

Más Madrid

Report and recommendation

October 2026

Context

On 27 January 2026, the European Green Party received an application for membership from Más Madrid (MM). Following this, the Committee decided to move ahead with a fact-finding mission. The fact-finding mission took place in Madrid on 5-6 October 2026, with an EGP delegation consisting of Secretary General Benedetta De Marte, Treasurer Marc Giménez and Committee member Jelena Miloš. The delegation met with the applicant party as well as EGP member Verdes Equo, MM's youth wing, civil society organisations, a trade union, government ministers and academic experts.

This report summarises the findings of the Fact-Finding Mission.

Short overview of the political situation in the country

General

The political landscape in Spain has recently been shaped by converging crises that have deeply tested the stability of the minority coalition government led by Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez (Socialist Party – PSOE; PES).

During the summer, a severe migration and humanitarian crisis unfolded in the Spanish North African enclave of Ceuta following a massive border crossing from Morocco. Nationally and internationally, the crisis triggered severe political friction; other European Union leaders criticised Spain's regularisation policies, Italy suspended the Schengen agreement and temporarily tightened its border controls with Spain, and intense domestic debate flared regarding regional diplomacy, bilateral relations with Morocco, and the structural failures of European border-management frameworks.

As the political shockwaves from Ceuta began to settle, domestic socioeconomic grievances boiled over in late September following the forced eviction of 87-year-old Maricarmen Abascal from her apartment in Madrid. After an investment fund acquired her building, her public removal triggered massive street protests, rent strike mobilisations led by grassroots tenant unions, and widespread tent encampments (*acampadas*) across Spain. This turned into a powerful national symbol of the country's severe housing emergency, putting intense political pressure on the progressive coalition government to intervene

decisively against skyrocketing rents and real estate speculation. In response, the minority coalition government urgently approved two emergency housing decrees on 29 September 2026, aimed at banning vulnerable tenant evictions, capping runaway rent increases, and making residential leases automatically renewable. However, on October 2, 2026, the Spanish Congress defeated the government's flagship housing legislation in a tight parliamentary vote as the right-wing *Partido Popular* (PP - EPP) and Vox (PfE), alongside conservative regional nationalist allies like *Junts* (EDP), combined to strike down the measures. Faced with this legislative deadlock, parliamentary instability and mounting social pressure, Prime Minister Sánchez dissolved the *Cortes Generales* and called a snap general election for 29 November 2026.

Madrid-specific context

Within Spain's decentralised structure, the Community of Madrid operates as a unique and deeply contested political epicentre.

Across the region, public debate is persistently dominated by systemic structural strains in vital public services – notably chronic underfunding and privatisation pressures affecting public healthcare, strains on the public education system and a severe housing emergency driven by skyrocketing costs and limited public stock. Civil society groups, professional associations and progressive actors frequently mobilise around these acute socio-economic pressures, highlighting widening inequalities and demanding robust public investment over market-driven deregulation.

The regional political space is governed by the conservative People's Party (PP), whose regional government - led by President Isabel Díaz Ayuso - holds a dominant institutional position, maintains a solid legislative majority, and promotes a prominent, assertive brand of right-wing regional populism that frequently positions itself in direct ideological opposition to the national progressive government. For the progressive space, the Madrid region presents a difficult environment where conservative governance shapes public administration and civic life. Within this context, Más Madrid occupies a crucial position as the principal progressive opposition force, having successfully established itself as the leading alternative to the PP in both the Madrid Regional Assembly and the Madrid City Council.

Green politics

Spain presents a unique, multi-layered political landscape for the European Green Party (EGP), defined by regional diversity and overlapping progressive coalitions. At the national level, the space to the left of the Socialists (PSOE – member of PES) is anchored by **Sumar**,

an electoral coalition bringing together full EGP members **Verdes Equo** and **Esquerra Verda**, associate EGP member **Catalunya en Comú**, as well as member of the Party of the European Left (PEL) **Izquierda Unida** (IU). The coalition also includes key parties independent of European Political Parties (EUPPs): **Movimiento Sumar**, **Más Madrid** (which has formally applied for full EGP membership), and the Valencian coalition **Compromís** – whose constituent party, **Iniciativa del Poble Valencià (IdPV)**, has applied for EGP associate membership.

