



## "What the world needs now" - online event with Vanessa Nakate and Carola Rackete

16.03.2022, Leipzig – To promote the international Fridays for Future climate strike, authors and activists Vanessa Nakate and Carola Rackete will talk about the crises of our time. The talk will take place digitally as part of the Climate Book Fair, co-organized by the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation.

20.03.2022

6 p.m. CET/8 p.m. EAT, online (English / sign language)

Link at: <https://www.klimabuchmesse.de/talk-nakate-rackete/>

Streaming at: <https://m.twitch.tv/vsschriftstellerverband>

**What the world needs now**

**A Talk with Vanessa Nakate & Carola Rackete**

**Moderation: Dr. Heike Wex**

Many are rightly concerned about the war against Ukraine. Not only is it a humanitarian crisis, but it also adds to a rising number of equally pressing issues. The latest IPCC Assessment Report shows drastic consequences of climate change for nature and humans in the future - almost half of humanity is expected to be severely threatened.

In this talk, activists and authors Vanessa Nakate and Carola Rackete talk about the numerous and diverse crises of our time. Both are committed not only to environmental conservation, but to many other issues. They show how closely intertwined climate crisis, species extinction, wars, causes of flight, racism and sexism are. What needs to happen now, on a large and small scale, to improve conditions for people and nature? How can we as individuals help to make a change? And where do we have to start in order to really achieve climate justice?

**Vanessa Nakate** is a Ugandan climate justice activist. She grew up in Kampala and started her activism in December 2018 after becoming concerned about the unusually high temperatures in her country. Inspired by Greta Thunberg to start her own climate movement in Uganda, Vanessa began a solitary strike against inaction on the climate crisis in January 2019. Vanessa founded the Youth for Future Africa and the likewise Africa-based Rise Up Movement. Her book "A Bigger Picture" was published by Mariner Books in November 2021, the German version is available under the title "Unser Haus steht längst in Flammen" (Rowohlt).

**Carola Rackete**, born in 1988, studied nautical sciences in Elsfleth (Germany) and conservation management in Ormskirk (UK). She visited Antarctica in 8 of the last 10 years while working on polar research vessels for the German polar research institute AWI, the *British Antarctic Survey* and for *Greenpeace*. Between 2016 and 2019, she volunteered for sea rescue NGOs in the Central Mediterranean and was arrested as captain of the »Sea-Watch 3« vessel in 2019. Her current activism is focused on justice in nature conservation and climate movements. In 2020, the updated paperback edition of her bestseller "Handeln statt hoffen" was published by Droemer Verlag. The English translation ("The Time to Act Is Now") was recently published with the support of the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation and can be downloaded for free: <https://www.rosalux.de/en/news/id/45396>.

## Press Release

**Dr. Heike Wex** studied physics and did her doctorate on atmospheric aerosol particles - a topic she is still doing research on. However, during her studies, she also learned about climate change. For many years, she found nothing effective to do about this serious problem. But when *Scientists for Future* came along (scientists supporting the *Fridays for Future* movement), she immediately joined them and is now actively involved in preventing a severe climate crisis, working primarily at the regional level.

**Rosa Luxemburg Foundation** has recently published the English translation of Carola Rackete's bestseller "The Time To Act Is Now" („Handeln statt hoffen“, Droemer Verlag), which can be downloaded for free on their website: <https://www.rosalux.de/en/news/id/45396>. Vanessa Nakate's non-fiction book "A Bigger Picture" was published by Rowohlt Verlag in October 2021 under the title "Unser Haus steht längst in Flammen".

The next global climate strike will take place on March 25, 2022.

**Klimabuchmesse:** The Climate Book Fair (Klimabuchmesse) first took place in May 2022 as a digital event, including readings and talks with Michael E. Mann, Claudia Kemfert, Judith Vogt and Zoë Beck. For 2022, the Climate Book Fair had been planned as a series of events as part of the "Leipzig Liest" reading festival. Due to the pandemic, Leipzig Book Fair was canceled. The Climate Book Fair will now take place in the summer. The conversation between Vanessa Nakate and Carola Rackete had been planned from the beginning as an online event and serves as a prelude to the global climate strike on Friday, March 25.

Photos:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1i9hdYL31eG92amQxrlU1VghA09BDeJR2?usp=sharing>

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