THE BIGGEST CYCLING RELAY EVER, FOR THE CLIMATE

We are the COP Bike Ride, a citizen initiative that cycles to UN climate conferences to promote everyday cycling as a very efficient way to reduce transport-related carbon emissions. After cycling from Paris, the city where the Paris Climate agreements were signed, to Baku (COP29) in 2024, we cycled and sailed to Belèm (COP30) in 2025 breaking 3 world records on the way. This year more than 2,000 cyclists in total are carrying the relay from Belém to Antalya (COP31) over more than 22,000 km across three continents, 20 countries. Our baton is a banner representing 10 proposals of cycling policy from city to city.

Our goal
Beyond engaging local governments and citizens along the way, we act at a global level by advocating at COP that cycling be integrated into every NDC, the national climate plans countries submit under the Paris Agreement, in a systematic, quantifiable and verifiable way: with clear objectives, concrete actions, dedicated budgets, governance and evaluation frameworks.

Why
Transport is the second source of greenhouse gas emissions (about 20%), the fastest growing one, and 96% of the energy it uses still comes from fossil fuels. Cycling is the most accessible, affordable and immediate solution that can be leveraged, yet only a tiny portion of NDCs treat it seriously. For instance among the latest NDCs, only 11% include cycling in their objectives sections, only 2% set quantitative targets, and the EU NDC only acknowledges active mobility is “a lever” without any specifics. Electrifying vehicles will not be enough: climate plans need "avoid and shift" measures, reducing unnecessary car trips and shifting journeys to cycling and active mobility.

What we do locally
In every city we cross, we ride with residents, cycling associations and local leaders to show that everyday cycling is possible, joyful and should be safe. We invite cities and regions to sign commitment letters setting out their own actions for cycling by 2030 (the date of the next revisions of NDCs), inspired by our 10 proposals: from complete bike networks and safer streets to cycling training and incentives. More than 100 local and regional governments have signed commitments this year, in addition to the 60+ letters collected the previous year. Cities also gather children's drawings depicting a planet whose climate is preserved by cycling, a reminder of who these commitments are ultimately for.

What we do internationally
These commitment letters and children's drawings are carried by bike all the way to the COP, where cities call on the Parties to follow with matching national commitments. We invite the COP Presidents to officially receive them as a public sign of support for cycling as a climate solution. We ask Parties to plan objectives, actions, budgets, governance and evaluations specifically related to cycling their next update of NDCs.

Ride slower, change faster.
https://copbikeride.org · team@copbikeride.org · https://linktr.ee/copbikeride · #copbikeride

Source for NDC and energy data: PATH, SLOCAT