



Complaint Against YouTube Censorship

Dutch Climate Coalition Files Formal Complaint Against YouTube & Google Over Censorship

Date: 4 Aug 2025

Formal Complaint: Dutch Climate Coalition vs. Google & YouTube Over Censorship of Climate, Nature, and Human Rights Content

The Dutch Climate Coalition, representing over 100 environmental, climate, and human rights organizations, is filing this formal complaint against Google and YouTube due to the removal of multiple YouTube channels belonging to member organizations.

This coordinated takedown occurred following the publication of a single video documenting the [NATO Summit A12 blockade](#) – a peaceful protest opposing the genocide in Gaza, the rise of fascism and racism, and the continued fossil fuel subsidies driving the climate crisis. The protest was met with [brute police violence](#), resulting in three peaceful protesters sustaining broken arms and many beaten black and blue.

The Dutch Climate Coalition works collectively. EDSP.TV and TSO.News document these events for the Coalition. As joint actions often involve dozens of groups, videos are frequently published on multiple member channels — ensuring accuracy, wider public access, and full credit without commercial intent.

Shared publication:

- ensures each group shares accurate documentation with their audience,
- maximizes public access,
- and is done with full credit, without commercial or deceptive intent.

This shared media practice does not violate YouTube’s policies. Channel removals based on duplicated content are unjust and suppress legitimate political protest.

Evidence of Coordinated Action Against Coalition Channels

- **Simultaneous Takedowns**
On July 3, 2025 at 13:07 h, multiple Coalition member channels were deleted, all citing violations of YouTube’s “spam, deceptive practices, and scams” policy — including The FAB, which never published the NATO Summit protest video but was removed nonetheless.
- **FAB Anomaly**
The FAB YouTube channel was taken down despite never hosting the protest video. It was later restored — this demonstrates that the takedown was not triggered by the specific content but likely by a coordinated flagging of coalition-affiliated channels.

- **Selective Restoration**

While The FAB and Klimaatcoalitie channels were restored after appeal, organizations such as Voor de Wind and XR Ambtenaren remain offline, without explanation.

- **No Notification or Appeal Opportunity**

XR Venlo's channel was deleted without any notification or the option to appeal—a clear violation of YouTube's own policy.

Our Demands to Google & YouTube

1. Full Disclosure of the Takedown Trigger

- Identify the specific complaint, entity, or government request that led to these removals.
- Clarify whether external parties requested removal — we suspect possible involvement of the State of Israel.

2. Explanation for Selective Restoration

- Explain why only two of the five removed channels were reinstated after appeal.
- Share the criteria and reasoning used in content and channel appeals.

3. Notification to Affected Accounts

- Explain why XR Venlo was not notified of the deletion.
- Detail how YouTube will ensure future takedowns adhere to policy regarding notice and appeals.

4. Commitment to Protect Climate & Human Rights Content

- Provide a statement about how YouTube will prevent politically motivated crackdowns on climate, nature, and social justice organizations in the future.
- Commit to transparency regarding influence from governments or corporations in moderation decisions.

5. Investigation Into Coordinated Deletion of Coalition Channels

- Explain why The FAB channel — which never hosted the protest video — was removed alongside others.
- Disclose whether the takedowns resulted from automated sweeps, external reporting, or internal flagging of coalition-aligned entities.
- Commit to transparency around any coordinated moderation actions against civil society.

NATO-Summit Protests Video

This video was produced and published by [EDSP.TV/TSO.news](#), incorporating footage from [NOS News](#), the [United Nations](#), [The Associated Press](#), [Amnesty International](#), [SKY News](#), [BBC News](#), [het AD](#), [France 24 News](#), [PBS News](#), [Linda](#), and others. It documents the NATO-Summit A12 blockade protest to highlight the intersecting crises of genocide in Gaza, failed climate policy, and rising fascism and racism.

The peaceful protests were met with excessive police violence, with multiple activists requiring hospital treatment for broken arms and other injuries. Instead of amplifying their legitimate call for change, YouTube attempted to suppress it through unjustified censorship.



nato-summit-protests-video.klimaatcoalitie.org

Google's Takedown of Multiple Dutch Climate Coalition

YouTube Channels

On July 3, 2025 at 13:07 (CET), multiple YouTube channels belonging to member organizations of the Dutch Climate Coalition were suddenly removed. All deletions cited "severe or repeated violations" of YouTube's Community Guidelines.

The removals appear linked to a single video documenting the [NATO Summit A12 blockade](#) — a peaceful protest against:

- the genocide in Gaza,
- ongoing fossil fuel subsidies driving the climate crisis,
- and the rise of fascism and racism.