Launched by Second Deputy Prime Minister Yolanda Díaz ahead of the July 2023 national elections, *Sumar* has faced internal tensions over leadership structure and seat distribution. These dynamics are further complicated by **Podemos**, a left-wing populist party founded in 2014 out of the 15-M anti-austerity movement. Though originally part of Sumar, Podemos broke away following severe friction with Yolanda Díaz and IU over candidate selection and political influence. Podemos moved its MPs to the mixed parliamentary group, weakening the government's voting majority and forcing the coalition to negotiate continuously with them for legislative survival. Furthermore, deep-seated rivalries persist between Podemos and Izquierda Unida, as well as other parties of the Sumar space, over dominance within the radical left, creating ongoing friction that hinders left-wing unity.

In response to ongoing internal friction and looming snap election risks, the confederal left parties – *Más Madrid*, *Izquierda Unida*, *Movimiento Sumar*, and *Catalunya en Comú* – have recently moved to restructure their electoral footprint under a unified brand: **Frente Amplio** (“Broad Front”). Moving away from earlier labour-centric messaging, this newly consolidated platform has placed **housing rights and urban justice** at the core of its political program, propelled by the social outrage surrounding the recent eviction of 87-year-old Maricarmen and subsequent activist encampments. Crucially, the European Green and eco-socialist family forms a central pillar of this new front. Key Green figures occupy primary roles – such as Minister of Culture Ernest Urtasun (*Catalunya en Comú*) and Minister of Health Mónica García (*Más Madrid*)

Within this broader ecosystem, the Spanish Green family comprises both established full members and emerging regional partners:

- **Verdes Equo (Full EGP Member):** Established as Equo in 2011, it is the historical national Green party in Spain and EGP full member. Operating nationwide, Verdes Equo brings structured green policy and identity to the *Sumar* parliamentary alliance.
- **Esquerra Verda (Full EGP Member) and Catalunya en Comú (EGP Associate Member):** Regional Catalan partners operating within the progressive eco-socialist movement. They hold a strong local presence in Barcelona and across Catalonia, bridging municipalism with social justice and green transition policies.

- **Más Madrid (applicant for EGP Full Membership):** Founded in 2019, Más Madrid is the primary progressive opposition party in both the Madrid Regional Assembly and Madrid City Council. Driven by strong electoral performance and a clear focus on urban liveability, health and climate action, Más Madrid has applied for full EGP membership.
- **Iniciativa del Poble Valencià (applicant for EGP Associate Membership) as part of Compromís together with Verds Equo:** Compromís is the leading Green-Left and Valencian regionalist coalition in the Valencian Community. Its eco-socialist component, **Iniciativa del Poble Valencià**, has applied for EGP associate membership.

Main political values in the programme

Más Madrid structures its political platform around core progressive, green, and social values geared towards the objective “to live better” (*Para vivir mejor*). Its political programme is organised into systemic pillars centred on public services, ecological transition, feminism, social rights, economic transformation and democratic governance.

Under the section on public services and health, the party places the defence and recovery of public healthcare at the centre of its political project, viewing public health as proof that solidarity, equity and social justice build better societies. Proposals include dedicating over 6 billion euros to a comprehensive healthcare recovery plan, refunding pharmaceutical and non-pharmaceutical co-payments for low-income brackets, expanding mental health resources with a community-oriented approach, and establishing a public pharmaceutical company (*Polo Farma Norte*) to ensure affordable access to treatments and reduce dependency on proprietary drug models.

Under the feminism and gender equality pillar, the party embeds feminist principles transversally across all governance areas while targeting specific structural inequalities. Commitments include reforming the regional Gender Violence Law to encompass cyberviolence and vicarious violence, establishing a regional network of 24-hour crisis centres for victims of sexual violence, guaranteeing public access to voluntary abortion (IVE) within the regional health service, implementing measures against menstrual poverty and introducing menstrual/menopause leave, and safeguarding LGBTQ+ rights with a strong focus on non-pathologising healthcare and support for trans and non-binary individuals.

