

**Open Request to the  
President of France,  
Emmanuel Macron**

The undersigned, recipient of the Alternative Nobel Prize (Right Livelihood Award), I ask your administration:

1. To stop the privatization of traditional activities historically deployed by the French National Forests Office, ONF (Office National de Forêts), and to file all government initiatives for industrializing public forests.
2. To take into account that France was a world pioneer in recognizing the importance of public forests and its "Forest Code" historically anticipated sustainable development with tools for the protection of public and private forests. In 1349 the "Ordinance of Brunoy", signed by the King Philippe VI of Valois, trust the predecessors of forest keepers the mission to protect forests so they "can be sustained perpetually".
3. To assume that the current policy promoted by your government goes against the French history of protecting forests and biodiversity, threatening current and future generations, both in metropolitan France and remaining French territories.
4. To assess that 25% of the total French forest is currently public, and that this area provide essential ecosystem services like clean water, healthy water basins, conservation and permanent regeneration of soils, protective biodiversity, carbon storage, resistance to global climate change and to rainy and dry periods, beautiful landscapes for tourism, linkages to nature and essentially, resilience.

In this context I fully support: **1)** The traditional scheme of ONF for the sustainable management of forests, the valuable work of forest keepers and their unions, and the essential role of forests as open schools, and **2)** The demonstration that will take place in the forest of Tronçais the 25<sup>th</sup> October 2018.

The conservation and expansion of natural forests in France guarantees the multigenerational stability of the country, meanwhile the industrialization of forests and the privatization of the French National Forests Office' activities, both driven by your administration, increases French vulnerability to global climate change and other hazards.

Sincerely yours,



**Prof. Dr. Raúl Montenegro, Biologist  
Alternative Nobel Prize 2004 (Right Livelihood Award)**

**Professor of Evolutionary Biology at the National University of Cordoba (Argentina)  
Director of the Campus Cordoba of the Right Livelihood College  
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Status at the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in United Nations (New York).**