

PROF. VÁCLAV KLAUS APPOINTED PRESIDENT OF CLINTEL



PROF. GUUS BERKHOUT
CO-FOUNDER OF CLINTEL,
STEPPING DOWN
AFTER SEVEN YEARS



PROF. VÁCLAV KLAUS
FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE
CZECH REPUBLIC WILL LEAD
CLINTEL FROM NOW ON

Press Conference ClinTEL, 4 December 2025, Brussels
Location: Press Club Brussels Europe



“Our duty as Clintel is to oppose the irrational, populist, and evidently non-scientific climate alarmism”

Václav Klaus

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let me start by saying – with all my respect and recognition – that I am extremely honored to be selected as the new President of Clintel. To accept this role after the Clintel Founder, Prof. Berkhout, is both difficult and binding for me. There is no way to thank Prof. Berkhout for his work and achievements sufficiently. We do owe him a lot.

He founded this initiative at the right moment, when the ambitious, evidently destructive, scientifically unsupported global-warming doctrine seemed to stand almost unchallenged and unopposed, when politicians, the major media, and arrogant green activists looked like the justified and authorized owners of eternal truth and of practically all important institutions in the current world.

It was a time when the strength and power of this one-sided propaganda successfully indoctrinating practically all generations, all social groupings, all countries in the developed world seemed unstoppable. When distinguished opponents of this nihilistic doctrine, who had been trying for years and decades to oppose it, became tired and some of them, due to age, ceased to be active in their public presentations. When some of them were repeatedly attacked personally, and their undisputed academic careers and achievements were caricatured and discredited. When the green activists seemed to be undefeatable.

In that situation, in 2019, Prof. Berkhout, a distinguished Dutch geophysicist came with the idea of Clintel, prepared and published its World Climate Declaration, invited similarly thinking scientists to sign it, and started the inevitable organizational work. Many well-known opponents of the official doctrine of man-made global warming signed the declaration. I have to repeat my and our gratitude to Prof. Berkhout for all of this.

I was among the first to sign the Declaration. I have been engaged in the climate debate already for at least two decades. I already belong to the veterans of this debate. I have written dozens of articles, made speeches all over the world (on all continents) and published three books on this topic. One of them has been translated into 18 languages. I am convinced that it is our duty to oppose the irrational, populist, and evidently non-scientific climate alarmism. The general public should be informed that the hypothesis that human carbon dioxide emissions are causing global warming has not been scientifically proven. I also wanted to help.

I was and am fully aware of the fact that we are not on the winning side. We should admit that. We have to search for new ways to make a change – each of us individually and all of us together. We should overcome the widespread feeling of loneliness that some of our friends and supporters experience these days. Not everyone is robust enough, not everyone is sufficiently self-assured to be alone with his or her views and to be able to stand by them. That's one of the reasons for Clintel.

We plan to expand our activities both in individual countries and on the global level. We plan to be more active in public debates. We plan to find new supporters. In this respect, we don't intend to centralize our activities. We will give independence to national groupings and initiatives, and we will welcome their activity.

We will keep our secretariat in the Netherlands, where it all started. I would like to thank Director of Clintel, Marcel Crok, for his relentless work. I hope he will continue. I will try to do my best to use my experience and knowledge to make Clintel more efficient. And I look forward to our cooperation.

Thank you very much,

Václav Klaus
President of Clintel





“Every major breakthrough in science has come from dissenting voices”

Guus Berkhout

Dear colleagues and dear friends,

Seven years ago, at the end of 2018, I approached science journalist Marcel Crok with a proposal: Let us join forces and establish an international climate organisation. Our mission was clear: to gain a deeper, evidence-based understanding of the causes and effects of climate change, and of the real impact of climate policies on economies and the environment.

In March 2019, together with a group of volunteers, we founded Clintel. In this brand-new organization, Marcel was appointed to Clintel’s managing director and I became Clintel’s president. In the same year we launched the World Climate Declaration and appointed ambassadors around the globe. Today, more than six years later, the Declaration has been signed by over 2,000 scientists and professionals, and Clintel has 27 ambassadors.

Much has happened in the world since 2019, yet the core message of the 2019 Declaration remains as relevant and urgent as ever. It calls on politicians to stop spreading climate fear and states three fundamental points:

- 1 It is *nót* primarily human activity, but the immense forces of nature that drive climate change. Not only at present times, but as long as planet Earth exists.
- 2 More fundamental research is needed before we can truly understand the complex processes in the climate system. For instance, water vapor and clouds seem to be way more important than just CO₂ alone.
- 3 Climate adaptation is by *fár* the most effective and humane way to reduce damage and victims from extreme weather. Climate mitigation, by aiming for unrealistic emission reductions, has *néver* saved one dollar and one victim.

In conclusion, the world urgently needs massive investment in honest climate science and in innovative adaptation technologies.

Dear friends, I hope that these principles will remain the cornerstone of Clintel in the years ahead. With the national chapters – we are now establishing in all countries – we finally have the structure to bring Clintel’s message to every corner of the world.

On this occasion, I wish to mention another important issue. We have repeatedly tried to organise an open, international scientific debate with organisations such as IPCC. However, every single invitation was declined. That is not only incomprehensible – it is *móst* unscientific. After all, every major breakthrough in the history of science has come from dissenting voices.

It is therefore with immense pride and gratitude to announce that Dr Václav Klaus – former Prime Minister and former President of the Czech Republic – has agreed to succeed me as President of Clintel. With his státure, experience and network, he is uniquely placed to finally force the real climate debate that has been avoided for so long.

Dear Václav, a very warm welcome to Clintel!

To mark this moment, we have chosen a small but symbolic gift for you: a traditional Dutch windmill in the famous Delfts blue porcelain. Four centuries ago, thousands of these elegant windmills were the pride of the Netherlands. They were true technological masterpieces that drained our polders, turned grain into flour and helped to make our small country prosperous. Above all, they were in harmony with nature.

But, already at that time, the Dutch realized the fundamental disadvantage of this innovation: No wind, no power! Therefore, already in 1852, the Dutch started to replace their windmills by weather-independent, steam-powered pumphouses.

Today, by contrast, the gigantic modern wind turbines – that now dominate many natural landscapes – represent the opposite. Despite their impressive size, they deliver unreliable, weather-dependent electricity; they industrialize our countryside and seascapes; they harm birdlife and human health; and they drive energy prices to absurd levels. They have become the very symbol of an ideólogy-driven, unsustainable climate policy.

Dear Václav, this little blue windmill is a reminder of what real progress once looked like and of what the Dutch – already 175 years ago – did, to make their vital water management system independent of the weather. Let this be an example for the world's future energy policy!

Dear Václav, filled with pride for what Clintel has achieved until today, and with high expectations of what Clintel will achieve in the future, I now hand over the presidency to you. May Clintel, under your leadership, make decisive contributions to a rational, resilient and prosperous world.

Finally, dear Marcel, dear Clintel team, dear ambassadors and dear friends: Thank you from the bottom of my heart for your trust in me and for your tireless efforts to support Clintel. Keep surprising the world and continue this wonderful work!

Thank you very much

*Guus Berkhout,
President of Clintel (2019-2025)*





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