

The background of the entire page is a photograph showing a person's hand holding a white tablet. The tablet screen displays a presentation slide titled 'COMMUNITY VISIONS FOR A JUST FUTURE' with an illustration of a person speaking. Below this, another person's hands are visible holding a smartphone that shows a digital sticky note app with various colored notes. The scene is set against a warm, orange-toned background with a brick wall.

ANNUAL REPORT 2024


 **SYSTEMIC
JUSTICE**



Illustration created by Haruka Aoki from the outputs of Systemic Justice's 2024 BIPOC Climate Justice Summit.

CONTENTS

FROM OUR DIRECTOR	5
OUR VISION AND MISSION	7
POWERED BY COMMUNITIES	11
OUR WORK	17
BUILDING KNOWLEDGE AND POWER	20
LAUNCHING COMMUNITY-DRIVEN COURT CASES	22
DEVELOPING A NETWORK OF LAWYERS FOR CHANGE	26
SEEKING CLIMATE JUSTICE	28
OUR FINANCES	36
LOOKING AHEAD	40
GET IN TOUCH	48



"I was inspired and I feel energised to continue community battles. The frustration still remains but knowing that there are many activists out there that challenge institutional discrimination, racial profiling, and systemic injustice makes me feel it is worth fighting for better rights."

**PARTICIPANT AT SYSTEMIC JUSTICE'S 2024
COMMUNITY VISIONS FOR LIBERATION EVENT**

From our Director

NANI JANSEN REVENTLOW

FOUNDER, SYSTEMIC JUSTICE



Worldwide, we are seeing a shift to the right that is squeezing marginalised communities and making it even harder for them to fight the injustices they're facing. This shift is moving at an alarming pace, calling for stronger and more coordinated action. Meanwhile, the organisations tackling these issues remain overburdened and under-resourced.

Back in 2022, when we at Systemic Justice started our work with community partners, the signs were already visible. Time and again, activists spoke at our roundtables of the toll that constant firefighting was having on their ability to sustain their campaigns for systemic change. That pressure has only increased in the ensuing years.

So, what's the solution? We're responding to these testing times by prioritising communities' needs even more. One of our strategies is to sharpen our focus on what we call "litigation readiness", ensuring that communities have what they need to make the most of the courts in their campaigning. We're aligning our operations and the way we're building our organisation to support this focus.

With the rise of the political right, the work of racial, social, and economic justice groups is more vital than ever. To make sure they really can make an impact, we must invest in their work – this is one of the ways that we can truly build deeply rooted resistance in times of oppression. It has become increasingly clear that law and policymakers can't be relied on to effect positive systemic change. The courts, however, remain a promising alternative. Times may seem bleak, but there is still real potential to drive progressive, lasting change through them.

Our work in 2024 has shown us the enormous power, energy, and drive that social justice groups in Europe are deploying to make the necessary changes happen. They embody the spirit of activist and civil rights leader Coretta Scott King's words: "Freedom is never really won, you earn it and win it in every generation."

We are grateful for the time and trust that community groups share with us. As they pave the way for justice across the region, we look forward to continuing on the path towards liberation with them.

“We are grateful for the time and trust that community groups share with us. As they pave the way for justice across the region, we look forward to continuing on the path towards liberation with them.”



**NANI JANSEN REVENTLOW
FOUNDER, SYSTEMIC JUSTICE**

OUR VISION AND MISSION

**JUSTICE
FOR ALL**

WE ARE SYSTEMIC JUSTICE, THE MOVEMENTS' LAW FIRM.

We are the first organisation in Europe that works with community partners on strategic court cases by taking a community-driven, intersectional approach and that is Black-led and has a majority Black and people of colour (BPOC) team.

Our vision is of a society where organisations, movements, and collectives can leverage the courts by using strategic litigation in community-led campaigns for racial, social, and economic justice.

WE CHAMPION ANTI-OPPRESSION, INTERSECTIONALITY, AND BELIEVE IN JUSTICE FOR ALL.

We work to radically transform how the law works for communities fighting for racial, social, and economic justice. We do this by:

- building the knowledge and power of organisations, movements, and collectives fighting for justice and equality;
- launching community-driven litigation; and
- developing a network of lawyers for change.

“The climate justice summit was a transformative space where we could reflect and brainstorm on strategies for our movement to include more people of the global majority into the climate movement.”

**PARTICIPANT AT SYSTEMIC JUSTICE'S
2024 BIPOC CLIMATE JUSTICE SUMMIT**

POWERED BY COMMUNITIES

We remain committed to listening to and being led by the communities we serve. In 2024, we took two key initiatives in this area. The first built on the research we carried out in 2022, as we sought to understand the systemic injustices that affect marginalised communities across Europe. The second was a unique gathering, creating space for communities to share their vision of what achieving liberation from inequality looks like.



