



MOTION:

‘If we really care about climate change, we should all fly less’

Flying accounts for 2.5 percent of global CO2 emissions and is expected to increase to 5 percent by 2050. These emissions contribute to global warming, and ultimately, climate change. Climate Change is now affecting every country on every continent but it is the poorest and most vulnerable people in the world who are most affected.

Air travel is one of the most carbon-intensive activities an individual can do. However, very few people fly regularly or ever take flights – especially those who are being impaired the most by climate change. Should we all be flying less to reduce our carbon footprint or are there other avenues for tackling climate change?

PROPOSITION (Agree) ✓	OPPOSITION (Disagree) X
Flying contributes hugely to our carbon footprint – isn't flying less a simple way to reduce it?	International trade and importing of goods via air travel lead to greater emissions. Will asking individuals to change their personal flying habits make a massive difference?
The fewer people flying, the lower the demand there will be – won't it be positive for the planet if there are fewer flights taking off?	Only a small number of people are frequent fliers, asking everyone to fly less could be futile. Shouldn't we be taking alternative options to fight climate change instead?
We are in a climate emergency and need to make adjustments in our lives if we really care about the future of the planet. Surely any climate action we can take is essential?	Isn't it more important to seek sustainable aviation fuel options than to reduce the number of flights as a whole?

Research Links:

- <https://trello.com/b/ligsgZ1J/concern-primary-debates>
- <https://sdgs.un.org/goals> - noted links to SDGs 9, 11, 13
- <https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20200218-climate-change-how-to-cut-your-carbon-emissions-when-flying>
- <https://www.timeout.com/news/why-we-dont-need-to-stop-flying-to-save-the-planet-according-to-science-111121>
- <https://www.vox.com/the-highlight/2019/7/25/8881364/greta-thunberg-climate-change-flying-airline>
- <https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20220519-what-if-we-all-stopped-flying#:~:text=A%20boost%20to%20climate%20goals,previously%20leading%20to%20rising%20emissions>
- <https://www.wired.com/story/stop-flying-climate-change/>