

Climate Summit - Roll Cards



Tomás Brennan is a third-generation Irish wheat farmer managing 200 hectares in the Midlands. He grows winter wheat, barley, and oats - part of Ireland's high-performing but often overlooked tillage sector. While his crops achieve some of the best yields in Europe, Tomás is frustrated that Ireland still relies heavily on imported grain.

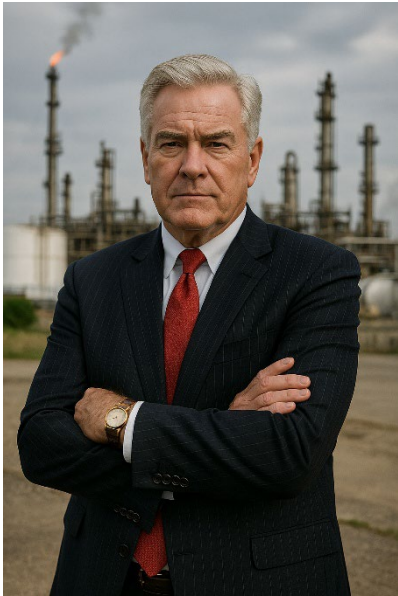
He's proud of his work, but increasingly worried about climate change. Unpredictable weather, heavy rainfall, and shifting growing seasons are already impacting drilling and harvesting windows. The cost of disease control is rising, and Tomás wonders how long his farm can stay viable without stronger support.

As a member of the Irish Grain Growers group, he's pushing for policy changes that support local cereal production, environmental resilience, and recognition of the vital role tillage plays in Irish agriculture.

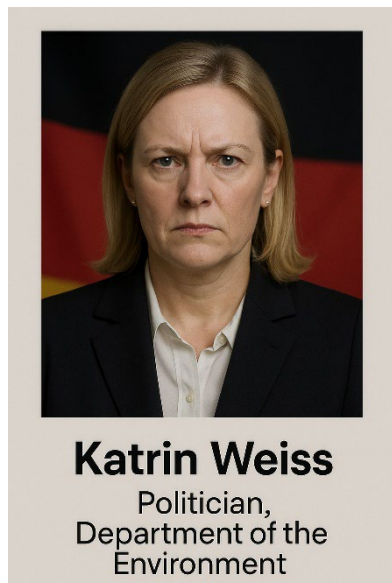


Mary McDonagh is a young Irish Traveller woman who takes pride in her culture, language, and strong family ties. Though she left school early, she's determined her daughters will stay in education and have more opportunities.

Mary is also deeply concerned about climate change. She's seen how extreme weather affects roadside communities and wants Traveller voices included in environmental conversations. While facing ongoing barriers like discrimination and health inequality, she's taking small steps - learning, sharing, and encouraging others in her community to care for the planet.



Jack Whitmore is a 58-year-old American oil executive and CEO of Atlas Energy Corp, based in Houston, Texas. Raised in a working-class oil town and educated in engineering and business, Jack rose through the ranks with a mix of grit and strategy. He's polished but rooted, blending corporate ambition with a deep belief in American energy independence. He champions innovation that drives profit and efficiency but is sceptical of environmental regulation. Charismatic and pragmatic, Jack sees the oil industry as both legacy and opportunity-serving shareholders, communities, and the nation's energy needs, in that order.



Katrin Weiss is a senior politician from a right-wing nationalist party, serving in a leadership role within Germany's Federal Ministry for the Environment. Her environmental stance is shaped by a protectionist, sovereignty-first ideology. Katrin supports conservation and clean air initiatives - but primarily when framed as preserving Germany's natural heritage and national interests.

She is sceptical of EU climate directives, opposes what she calls "green overreach," and advocates for limiting international environmental agreements that, in her view, threaten German industry and autonomy. She promotes investment in domestic energy sources, including nuclear

and clean coal, while criticizing rapid decarbonization as economically destabilizing.

Katrin appeals to voters who feel left behind by global climate policy and positions herself as a defender of traditional landscapes, national identity, and German self-reliance.



Josephine Chebet is a 26-year-old woman from the Ogiek community, an Indigenous forest-dwelling group in Kenya's Mau Forest. She grew up surrounded by trees, rivers, and stories passed down through generations - her people's way of life deeply tied to the rhythms of nature.