Under the green society and ecological transition pillar, Más Madrid outlines a comprehensive strategy to combat climate change and achieve regional sustainability. Key pledges include establishing a regional Energy Agency (*Agencia Madrileña de la Energía*), expanding photovoltaic self-consumption on public and private roofs with citizen participation, creating a binding zoning system for renewables to protect ecosystems,

planning a Metropolitan Green Belt and regional ecological corridors following the 3-30-300 urban green rule, passing an ambitious Climate Change and Ecological Transition Law aiming for net-zero emissions, implementing a circular economy framework to phase out incineration, promoting agroecological production (“*Comer de Aquí, de Madrid*”) to reach 25% of organic farming land, doubling public transport provisions, and enacting strict animal protection policies including the termination of public subsidies for bullfighting.

Under the economy and employment pillar, the party champions an endogenous, green and responsible economic model. Proposals feature the creation of a public investment bank (*Banco Madrileño de Inversión*) to finance sustainable industrial and housing projects, the *Reindustria* plan to establish specialised clean-industry hubs across the region, piloting a 32-hour working week without loss of pay, supporting social economy and cooperatives, and enacting a universal basic income pilot project. Like other Spanish regional parties, their economic and green transition plans lean heavily on absorbing and efficiently managing European Next Generation EU funds for sustainable regional projects, digitalisation and public transportation.

Under the social rights, housing and education chapters, Más Madrid treats housing as a fundamental human right, proposing the acquisition of 10,000 public rental homes, luxury/speculation taxes on empty properties, and a massive energy-efficiency rehabilitation program. In education, the party advocates for lowering classroom ratios, increasing public nursery school provisions, expanding free school meals, and boosting public university funding to European averages. Addressing global migration locally, the programme champions universal healthcare access for all migrants, the expansion of integration classrooms (*aulas de enlace*), the creation of an observatory against racism, and advocating for voting rights for non-EU foreign residents in regional elections.

Lastly, under the democracy and good governance pillar, the party pledges to enhance institutional transparency, establish an anti-fraud office, set up a public policy evaluation agency, and reform the regional Statute of Autonomy to explicitly safeguard citizens’ rights, environmental protections and democratic participation, and boost decentralized international development cooperation funds to 0.7% of the regional budget by 2030 through a new cooperation framework rooted in feminist and human rights perspectives.

While Más Madrid originally operates as a regional and municipal political force within the Community of Madrid, the party has enlarged its international outlooks in recent years. MM has entered the national government, had several candidates on a broad Sumar list in the 2024 European elections, and has deepened its international reflection and positioning in particular following the re-election of Donald Trump. Its platform does not currently feature

dedicated chapters on foreign policy or European Union integration, but MM has published analysis and political statements on international issues. It is safe to say that MM is a pro-European party that stands for a more social and ecological EU, multilateralism and stronger cooperation among democratic actors.

Youth wing

Jóvenes Más Madrid (JMM) is the autonomous youth wing of the movement, organising to provide a distinct generational voice that mirrors Más Madrid's broader political values of social justice, feminism and radical ecological transformation. Operating with full internal autonomy regarding its political strategy, communication lines and campaign execution, JMM maintains a strong organisational scale comprising nearly 300 members across its digital communication networks, over 80 active participants and a dedicated core of approximately 40 members spanning ages 16 to 30.

The youth wing is intensely active in universities and civil mobilisation; they are currently leading high-visibility campaigns such as *Juntos por la educación pública* to protest budget cuts and underfunding in public universities under the regional administration. They actively fight youth precarity and mobilise on the front lines of housing actions, including the recent demonstrations at Puerta del Sol.

On an international level, JMM is a Candidate member of the Federation of Young European Greens (FYEG).

