

# Protecting Our Planet's Heart

## Parliamentarians' Roadmap For a Fossil-Free Amazon



PARLIAMENTARIANS FOR  
A FOSSIL-FREE FUTURE

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### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Report  
Protecting Our Planet's Heart  
Parliamentarians' Roadmap  
For a Fossil-Free Amazon



Full report in this QR code

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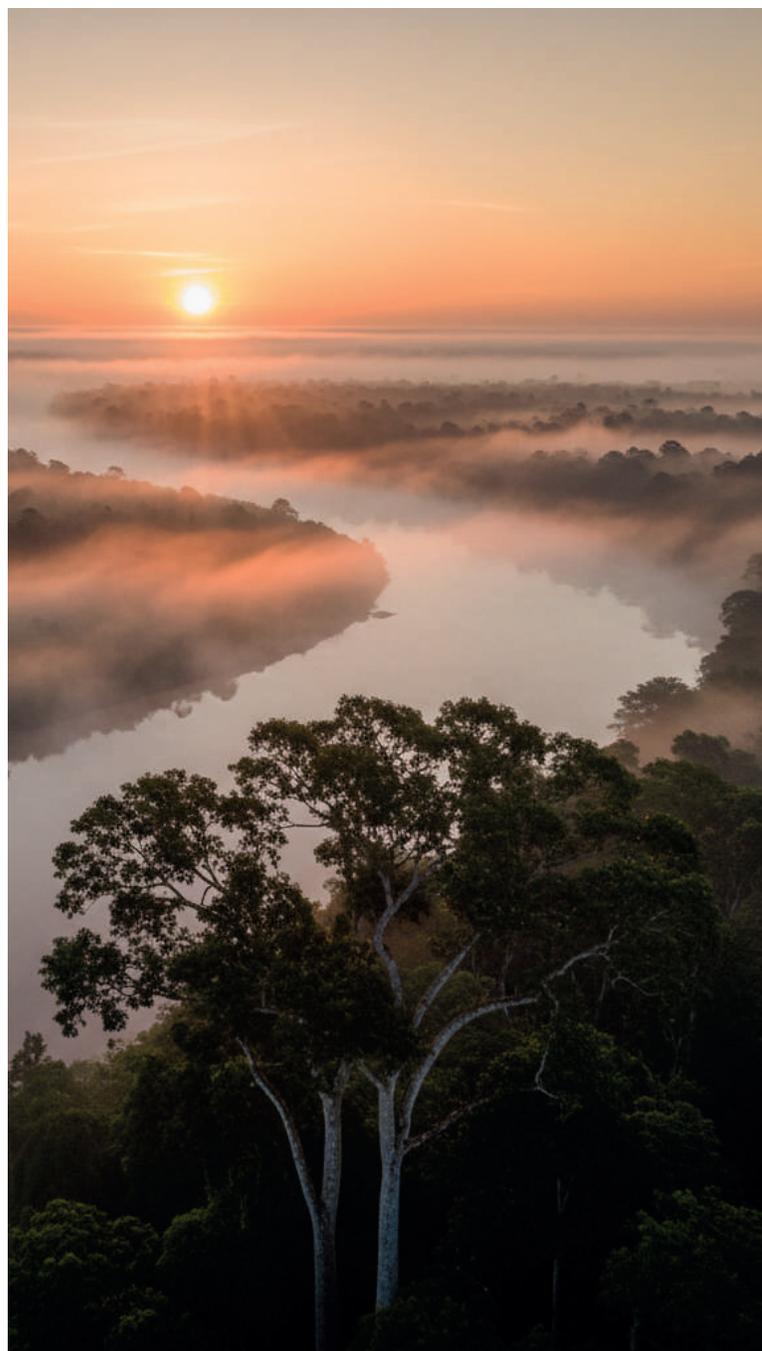
# FOREWORD

The presidents of Amazonian countries face a historic choice: to declare the Amazon as a fossil fuel expansion-free zone and achieve a double climate victory – safeguarding a biome essential for global stability while halting one of the main sources of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

Our year-long Inquiry into oil and gas exploitation in the Amazon shows that the extractive model has failed. It has devastated ecosystems, eroded Indigenous cultures, and pushed the forest closer to a tipping point beyond which it will no longer regulate the planet's climate. The damage already caused is profound, but there is still time to act decisively.

Indigenous Peoples, who have kept the forest standing for centuries, call the Amazon the “heart of the world.” Their knowledge and traditions have protected this vital organ of the Earth, and today they ask the global community to honor that responsibility. Listening to them means ending destructive extractive practices and advancing just, sustainable alternatives.

This report presents both the evidence of harm and the pathways forward. We call on governments and the international community to design and implement laws and policies that phase out fossil fuel expansion, strengthen Indigenous governance, and invest in a just and equitable energy transition. The Amazon belongs to the planet – protecting it is our shared duty and the most urgent step we can take to secure a livable future for everyone.



# THE AMAZON INQUIRY

Recognizing the Amazon biome's critical role in climate stability and biodiversity, a committee of 12 parliamentarians launched an inquiry in 2024 into oil and gas exploitation and the development of renewable energy in the region. The inquiry examined whether energy transition pathways are advancing in a fair and sustainable manner for local populations.

The committee convened public hearings between COP16 and COP30, drawing on contributions from experts, Indigenous and local communities, scientists, and government representatives. This report, to be presented at the Brazilian National Congress in October 2025, integrates these contributions with secondary research.

