



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Our Children's Submits Intervention to European Court of Human Rights in its Newest Climate Case with Latest Scientific Findings**

**AMSTERDAM, Netherlands** — Today, Our Children's Trust [submitted](#) a Third-Party Intervention in *Müllner v. Austria*, the first climate case to appear before the European Court of Human Rights since the Court's highest chamber issued a historic judgment in *KlimaSeniorinnen v. Switzerland* earlier this year.

The Intervention summarizes the latest scientific findings on the urgent need to reduce atmospheric carbon dioxide concentrations to 350 parts per million or lower and explains why the “net neutrality” order issued by the Court in *KlimaSeniorinnen* does not align with established scientific standards and requires reframing if it is to be accurate and meaningful. Additionally, it provides key evidence that Austria has the capacity to transition to 100% clean, renewable energy by 2050—or even sooner—offering significant environmental and economic benefits for both the country and the planet.

The *KlimaSeniorinnen* judgment emphasized the importance of science in addressing the climate crisis. In this case, the Court unconditionally found that climate change, “[P]oses a serious current and future threat to the enjoyment of human rights” and that States are “capable of taking measures to effectively address” the crisis. The Court then ordered States to, “[P]ut in place the necessary regulations and measures aimed at preventing an increase in [greenhouse gas] concentrations in the Earth's atmosphere ... beyond levels capable of producing serious and irreversible adverse effects on human rights.” Crucially, the Court did not tether State action to the 1.5°C temperature target set out in the Paris Agreement. Instead, it required emissions reductions targets be set **“with due diligence and based on the best available evidence.”**

The sole purpose of this intervention is to ensure that the Court has access to the most-up-to-date and best available science, so its findings of fact are accurate and legal conclusions are effective, just, and practical.

Following the submission, Kelly Matheson, Deputy Director of Global Strategy at Our Children's Trust, stated, "Today's intervention underscores the vital role of science in climate litigation. Just as governments must ground their decisions on how to restore the health of the climate system in the best available scientific evidence, so too must courts. At the critical intersection of climate change and human rights, only decisions rooted in robust scientific findings can ensure a livable climate system that protects the fundamental human rights for all."

Read the full intervention from Our Children's Trust Rights [here](#).

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Our Children's Trust was founded in 2010 on the idea that courts are vital to democracy and empowered to protect our children and the planet. Without a stable climate system, every natural resource we rely upon to exercise our basic human rights—life, liberty, home, happiness—is under threat. Our work will be achieved when there is universal recognition of children's climate rights by courts around the world and children's fundamental rights to life on this planet are protected. [ourchildrenstrust.org](http://ourchildrenstrust.org)