**COMMUNITY
POWER**



Love Ssega performing at Systemic Justice's
2024 Community Visions for Liberation event.
Photo: Mohamad Badarne.

EXPANDING AND REFINING OUR RESEARCH

In June 2024, we launched Revisiting Systemic (In)justices: Community reflections, which built on the report Surfacing Systemic Injustices: A community view, our comprehensive 2022 mapping of racial, social, and economic justice priorities among community groups in Europe. The updated mapping expands our database of organisations, movements, and collectives working on these priorities from 1,000 to 3,000. New additions came mainly from Central, Eastern, and Southern Europe, as well as the Nordics.

In Revisiting Systemic (In)justices, we centre the voices of groups who exist on the sharp edge of racial, social, and economic inequality. These organisations, movements, and collectives face huge odds as they fire-fight the day-to-day impact of oppression, often with few resources. They shared the challenges and harms they experience when it comes to climate justice, access to justice, policing, social protection, anti-racism, and free movement, and where they saw opportunities to take action for a better world.

Uniquely, the report focuses on how technology is being used to inform policies and practices that perpetuate injustice across Europe. It surfaces how technology is exploited to worsen harms experienced by racially, socially, and economically marginalised people by:

- identifying and (digitally) excluding them;
- raising internal and external (digital) borders against social protections;
- concealing harms to obstruct the path to systemic justice; and
- controlling and undermining protest, resistance, and community activism (even while supporting it).

ENVISIONING LIBERATION

“Community visions for liberation: Towards racial, social, and economic justice in Europe” was our very first in-person community event. Held over two days in Berlin as part of the launch of Revisiting Systemic (In)justices in June 2024, the event was a mix of strategy, activity, and finding joy.

The first evening focused on the launch of the report, and featured lead researcher Patrick Williams, alongside participants from the Center for Muslim Rights in Denmark and International Women* Space. Together, they spoke about the persistence of systemic injustices in Europe, the deliberate shift towards criminalising care and solidarity, and the rise in tech harms against racially, socially, and economically marginalised people. It was an important moment to share this community-focused research with the very communities that contributed to it, so that it could also be used in community and for future actions. The evening was open to anyone wishing to attend in-person or online.

The second day was reserved exclusively for communities campaigning for racial, social, and economic justice. About 50 participants from across Europe joined these sessions. Their areas of work included disability justice, climate justice, digital rights, labour rights, LGBTQI+ rights, tenant rights, sex

worker rights, and tackling racism such as Islamophobia, antigypsyism, and anti-Black racism. We wanted to ensure that groups could share safely and freely, unfettered by detailed public transcripts or notes of their conversations.

The space was community-designed, with rich, self-organised sessions on topics such as: challenging racist narratives and tactics in policing, using art to show that environmental justice is for us and by us, navigating solidarity and difference, and deep dives on systemic antigypsyism and ableism in Europe. The Systemic Justice team also got involved, holding a session on strategic litigation and drop-in stations on community-driven litigation and fundraising.

In recognition of the nourishing and revitalising role that joy plays in all our lives, and the right of all campaigners to experience that joy, we made art, creativity, poetry, and music central to the event. Poet Raymond Antrobus shared his exquisite work, Love Ssega performed his urgent piece “Our World (Fight for Air)”, and Ayomide Sotubo performed two pieces of spoken word poetry she wrote especially for the event, entitled “Safety” and “Hope”. DJ Femdelic and Deodato Siquir provided the inspiring musical soundtrack to the event.



From Systemic Justice's 2024
Community Visions for Liberation event.
Photo: Mohamad Badarne.

“I feel very privileged for being able to attend. I’m inspired to continue my work upon having been a part of the conference. The attention to detail and care for you[r] participants makes me want to put the same out in the world.”

**PARTICIPANT AT COMMUNITY
VISIONS FOR LIBERATION EVENT**

OUR WORK



As part of our mission to radically transform how the law works for communities fighting for racial, social, and economic justice, Systemic Justice's three tracks of work are:

1.

**BUILDING KNOWLEDGE AND
POWER AMONG ORGANISATIONS,
MOVEMENTS, AND COLLECTIVES**


2.

**LAUNCHING COMMUNITY-DRIVEN
STRATEGIC LITIGATION**

3.

**DEVELOPING A NETWORK OF
LAWYERS FOR CHANGE**

These three tracks complement and mutually support each other, equipping communities to use litigation on their own terms to advance community priorities, and fostering more community-centred and equitable ways of working by the broader legal field.



We truly valued the opportunity to work with Systemic Justice on this workshop.

It was an incredibly insightful and empowering session, with attendees leaving inspired and ready to take action in tackling SEND [Special Educational Needs and Disabilities] inequity.

The space felt safe and supportive, allowing participants to share their journeys openly while exploring practical ways we can come together as a community to address these systemic challenges.

1.

