

My take on COP25

15 December 2019

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This "climate" COP was due to finalize the rules for implementing the Paris Agreement and raise the level of ambition. It was the COP of disappointment.

The first disappointed: undoubtedly the many young people who participated to a COP for the first time, inspired by Greta Thunberg who had crossed the Atlantic twice to address it. But also the 500,000 people who walked for the climate in Madrid on December 6, and all those who speak for the millions of people around the world who have begun to experience in their flesh the first consequences of climate change.

The final result is low, very low. It is not commensurate with what is necessary. Apart from the European Union (which has yet to materialize its intentions), no major emitter of greenhouse gases has announced a serious plan to achieve net zero emissions by 2050, which the IPCC has shown is necessary in order not to exceed 1.5°C of global heating.

The conference at least avoided hastily adopting bad rules on carbon markets, which would not have included human rights protection clauses, for example. It's better this way.

It has made little progress on the key issue of financing climate action, which is essential for many emission reduction or adaptation efforts in developing countries.

The few advances made (gender action programme, better consideration of ocean and land issues, etc.) are peripheral to the central challenge of the UN Climate Convention: reducing emissions, and quickly, to keep our planet habitable for all.

The signals of the climate system and nature are becoming clearer and clearer, while we depend on their good condition.

They were largely ignored at this COP, despite the IPCC reports.

And yet, no one can negotiate with the laws of nature.