

8 - Scientific Literacy and Socio-scientific Issues | Empirical

SP - (16143) - UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' READINESS FOR SOCIAL ACTIVITY IN CLIMATE ACTIONS

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Short Abstract

In this study we discover how students from a university in Finland (N=1585) reflect on their possibilities to affect climate matters through social activity. The data was collected with an online survey in the Autumn of 2019 and was analyzed with quantitative and qualitative methods. Readiness for climate actions in social activity was moderately low and lower than in other climate actions considered in the survey. The following categories were identified to explain readiness for social activity: Emotional Expressions, Trustworthy Information, Individual Freedom, Societal Responsibility and Us Against the World -mindset. Some of the possibilities for climate actions suggested by students include developing and exporting Finnish innovations and expertise, leading by example, receiving and distributing reliable information, making decisions and regulations on a societal level, providing economical support for environmental organizations and affecting personal actions.