BUILDING KNOWLEDGE AND POWER

Our community-driven approach to litigation means making sure that people can make informed choices about if, how, and when they want to use the courts in their campaigns for change. However, many of the communities we work with have been let down and even harmed by the legal system. They have therefore been reluctant to engage with strategic litigation. Given this, we have focused on supporting communities to gain a better understanding of what strategic litigation can do for them and the role they can play in driving such processes.

In 2024, we made our Community Toolkit for Change even more accessible by translating it into Danish, French, Spanish, and Turkish. We put these resources into practice through eight workshops carried out in Denmark, France, Germany, Türkiye, and the UK. Participants were from organisations that worked on a range of issues, including: resisting Islamophobia, promoting trans and intersex rights, ending domestic violence against women, promoting migrant rights, and decriminalisation of street vendors and other precarious workers. We carried out a number of workshops, including three with community groups tackling racial discrimination in education in France and the UK.

Challenging segregation in schools in France

We co-hosted a workshop in Paris with Ghett'Up, an association of young people from working class neighbourhoods who are campaigning for social justice in France. Attending were 15 activists, students, and campaigners who were keen to learn how strategic litigation could be used to dismantle discrimination in the French education system. Segregation in French schools is a systemic and longstanding issue. Multiple research reports have confirmed this, concluding that this problem is particularly rife in France. In 2019, for instance, French schools were named “the most unequal in the world”. Still, in 2024, even with the previous French government planning to promote equality in schools, government initiatives to tackle segregation in schools have been described as “unfinished” and “less ambitious”. Given this context, workshop participants explored developing a litigation strategy on the basis of the goals and objectives they identified during the session.

Exposing racism and ableism in the UK education system

We partnered with [Global Child and Maternal Health](#), which recently published a community-centred research report on [Black Child SEND](#). This report highlighted the intersection of racism and ableism in the UK's education system, with policies, laws, and practices around special educational needs provision perpetuating a cycle of racial disadvantage. For instance, Black children in the UK are at greater risk of being identified as having an additional need but less likely to receive support to meet that need. Furthermore, interactions between teachers and Black children have been shown to be disproportionately disciplinary, administrative, and punitive rather than supportive. This workshop brought together the parents of Black children with special educational needs, who wanted to explore further what the courts could do to ensure all children are given the same opportunity to learn.

Demanding equal treatment for Black students in the UK

We partnered with [Black South West Network](#), a Black-led racial justice organisation based in Bristol. In this workshop, community leaders and representatives from local organisations explored how to use the courts to seek racial justice in education. According to Black South West Network's research, Black students are three times more likely to be excluded from school – for instance, through suspensions and expulsions – than their white peers. Workshop participants explored what the courts could do to turn the tide on systemic racism in education, using case examples from our toolkit and recent cases in the UK on exclusions, school discipline, and racist admission and allocation policies.

“Immensely helpful workshop that shares useful knowledge and skills with anyone working to change the system from or with grassroots communities.”

Participant at Community Toolkit for Change workshop in the UK

2.

LAUNCHING COMMUNITY-DRIVEN COURT CASES

Systemic Justice believes that communities should be leading on the litigation campaigns that concern them, and that they should be able to access justice on their own terms. This is more than strategic litigation as we know it, or even “community-centred” litigation: we are building a model of community-driven litigation.

Our two priority areas for developing legal cases remain climate justice, where we address the disproportionate impact that climate change is having on the most marginalised groups, and social protection, where we tackle government exclusion of migrants, asylum seekers, and other marginalised groups from housing, healthcare, and other essential services. We began initial collaborations with a number of communities who flagged an interest in case development in support of their campaigns.

These communities included groups who are:

combatting Islamophobia in Denmark, in particular by challenging policies and laws that promote discrimination against people of the Muslim faith;

challenging institutional violence and discriminatory treatment in the French disability welfare system; and

seeking accountability and challenging the exploitation, racism, and other violations of seasonal workers’ rights in Spain that are a direct consequence of climate impacts on the agricultural industry.

We also began co-designing litigation strategies with communities on the following issues.

Challenging the sales and marketing of dangerous beauty products to Black women

We continued our collaboration with a feminist collective that wants to challenge the production, distribution, and sale of beauty products aimed at Black women. Studies over the past 20 years have shown links between these products and cancer, kidney failure, asthma, fertility problems, and chemical burns. Still, the sale, distribution, and marketing of these products continues with almost no oversight, regulation, or enforcement.

Our partner views this issue as a symptom of the broader systemic harm perpetuated by white supremacy in the beauty industry. Our own thematic areas of focus – climate justice and social protection – intersect with this issue. Systemic inequalities in how Black health is protected, converge with the disproportionate exposure of Black people to toxic environmental chemicals. The resulting health issues are also an environmental injustice, where racialised communities continue to be burdened with an unequal distribution of environmental risks.

We have been developing a litigation strategy with this collective since 2023. Together, we have mapped out legal options, selecting a sequence of cases that would be best placed to achieve the changes they want to see. In 2024, we focussed on building an evidence base for potential legal action and identifying lawyers that the collective would like to collaborate with. We anticipate that they will file their first legal case during 2025.

