

Video: Can Civilization Survive the CO2 Crisis?

By [Elizabeth Woodworth](#) and [David Ray Griffin](#)

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Theme: [Environment](#)

In-depth Report: [Climate Change](#)

Take a trip into the heart of the momentous December, 2015 Paris climate summit (COP21) via this engaged, educational video produced by long time environmental activist Elizabeth Woodworth and professional Parisian producer Debora Blake.

Although 3,700 media people attended the conference, Elizabeth, upon returning to Canada, was amazed at how few people seemed to know about the cliff-hanger in Paris.

In Britain, the deal has been hailed as an “historic milestone,” a “watershed moment,” and a “turning point in human history,” Dr. Jeremy Leggett, founder of Solarcentury, the largest UK solar electric company, and Chairman of CarbonTracker, wrote:

“I witnessed an event that nothing else in human history comes close to in terms of scale and stakes,” and

“...we can realistically dream of the Paris Agreement as a trigger or rallying point for a renaissance in the state of humankind.”

The documentary begins with tours of the venue and its facilities. It then offers a fascinating look at how the draft climate agreement evolved through its precarious two-week course.

It relates how COP’s innovative president, Lauren Fabius, used the indigenous South African “indaba” to reach last-minute consensus.

COP21 was the largest meeting of nations in France since the UN Declaration of Human Rights in 1948. It was attended by delegates from 195 nations, and by 40,000 state and non-state people from around the world. Its venue in Le Bourget, north of Paris, was a full square kilometre in size. This video will help you get a grip on its enormity and significance.

From the outset, delegates understood that COP21 would fail if even *one* of the 195 nations balked. It took extraordinary skill and patience to guide these delegates to consensus.

Three days before its end, while the fate of the conference hung in the balance, former Vice President Al Gore [delivered a moral appeal](#) of rare stature to the assembly.

The finale of this cry for future life, nowhere to be found in the archived news reports, is featured in the video.

Meanwhile, parallel climate activist meetings held in northern Paris were issuing [strong challenges](#) to the conference. Bill Mckibben of [350.org](#), Naomi Klein, author of “This Changes Everything,” and renowned climatologist Dr. James Hansen, insisted the deal would lead to a catastrophic 3-4°C above pre-industrial

temperatures.

Elizabeth, a Canadian writer and science librarian, had already spent most of the year voluntarily promoting a well-researched climate action book, [Unprecedented: Can Civilization Survive the CO2 Crisis?](#) (Clarity Press, 2015) by scholar Dr. David Griffin. Her mission in going to COP21 was to show this book to world leaders, and there she was [interviewed](#).

Hailed by CleanTechnica as “a great service to humanity,” *Unprecedented* offers a unique mobilization approach to global warming.

As a follow-through to COP, *Unprecedented* is ahead of the curve on what governments and citizens can together do to restrain carbon emissions.

Although global humanity has stepped up a rung on its evolutionary ladder in uniting to address climate change, there is so much more work to be done.

This film will increase awareness and outreach to maintain the momentum of COP21’s historic achievement.

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