But now, Josephine is witnessing those rhythms break down. The forest is shrinking due to logging, land grabbing, and unpredictable weather. Rainfall patterns have changed, wild honey is harder to find, and crop yields from small farms are failing. Her community, once self-sustaining, now faces food insecurity and displacement.

Josephine is one of a growing number of Ogiek youth raising their voices - sharing their stories, calling for land rights, and demanding climate justice. She sees climate change not just as an environmental issue, but as a threat to her identity, culture, and future.



Sione Tuilagi is 38 years old and has spent the last decade in international climate negotiations as Kiribati's Ambassador for Climate Change. Kiribati is a Pacific atoll nation sitting barely two metres above sea level. Three of the islands his grandparents grew up on are now uninhabitable. The rest may follow within his lifetime.

Sione is soft-spoken and precise. He has sat through every major climate conference since 2012. He has heard every diplomatic delay, every promise of future action, every argument about economic feasibility. He rejects all of them. His country faces complete

disappearance, not as a metaphor, but as a physical fact, and the nations most responsible for causing it have moved too slowly to stop it.

He is currently negotiating not just for emissions targets but for managed migration agreements, climate compensation mechanisms, and legal recognition of his nation's sovereignty even if its land disappears beneath the Pacific. He does not want to be a symbol. He wants binding commitments.



Marta Kowalski is 43 years old and has worked in the Silesian coalfields for 20 years. Her father worked the same mine. The town her family has lived in for three generations is built around coal, and the mine she works in is scheduled to close within three years.

Marta is not a climate denier. She has watched air quality improve over her lifetime and knows what coal smoke does to children's lungs - her son has asthma. She does not oppose the transition. But the retraining programmes promised by the Polish government have not materialised, and the green jobs said to be coming have

not arrived. She cannot afford to relocate. She does not want sympathy. She wants a real plan, specific commitments, and enough time to make it work. If the just transition does not work for people like her, she says, it is not just.



Lena Sørensen is 51 years old and runs one of Europe's leading offshore wind companies, employing 4,200 people across Denmark, Germany, and the UK. She spent most of her career in fossil fuels before moving to renewables in 2010, when the economics changed. Clean energy is now cheaper to build than coal or gas in most markets.

She is one of the loudest business voices for rapid decarbonisation - not out of idealism, but because she can see investment going elsewhere. To the US after the Inflation Reduction Act. To China. To markets moving faster. Europe risks

losing the green industrial race not because it lacks the technology, but because its governments cannot agree on long-term policy.

Her order book is full. The question is not whether the transition will happen. It is whether Europe will lead it or follow it.



Darragh Ó Briain is 17 years old and from Galway. He has been organising climate strikes since he was 14, is a founding member of Fridays for Future Ireland, and has spoken at Dáil committee hearings, EU youth panels, and the National Children's Assembly on Biodiversity Loss. He speaks without notes. He gets angry.

His generation did not cause the climate crisis. They will live with its consequences longer than anyone else in the room. Darragh is done with being told to be patient, to trust the process, to channel his energy into individual actions while governments approve new fossil fuel infrastructure. He has read the reports. He

knows how far current commitments are from what is needed.

He believes climate justice and social justice are inseparable. He wants polluters to pay, political honesty, and genuine power for young people in the decisions that will shape their lives. He is not interested in token consultation.



Priya Nair is 44 years old and has led India's climate negotiations at COP since 2018. Brilliant, direct, and deeply aware of the gap between what rich nations promise and what they deliver. India has 1.4 billion people. The average Indian's carbon footprint is a fraction of the average American's, yet India is repeatedly asked to bear disproportionate costs of a transition it did not cause.

Priya is not a climate sceptic. She believes the science, and she is proud of India's ambitious solar targets. But she is not willing to be

lectured by countries that industrialised on coal for 150 years and have still not delivered on the climate finance they promised in 2009. She wants to know, where is the money? Where is the technology transfer? Where is the shared sacrifice from those who got rich first?

Her position is straightforward, India will act - and is acting - but the costs must be shared fairly. Climate justice means the countries most responsible must move fastest and pay most.