



Consequences of Human Action!



Climate changes are variations in climate that affect the balance in ecosystems. These variations can last over long periods of time, which can be decades or thousands of years, and usually have very negative consequences.

Unfortunately, this is a reality experienced by all of us and according to several national and international organisations, climate change has been worsening globally. We all know that the causes are multiple; however, there are countries and regions that are more affected than others. In the region where I live, Soure, located in the Baixo Mondego area, with the consequences of climate change still not deeply felt, extreme situations have already occurred and they affected people's safety, material goods and also caused some economic problems.

One of the extreme situations that most affected my county in recent years was, without a doubt, Hurricane "Leslie", on October 13th and 14th, 2018. This hurricane, which arrived in Portugal as a tropical storm, caused a lot damage, mainly in the central area, having affected hundreds of homes and leaving several homeless people in the districts of Coimbra, Viseu, Leiria and Aveiro; many cars were destroyed and trees uprooted. "Leslie" implied the mobilization of around 8,000 operators supported by more than 2,000 land resources.

"Leslie" caused very serious economic and environmental consequences throughout the Central region, in particular: the damage of telecommunications, infrastructure and light supply, the destruction of municipal equipment and associations, campsites, nurseries and agricultural fields, private homes and local institutions, among others. Montemor-o-Velho, for example, recorded damage of around 20 million euros, the vast majority related to agriculture in the region, characterized

by rice and maize crops. Soure also presented more than 6 million euros in damage, including Martinho Árias Secondary School, which I now attend.

Land roads were also flooded, making it impossible for vehicles to circulate.

In conclusion, all these extreme phenomena are due to climate change, mostly caused by human beings, which do not show any respect for the ecology and well-being of the planet. However, if we all want to, there is still time to reverse this situation, preserving the environment and raising awareness of the negative effects that a certain human action can generate. Therefore, it is up to everyone to play a role so that these phenomena become less and frequent and dangerous.

Vitória A, 8A