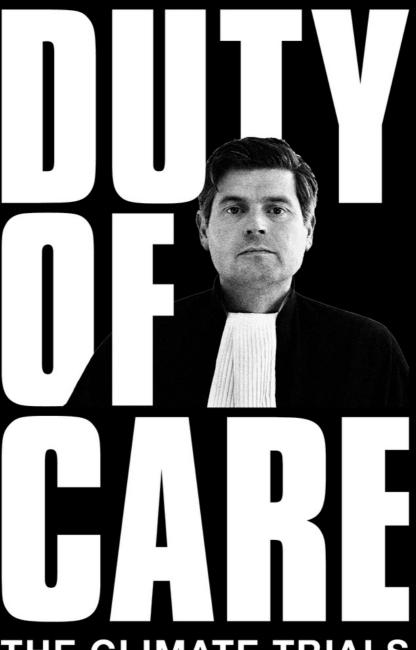
A NIC BALTHAZAR FILM



THE CLIMATE TRIALS





















SCREENING KIT

### **HOST A SCREENING**

Are you considering organizing a screening of our documentary? Excellent! A film screening provides a wonderful opportunity to gather people and to create a space for discussion and community building. This kit contains useful information on how to organise a screening of Duty of Care.



# **ABOUT DUTY OF CARE**



While climate activists and experts around the world are sounding the alarm, polluting multinationals and neglectful governments continue their business as usual. Until a Dutch lawyer makes world history with the law as his weapon. This exciting courtroom drama follows Roger Cox in his fight against Shell and other major players. He paved the way for a new type of climate activism. It is a hopeful and inspiring story that shows how one person can truly make a difference.

#### **HOW DOES IT WORK?**

All that is required for a successful screening is a screen and a projector. While we typically recommend a minimum attendance of 50 people, this number is flexible - in the end, it is up to you!

Once you have decided to organise a screening, contact us at info@dutyofcare.world.

We'll provide you with a link to access a high-quality recording of the documentary. You'll have the option to select from the following choices:

| Language | Subtitles |
|----------|-----------|
| English  | English   |
| English  | Dutch     |
| English  | French    |
| English  | Korean    |
| Dutch    | Dutch     |
| French   | French    |







# **HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?**

We request a contribution based on the principle of "give what you can." We ask for €150/€250/€350 + 21% VAT, depending on your organisation's financial resources. This film was created through pro-bono work, and organising a global outreach campaign remains a significant expense.

If you have the financial means and believe in the importance of this project, please consider making an additional donation to support our outreach campaign. Our hope is that this story will have a profound global impact and motivate lawyers worldwide. Your generous contribution will assist us in spreading the message and bolstering the movement. To make a donation, <u>please visit this link</u>.

#### **COMMUNICATING YOUR EVENT**

After setting the date and time for your event, feel free to promote it in any way you see fit! If you create a Facebook event, please remember to tag Duty of Care International.

You can access promotional materials for your event here.

- Facebook banner (ENG/NL)
- Square for Twitter and Instagram (ENG/NL)
- 5 stills from the movie

#### **ORGANISE A DEBATE**





The documentary's runtime of 57 minutes makes it the perfect length for organizing a post-screening discussion or debate. As a result of busy schedules, it may be challenging to arrange a post-screening discussion with the director Nic or Roger Cox. However, perhaps there are individuals within your community who would be interested in participating? Consider reaching out to legal professionals, activists, and academics to organize a panel for after the screening. You can find a list with discussion topics at the end of this toolkit.

# **STAY IN TOUCH!**

We would love to hear more about your event after it has taken place. Feel free to send us pictures of the screening and any feedback you wish to share, to info@dutyofcare.world.

