

THE
WORKING CLASS
CLIMATE
ALLIANCE

2025 ANNUAL REPORT



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INTRODUCTION

2025 has been a year of deepening impact and widening connections for the Working Class Climate Alliance (WCCA). Now in our second full year as an organisation, our work has focused on providing practical support for community-led action while confronting the systemic inequalities that shape the climate crisis. We have continued to grow as a global network of working class people and allies, strengthening relationships between communities, trade unions and wider climate, academic and civil society spaces, as well as working to challenge the persistent under-representation of working class voices within environmentalism.

We remain deeply grateful to our members and supporters whose energy, care and commitment have made this progress possible. As we look ahead, we renew our determination to build power from the ground-up and to advance a vision of climate justice that is led by, accountable to, and rooted in working class communities across the world.

Emma River-Roberts, Founder and Co-Director
Sasha Josette, Co-Director

WHERE IS THE WCCA?

Membership at the WCCA is open to working class people and those from working class backgrounds. People can join to keep up to date with working class activism across the world, seek out pro-bono advice for their own campaigns, and meet other like-minded people.



Our membership base has expanded to 26 countries across the Global North and Global South; Australia, Belgium, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Denmark, England, Finland, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Ireland, the North of Ireland, Mexico, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Portugal, Scotland, Serbia, Spain, Switzerland, Wales, United Arab Emirates and the United States.

Although we have seen a slight increase in Global South representation amongst our membership base it remains north-centric with most of our members based in England, the United States, Canada and Ireland. As we reported in our previous Annual Report, our ability to engage in broader, international outreach has been hindered by a lack of resources.

HOW DID PEOPLE FIND US?

This year we started asking new members how they found out about the WCCA. Social media remains the main way that we reach new members (40%), followed by events that we have appeared at (29%), word of mouth (19%) and search engines (4%). The remaining 8% did not specify.

WHO DID WE WORK WITH?

We will always be transparent about our funding sources – this includes being transparent about who we have received in-kind funding from. Alongside a grant from the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, we receive funds from individual donations, the purchasing of solidarity tickets to our events, and payment for externally commissioned work.

In 2025 we received payment for commissioned work (including honorariums) from:

- New Economy Organisers Network (NEON)
- Oxfam Ireland
- Partners for a New Economy (P4NE)
- Stay Grounded
- The British Academy
- The Class Work Project
- The European Trade Union Institute (ETUI)
- The Joseph Rowntree Foundation
- The London School of Economics (LSE)

We received in-kind funding from:

- Anglia Ruskin University
- Climate Justice Coalition
- Oxfam Ireland
- Partners for a New Economy (P4NE)
- Queens University Belfast
- RISE
- Stay Grounded
- The British Academy
- The London School of Economics (LSE)
- The University of Leeds
- University College London

WHAT DID WE DO?

We have worked hard to ensure that our advocacy and campaigning remains accessible rather than exclusionary. This has included ensuring free tickets are available for all of our public events, so that cost is not a barrier to involvement and learning. We have also focused on producing content that people can engage with in their own time, including regularly publishing articles on our website.

We would like to extend our thanks to everyone we have worked this year – it has been a busy, yet very rewarding twelve months! Over the following pages we have listed our highlights for 2025.

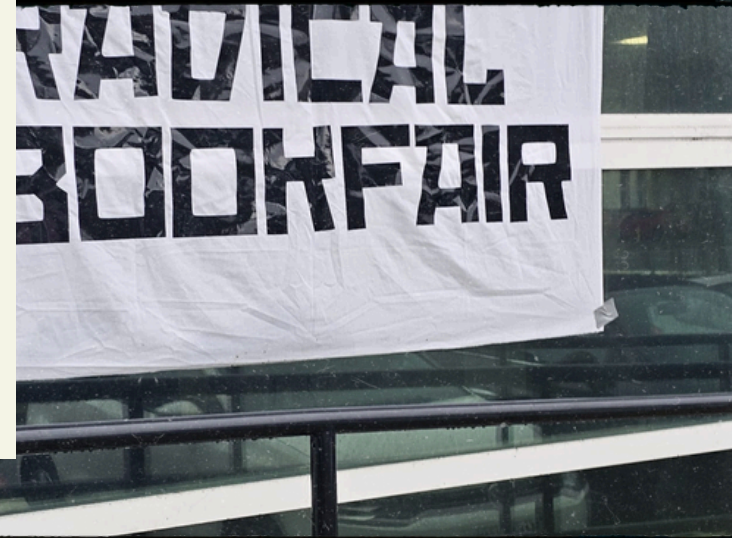


Photo Credit: RISE

ADVOCACY

Across four countries, throughout 2025 we joined podcasts, panel discussions, book launches and conferences to talk about working class environmentalism and movement building. We have uploaded the ones that were recorded on our website.