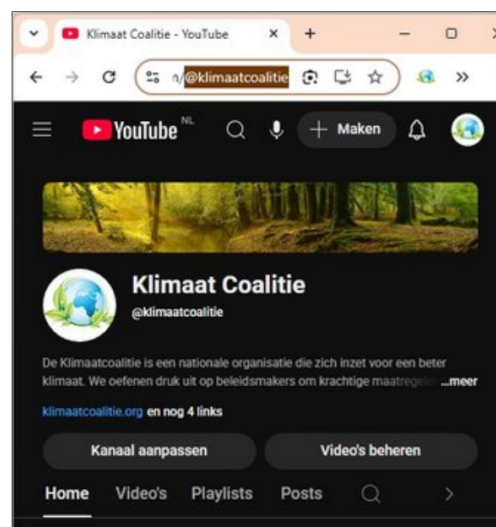
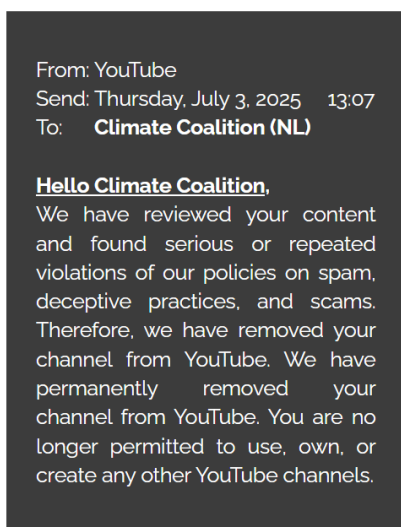
Source: www.klimaatcoalitie.org/formal-complaint-against-google-youtube-censorship

Takedown & Appeal Notifications

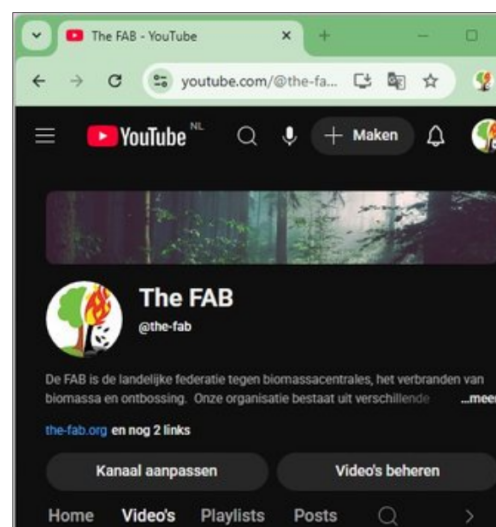
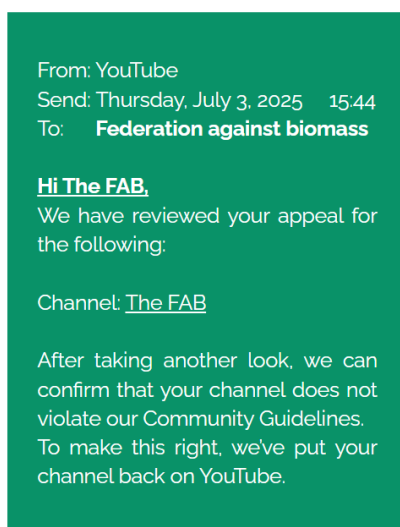
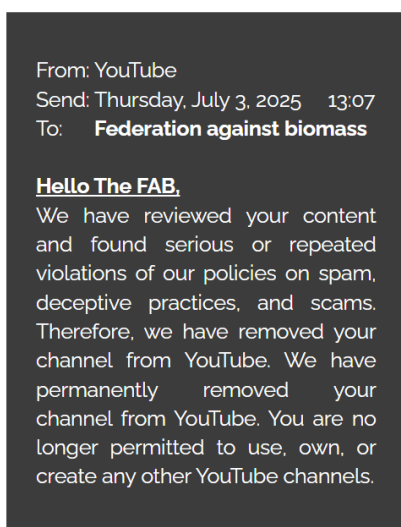
- Simultaneous Deletions
All affected organizations (except XR Venlo) received takedown notifications on July 3 at 13:07.
- XR Venlo Anomaly
XR Venlo received only a July 1 email stating that the [NATO Summit protest video](#) was removed, but no notification of channel deletion and no option to appeal was ever provided.