# ABOUT ROGER COX



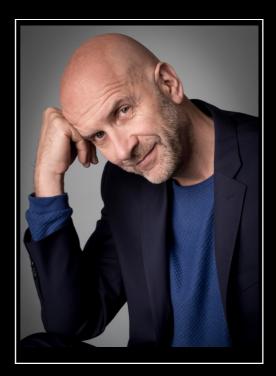
The Dutch climate lawyer Roger Cox started his activism after watching Al Gore's An Inconvenient Truth in 2006. He enjoys an international reputation in the field of climate change and law, a subject on which he has also written a book, Revolution Justified. Roger Cox is behind the victory against Shell, as well as the mastermind behind the Dutch and later the

Belgian climate case. In 2021, he was named on Time Magazine's Time 100 list of most influential people of 2021. Al Gore himself praised Roger Cox for winning the Climate Case against Shell and the Urgenda case against the Dutch government, calling it "a turning point toward accountability for the fossil-fuel industry and its central role in creating the climate crisis that threatens our way of life."

### ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Nic Balthazar is a Belgian filmmaker, who As a longtime environmental activist, Nic Balthazar was one of the founders of the climate movement in Belgium. He has produced and directed several social—and environmental documentaries, clips, and interactive mass-projects, such as 'The Big Ask' 'Dance for the Climate', 'Clap for the Climate' 'Sing for the Climate' (with almost half a million participants in over 40 countries).

He is one of the initiators of the Belgian Climate Case 'Klimaatzaak', and with environmental documentaries like 'Plannen voor Plaats' (Plans for Space) or TV programmes like 'Klimaatbetoog' (The Climate Plea) he tries to raise environmental and climate awareness.



#### **INTERVIEW WITH NIC BALTHAZAR**

Hello Nic! You are the writer, director, and producer of this documentary. And you're following an incredible Dutch lawyer Roger Cox for two years. What was on your mind when you started this project?

I worked for television for a long time. Then I started to make fiction films and I've been a climate activist for more than 15 years now. I guess Roger and I saw the film An Inconvenient Truth at the same time. It's so funny that it kinda linked us. We both have two children and we both were stunned and shell-shocked by this documentary that changed our lives. That's why in fact I was looking for a fiction film, a story set around climate and I knew Roger as a lawyer. We invited him with a few climate activists to tell us about what he was doing.



At that moment Urgenda hadn't won their case yet. We were so enthused by his endeavour to solve the climate crisis with his law books and everything he had to say. He also became the lawyer of the climate case we started in Belgium. So, that's how I knew him. I asked him to tell me more about the lobbyists and those lawyers who work for big oil firms and I asked him if they have a problem of conscience sometimes. 'No, lawyers don't need the conscience' he joked 'They can defend people who can infringe the law, people who are even criminals, that's their job'. But he was also telling me about what he was going to do against Shell of course. So incredible as in the David against Goliath story. But this one is real. They often say in cinema you look for a story and it's the story that finds you. And I thought 'Well, it's probably true.'

Many of my other fiction films are also based on true stories and here I thought well I might as well just film the true story and make a documentary. At that time Roger said well I would not do that because it's gonna be really really very boring. Because I just sit here on my laptop and I write everything that we are going to say, and then the courtroom is really like not in America. There is no courtroom drama like "Objection your honour," and that kind of drama that's going on. It's really very serious, aggressively very serious and there is a lot of respect for each other and that doesn't help a filmmaker. But still, I'm really glad I didn't take his advice not to do the documentary. I have the feeling that just maybe again we could see something that hasn't been done anywhere in the world. Something very unique is that a small law firm from the outskirts of Holland, that's really far from the center of power. And at a certain moment, it brings one of the ten most important multinationals and most important polluters to the court and has them really convicted to drastically change their course. It was exhilarating of course to be there. And we hope it's also very exhilarating to watch.

Talking about wrecking the planet, you directed The Big Ask's films in 2008 and 2009, activism clips for a climate law, already then. I'm wondering what were your future predictions back then. Did you believe humanity will make a big and quick change in terms of the climate crisis and how do you feel about your past thoughts now?

