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Draft

Title: **“United in diversity”, but for real this time**

Tabled by: Federation of Young European Greens

OVERVIEW AMENDMENTS

- **AS ADOPTED - For an anti-racist Europe**

- Consolidated text - R4 Diversity (8 December 10:00)

- Consolidated text - R4 Diversity (7 December 23:30)

- Final - PDF updated spreadsheets amendments Diversity (7 December 21:30)

- For CAS 7 - PDF updated spreadsheets amendments Diversity (7 December 12:00)

- for CAS 3 - PDF updated spreadsheet amendments Diversity (5 December PM)

- Post CAS 1 PDF updated spreadsheet amendments Diversity (4 December)

- for CAS 1 - PDF updated spreadsheet amendments Diversity (3 December)

- PDF spreadsheet amendments Diversity (27 November)

Draft text

How did we come to this point?

The rise of the far-right across Europe is a new manifestation of the continent's struggle with its colonial and racist legacy and how European society still fails to address these issues. EU Member States, like Hungary, the Netherlands, Germany and France, are reinstating border checks and straying away from the
principle of free movement. The reintroduction of border checks is not just a threat to free movement but increases racial profiling and discrimination in the EU bloc. As noted by PICUM, research in 2021 from the EU Fundamental Rights Agency showed that people from an ethnic minority are disproportionately affected by police stops. A 2014 study showed that 79% of border guards surveyed at airports rated ethnicity as a helpful indicator to identifying people attempting to enter the country in an irregular manner. This is at odds with the European Commission's commitments under the recent Anti-racism Action Plan (ARAP).

The United Kingdom (until mid-2024), Italy and the Netherlands set up mechanisms to outsource the sheltering of refugees to third countries (respectively Rwanda, Albania and Uganda), all with questionable safety records and possible human rights violations. The Netherlands plans to send its non-national prisoners to Estonia. Police in most European countries still enforce heavier penalties against activists of colour for the same offences as their white peers, with cases of torture and abuse by police being recorded by human rights organisations.

Such policies are a result of the lack of representation of racialised and ethnic-minoritised people in positions of political decision-making, while they continue to suffer from the unequal consequences of economic policies and heightened abuse, motivated by racial hate, both online and in real life. Civic space also continues to shrink, to the detriment of those who defend and advocate anti-racism, racial equity and social justice.

Our work is not over

As Greens, we believe that institutions, including the European Parliament, in combination with grassroots activism, can and do bring about the societal and political change we need. Policies at the European level, created thanks to the push from civil society in combination with the tasks of the elected officials of the
European Green Party member parties and other allies in the European Parliament, have enabled remarkable advances in the previous EU mandate.

The European Green Party's values are represented by the actions and policy proposals that stand in solidarity with racialised and ethnic-minoritised people throughout Europe. In the past, Green Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) have pushed a mandate for the Anti-Discrimination Directive to be unblocked by the Council. This successfully incorporated countering racism and discrimination by law enforcement and AI in recent legislation, including the revision of the Framework Decision on combating certain forms and expressions of racism and xenophobia by means of criminal law, and successfully adopted various resolutions on anti-racism and intersectional discrimination.

As the European Green Party, we welcome the efforts of the Green Group in advocating for racial justice and anti-racism internally vis-a-vis European Commissioners, the Parliament and its committees. The Group has recently managed to include the creation of the new anti-racism strategy in Commission President von der Leyen's commitments ahead of her election into her second cabinet as an 'urgent action
to protect democracy and equality', in line with the European Green Party's 2024 EU manifesto.

This upcoming mandate brings several crucial priorities and key concerns, including those highlighted above, without forgetting the re-establishment and work of the Anti-Racism and Diversity Intergroup; renewal of the ARAP and

ensuring its proper implementation; the election of the second von der Leyen Commission and ensuring its accountability; the intensification of AI and evaluation of the AI Act; and the intensification of the climate crisis and thus the exacerbation of climate racism and the rise of climate refugees.

