



**ShamPalm extraction in St. Stephen’s Green**

**(Mock) Public Protest**

**WHEN**: **Tuesday 2nd May 2023 at 10.30am**

**WHERE**: **Fusilier’s Arch (opposite Grafton Street entrance), St. Stephen’s Green**

**WHAT** **is going on?**

* On Tuesday 2nd May 2023, [the Irish Coalition for Business and Human Rights](http://www.icbhr.org) is organising a public Palm Oil campaign stunt
* There’s not actually a company digging up Stephen’s Green! This will be an ‘April Fools’ style satirical stunt to highlight the human rights and environmental impact of Palm Oil plantations.
* We need your presence at the protest. We need all hands on deck to protest this absurd situation!
* Make your own placard and bring it to the protest. The more colour the merrier.

**WHAT can I do?**

* Turn up on the day and get involved! There’s a photographer booked and we’re hoping to get some media attention. Come and march with us, make some noise and engage with the public to sign campaign postcards.
* ICBHR will be sharing a video that day that we hope you can share more widely, helping to create a buzz on social media.

**WHAT’S the point of all this?**

By capturing public and media attention around the absurdity of the idea of a palm oil plantation in St. Stephen’s Green, we want to draw attention to the absurdity of the corporate race for natural resources globally, and in particular the absurdity of how, in the absence of strong legislation, big business is getting away with human rights and environmental abuse.

There’s a key vote in the European Parliament in May, and we want the public to take action and request they contact MEPs to demand strong human rights and sustainability rules for corporations.

**WHAT’S wrong with Palm Oil anyway?**

**Environmental devastation, stolen land, murdered defenders:** Palm Oil is leading to significant environmental damage in many countries around the world, including deforestation and species loss. It is less well known that in places like Honduras and Guatemala in Central America, the huge demand for Palm Oil is also leading to serious human rights abuses, where people are being forced off their land by companies that want to use the land to produce Palm Oil. Many community members that try to get their land back face violence, harassment, intimidation and even murder.

**Palm Oil is in our products:** This is linked to our everyday consumption, as Palm Oil is found in many everyday consumer items: e.g., breakfast cereals, peanut butter, shampoo, cosmetics.

**Governments need to act:** While many big brand international companies are sourcing Palm Oil from areas where there is land conflict, our campaign is not intended to call out specific companies and name and shame them. The target of our campaign is our elected representatives - we want to see stronger laws introduced to try and prevent human rights violations from all companies across all sectors, not just Palm Oil.

**I will be there on Tuesday morning and am inviting you and your colleagues to join me and others. We will meet at Fusilier’s Arch (opposite Grafton Street), St. Stephen’s Green on Tuesday, 2nd May at 10:30am.**