Challenging discriminatory approaches to social housing

We strengthened our collaboration with a resident-led activist group that had participated in our 2022 roundtable consultations. This group campaigns against Denmark's public housing system. This includes the government's anti-"ghetto" policy, which disproportionately affects racialised and poor communities.

Denmark's anti-"ghetto" policy targets areas based on the proportion of "non-Western" residents in an area. Housing areas are encouraged to limit the number of "non-Western" people to 30% of all residents by 2030. Areas that are classed as "ghettos" for more than four years must reduce the number of not-for-profit housing in that area by 40%. Such policies lead to gentrification and less social housing in those areas.

The authorities target racialised groups and residents from migrant backgrounds with eviction, stricter housing regulations, relocation, surveillance, demolition, and private development.

This work falls under both of our focus areas. Not only does the issue highlight systemic racism in Denmark's approach to social protection, but it also highlights how

racialised communities are more affected by and expected to shoulder the cost of green gentrification.

Though still in its early stages, our collaboration with this group has seen us:

- support them to raise funds for their litigation strategy;
- share knowledge about using the courts to push for policy change through Community Toolkit for Change workshops;
- begin a resident-designed litigation strategy to address the systemic and structural roots of the anti-"ghetto" policies;
- map existing and pending cases related to Denmark's anti-"ghetto" policies so that residents have a better idea of legal developments in this area, and where they can find potential openings to push for their objectives; and
- translated our Community Toolkit for Change into Danish.

Promoting the right to bodily autonomy of trans and intersex people in Türkiye and across Europe

In 2024, we began collaborating with an organisation identified through our second Europe-wide mapping, conducted as part of Revisiting Systemic (In)justices: Community reflections. This organisation campaigns for LGBTQI+ rights in Türkiye. In the summer of 2024, we held a Community Toolkit for Change workshop with trans and intersex activists in Ankara. We then continued to work with this organisation, and a collective of intersex activists represented at the workshop, who wanted to keep building community knowledge on strategic litigation with a larger group of intersex activists. They were also keen to further refine an intersex activist-led litigation strategy which was initiated at the first workshop.

That strategy focussed on protecting and promoting the right to bodily integrity of intersex people, a right that is systematically violated and disrespected across the globe. The European Court of Human Rights, for instance, was recently accused of turning “its back on intersex people.” Of particular concern in Türkiye is the historical and continued practice of performing “corrective [operations]” on intersex people at a young age, and the systematic stigmatisation and discrimination affecting intersex people’s lives in the country. This work has already surfaced some potential case ideas that the activists may wish to further build on in 2025.

3.

DEVELOPING A NETWORK OF LAWYERS FOR CHANGE

We continued to develop a network of lawyers for change, made up of litigators, legal practitioners, and litigating organisations working on racial, social, economic, and environmental justice across Europe. This Community of Practice seeks to develop collaborative working methods that centre communities in litigation cases. Ultimately, the aim of this network is to build a shared repertoire of equitable ways of working on social justice court cases that are built around the communities who are affected by inequality and marginalisation. Through this initiative, we hope to encourage this participatory model as the norm for social justice lawyering. In 2024, we:

held our Community of Practice gathering online to ensure the best use of resources;

co-led an online litigation workshop with the European Legal Support Center, on community lawyering in populist and repressive environments; the focus was on movement lawyering for the Palestinian solidarity movement; and

trialled monthly calls with the Community of Practice exploring themes such as: design justice principles and lawyering, navigating their personal identity as a lawyer working on human rights, and navigating attacks on human rights and community lawyering.

“The workshop we organised with Systemic Justice was inclusive and enjoyable [with] nonbinary, trans, and intersex participants engag[ing] in the very productive [...] work throughout.

Participant at Community Toolkit for Change workshop in Türkiye



A lot of challenges around positionality and power dynamics that we talk about within the legal profession are actually endemic to all institutional roles and professional spheres.

So, let's talk across these different groups to learn from one another, even with our teams.

How can we learn from the campaigners and community organisers to work differently?

SEEKING CLIMATE JUSTICE

**JUSTICE
FOR ALL**

The impact that the climate crisis will have on future generations has become a familiar refrain in climate discussions. But the effects of this crisis are being felt right now: marginalised communities, including those who are Black, indigenous and people of colour (BIPOC) in Europe, are already disproportionately harmed by it.

Despite the fact that the people who are experiencing the worst effects of climate change are largely from marginalised communities, those with the loudest voices within the European climate movement tend to be middle class and white. Our Building BIPOC-led power for climate justice project sought to address this inequality. It was also a response to a need identified through Systemic Justice's initial community consultation in 2022.

