



FREIHEIT FÜR ALLE!

[hambacherwald.org](http://hambacherwald.org)

HAMBACHER WALD  
lebt!

## the forest

the hambach forest has existed since the last ice age, making it one of the oldest forests in germany. over thousands of years a very diverse ecosystem developed which serves as a habitat to a number of rare species of bats, wildcats and dormice today. there are also large populations of deer and wild boar that roam between the ancient oaks and hornbeams.

## coal

deforestation of the forest to make space for an open cast lignite mine began in 1978. instead of a natural forest you will now find a gigantic, up to 500m deep hole. the wind carries particulate matter and coarse dust away from the mine to the surrounding area, including the city of cologne, deteriorating air quality. in order to prevent the mine from flooding, the area's ground water is being drained. the effects are being noticed as far away as the netherlands. on top of that there's the carbon dioxide emissions: the power stations in the rhineland are responsible for 30% of germany's co<sub>2</sub> emissions. it is not only the forest that is being destroyed in situ – the people living in the surrounding area are being displaced, and villages wiped off the map.

## resistance

in 2012 people began protecting the forest by building tree houses and setting up the meadow camp. we don't only stand up against the destruction we're witnessing every day, but criticise the exploitation of nature and

human beings worldwide. in the forest and on the meadow we try to live an alternative that is free of hierarchy and ecologically viable, and to communicate about our choices. the majority of ecological issues that the world is confronted with, from climate change to pollution of the oceans, deforestation and extinction of species, have their origin in underlying social problems. the destruction of forests, oceans and climate can only be stopped when we manage to overcome capitalism!

## how you can contribute

time is of the essence: the majority of the remaining forest, including all of the forest occupations, will be destroyed this winter. in order to prevent this we rely on broad resistance that is as colourful and diverse as we are. there are a thousand different ways of contributing, some of which we want to introduce you to in a series of workshops from september onwards. drop by! hambach is alive. and so is the resistance!

**blog:** [hambacherwald.org](http://hambacherwald.org)

**mail:** [hambacherforst@riseup.net](mailto:hambacherforst@riseup.net)

**mobile:** +49 (0) 178 163 732 5