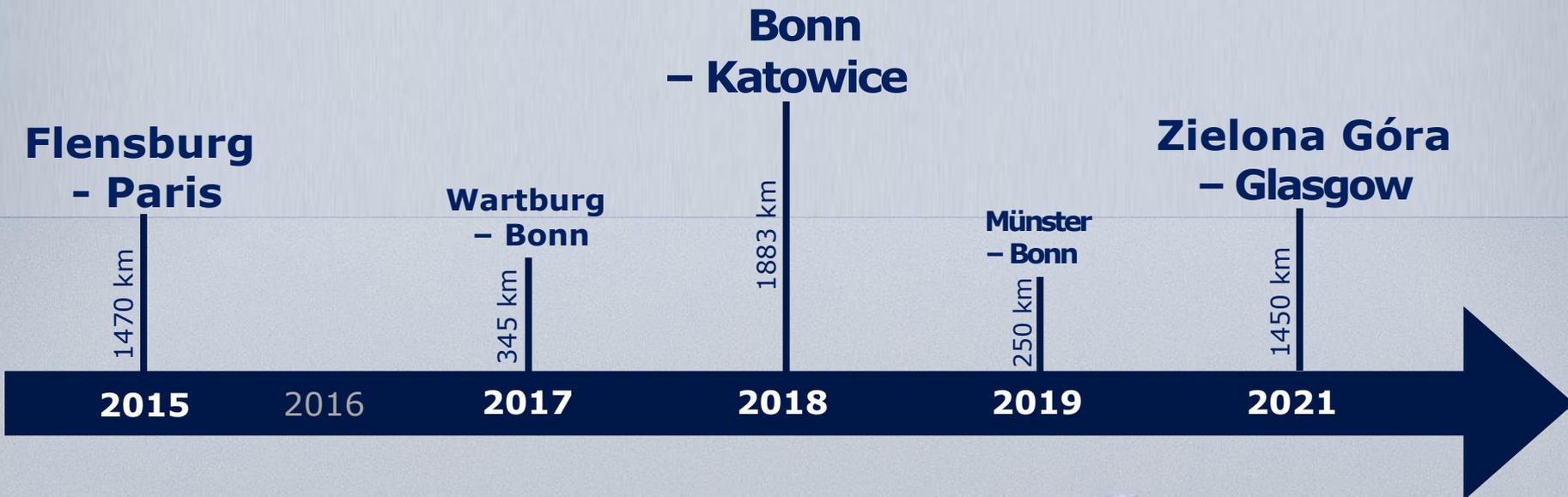
Climate Pilgrimage
2021



Project support



Overview of our climate pilgrimages



**More than 15.000
people involved!**

2015: first pilgrimage for climate justice

The destination was the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Paris from **13.09.** to **28.11.2015**

- **1470 km** from Flensburg to Paris
- More than **10.000 people** were directly involved
- **7.000 people** headed out



"The media response was overwhelming."
Thomas Kamp-Deister,
Stage coordinator

2015: Impressions



2018: via the brown coal mining districts to Katowice

The destination was the United Nations Climate Change Conference in **Katowice** and the route led through the German brown coal mining districts and Berlin.

From 9.9.2018 to 9.12.2018

- **1883 km** within 90 days
- More than **4.000 people** were directly involved
- **2.500 people** headed out



The Pilgrim Foundation Paris 2015 developed this project, it was organised by the churches in Germany, NGOs and the Polish Ecumenical Council, coordinated by the coordination board in Leipzig and supported by the parishes along the way