Through this project, we set out to centre the voices and expertise of BIPOC climate justice activists and leaders. We also applied a disability justice lens to this project, knowing that people with disabilities are among the worst hit by the effects of climate change. Finally, we sought to create cross-generational solidarity, acknowledging that climate justice will take generations of effort to address.

The project consisted of three parts:

1.

REFRAMING CLIMATE JUSTICE SPEAKER SERIES

2.

WHOSE PLANET? - THE CLIMATE JUSTICE PODCAST

3.

RECLAIMING CLIMATE JUSTICE SUMMIT

REFRAMING CLIMATE JUSTICE SPEAKER SERIES

Launched in October 2023, our five-part speaker series amplified the perspectives of BIPOC communities who are taking dedicated action for racial, social, and economic justice. The series tackled a crucial truth: colonialism and coloniality are far from relics of the past. The legacy of colonialism is evident everywhere, from social housing to access to healthcare, from voting rights to policing. That legacy has shaped our present, promoting and reinforcing structural harms against racialised people.

The series delved into the historical and ongoing power dynamics that push racialised voices to the fringes, excluding them from political decision-making, and even from the movements they started themselves. It was organised around one key question: “What change is possible when we start to centre the voices of those most affected by, and least responsible for, the climate crisis?” It explored the root causes of climate breakdown, examining how other systemic harms (such as racism, sexism, and ableism) are reinforced to uniquely affect BIPOC communities. The series also looked at how BIPOC communities are taking action to address the climate emergency. Finally, speakers considered what needs to be done to ensure that climate justice is truly intersectional so that no one is left behind.

The five episodes, which are available to view online, are as follows:

- From climate change to climate justice: A BIPOC perspective in Europe.
- Uncovering the racialised origins of the climate crisis: A look into eco-imperialism.
- From redlining to greenlining: Exploring spatial justice in an environmentally unjust Europe.
- Solidarity across borders: A look at environmental racism, migration, and the right to self-determination.
- Shaping the future of Europe's climate justice: The next generation of environmental defenders.

“My vision for climate justice is a world where Indigenous peoples’ rights are respected.”

BIPOC Climate Justice summit participant



From Systemic Justice's 2024
BIPOC Climate Justice Summit.
Photo: ITSNEVETS.

WHOSE PLANET? THE CLIMATE JUSTICE PODCAST

To reach new audiences and spread more awareness about how the crisis affects BIPOC communities, we partnered with UK-based Tortoise Media on the podcast “[Whose planet?](#)”. Launched in September 2024, the podcast sheds light on the lived experiences of marginalised communities who bear the brunt of environmental degradation yet have the least power to influence the policies that shape our future.

Each episode tackles a crucial aspect of the climate crisis:

- Episode 1 considers the struggle for clean air across Europe. It showcases the grassroots campaigns that confront the harsh realities of air pollution, where poverty, race, and class intersect, creating significant challenges for activists.
- Episode 2 explores island communities facing the immediate threat of rising sea levels. It exposes the devastating consequences of climate-induced displacement and the urgent need for global accountability.
- Episode 3 examines the green energy transition. It investigates the unintended effects of this transition on marginalised communities and emphasises the importance of placing justice at the heart of sustainable policymaking.

A five-star podcast on Spotify and other major podcast platforms, the series was well received and was listened to nearly 2,000 times during its first three months. Ensuring full exposure for the BIPOC guests and participants both via [a well-attended launch event](#) and subsequent social media campaigning, the [podcast](#) achieved its immediate objective of building the narrative power of BIPOC climate justice leaders.



From Systemic Justice's 2024
BIPOC Climate Justice Summit.
Photo: ITSNEVETS.

**“Highly recommend [the] new
podcast ‘Whose planet?’ from the
fabulous Nani Jansen Reventlow
and Systemic Justice.”**

Kate Mackintosh, Executive Director,
UCLA School of Law, The Promise Institute Europe

RECLAIMING CLIMATE JUSTICE SUMMIT

The Reclaiming Climate Justice Summit drew 23 participants from across Europe, including: Belgium, Denmark, France, Greenland, Italy, Norway, and the UK. Held in Denmark over three days, the summit was a space for participants to share experiences, strategise, and develop a shared vision for climate justice through conversation, art, and movement. To make sure the summit was as accessible as possible for those participating, we had interpreters fluent in sign language, French, and Turkish.

The summit opened with local Copenhagen-based group Collective Against Environmental Racism who interrogated Denmark's reputation as a global leader in sustainability and climate action. Conversations on how systemic racial and environmental inequalities affect education, employment, and the economy followed. We also held a collaborative workshop on building a climate movement that prioritises the experiences of communities most affected by the climate crisis. The thread running through all sessions was the question of how we can redistribute power to make the climate space more diverse, equitable, and inclusive.

We also looked at the emotional challenges that activism brings, exploring these through creative means. For instance, we ran a

“composting trauma” workshop, using the metaphor of composting to look at how we handle such experiences. In a separate workshop, we considered how art and literature can help us creatively express ecological mourning – that is, the emotional and psychological grief associated with climate change and the destruction of ecosystems.

