

## ***Climate Class Action***

Press Release, January 31st, 2023.

### **Citizens can sue fossil fuel firms to claim their financial compensation.**

Activist Paolo Cirio launches the *Climate Class Action* project, a campaign for promoting a class action suit against fossil fuel companies.

Citizens affected by climate disasters such as flooding, drought, wildfires, hurricanes, and coastal erosion can now get together to sue the major fossil fuel companies such as Exxon, Chevron, Shell, BP, etc.

This class action has the potential to be the lawsuit of the century. Fossil fuel companies owe billions of dollars to citizens whose lives and belongings have been damaged or lost forever. Hundreds of climate lawsuits are being filed and fought by countries around the world; however there hasn't been a class action dedicated to citizens yet.

*ClimateClassAction.com* aims to inform citizens about their right to receive financial compensation from fossil fuel firms, and thus eventually join future class action lawsuits.

The online users of *ClimateClassAction.com* can calculate the compensation they should receive for losses and damages from the effects of global warming caused by fossil fuel firms. The users are invited to fill out an online form to indicate what economic damage they have experienced or if they have been harmed by the climate crisis. The form outputs the amount owed to users by each major fossil fuel company.

*ClimateClassAction.com* uses an algorithm that computes the compensation that citizens will be requesting with data on greenhouse emissions, profits, and misinformation spread by major fossil fuel firms. The outputs generated by the application enable the users to simulate claims for financial compensation they could receive from each major fossil fuel firm.

For decades, these companies have known about the consequences of their carbon emissions. However they misinformed the public about it, while making staggering profits and destroying any opportunities for greener energy. These firms are directly responsible for climate disasters and the damages they generate in the personal life of citizens. Cirio has assembled a list of accusations against the fossil fuel companies and he provides evidence with data, facts, and studies of seminal cases of climate litigation.

This online social practice art project informs citizens on their right to receive compensation due to climate disasters, while engaging in dialogue with the fields of climate litigations and climate justice.

*ClimateClassAction.com* wants to offer an unbiased and non-partisan service to citizens by allowing them to join class action suits and simulate legal claims for their personal damages. The users of the platform can remain anonymous, no registration is required. However they have the option to become active in an online community. Organizations and legal teams can also make use of this platform for their advocacy. This bipartisan call to justice will potentially move on to further fundraising, political organizing, and actual legal challenges.

This project integrates "Attribution Science" and climate change litigation such as seminal lawsuits filed by several cities and states across the United States and the world. In particular, lawsuits in California, New York, and Hawaii that have been seminal and constitute key case studies as legal ground. Thanks to "Attribution Science", it is now possible to attribute precise responsibilities to each major fossil fuel firm. The "Carbon Majors Database" established specific responsibilities for each international fossil fuel firm, and deduced that the 100 major oil, gas, and coal producers have generated over 70% of greenhouse gas emissions.

In 2021, Cirio launched the *Climate Tribunal* to put on trial major fossil fuel firms using evidence consisting of data, graphs, and documents. Cirio aims to shift the cultural perspective on responsibility for the current crisis, from individual citizens to the real culprits that remain unpunished.

This is a project by the activist and artist Paolo Cirio.