

The March Taxcast from the Tax Justice Network

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*In this month's Tax Justice Network [Taxcast](#): How many more signs do we need to tell us we must urgently reform our economies, keep essential services out of private hands and transition away from fossil fuels? As the world buckles up for a different kind of crisis tackling the Coronavirus, we look at how tax justice is key to *all* economic reform in the public interest. Solving the climate crisis — *any* crisis — is impossible without it. Never miss an episode! You can subscribe to the [Taxcast](#) via email by contacting the Taxcast producer on [naomi \[at\] taxjustice.net](mailto:naomi@taxjustice.net)*

We speak to [Dr Gail Bradbrook](#), co-founder of [Extinction Rebellion](#) on a vision of hope, [John Christensen](#) of the Tax Justice Network. We also bring you the voices of tax office workers from their protest outside the British Parliament against the government's closing of tax offices, shedding up to 50,000 jobs (video below). Unfortunately this is a worldwide trend. Produced and presented by [Naomi Fowler](#).

The majority of the public now understand that there is an emergency. But the other bit of it we haven't done strongly enough yet is to hold out the vision that change is possible. We know that tax is a really key issue."

~ Dr Gail Bradbrook, co-founder of Extinction Rebellion

We're really needed more than ever now especially in the light of the coronavirus, we'll need all the taxes we can get for all the extra care that people will need."

"500 offices being closed, 50,000 staff being lost and yet you want the biggest budget to spend the most money, nobody's going to be around to collect it."

"We're the best bargain that you'll ever get, the money that we cost compared to the money that we raise for hospitals, for schools, for infrastructure, for the roads, we're a great bargain."

~ Tax office workers, UK Parliament protest

If you include all the health impacts of fossil fuel production and the damage caused by

extreme climate events linked to global warming, the floods and the forest fires and the increased incidence of drought and so on, and if you bring all of those costs into the equation, the true cost of subsidies to the fossil fuel sector runs to an astonishing 5.2 trillion US dollars every year. Or get this, that's 10 million US dollars every minute of every day of the year."

~ John Christensen, Tax Justice Network

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JaiXCX5htzU?version=3&rel=1&fs=1&autoplay=2&showsearch=0&showinfo=1&iv_load_policy=1&wmode=transparent

Further reading:

- * Part 1 of the TJN special series on financing the transition away from fossil fuels is available [here](#). ***Part 2 will be out soon.***
- * ***Spain nationalises all of its private hospitals as the country goes into coronavirus lockdown, details [here](#).***
- * ***The [Corporate Accountability Network](#)***
- * ***By popular request, a transcript of the programme is available [here](#) (not 100% accurate)***