2018: Impressions



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**Climate Pilgrimage
2021**



Project support



Climate pilgrimage 2021 - an overview



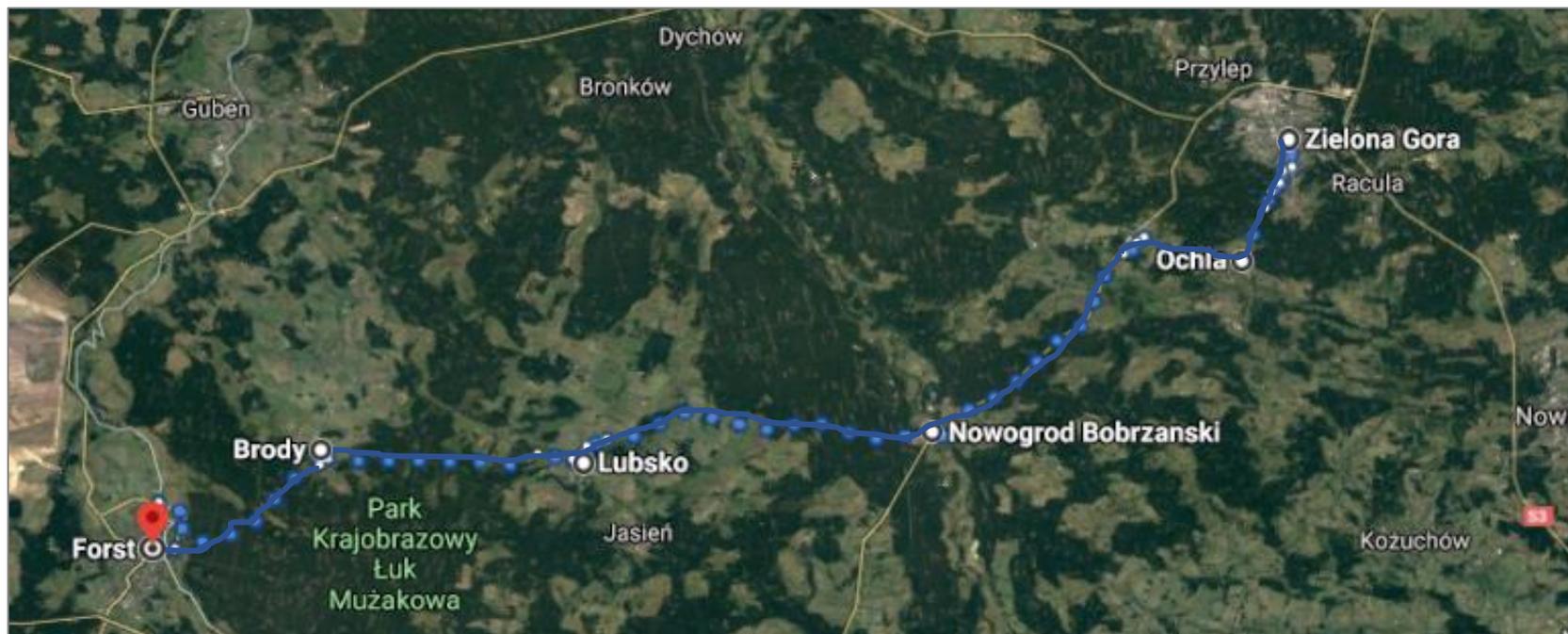
- from 14th August to 1st November
- Starting in Poland, we will travel straight through Germany, the Netherlands, England and Scotland
- destination: United Nations Climate Change Conference COP26 in Glasgow
- climate pilgrims head out for climate justice, sustainability and a good future on a healthy planet
- the project is supported by an ecumenical alliance consisting of churches, dioceses, Christian development and aid organizations, missionary organizations
- The project combines the delight in pilgrimage with supporting climate justice



Route: Overview



Route(1/4): Poland



Most important stops:

14.08. Zielona Góra (opening event in Germany)

Świdnica – Żagań (Sagan) - Tuplice

17.08. Forst (Lausitz)

Route(2/4): Germany



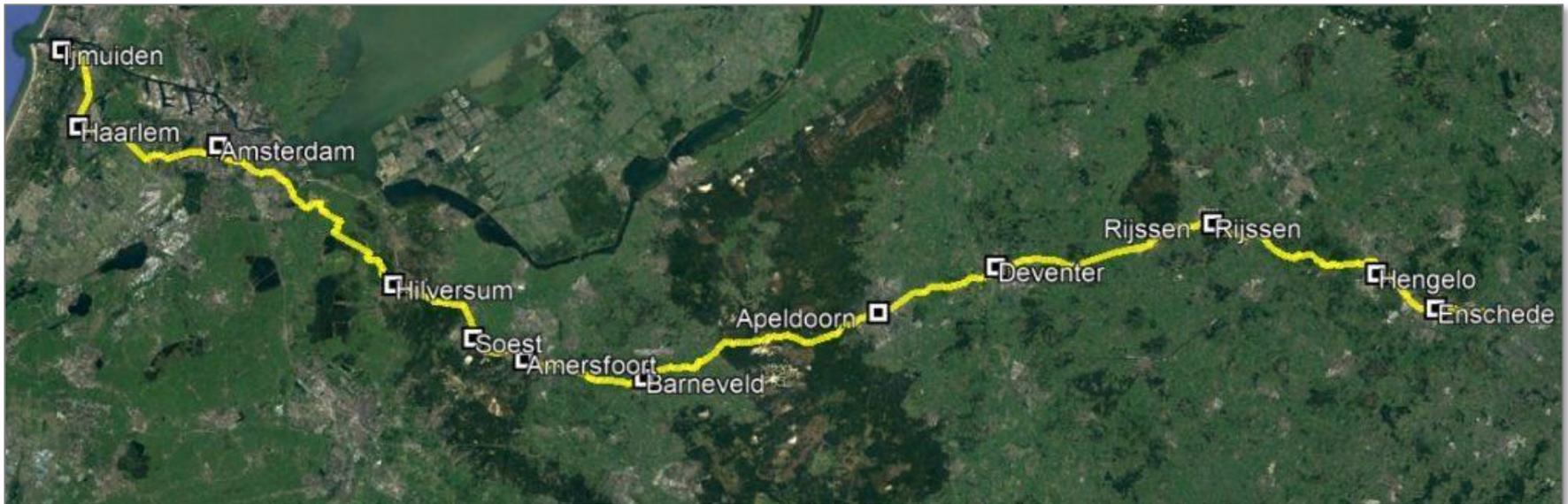
Most important stops:

18.08. Forst (Lausitz)

Cottbus – Riesa – Leipzig – Halle (Saale) – Nordhausen – Göttingen – Heiligenkirchen
- Bielefeld – Münster – Gronau

29.09. Gronau (last event in Germany)

Route (3/4): the Netherlands



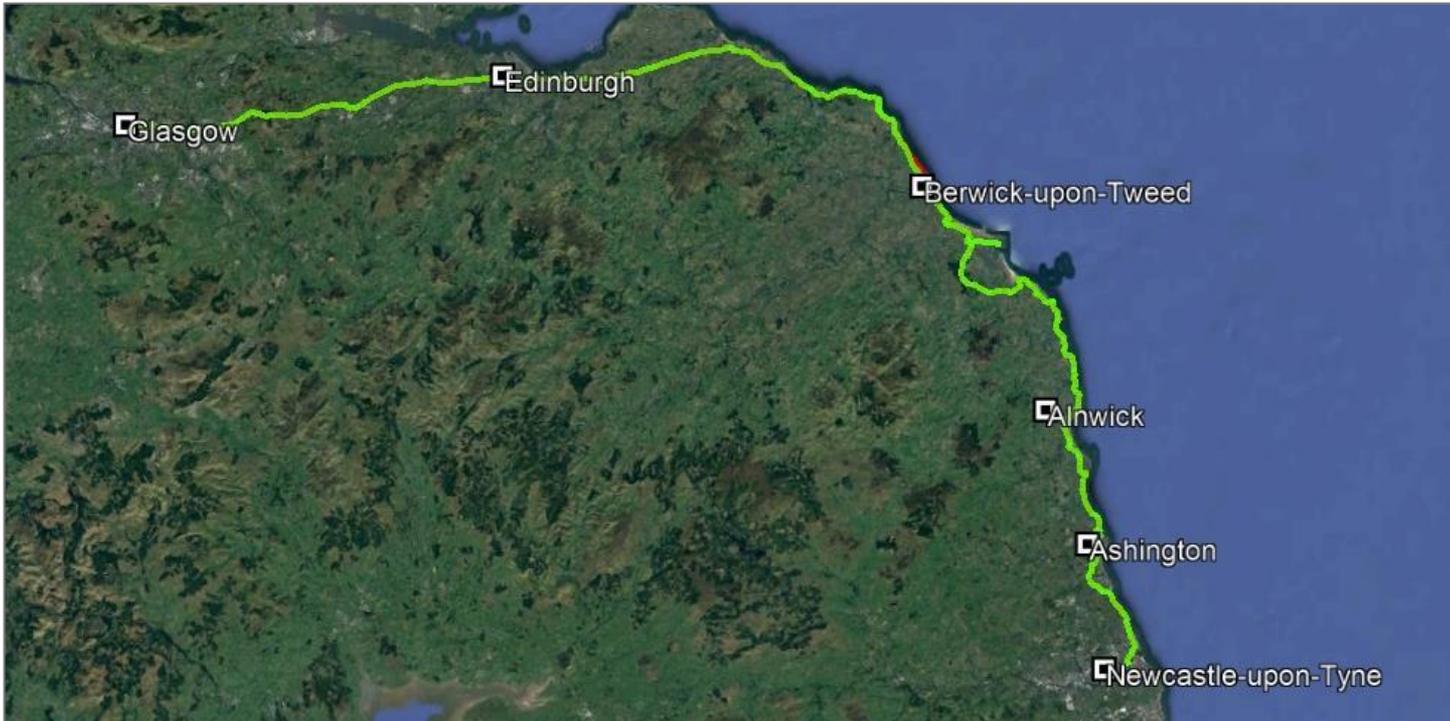
Most important stops:

30.09. Borne

Borne – Apeldoorn – Amsterdam – Ijmuiden

11.10. Ferry to Newcastle (upon Tyne)

Route (4/4): England/Scotland



Most important stops:

12.10 Arrival in Newcastle

Newcastle – Holy Island – Berwick-upon-Tweed – Edinburgh – Glasgow

29.10. Arrival in Glasgow

01.11. - 12.11.2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference

"Milestones"

- The pilgrims visit **places** of **pain** and places of **strength** regarding the topics traffic turnaround, mobility, agriculture, nutrition along the way:
 - pain: Examples of deficiency and need for improvement
 - strength: Examples of successful climate protection/ resilience
- in addition, there are **action days** planned where more people can take part



„places of pain“



"places of strength"

Target group

- Our pilgrimage is **for all** who support global climate justice.
- From our experience with pilgrimages between 2015 – 2019, participants were:
 - men and women of all ages
 - interested in an intact environment and a sustainable lifestyle
- Pupils should be invited, as well!



Agenda



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Climate Pilgrimage
2021



Project support



Accommodation options

Where can the pilgrims be accommodated?

- in churches, parish halls, sports halls, schools or guesthouses
- occasionally, they can also be accommodated privately, e.g. at parishioners

Which equipment is required?

- every pilgrim brings his*her own utensils (air bed, sleeping bag...), therefore beds are not necessary
- two rooms to sleep in would be desirable, but are not necessary
- showers would also be desirable, but are not necessary for every day

How many people need to be accommodated?

- there should be enough space for min. 20-30 people (min. 1,5m x 2,5m per person)
- if this is not possible, we will find individual solutions



Meals (1/2)

Which meals are required?

- the pilgrims normally receive **lunch** and **breakfast** in the parishes
- they'd be glad about an invitation for **lunch**, even though it is not necessary
- therefore, breakfast should be enough so that the pilgrims are able to **provide themselves with food for lunch**
- **guideline:** 2-3 slices of bread/ bread rolls per person for breakfast and 2-3 for the packed lunch

How many people need to be provided with food?

- ca. **20-30 people**
- the parishes are being informed about the number of people in advance



Meals (2/2)

What should the meals include and how should they be served?

It is important that the food is **substantial/contains carbohydrates**, so that the pilgrims are provided with enough energy after they have been hiking all day

- the pilgrims need **2.000-3.000 calories per day** (light soups are for example not sufficient)
- **vegetarian options** are always necessary. Meat/Fish can be offered additionally
- the pilgrims are especially delighted with **local, seasonal** and **organic** cuisine and if **plastic packaging** and disposable packages are avoided



Daily routine of the pilgrims

- the day usually begins with a morning prayer
- during the day, parishes can be visited:
 - The pilgrims are glad about an **invitation for lunch**, particularly in case of **bad weather conditions**.
- in the evening **activities** with the parishes can take place:
 - The pilgrims are looking forward to interesting conversations and exchanges with parishioners and **relevant celebrities** concerning climate justice
- parishes **can freely organize** the morning prayers and the evening program



Cooperation with schools

Who?

- schools along the route are particularly suitable. **Pupils of all ages** are welcome

What?

- schools along the route can have a lesson regarding the project and the aims of the project
- classes can join the climate pilgrimage for one (part of a) daily stage

Support:

- we are pleased about contacts with schools/teachers/school classes

Spread the word!



Milestones

Explanation:

- the pilgrims visit **places of pain and strength** on their way

Support:

- we are happy about **ideas and suggestions** for places of pain and strength
- We would be also very happy about **contacts to relevant celebrities** (local politician, agriculturists, company representatives...)

We are looking forward to **interesting events** with relevant celebrities **on the road** through your support and initiative.



Contact options



Project office in Germany

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**Thank you for your attention
and support!**