Art and creativity were a central feature of the summit. Music, film, song, and poetry were shared throughout. Musician Deodato Siquir inspired people to dance, and on the final day, participants drew a vision board of a climate-just future. This became a key summit output: “Visions for climate justice – A just and equal world free from harm to individuals and planet”.

We convened the Reclaiming Climate Justice Summit in response to a need that BIPOC climate activists repeatedly shared with us. They asked for space to connect, share, and build collective power. Their aim was to influence the current climate debate and policy to be truly intersectional through the input of community-led climate justice organisations and movements. What happens next will be up to the participants, who left the summit with a host of new ideas, connections, and reflections on what true climate justice looks like.

**“Beautiful opportunity to take time
in a wonderful setting, whilst also
broadening networks from Greenland
to Morocco. Curated with care and
powered with purpose.”**

BIPOC Climate Justice summit participant



From Systemic Justice's 2024
BIPOC Climate Justice Summit.
Photo: ITSNEVETS.

OUR FINANCES

**COMMUNITY
POWER**

WHERE OUR FUNDING COMES FROM

Systemic Justice is funded primarily by grants from philanthropic organisations.

We also receive in-kind donations, including pro-bono legal support from a variety of law firms.

2024 total income:	EUR 2,174,364
--------------------	---------------

Income from philanthropic grants:	EUR 1,975,290
-----------------------------------	---------------

Income from other sources including private donations:	EUR 20,640
--	------------

Total value of in-kind support:	EUR 178,434
---------------------------------	-------------

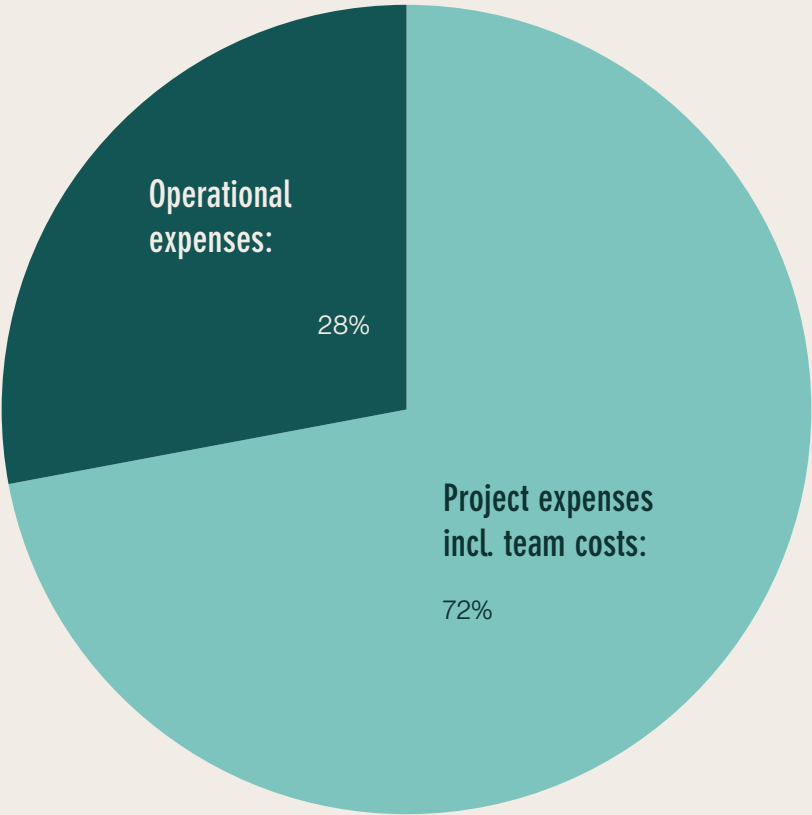
EUR 0-50,000	Allianz Foundation Donor Advised Fund Meliore Foundation Paul Hamlyn Foundation Private foundation
-----------------	--

EUR 51,000-100,000	Family Foundation Impact on Urban Health Luminate Olin Robert Bosch Stiftung
-----------------------	--

EUR 101,000-250,000	European AI & Society Fund Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust Oak Foundation Open Society Foundations
------------------------	--

HOW OUR FUNDING IS SPENT

In 2024, our primary focus was to expand and deepen our case development work, working closely with community groups across Europe to explore how to use the courts to advance their campaigns for justice and equality.



“The summit was a great convening of communities that rarely have the capacity and the resources to meet up. It was a wholesome gathering that felt like family.”

**BIPOC CLIMATE JUSTICE
SUMMIT PARTICIPANT**

LOOKING AHEAD

Through our work with communities, we have learnt a lot about community-driven lawyering and strategic litigation for racial, social, and economic justice. We will take these lessons into 2025.

1.

We will work with communities that we have built trust with to prepare them to use the courts to achieve their campaign goals.