Review of Appeals

- Channels Restored
On the same day (July 3 at approximately 15:40), YouTube notified the Klimaatcoalitie and The FAB that, after review, their channels did not violate Community Guidelines and were restored.
- Channels Not Restored
Voor de Wind and XR Ambtenaren submitted appeals using the same arguments as Klimaatcoalitie and The FAB. Their channels remain deleted without explanation.
- No Appeal Opportunity
XR Venlo was never given the chance to appeal, in direct violation of YouTube's own stated procedures.



<https://www.youtube.com/@klimaatcoalitie>



<https://www.youtube.com/@the-fab>

From: YouTube
Send: Thursday, July 3, 2025 13:07
To: **Voor de Wind Pro Windmills**

Hello Voor de Wind,

We have reviewed your content and found serious or repeated violations of our policies on spam, deceptive practices, and scams. Therefore, we have removed your channel from YouTube. We have permanently removed your channel from YouTube. You are no longer permitted to use, own, or create any other YouTube channels.

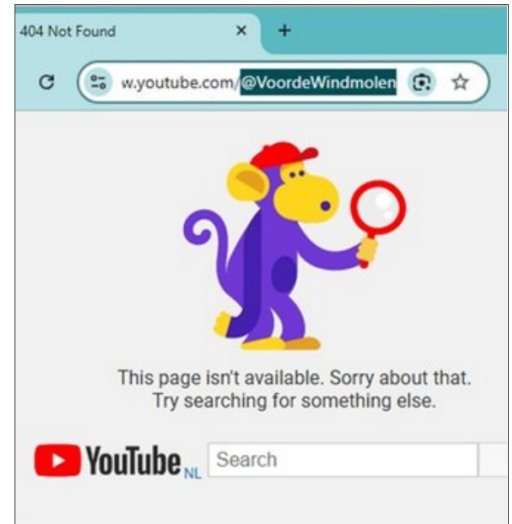
From: YouTube
Send: Thursday, July 3, 2025 15:50
To: **Voor de Wind Pro Windmills**

Hi Voor de Wind,

We have reviewed your appeal for the following:

Channel: Voor de Wind

We reviewed your channel carefully, and have confirmed that it violates our spam, deceptive practices and scams policy. We won't be putting your channel back up on YouTube.



<https://www.youtube.com/@VoordeWindmolen>

From: YouTube
Send: Thursday, July 3, 2025 13:07
To: **XR Civil Servants**

Hello XR Ambtenaren,

We have reviewed your content and found serious or repeated violations of our policies on spam, deceptive practices, and scams. Therefore, we have removed your channel from YouTube. We have permanently removed your channel from YouTube. You are no longer permitted to use, own, or create any other YouTube channels.

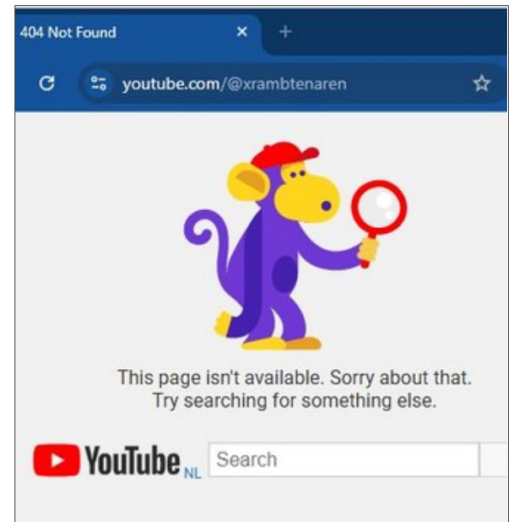
From: YouTube
Send: Thursday, July 3, 2025 15:51
To: **XR Civil Servants**

Hi XR Ambtenaren,

We have reviewed your appeal for the following:

Channel: XR ambtenaren

We reviewed your channel carefully, and have confirmed that it violates our spam, deceptive practices and scams policy. We won't be putting your channel back up on YouTube.



<https://www.youtube.com/@xrambtenaren>

From: YouTube
Send: Thursday, July 1, 2025 23:41
To: **XR Venlo**

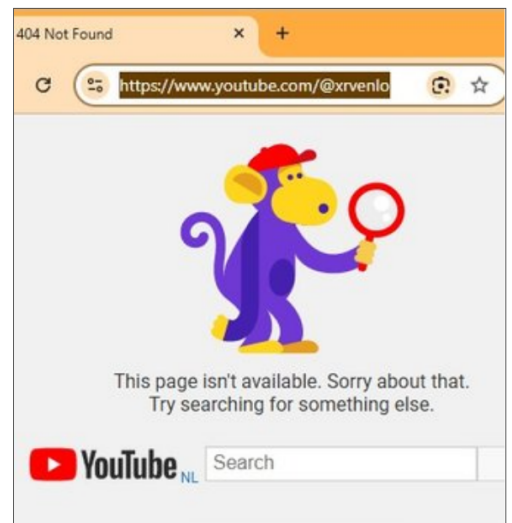
Hello XR Venlo,

Copyrighted content has been found in your video: NATO Summit A12 Blockade - Stop Genocide - Stop Police Brutality - Stop Fossil Subsidies - Stop Fascism.

