
News > World > Americas > US politics

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez storms Nancy Pelosi's office for climate change protest

Protesters call for a 'Green New Deal' plan

Sarah Harvard New York | 1 day ago | 6 comments

[Like](#) [Click to follow The Independent US](#)



Sunrise, a progressive environmentalist movement, organised the protest to push Democrats to act more decisively on climate change now that they will have control of the House of Representatives

In a video of the demonstration, Ms Ocasio-Cortez is seen speaking to the crowd of protesters.

Watch more



Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez spars with Jake Tapper over \$40tn policies

“I just want to let you all know how proud I am of each and every single one of you for putting yourselves and your bodies and everything on the line to make sure that we save our planet, our generation and our future,” she said, before adding the need for renewable energy.



ABC News @ABC

Incoming Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez joins sit-in in Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi's office calling for efforts to combat climate change: "We don't have a choice."

abcn.ws/2QF1tL8

8,761 11:51 AM - Nov 13, 2018

3,473 people are talking about this

“We don't have a choice,” Ms Ocasio-Cortez added. “We do not have a choice. We have to get to 100% renewable energy There is no other option.”

Close x

indy100 TRENDING



Men with beards are more attractive - officially



Limited edition Brexit mug with hole in it goes viral



Avengers 4 director appears to confirm popular fan theory



Leave voter cries on radio, apologising for backing Brexit



The funniest memes from the day that Brexit descended into chaos

Most popular



Theresa May finally revealed the Brexit truth: it's always been a lie



John Lewis Christmas advert 2018 REVEALED: Elton John takes centre stage with story of how... [READ MORE >>](#)



Prior to the sit-in protest, Ocasio-Cortez and Congresswoman-elect Rashida Tlaib of Michigan joined Sunrise’s rally near Capitol Hill on Tuesday morning. Ms Tlaib expressed her support for their protest. “This is the most American thing you can do,” Ms Tlaib said.

TOP ARTICLES 1/6



Live: Theresa May calls Brexit press conference amid bid to unseat her



France responds to Trump’s wild Twitter tirade targeting Macron



John Lewis Christmas advert starring Elton John unveiled

Promoted stories

Sponsored Links

You Should Never Shop on Amazon Without Using This Trick – Here’s Why

Honey

Play this for 1 min and see why everyone is addicted!

Vikings: Free Online Game

Michael Jackson's Only Biological Son Looks So Much Like Him Today

Direct Healthy

The 20 Worst Failed Restaurant Chains That Nobody Misses

Definition

These 50 Terrible Cars Are The Worst Ever Made

Yeah Motor

Luxury Assisted Living In Montgomery Village Has Seniors Packing Their Bags

Senior Living | Search Ads

by Taboola

ADVERTISEMENT

Sponsored Features



Why this loudspeaker manufacturer owes 75% of sales to Facebook



Why Facebook advertising was so important to this beauty business



All you need to know about House of Cards



Discover the new Sabrina remake



Discover the rich list where money doesn’t matter

Brexit deal live: Theresa May calls press conference amid bid to unseat her after flurry ...

[READ MORE >>](#)

The congresswomen-elect were on the Capitol for their freshman orientation after their historic wins last week. Ms Ocasio-Cortez sit-in appearance would be the first time she ever visited Ms Pelosi's office, who is considered to be her boss come around January 2019.

Justice Democrats, another progressive organisation, also joined the Sunrise activists, primarily made up of young protesters, in the sit-in protest in Ms Pelosi's office. The impetus behind the demonstration is sparked by Ms Pelosi's "intention to promote a 'bipartisan marketplace of ideas' and re-launch a toothless special committee from 2007 on climate change which resulted in weak cap-and-trade legislation passing the House in 2009 before failing in the Democratic-controlled Senate."

Who will play the new Jack Reacher?

We are prepared for Britain to cancel Brexit, EU president Tusk says

Leave voter cries on radio, apologising for backing Brexit

ADVERTISEMENT


World news in pictures

[Show all 50](#)



In 2007, Ms Pelosi **established** the Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming with former Rep. Ed Markey of Massachusetts as the chair. It held several hearings for four years until Republicans seized control of Congress and rendered the committee dormant.

