Dear friends from the European Green family,

It is a real honor for me to put forward my candidacy for the position of Treasurer of the European Green Party for the next three years ahead of us. It will be a difficult period where we will face many challenges, both political and organizational, and how we handle those together will be decisive for the success of our common political project.

Both my organization and my personal approach to political commitment is that of taking responsibility and make a step to the front when it is needed the most and collective intelligence and engagement is required to overcome the challenges ahead. Having been actively participating in the construction of the European Green Party for nearly twenty years now -since my beginnings at FYEG where I subsequently had the exciting opportunity to serve also as co-spokesperson, and later as regular delegate of Esquerra Verda (formerly ICV) where I have been International Secretary and Head of Delegation at EGP congress for the past years-, I am well aware that this is a moment to take further responsibility and to put our own experience and energy to the service of the common cause.

I have been living and working in Brussels for the past 15 years, serving as political advisor for the Greens/EFA group in the European Parliament -most recently within the Transport committee, where I deal with EU budget affairs and infrastructure financing, among other topics, and I am hence already acquainted with the EU Financial Regulation. Despite the distance, I have always kept close links with my mother party while also strengthening the ties with the different components of the European Green family. I consider myself to be in a position where quite few people are in order to contribute in bringing them even closer together and establish further coordination, which we will really need in the years ahead to overcome this dark period where our climate and democracy in Europe and globally are at stake. War is taking part in our continent and also at its doors, and our values and guiding principles are being put in question. There is no time to lose and we cannot afford to do it wrong if we want to effectively combat the rise of extreme right and make hope and love prevail over fear and hate.

This is why when I have been recently suggested to run myself to become EGP Treasurer, both my party and myself had little hesitation. We want to live up to our traditional commitment to the project with whichever duties are required, in some cases even leaving relative comfort zones, and put our skills at the service of the collective. This is why for me it will become a pleasure to put my passion for numbers and spreadsheets -as an engineer by training- together with the deep understanding of the implications of budget in terms of priorities within the political sphere -after two decades of activism as well as professional work in the EU institutions, at the disposal of the Committee and of the EGP organization as a whole.

I am convinced that I can do a good job, learning from and building upon the excellent example and foundations set by the preceding treasurers, with special mention to Ute Michel and Lena Lindström, from whom I learnt that this job is not only about being rigorous with figures, but also about having the overall picture and understanding the importance to prioritize and distribute our resources efficiently and smartly. First of all, I believe I would be able to live up to such standards as Treasurer because of my absolute motivation and determination to carry out a thorough work -of course with the priceless assistance and daily work of our Director of Finance, Compliance and Administration and the whole accounting team-, understanding its often overlooked but essential importance and implications for the functioning of the organization; I actually had the opportunity to get further acquainted with EGP budget in finances already as part of the expert Working Group on Membership Fees reform a few years ago, where we successfully focused on ensuring fairness in the respective contributions from member parties.

Secondly, I consider I would be a good addition to the Committee in a broader context because, besides the technical skills obviously required to do this specific job, I do believe that given my trajectory I can also bring about a human contribution in terms of team spirit, consensus building and finding compromises when needed. I consider myself a team player, very used to work in an international environment and sensitive to the different ideological and cultural nuances across parties, and someone who can put naturally emotional intelligence at the service of the collective political success. This is why I have enjoyed taking part for many years now in the different rounds of Compromise Amendment Sessions prior to the EGP Councils and Congresses, as well as in the final negotiations on the spot as Head of Delegation regarding different resolutions -and more recently on the 2024 EU Elections Manifesto-, contributing to successfully bridge any differences, also on sensitive issues.

I thus believe and feel that this is precisely the right moment to invest myself further in this organization, this project so dear to me that I have had the chance to witness grow for many years. And in this moment where we find ourselves at a crossroads everyone that is in a position to do so needs to take ownership and work even further to preserve it and make it thrive again. I am aware that a difficult period awaits in front of us, with a foreseeable reduction of the EP grant as a result of the outcome of the European elections that will have an impact on our overall budget. Therefore, one of the big challenges that we have ahead is to manage this concerning change on the best possible way, making sure that we minimize its consequences and ensure that we can preserve the core of the organizational upgrades and enhanced professionalization that we experienced following the green wave and the success in 2019. I consider myself ready to contribute in piloting this period in a way so that we are still well equipped for the future challenges and assist to the work of the Secretary General in this regard, together with the co-Chairs and the rest of the Committee, building the foundations of many new successes at national level and with 2029 always in the horizon.

In conclusion, I would like to have your trust as member parties to take on this important duty as EGP Treasurer, probably more than ever given the current context, so that I can contribute to the best of my heart and my brain to keep the European Green Party resilient in turbulent times and ultimately to keep making it the increasingly useful tool for ecological transformation across Europe that we all are working for.

Yours sincerely,

Marc Gimenez