Therefore, as we continue the fight for an anti-racist and racially just Europe that truly is united in diversity and recall our resolution "The EU has a diversity and inclusion problem. It's high time for a change. Let's be that change!**" adopted at the 37th EGP Congress in 2023, we, the European Green Party, commit to:**

- **Continue to push back against right-wing governments and policies** which seek to discriminate, dehumanise, and demonise racialised and ethnic-minoritised communities.

- **Hold accountable the second von der Leyen Commission** in its commitment to racial justice and the renewal of the ARAP, and to further **ensure the meaningful and effective implementation of the renewed ARAP.**

- **Continue advocating for the unblocking of the Anti-Racism Directive** by the Council and pushing for its adoption and implementation within the coming mandate.

- **Ensure the long-term financial, political, and organisational support of ARDI** and to further support its work in the coming mandate.

- **Pursue a political and societal climate welcoming migrants and refugees and pushing back against often discriminatory policies, be it foreign or domestic**, aimed at racialised and ethnic-minoritised communities and communities of migrant origin. A migrant-first politics seeks to dismantle policies that externalise the EU border regime, discriminate or oppress migrants in visa and asylum processes or at the border, undermine EU law and free movements (i.e. internal border controls and opt-outs), and further entrench Fortress Europe and Frontex. Instead, we advocate for welcoming and humanitarian alternatives that prioritise the rights of migrants and refugees enshrined in nternational law.

- **Pursue an equitable and people-centred foreign policy, where countries are treated equally and maximum focus is given on peace and equitable development cooperation.** Herein, the three-way test of recourse to military means of conflict prevention and management, as set out in the Charter of the European Greens, is upheld.

- **Actively engage in political and societal discussions on climate racism and extractivism and meaningfully incorporate such analysis in our work in parliaments and other institutions,** as stressed in the aforementioned diversity and inclusion resolution**.** This means acknowledging that countries and people in the Global South who contribute the least to the climate crisis are those most affected by its consequences and have their resources taken away by the Global North in the pursuit of innovation and climate adaptation, thereby increasing their risk of suffering under the climate crisis. Within Europe, we acknowledge that racialised and ethnic-minoritised communities are often disproportionately subjected to the consequences of the climate crisis or neglected or discriminated against in climate action.

- **Meaningfully address the destructive legacy of European countries in its former colonies and current dominions and territories in the pursuit of transitional and reparatory justice**. This includes but is not limited to reparations in the form of formal apologies, debt cancellation, monetary restitution, mancipatory development aid, and the return of cultural artefacts and human remains to the indigenous peoples in their land of origin. At the EU level, we must meaningfully engage with our partners in the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), and the African Union, who have initiated calls for and attempts at dialogue for such reparations vis-a-vis the European Union.

- **Advocate for the continuation and expansion of funding for anti-racism organisations at both the local and international level.**

- **Call for the protection of anti-racism organisations from dis- and**

malinformation and racial abuse, through the explicit commitment of our institutions to establish channels that denounce such practices and allocate structures to prevent them in all contexts, including in the public institutions themselves.

- **Condemn the acts and enabling of corporate media in perpetuating and encouraging racial and sexual abuse against racialised and ethnic-minoritised communities** through the dehumanisation and demonisation of such minoritised communities and individuals therefrom. We advocate for the establishment of European-wide obligations and standards on media companies regarding non-discriminatory, equitable, and correct representations of minoritised communities.

- **Strengthen tools to tackle racism and racial abuse in the digital space, too,** through the codification in law and the mandating of the currently optional EU Code of Conduct on countering illegal hate speech online for social media corporations and through the adoption of specialised legislation on cyber-racism amending or supporting the Digital Services Act and the Framework Decision on combating racism and xenophobia, drawing from the Australian model.

- **Meaningfully tackle Islamophobia and anti-Semitism** within the European Green Party's member parties, the European Parliament, and across the wider European society.

- **Introduce and meaningfully execute programmes to ensure an inclusive culture and increase and sustain racial diversity in political and organisational positions of power** within member parties and the wider Green family, and push for them to be implemented in the European Parliament, echoing the aforementioned diversity and inclusion resolution.

Background

The FYEG Racial Justice Task Force led the drafting of this text

Supporters

Verdes Equo