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November 26, 2021

Friends of the Earth Europe
Mundo-b building,
Rue d-Edimbourg 26,
1050 Brussels, Belgium

Re: Internship Inquiry (June 1 – August 31)

Dear Friends of the Earth Europe,

I am writing to inquire about the possibility of an internship with Friends of the Earth Europe. As a student on the Philosophy, Politics and Economics undergraduate program at Central European University in Vienna, Austria with a focus on Environmental Studies, I am seeking an internship as a way to gain experience conducting policy research and assisting with campaign and outreach efforts within a large, international, grassroots environmental organization. Friends of the Earth Europe coordinates joint campaigns across a 30-country network and advocates with the EU for rights- and justice-based climate action. I would be honored to contribute to these efforts.

My interest in the environment and climate issues dates to my activity as a member of the Model United Nations (MUN) Club at my high school in Vienna, Austria. In 2018, I served as a delegate for Guatemala at the MUN: Conference on Environment and Sustainable Development. This meant conducting research to understand and represent Guatemala's agricultural concerns in relation to SDG2. This is when I first became aware of the power imbalance and inequalities that characterize the relationship between countries that are heavy consumers of resources and poorer, lower-consuming countries. Since then, it has been my mission to learn everything possible about resource and climate injustice with the hopes of one day contributing to a more equitable and sustainable global future.

Whenever possible, I tailor my academic assignments to include a focus on climate issues and climate change, and my extracurricular activities and activism also reflect this commitment. As a founding member of the CEU Debate Club, I frequently conduct targeted, policy-focused research and practice persuasive communication. In summer 2021, as a public affairs intern for the Humanitarian Academy for Development London, I honed my research skills by compiling weekly policy reports based on information shared by governmental departments. Additionally, material I drafted was incorporated into a course on report writing offered remotely to humanitarian professionals working in Syria and Iraq.

Thank you for considering this inquiry. I am motivated to use the skills and knowledge I have acquired thus far to contribute to Friends of the Earth's policy research and advocacy in a meaningful way. I would of course be willing to serve the organization in additional capacities if required. My period of availability is June 1 – August 31. I would be grateful for an opportunity to further discuss this possibility.

Sincerely,

Johannes Mateschitz