We will not rush people into legal action before they are ready. Rather, we will build tailored litigation readiness programmes for community partners by:

- building legal knowledge and access to it on relevant areas of law and existing case law;
- designing and refining a sustainable litigation strategy for the community;
- identifying cases with potential;
- supporting community-embedded research and evidence-gathering to build those cases;
- building knowledge and tools to support organising around strategic litigation;
- raising awareness on how to navigate legal systems; and
- preparing and resourcing the community to endure the challenges of strategic litigation (media training, trauma-informed healing practices, advocacy and campaigning strategies, crisis management, etc.) before cases are taken.

We will do all this at the pace of the communities themselves.

2.

We will maximise use of our Community Toolkit for Change as a foundational resource for communities campaigning for racial, social, and economic justice.

We will do this by:

- increasing access to the toolkit by translating it into at least two more languages in 2025, and producing an easy-read version of the key concepts guide;
- designing and delivering introductory workshops for at least six more communities campaigning for climate justice and social protection in 2025. We expect at least two of these communities to move into a litigation readiness programme; and
- taking what we have learned so far to plan and add to the existing toolkit, thus further improving it as a foundational resource for communities.

3.

We will continue to develop our network of lawyers for change.

We will do this by offering members a learning journey to build their knowledge, awareness, and practice in decolonial, anti-oppressive, anti-racist, radical, and trauma-informed lawyering.

4.

We will publish our litigation methods and ways of working.

This will help promote the adoption of a community-driven approach to strategic litigation that goes beyond Systemic Justice.

VISIONS FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE

A just and equal world free from harm to individuals and planet

Despite bearing little responsibility for the climate crisis, marginalised communities are paying the highest price, while being systematically left out of decision-making.

Environmental, social, and economic oppressions compound each other, worsening inequality in an already unbalanced world.

We stand united in RECLAIMING OUR RIGHTFUL PLACE in the climate movement and as decision makers in the care of the planet.

Now is the time to REDEFINE CLIMATE JUSTICE in our own words.

CLIMATE JUSTICE IS SOCIAL JUSTICE — it honours the right of all people to exist freely and be treated equitably in society.

CLIMATE JUSTICE IS HUMBLE — it decentres human experiences and acknowledges that we are all part of nature, we all belong to this earth.

CLIMATE JUSTICE CENTRES DIGNITY — it upholds the inherent value of every human and non-human life, and celebrates diversity in all its individual and communal forms.

CLIMATE JUSTICE IS GROUNDED IN SOLIDARITY — it stands with all communities affected by environmental harm, united in a shared struggle.

CLIMATE JUSTICE IS INTERSECTIONAL — it recognises overlapping systems of oppression and understands that true justice must address each layer of inequality.


CLIMATE JUSTICE IS ANTI-IMPERIALIST — it calls us to build systems free of exploitation for all human and non-human beings.

CLIMATE JUSTICE IS ANTI-COLONIAL — it recognises the link between colonialism and environmental injustice and affirms the right of all colonised people to food sovereignty and inhabitable, farmable land.

🌱 CLIMATE JUSTICE IS RESTORATIVE - it prioritises reviving indigenous practices over simply undoing colonial legacies.

CLIMATE JUSTICE IS EQUITABLE -


it calls for a Redistribution of Resources to bring about greater balance and equity.




CLIMATE JUSTICE REJECTS
PATERNALISM — it supports


solutions shaped by the lived experiences of those directly affected, including children and people of marginalised genders.

🌸 **CLIMATE JUSTICE IS PROACTIVE** — it rests on the principle that preventing harm now is better than seeking a cure later.

 **CLIMATE JUSTICE IS COMPASSIONATE** — it recognises the trauma and risks faced by frontline communities and rejects any form of brutality or sacrifice in the name of achieving political goals.

 **CLIMATE JUSTICE IS INTERGENERATIONAL** - it delivers justice for our ancestors, ourselves, and future generations, addressing past harms while building a sustainable future.

CLIMATE JUSTICE IS ADAPTABLE - it centres climate resilience, preparing communities to withstand the shocks and challenges of an uncertain future.

 CLIMATE JUSTICE IS COMMITTED - it champions consistent, meaningful progress, while actively upholding ecological and civil rights for all beings.

We dream of a world where no life is harmed and equally,
where no environment comes to be harmed.

A world where MARGINALISED COMMUNITIES are collectively LIBERATED,
and inhabit the earth in full acknowledgement that we belong to her.

A world where we're FREE to honour our connection with ourselves, our communities, and our roots.

THIS IS THE FIGHT OF OUR LIFETIME.

Reclaiming Climate Justice Summit,
October 2024, hosted by Systemic Justice



VISIONS FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE

A just and equal world free from harm to individuals and planet

Despite bearing little responsibility for the climate crisis, marginalised communities are paying the highest price, while being systematically left out of decision-making.