## Committee Members:

**Brasil:** Célia Xakriabá, Iván Valente, Livia Duarte

**Bolivia:** Cecilia Requena

**Colombia:** Juan Carlos Lozada, Andrés Cancimance

**Perú:** Ruth Luque, Sigrid Bazán

**Ecuador:** Rosa Cecilia Baltazar, Jahiren Noriega

**Canadá:** Rosa Gálvez

**Venezuela:** Lois Maldonado

Indigenous leaders from Colombia, Peru, Ecuador, Brazil, and Bolivia provided testimony on the impacts of oil exploitation. Scientists, civil society, and government representatives also contributed.

Amazonian  
Committee



# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND KEY TAKEAWAYS

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## Protecting the Amazon

Safeguarding the Amazon requires a decisive shift away from extractive models toward development pathways that respect ecological connectivity, strengthen Indigenous governance, and invest in a thriving socio-bioeconomy. Advancing just energy transitions, innovative financial mechanisms, and decentralized renewable energy will enable Amazonian countries to protect the biome while ensuring prosperity, equity, and resilience for their peoples.

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## Oil and Gas Exploitation in the Amazon

Over the last five decades, oil and gas exploitation has generated a systematic pattern of human rights violations for Indigenous Peoples, Afro-descendant, and local communities — the very peoples who have best preserved the biome and should be most protected.

Despite international obligations and rulings from global and regional bodies, States have consistently failed in their duties of prevention, protection, remediation, and non-repetition. In this context, further expansion of oil and gas activities cannot be justified.

Of all existing oil blocks in the Amazon, 68% remain under study or in bidding. If pursued, this would more than double current production areas, extending extraction into deep, megadiverse forest regions. Governments still have the opportunity to halt this expansion and prevent further harm to communities, biodiversity, and the climate.

Extractive-driven deforestation and degradation are pushing the Amazon toward a tipping point. Crossing this threshold would mean the Amazon shifts from absorbing 1.5 billion tons of CO<sub>2</sub> annually to emitting 300 million tons within decades — making the Paris Agreement unattainable.

Oil and gas exploitation, embedded in a global legal framework privileging corporate rights over community and environmental rights, drives the biome toward collapse. Transforming this model is essential to avoid the point of no return.

Just ten banks are responsible for 63% of oil financing in the Amazon — less than 4% of all banks involved in the last 20 years. Two-thirds of total financing originates from North America and Europe. Banks frequently greenwash their practices, using financial structures to bypass due diligence while continuing to fund destructive activities.

A vicious cycle links Amazonian countries' indebtedness to increased oil and gas exploitation. Debt burdens, combined with climate pressures, are locking governments into extractivist paths that further degrade the biome.

Positive Precedent: In 2023, HSBC excluded 100% of the Amazon from its financing portfolio. Within a year, no oil-related transactions were recorded — demonstrating that decisive action is both possible and impactful.

Nearly 5,000 oil spills and related incidents in the past 15 years have created liabilities whose costs far exceed the benefits of extraction.



Credit: Union of People Affected by Texaco's Oil Operations



Credit: Amazon Watch



Credit: Union of People Affected by Texaco's Oil Operations



Credit: Amazon Watch

# PARLIAMENTARIANS' ROADMAP FOR A FOSSIL-FREE AMAZON

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Protecting and ensuring the connectivity of the Amazon must be the foundation of any development model. Unlike the extractive policies of recent decades, new approaches should guarantee sustainable development rooted in ecological integrity, Indigenous & Local Communities knowledge, and the recognition of ecosystem boundaries in relation to planetary boundaries.

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**Strengthening Indigenous Governance:** More than 500 Indigenous Peoples have kept the forest standing. Their governance systems, autonomy, cultural traditions, and economies must be strengthened through direct investment, capacity building, and rights recognition.

**Building a Socio-Bioeconomy:** Even with limited state support, Amazonian communities have shown that socio-bioeconomic models can deliver ecological protection, cultural vitality, and economic growth. With supportive public policies, this sector could grow tenfold by 2035.

**International Cooperation:** Global action is needed to halt fossil fuel expansion in the Amazon. Initiatives such as the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty could help establish the Amazon as the world's first no-expansion zone for fossil fuels and mining, in recognition of its planetary ecological value.

**Innovative Financial Solutions:** Financial incentives are critical for keeping fossil fuels underground. Mechanisms such as LIDs<sup>1</sup> (linked debt instruments) could simultaneously curb extraction, finance renewable energy, and create alternative public revenue streams — aligning Amazonian economies with the Paris Agreement.

**Renewable Energy Access:** Renewable energy must reach all Amazonian inhabitants through decentralized systems that avoid harm to the biome. Small-scale solar, hydrokinetic, and biomass projects offer alternatives to large-scale hydroelectric systems, which have caused major social and environmental damage.

**Colombia as a Regional Leader:** By permanently withdrawing oil blocks from the Colombian Amazon and leading a just transition in Putumayo, Colombia can simultaneously address environmental, fiscal, and economic risks — positioning itself as a global leader in Amazon protection.

**Protecting the Amazon is not only about halting fossil fuel expansion. It requires reshaping economies and governance models to center Indigenous & Local Communities leadership, uphold ecological boundaries, and establish innovative pathways toward sustainable prosperity. Parliamentarians affirm that the Amazon's future is inseparable from the planet's future — and commit to advancing a fossil-free Amazon as a cornerstone of climate justice.**

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<sup>1</sup> Leave-it-in-the-ground Incentive Deals (LIDs)



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