15 public
talks and
podcasts

+2.7k
people
reached



Photo Credit: Green European Foundation





Photo Credit:
Stay Grounded



Photo Credit: Oxfam Ireland



5
workshops
delivered

WORKSHOPS

We connected with a wide and diverse group of people through our workshops, delivering training on inclusive workplace cultures, inclusive activist spaces, and effective movement building strategies.

In April, Oxfam Ireland invited us to Cork to deliver a workshop on democratic decision making in grassroots movements. A few months later we ran it remotely, which proved so popular that from 2026 we will be running this workshop remotely every six months.

150+
people
trained

READING GROUP

Collective reading and discussion centres lived experience as a source of knowledge, offering a place to celebrate working class histories, share lived realities, and learn from working class traditions in different parts of the world. In October we launched a monthly remote reading group open to both members and non members, to explore the work of working class writers, activists, artists and other thinkers. The group creates space to examine the histories, strategies and cultural practices that have shaped working class struggles over time, while fostering shared learning and discussion across borders.

LONG-TERM IMPACT

We were thrilled to hear of the impact that we had on attendees to our public talks, reading group and workshops. Some of the lasting impacts people reported were:

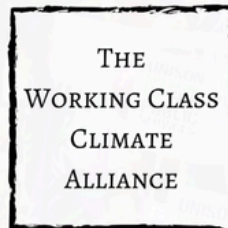


- ⌚ Increased knowledge about working class needs and how to meet them (both within grassroots spaces and the workplace).
- ⌚ Many working class people/those from working class backgrounds were left with an enhanced pride about their background and heritage.
- ⌚ A deeper understanding about what working class environmentalism 'looks like' in practice.
- ⌚ Improved awareness about how to communicate climate change to the working class.
- ⌚ New ideas for effective campaigning strategies.

WCCA X UNISON



WORKERS AND COMMUNITY UNITED:
ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION FROM BELOW



The continued threat of climate change and support for far right parties requires the creation of new political formations. These new formations must truly represent the working class and our interests, and must be rooted in an active desire to preserve the environment and maintain social cohesion.

To tackle these threats, in collaboration with the Environment Agency Yorkshire and North East branch of UNISON trade union (England), we launched the campaign Workers and Community United: Environmental Action From Below.

Based in Leeds East, England, this campaign aims to increase political participation, strengthen community ties, and engage locals in hands-on environmental action. We look forward to updating you on our progress as the campaign develops!

HEAT STRIKE

Did you know there is no law for maximum working temperature in the UK, and that there is no specific guidance surrounding what a reasonable maximum temperature should be for workers?

This year we joined Heat Strike, a campaign led by trade unions and climate justice groups which aims to protect the population from the impacts of extreme heat. Heat Strike's main aims are to:

1. Set a national maximum working temperature.
2. Establish a heat wave furlough scheme.
3. Make a climate action plan.

At the WCCA our focus in this campaign is engaging with trade union branches and encouraging them to pass motions in support of the campaign, including an agreement to go on strike when the workplace temperature exceeds a certain threshold.