As a result, you can no longer monetize your video and it has been blocked in one territory.

This is not a copyright strike and will not affect your channel.

Youtube didn't even bother to send an email to inform XR Venlo that the www.youtube.com/@xrvenlo Youtube Channel was permanently removed or a reason why XR Venlo was permitted to use, own, or create any other YouTube channels. There was also no option to appeal. Because Youtube did send a notifications about the NATO Summit protest video on the first of July, we can confirm the XR Venlo email address was correct and the XR Venlo Youtube Channel was removed because of the video.



<https://www.youtube.com/@xrvenlo>

Statements from Coalition Representatives & Journalists

Maarten Frijlink

Dutch Climate Coalition

“The mass removal of Coalition channels sets a dangerous precedent. Peaceful protest, climate action, nature protection, and human rights advocacy are essential democratic freedoms. YouTube’s coordinated takedowns threaten the global fight for climate justice, human rights and transparency.”

Joost Blasweiler

Federation Against Biomass (FAB)

“Our channel was deleted despite never uploading the NATO Summit protest video. This proves these takedowns targeted climate and human rights advocacy voices, not specific content. YouTube owes an explanation and must stop using opaque processes to silence environmental watchdogs working for public accountability.”

Marloes van de Pol

Voor de Wind (Pro Windmills Coalition)

“Our channel remains offline while others were restored after identical appeals. This selective enforcement is unjustified. Climate organizations must not face arbitrary censorship for sharing factual protest coverage. YouTube must treat all appeals with equal transparency and fairness.”

Lucas Winnips

XR Ambtenaren (XR Civil Servants)

“Removing XR Ambtenaren’s channel without due process is an attack on civil servants who speak truth on climate policy and human rights. As public employees, we have a responsibility to protect the environment. YouTube’s actions suppress essential voices in the democratic debate on climate & environmental justice and human rights.”

Sanna Arnold

XR Venlo

“XR Venlo received no deletion notice and no appeal option. This failure undermines YouTube’s credibility and breaches its own procedures. Climate advocacy cannot be erased without explanation. Platforms must ensure due process and equal protection for environmental voices.”

Jeroen Spaander

EDSP.TV / TSO.News

“As independent journalists, we document protests for the public record. YouTube’s removal of the Climate Coalition channels is a blow to press freedom. Such actions endanger transparency and restrict the historical record of climate, nature, and human rights activism.”

Join the complaint

Organizations that wish to support (endorse) this formal complaint are invited to send their endorsement to contact@klimaatcoalitie.org. Endorsements will be added to the list of statements published under: <https://klimaatcoalitie.org/formal-complaint-against-google-youtube-censorship#statements>

Dispatch & Contact Details

This formal complaint has been submitted through the following channels:

To Google / YouTube:

- **By email:** press@google.com
- **By registered post (registered mail) to the following addresses:**
 - *Google Netherlands HQ*
Claude Debussylaan 34, 15th Floor, 1082 MD Amsterdam
 - *Google Ireland Limited*
Google Building, Gordon House, Barrow Street, Dublin D04 E5W5, Ireland

To the Dutch and EU Digital Services Act (DSA) Representatives:

- **NL (Digital):** <https://www.acm.nl/nl/uw-melding-over-een-online-platform-dienst> (Case ACM-2025-340378)
- **EU (Digital):** <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/write-us> (Case 6337196)

More information on the EU DSA:

https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/priorities-2019-2024/europe-fit-digital-age/digital-services-act_en

<https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/dsa-dscs#1720699867912-1>

<https://www.acm.nl/nl/digitale-economie/overzicht-wetten-en-regels-voor-digitale-economie>

Replies and Correspondence:

Organizations or entities wishing to respond or follow up should direct their reply to:

- **Email:** contact@klimaatcoalitie.org and CC to contact@edsp.tv and info@tso.news
- **Post:** EDSP, Kraanspoor 50, 1033 SE Amsterdam, Netherlands

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