



## Climate Change Negotiations Pack for Schools

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In 2017, the Royal Meteorological Society worked with climate scientists, educators, social scientists and dramaturgs to provide teachers with an accessible, interactive and engaging on-line resource to engage pupils in a topical debate on climate change. Primarily aimed at supporting secondary geography, the Climate Change Negotiations Pack also engages students with wider societal issues and encourages interactions in which negotiating skills, critical thinking and political debate can be explored.

In autumn 2015, leaders from 195 countries gathered in Paris for COP21. In Germany, an interactive play was developed by the theatre company Rimini Protokoll, together with climate experts from the Max Planck Institute and beyond, which challenged those participating to discuss the science, politics and economics behind climate change and to experience a simplified negotiation process (see <https://vimeo.com/137817619>). Our schools' resource builds on the play's written resources and engagement techniques, prepared by 20 scientists and experts over the course of a year. The key elements which are conveyed are the communication of different aspects of climate science and policy in the UNFCCC context and the difficulty of reconciling national interests with global problems. Specifically, the resource investigates the rationale of different countries, their emissions, vulnerability and potential for action.

Our resource brings together rigorous climate science and good pedagogy. It differs from other, existing climate change negotiation events developed for schools in that it is a classroom resource, for use during standard lessons, without the need for expert input or previous preparation. This allows its widespread use, widening participation and giving far more students and teachers ownership of the question of our response to climate change, whether or not they already have an interest in debate or climate. Moreover, students are invited to negotiate from a viewpoint of a foreign country, considering the country-specific scientific, environmental, social, economic, political and energy issues.

The resource, to be freely available on the Royal Meteorological Society's website, [www.metlink.org](http://www.metlink.org), is designed to be used over the course of 2 standard lessons with students between the ages of 14 and 18. Through a mixture of short videos, research exercises, speech preparation and negotiation sessions, and with a bespoke voting tool to allow the ultimate pledges to be evaluated, students take on the role of one of 10 countries. Climate negotiation events have been shown to particularly engage weaker students. Our resource will allow far more to have the opportunity to experience one.