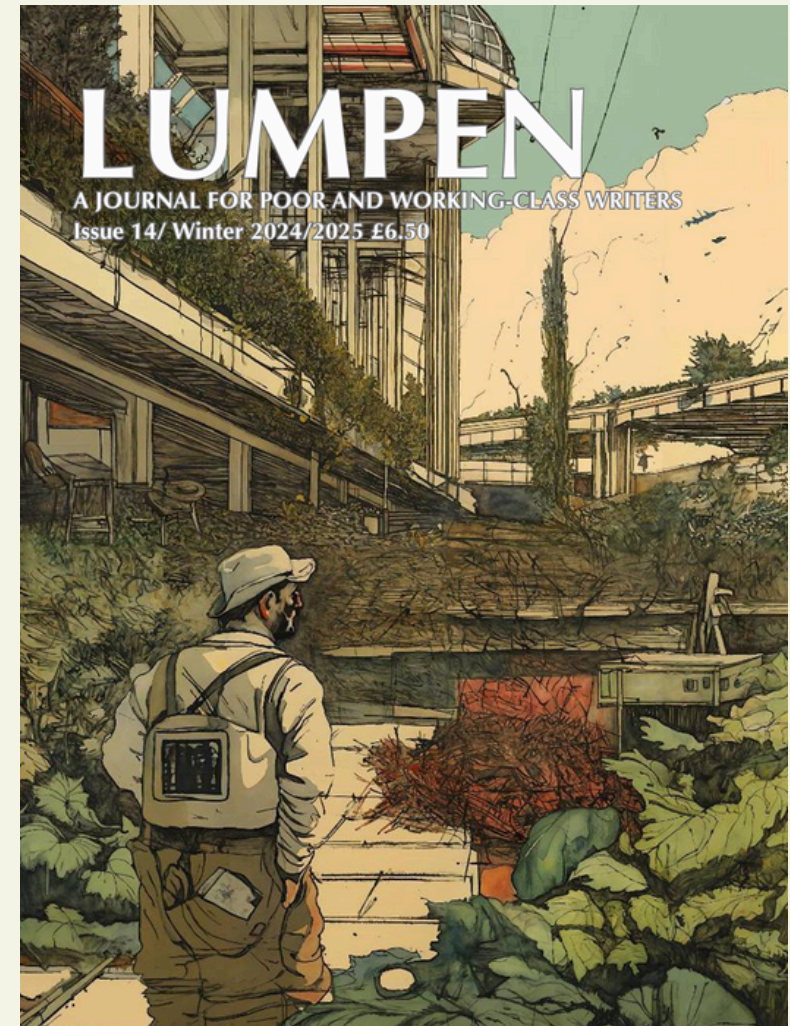
HEAT STRIKE THE CLIMATE CRISIS & WORKERS' HEALTH



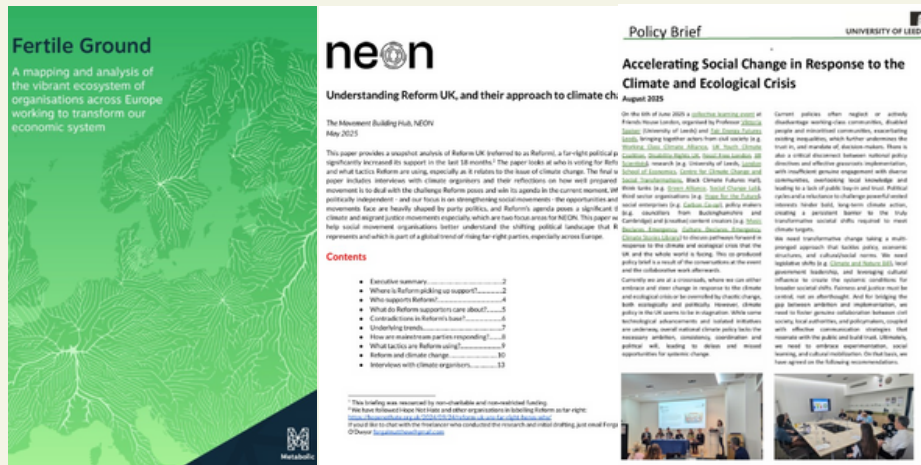
WCCA X CLASS WORK PROJECT

At the start of this year we co-edited a Just Transition-themed edition of the Lumpen journal with The Class Work Project. Featuring working class writers from across the Global North and Global South – including several of our own members, the journal sought to redress the under-representation of working class voices in discussions about the transition. The public response was incredible, within 72 hours this edition became the best selling issue of Lumpen!

You can download a free PDF of the copy through our website. We would like to thank everyone for their contributions, including Efe Levent from Mangal Media who created the artwork for this edition.



POLICY CONSULTATION



Throughout the year we have lent our advice to individuals, organisations and institutions about cultivating inclusive work environments, creating policies that are attentive to working class needs, and how to tackle the growing threat of the far right.

We worked with a broad range of groups and institutions including the British Academy, the London School of Economics and Greater London Authority, NEON, as well as Partners for a New Economy.

In some cases the final briefs have been published for public viewing. You can view all of the publicly available briefs we have contributed to [on our website](#).



