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Dublin
European Green Party

Draft

Title: **Ciarán Cuffe for Co-Chair**

Tabled by: Irish Green Party / Comhaontas Glas

Photo



Video

https://youtu.be/eS9cFFIkBmI

Motivation Letter [PDF]

Dear Colleagues,

I write to seek your support for the office of co-chair of the European Greens.

Curriculum Vitae [PDF]

These are challenging times: for democracy; for Europe and for the Green movement. Faced with the prospect of a pushback on green initiatives in the EU, a second Trump presidency in the USA, Russia's continued war of aggression against the Ukrainian people and continued conflict in the Middle East we must be resolute, strong and vocal in our message.

By way of background, I'm from Dublin, Ireland. I'm trained as an architect and urban planner, and just prior to my election as a Member of the European Parliament undertook a Masters in Cities at the London School of Economics. I have spent many years in local government as a city councillor on Dublin City Council. I then was elected for two terms as a member of the Irish Parliament, and as a Minister of State led the Irish Government's delegation to the COP16 Climate Change negotiations to Cancun Mexico in 2010. For the last five years I was an MEP, and served on the Transport and Energy Committees of the European Parliament, and negotiated key laws on greening aviation, and was lead negotiator for the European Parliament on the Greener Buildings law, the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive.

As an MEP representing Ireland over the last five years I've seen first hand how democracy thrives and how it can die. I've seen the successes of the European Green Deal, but also the failure to act at the speed required to tackle the interlinked climate and biodiversity crises.

We may have national differences, but I believe as a Green family, we are stronger when we act and communicate together. Green success in the coming years will depend on how we communicate our message to the electorate. A Just Transition is required so that working families benefit from green measures. If we do this right we will lower bills, create decent jobs, and allow people to live longer healthier lives. This is a key message that we must focus on. The green transition must be a social transition that benefits everyone.

Democracy thrives in darkness, and the European Greens must shine a light to help countries that are under threat from dictators and oligarchs, be they in the Middle East, Russia or in Europe itself. We have always been a strong voice for human rights and minorities globally and now is a hugely important time to speak out for communities under threat, in Africa, the Middle East and in regimes where civil society is under threat.

If elected as co-chair I bring my experience as a member of a green party that has been in Government twice. That experience will help me in working with green parties that are nurturing the environmental and social message in vulnerable places where green voices have noy yet been in government. I believe our message can resonate in the Western Balkans and in regions in Central Europe that have not had strong environmental representation in local, regional or national assemblies. As someone who has spent many years in local government I know that what we can achieve in cities and towns can contribute to our success. As a former Minister of State I bring my experience of government to the table in our debates and negotiations. We can, and must also build alliances with like-minded progressive voices in civil society.

To do this I need your support, and as a campaigner and law-maker I ask you to put your trust in me as your co-chair for the next three years.

Warmest wishes,

Ciarán Cuffe

Ciarán Cuffe

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Supporters

Green Party of England and Wales, Bündnis90/Die Grünen, Esquerra Verda, SF - Green Left, Partido Ecologista Os Verdes, Zieloni, Miljöpartiet de gröna, Les Écologistes - Europe Ecologie Les Verts, PROGRES?VIE, Ecolo, Partia e Gjelbër / Party of the Greens of Albania, Groen, Verdes Equo, LIVRE, GroenLinks, Europa Verde - Verdi, Vihreät - De Gröna, Možemo! - politična platforma, Partija Zelenykh Ukrainy, Scottish Green Party, Cyprus Greens - Citizens' Cooperation, Miljøpartiet De Grønne

Experience

2020	President, European Parliamentarians for a Sustainable Energy Future (EUFORES)
2019	Member of the European Parliament
2019	Master's degree in Cities, London School of Economics
2011	Irish Minister of State for Climate Action
2007	Re-elected to Irish Parliament
2002	Elected to Irish Parliament
1999	Lecturer in Urban Planning, Technical University of Dublin
1996	Master's degree in Urban and Regional Planning, Dublin
1999	Re-elected to Dublin City Council
1991	Elected to Dublin City Council
1990	Italian Government scholarship University of Venice (IUAV)
1989	Bachelor of Architecture, University College Dublin

Selected Work and Publications

- 2024 Recast Energy Performance of Buildings Directive. European Parliament Rapporteur
- 2023 ReFuelEU (Sustainable Aviation Fuels) Regulation. European Parliament Shadow Rapporteur
- 2020 *Maximising the energy efficiency potential of the EU building stock* Report. European Parliament Rapporteur
- 2020 Ed.'s Brady, B. & O'Connell, S. *Mobilising an Urbanised Capital. Dublin By Design* - Architecture and the City, book chapter, Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland, Dublin
- 2019 *Climate Change and the Built Environment: a European Approach*. Presentation at the Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland Annual Conference
- 2019 LSE Masters dissertation, '*Decarbonising Dublin: what additional measures are needed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from transportation in Dublin Cit*y?'

Personal Information

- Resident of Dublin Ireland, married, two children
- English mother tongue, conversational Irish, French and Italian
- Fond of singing, late at night
- Keen cyclist, sea-swimmer and fan of night-trains