The Sunrise movement are proposing something a bit more rough-and-ready: A Green New Deal. The **Green New Deal** would involve establishing a new select committee "tasked specifically to write policy on creating jobs and moving our country off fossil fuels over the designated 12 years that the [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change] has given us."



Sunrise is turning to Democrats to take charge in combating climate change since “the GOP is corrupted by dirty oil money and will stall us at every turn.” In doing so, the environmentalist group is requiring Democratic leadership to take the “No Fossil Fuel Money” pledge. The pledge mandates Democratic leadership to reject any, and all, campaign donations offered from fossil fuel corporations and lobbyists.”

Support free-thinking journalism and subscribe to Independent Minds

Ms Pelosi released a **statement** on Tuesday expressing her support for Sunrise’s dedication to environmental activism and in “reinstating the select committee to address the crisis.” But the activists said her words are not enough, suggesting she step down from Democratic leadership if she cannot commit to joining the Green New Deal platform.

In response, Sunrise released their own statement welcoming Ms Pelosi's support, but making note that words alone are not enough.

“[Forty two] have perished in Pelosi’s own home state of California from drought-drive fires in the last few days alone. Her solution is to resurrect a committee with no funding and no power to take legislative action,” the statement read, before saying that Pelosi should step down from Democratic leadership if she fails to implement the Green New Deal mandate.

"If Pelosi fails to issue this mandate, it’s time to step aside," the statement added.


Matthew Miles Goodrich, the New York political director for Sunrise, pondered why it is Ms Ocasio-Cortez that is speaking with the demonstrators at the sit-in and not the House Democratic leader?

“A question — why is it that @sunrisemvmt is in @NancyPelosi’s office, yet it’s @Ocasio2018 who’s speaking with us about a #GreenNewDeal?,” he tweeted.

“Where’s @HouseDemocrats leadership? #StepUpOrStepAside”

The need for climate change reform has become a major priority for progressives. Last month, the United Nations **released a report** stating that, based on the current levels of greenhouse gas emissions, there is only 12 years left to contribute substantial action on the growing threat of climate change. Democratic leadership, however, has not proposed any new concrete plans to save the planet.

MORE ABOUT [CLIMATE CHANGE](#) [ALEXANDRIA OCASIO-CORTEZ](#) [NANCY PELOSI](#)
[RASHIDA TLAIB](#) [CONGRESS](#)

 [Reuse content](#)

Promoted stories

Sponsored Links by Taboola

If Your Dog Licks Its Paws (Do This Every Day)

Ultimate Pet Nutrition

An Insane Credit Card Charging 0% Interest Until 2020

NextAdvisor

Montgomery Village, Maryland: Big News For Zero Ticket Drivers

QuoteWizard Auto Quotes

How Can You Outsmart Amazon? Turns Out It's Pretty Simple

Honey

Play this for 1 minute and see why everyone is addicted!

Throne: Free Online Game

Maryland Launches No Cost Solar Program in Montgomery Village

Energy Bill Cruncher Solar Quotes

Teen Who Went Missing In Aruba May Finally Be Found 12 Years Later

DirectExpose

Shut the Front Door! These Luxury Vehicles Cost Under \$50k!

Luxury Cars | Sponsored links

This holiday, gift an experience for the whole family with Peloton.

Peloton

U.S. Cardiologist: It's Like a Pressure Wash for Your Insides

Health Headlines

The Highest Paying Cashback Card Has Hit The Market

Wise Bread

Anyone Who Sees Their Dog Standing In This Position Should Know This

Give It Love

Comments

Share your thoughts and debate the big issues

[Learn more](#)

Join the discussion

Newest first

Oldest first

Most liked

Least liked

Loading comments...



GET IN TOUCH

Contact us

Jobs



OUR PRODUCTS

Subscriptions

Install our apps

Archive

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Evening Standard

Novaya Gazeta

EXTRAS

All topics

Voucher codes

Advertising guide

Syndication

LEGAL

Code of conduct and complaints

Contributors

Cookie policy

Privacy notice

User policies