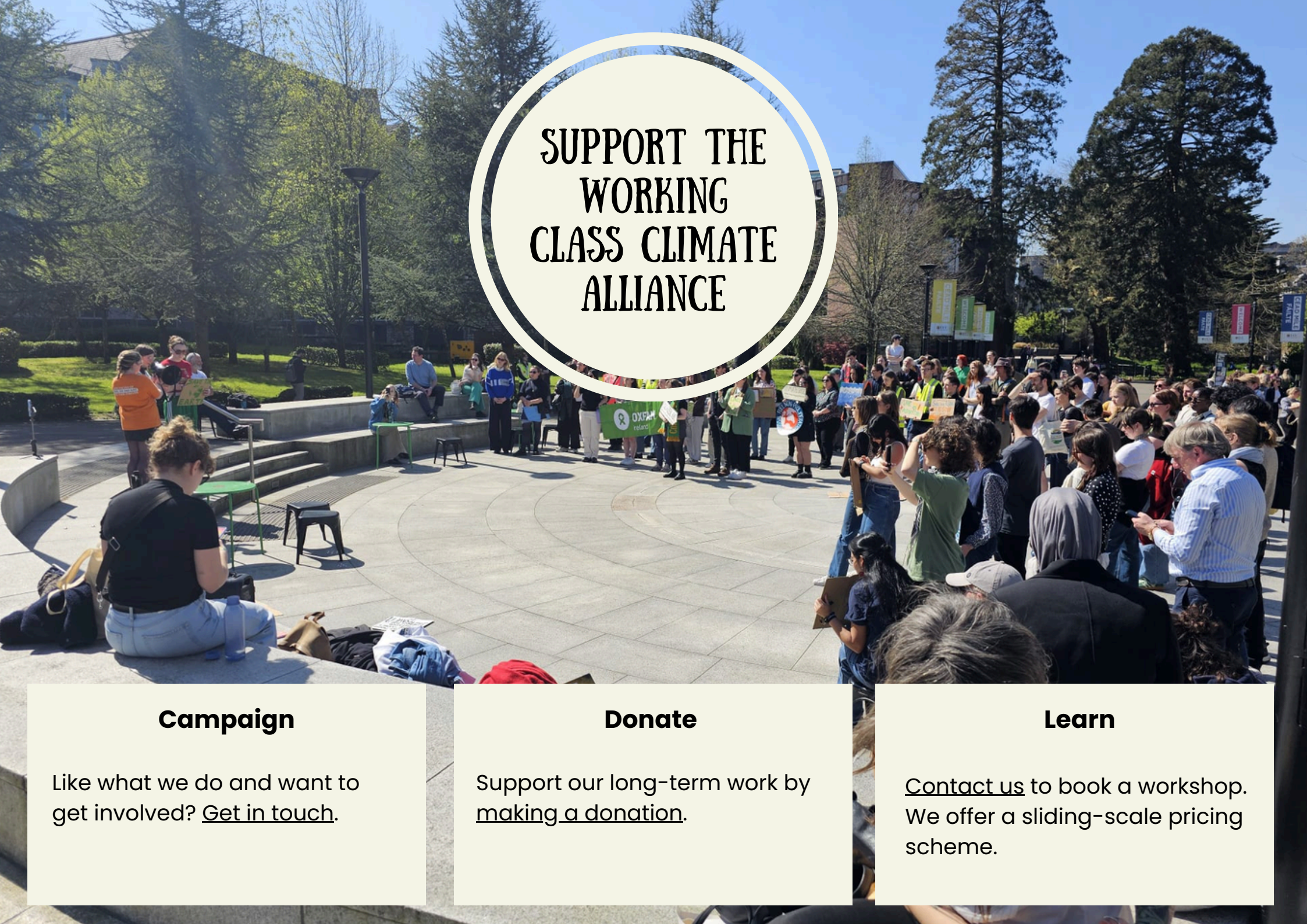
Photo Credit: The London School of Economics

LOOKING TO 2026...

Like many other organisations, a precarious funding landscape continues to present challenges with regards to the speed and scale that we can roll out campaigns and initiatives, however that does not make our efforts any less impactful. The WCCA has achieved a lot to be proud of over the course of two years, and we will continue to build on this in 2026 and beyond.

We have several exciting developments and projects in the pipeline – alongside continuing with our existing campaigns (UNISON x WCCA and Heat Strike), we are also developing our (remote) training capabilities for members and non-members, as well as fleshing out the details of external collaborative projects which will be announced in the near future.

We would like to round off with an acknowledgment to everyone who has attended our events, worked with us and supported us from the sidelines. Our successes as an organisation would not have been possible without the support and allyship from so many people across the globe. Thank you!



SUPPORT THE WORKING CLASS CLIMATE ALLIANCE

Campaign

Like what we do and want to get involved? [Get in touch](#).

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Support our long-term work by [making a donation](#).

Learn

[Contact us](#) to book a workshop. We offer a sliding-scale pricing scheme.