Environmental, social, and economic oppressions compound each other, worsening inequality in an already unbalanced world. We stand united in reclaiming our rightful place in the climate movement and as decision-makers in the care of the planet. Now is the time to redefine climate justice in our own words.

Climate justice is social justice — it honours the right of all people to exist freely and be treated equitably in society.

Climate justice is humble — it decentres human experiences and acknowledges that we are all part of nature, we all belong to this earth.

Climate justice centres dignity — it upholds the inherent value of every human and non-human life, and celebrates diversity in all its individual and communal forms.

Climate justice is grounded in solidarity — it stands with all communities affected by environmental harm, united in a shared struggle.

Climate justice is intersectional — it recognises overlapping systems of oppression and understands that true justice must address each layer of inequality.

Climate justice is anti-imperialist — it calls us to build systems free of exploitation for all human and non-human beings.

Climate justice is anti-colonial — it recognises the link between colonialism and environmental injustice and affirms the right of all colonised people to food sovereignty and inhabitable, farmable land.

Climate justice is restorative — it prioritises reviving indigenous practices over simply undoing colonial legacies.

Climate justice is equitable — it calls for a redistribution of resources to bring about greater balance and equity.

Climate justice rejects paternalism — it supports solutions shaped by the lived experiences of those directly affected, including children and people of marginalised genders.

Climate justice is proactive — it rests on the principle that preventing harm now is better than seeking a cure later.

Climate justice is compassionate — it recognises the trauma and risks faced by frontline communities and rejects any form of brutality or sacrifice in the name of achieving political goals.

Climate justice is intergenerational — it delivers justice for our ancestors, ourselves, and future generations, addressing past harms while building a sustainable future.

Climate justice is adaptable — it centres climate resilience, preparing communities to withstand the shocks and challenges of an uncertain future.

Climate justice is committed — it champions consistent, meaningful progress, while actively upholding ecological and civil rights for all beings.

We dream of a world where no life is harmed and equally, where no environment comes to be harmed. A world where marginalised communities are collectively liberated, and inhabit the earth in full acknowledgement that we all belong to her. A world where we're free to honour our connection with ourselves, our communities, and our roots. This is the fight of our lifetime.

Reclaiming Climate Justice Summit, October
2024, hosted by Systemic Justice.

The background is a solid light pink color. On the right side, there is a large, abstract, cream-colored shape that resembles a stylized speech bubble or a drop. It has a rounded top and a pointed bottom, with a small tail-like extension at the very bottom right.

“In a time of deepening racial injustice, widening social inequality, and a climate crisis unfolding across Europe, real change happens when we stand with our communities and keep pushing for justice - together, with care and commitment.”

**DOMENICA GHIDEI, SYSTEMIC JUSTICE
SUPERVISORY BOARD MEMBER**



From Systemic Justice's 2024
BIPOC Climate Justice Summit.
Photo: ITSNEVETS.

GET IN TOUCH

We would love to hear from you. If you have any questions or comments, please get in touch: info@systemicjustice.ngo

systemicjustice.ngo

Keizersgracht 391A
1016 EJ, Amsterdam
Netherlands





**DONATE
TODAY**

As our research has shown, the most marginalised communities have been a leading force for racial, social, and economic change across Europe. But the rise of the right across the continent and globally, has made their work even harder. With your help, we can better support Europe's most marginalised communities to consolidate their campaigns for justice through strategic use of the courts.

Donate today: systemicjustice.ngo/donate



From Systemic Justice's 2024
Community Visions for Liberation event.
Photo: Mohamad Badarne.

“I feel hopeful & rejuvenated. There are lots of negative things in our current climate and work but being in a space surrounded by love and a fire to make a difference for our earth & the people in it was such a hopeful and amazing experience I wish everyone could get to have.”

**PARTICIPANT AT COMMUNITY
VISIONS FOR LIBERATION EVENT**

Systemic Justice – the movements' law firm
Amsterdam, Netherlands
June 2025

Copywriting by Shiromi Pinto

Layout by Studio Lutalica



This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial Share Alike 4.0 International license. Our intention is that communities who took part, and those working on these issue areas across Europe, are able to use the findings to inform their work, in whatever capacity suits them. This means that this document can be copied and re-distributed in any medium or format, and that it can be remixed, transformed, and built upon, provided it is for non-commercial purposes and appropriate credit is given to Systemic Justice.

If you have any questions, please contact info@systemicjustice.ngo

Cover photos from Systemic Justice's 2024
Community Visions for Liberation event.
Photo: Mohamad Badarne.







CONTEXT: COLONIAL PAST AND PRESENT

The experiences of oppression and discrimination that have shaped the lives of Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic (BAME) communities in the UK are the result of a long history of colonialism and racism. This book explores the ways in which these experiences have shaped the lives of BAME communities in the UK, and how they continue to shape the lives of BAME communities in the UK today.

THE LAW IS ROUTINELY
USED AGAINST THEM