The first Big Ask movie was a short film we made with 6000 people on a beach. That moved so many people across the borders. Back then I wanted to show in the film this tipping point theory that at a certain moment, we won't be able to do anything anymore and at that moment scientists said well we don't know but we think we still have left 7-10 years to really do something, but that was 2008.



By now of course we have Paris and there are positive changes that have happened fortunately. And we all only can hope that with so many people shouting for climate justice did wake politicians up, but also people in industry, the people in society to make a change. Still the scientist are just as pessimistic. Maybe even more so, seeing what is actually going on in the earth's climate system. These tipping points are coming close. It chills me to see how we might have been more 'right' than we even knew.

I will always be very very proud of what we did back then because that was the beginning of massive climate rallies. And it was another kind of rally. I always say we shouldn't just go marching the streets with slogans that nobody could really understand and the signs that nobody could read. We should do cooler stuff which is a lot nicer like 'dance for climate'. 12.000 people in that clip were dancing there on that beach. And we made a clip that we can send to the whole world. Everyone who was there still knows that. So I'm still very proud we made that. And on the other hand I have my good days and bad days. On the bad days I said well, did it all help as much as we hoped? Because the CO2 didn't come down and is still going up.

As far as I know, you didn't fly at all during the filming of Duty of Care and you tried to make a carbon-neutral production. What is the state of the film industry in this regard? Do you think producers will start using more climate-friendly methods in the near future?

For the film industry, I think it's also really important to look at what we're doing, just like every industry. Every household and every individual should do that. I can't say that I'm not proud that we made the first climate-neutral fiction film Time of My Life where for the first time we kind of calculated how much CO2 we emit in making a fiction film. And then how can we cut back on all of that plastic and all of the rubbish that a film set entails? We managed to cut back our plastic and garbage waste  $\frac{2}{3}$  by just giving every actor and everyone on the set a jar to bring coffee instead of plastic cups.

And also in the documentary, we've done interviews in The States, the UK, Pakistan, and all over the world without taking one plane. I can say there are very good cameramen everywhere in the world and thanks to Corona we've seen that doing an online interview as we did with a local crew there is a perfectly ok way of gathering the material you need. So, by combining these technologies we were able to reach experts all over the world without flying. We didn't even go to London which from Brussels isn't that far. So I think for a lot of



documentaries that are flying around the planet: This is more cost-effective, less time-consuming and it really helps to burn less energy. So, of course, in a climate documentary you should be able to say well we didn't fly, we really did our best to have a minimum of CO2. That being said, sometimes if people have to go and film the fact that the Greenland ice sheet is melting they will have to go there by plane and I don't think we should hold it against them.

I heard a guy who works for Total, the French oil giant, who said, "Oh you climate activists! Have you seen all these huge forest fires? There are helicopters putting the fire down. And how do you think these helicopters would fly without us?" At that moment your jaw falls open and you think 'What do I need to say to this person? How far from reality can this person be?' They started this fire and really will still not take any responsibility and to wrap it up I'm afraid that judges will have to hold them accountable.

Many thanks to Deniz Aytekin from Yeşilist. You can find the full interview <u>here</u>.

# CONTACT

Please feel free to contact us at info@dutyofcare.world with any questions or remarks.



# **DISCUSSION TOPICS**

You could complement the screening with a discussion or debate, in which you share your thoughts on the documentary and climate litigation in general. Here are a few questions to get your conversation started.

#### For citizens

- What are the key messages you take away from Duty of Care?
- What is happening in terms of climate litigation in my country?
- What is the evolution of climate litigation globally?
- What can I do as a citizen?
- Can I draw on my profession to work on climate?

#### For legal experts/students

- What can the role of academia be in tackling climate change?
- What are the opportunities, needs, and challenges of environmental law?
- How do you go about creating a climate case?
- How big are the fossil fuel lobbies?
- Who are we fighting against?

# For corporate organizations

- What is the responsibility of our organisation?
- How transparent is our value chain?
- Are there any environmental risks in our operations?
- What actions have been taken to reduce GHG emissions and our impact on the environment and people?
- How can regulation impact our organisation?