



# Media Advisory

TAMERA

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## 1000s to gather to protest against the oil drilling using aerial art, while showcasing alternative energy solutions

A coalition of Portuguese environmental activists, joined by an alliance of international activists from around the world, will create a piece of aerial art to protest against the planned offshore oil drilling in Portugal and show that a transition to a regenerative and just society is possible.

- What:** Aerial art action, where more than 1000 human bodies will be used to create an image which is then captured in photos and video from the air and sent around the world.
- When:** Saturday August 4 2018
- Where:** Cova da Vapor beach, close to Lisbon
- Who:** Tamera Peace Research and Education Center, Climáximo, Campanha Linha Vermelha, Plataforma Algarve Livre De Petróleo, Stop Petróleo Vila do Bispo and other activist groups – led by Tamera’s co-founder Sabine Lichtenfels, and international activists attending “Defend the Sacred” including Standing Rock camp founder, LaDonna Bravebull Allard; Tik-kun’s editor-in-chief, Rabbi Michael Lerner; “People for Bernie” co-founder, Winnie Wong; and author, Charles Eisenstein.
- Why:** At the end of last year, in response to a strong campaign led by a coalition of environmental activists, the Portuguese government canceled 10 of 15 oil and gas drilling contracts and promised it wouldn’t drill for oil off the Algarve coast. But in January this year, the secretary of state for energy gave the go ahead to Eni and Galp for offshore drilling in the Algarve and Alentejo, and in May the Portuguese Environmental Agency announced it would begin in September, without an environmental impact assessment. At the same time, Australis Oil announced that they will start drilling for gas in Alcobaca, near the sanctuary of Fátima in 2019, likely to be Portugal’s first instance of fracking.

We believe that Portugal has the best conditions for pioneering the transition away from fossil fuels to a just and regenerative society. With decentralized solar, wind and wave energy technologies, Portugal could be one of the first countries to run exclusively on renewables and, by restoring ecosystems, it could overcome desertification, drought, fire and flood catastrophes.

### Notes

- A similar event was created and documented in 2017. Watch the short video: “Não ao Furo! Sim ao Futuro – No to oil drilling in Portugal!” See: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0damGwctli4>
- Our campaign page: <https://www.tamera.org/stop-the-drilling/>
- National action platform “Parar o Furo”: <http://pararofuro.pt/>
- Defend the Sacred international gathering: <https://www.tamera.org/defend-the-sacred/>
- Examples of John Quigley’s work: <http://www.spectralq.com/Home.html>
- Climáximo: <https://climaximo.wordpress.com/>
- Campanha Linha Vermelha: <https://linhavermelha.org/info/sobre-campanha/>

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For more information, please go to <https://www.tamera.org/stop-the-drilling/>