

The Alliance of Water Cities

Considering that Venice has long been recognized as an urban model for how to adapt to a water-based world;

Considering that our planetary hydrosphere, which sustains all life on Earth, is being reshaped in the wake of global warming, triggering record winter snowfalls, torrential spring floods, devastating summer droughts, extreme heat waves, wildfires, and deadly autumn hurricanes that destroy ecosystems, infrastructures, and societies;

Considering that our species has fundamentally misunderstood the very nature of its existence and that upon which our lives depend;

Considering that for too long we have believed we live on a terrestrial planet, while in truth, we live on a water planet;

Considering that the City of Venice is already actively working to reduce the use of fossil fuels and the emission of gases responsible for global warming;

Considering that we must begin to view water not as a “resource” but as a “source of life”, and learn to adapt to the hydrosphere rather than forcing the hydrosphere to adapt to us;

Whereas the Mayor **Luigi Brugnaro** has already declared that Venice is not only a “city of planet Earth” but the “**capital of planet Aqua**”;

Whereas **Jeremy Rifkin** has reaffirmed that “renaming our home *Planet Water* is not merely a rhetorical exercise, but a shift in our species’ planetary consciousness”;

Therefore, from the proceedings of the **Venice Climate Week**, hosted by the City of Venice, we call for the launch of a **Blue Deal** to accompany the current Green Deal inviting all municipalities and regions of Italy and the European Union to implement practices, programs, and incentives that foster new blue technologies, infrastructures, enterprises, and jobs necessary to adapt to an unpredictable hydrosphere.

Considering, finally, that water should no longer be seen as a dividing element between lands, but as a unifying force that connects every corner of the planet;

**From the first Venice Climate Week is born
The Alliance of Water Cities,**

With an invitation to the mayors of the world's ten thousand major cities to recognize themselves not only as "cities of planet Earth," but as "**cities of planet Aqua.**"

And with the commitment that, by the next **Venice Climate Week**, local governments will promote a formal recognition of our planet as **Planet Aqua** - in charters, codes, laws, and statutes - to acknowledge the existence of our species on a single aquatic planet in the universe.

Venice, June 4, 2025