List of organised meetings during fact-finding mission

- **Más Madrid's leadership** – *Rita Maestre Fernández & Manuela Bergerot Uncal*
- **Más Madrid's Coordination Team** – *Andere Nieva (European Parliament), Marisa Escalante (deputy in the Assembly of Madrid, member of the Executive Committee of Más Madrid, and head of Institutional Relations), Carla Antonelli (deputy in the Assembly of Madrid and Member of the Senate), Tesh Sidi (deputy in the Congress), Marcos Manzanero (Secretary of Organization of Más Madrid City), Alessandra Romero (councillor and member of the municipal government of Alcorcón), Amaia Domingo (councillor of the municipal government of Cercedilla), Diana Paredes (deputy in the Assembly of Madrid, spokesperson for Social Policies, and member of the anti-racism sector group), Marina Arce (spokesperson for Feminisms of Más Madrid)*
- **Más Madrid's youth wing** (*Jóvenes Más Madrid*) – *Daniela Santos (Identity Coordinator) and Nicholas Holmes (Strategy)*
- **Verdes Equo's leadership and Madrid team** – *Mar González (Co-Spokesperson), José Ramón Becerra (Co-Spokesperson), María Pastor (Member of Madrid Assembly, Deputy Group Leader), Alejandro Sánchez (Member of Madrid Assembly), Paz Serra (Member of Madrid Assembly), Catalina Abell (Advisor)*

- o **Esquerra Verda** – *Júlia Boada* (Co-coordinator), *Oriol Muñoz Gual* (International Secretary)
- o **Minister of Culture Ernest Urtasun** (Catalunya en Comú)
- o **Comisiones Obreras** (*Trade union*) – *Carmen Vidal* (Secretary of Institutional Participation and Social Movements), *Carlos Gutiérrez* (Secretary of Studies and Discours), *Armando Recio* (Deputy Secretary of Institutional Participation)
- o **Greenpeace España** – *Raquel Montón* (Policy Advocacy Coordinator), *Carlos García* (Policy Advocacy Coordinator), *Francisco del Pozo* (Fossil Gas Coordinator)
- o **Sindicato de Inquilinas e Inquilinos de Madrid**
- o **Professor Luis Bouza García**, *Associate Professor of Political Science at Universidad Autónoma de Madrid and Visiting professor of Interdepartmental European Advanced Studies at the College of Europe*
- o **Professor Ruth Ferrero**, *Associate Professor of Political Science and European Studies at the Complutense University of and a Senior Research Associate at the Complutense Institute for International Studies*

Findings from the above meetings

From discussions held with the applicant party as well as other stakeholders, the EGP's delegation learned the following:

- Más Madrid is widely recognised by its base and local civil society as a natural political home for environmentalism and progressive urban transformation in Madrid. The party was created ahead of the 2019 local and regional elections, as a successor of outgoing Madrid mayor Manuela Carmena's Ahora Madrid and including many people joining from Podemos.
- It was highlighted on different occasions that, rather than framing ecological action as a niche or isolated portfolio, the party systematically integrates climate policy with social justice, treating universal public services, green public mobility, and sustainable urban living as core components of its ecological vision. Stakeholders observed that this approach resonates strongly with citizens, positioning the party as a credible vehicle for systemic green transition in the Madrid region and beyond.
- Más Madrid appears to operate with a good degree of organisational discipline, professional structures and institutional stability. The party maintains organic grassroots across Madrid's twenty-one municipal districts, relying on extensive neighbourhood engagement and door-to-door mobilisation.
- Más Madrid is organised as a participatory political movement structured around strict principles of internal democracy, local autonomy (*autonomía política*) and consensus-building. The party has approximately 35,000 registered participants; it distinguishes between registered supporters or sympathisers

(*inscritos/colaboradores*) and active members (*militantes*) – with only formal members holding full voting rights for regional leadership and primary lists, prioritising consensus-based decision-making.

- The basic organisational unit of Más Madrid is the Assembly. The territorial structure is decentralised into district assemblies (within Madrid city) and municipal assemblies/branches across the region.
- Más Madrid holds broad institutional weight across tiers, spanning national government posts (Minister of Health and Secretary of State), 27 regional deputies in the Assembly of Madrid, 2 congressional deputies, 1 senator, 93 municipal councillors (including 1 mayor) and 167 district board members (*vocales vecinos*).
- Más Madrid maintains a local presence across 46 municipalities (governing Casarrubuelos outright, participating in 8 coalition governments, and holding official opposition seats in 37 other municipal councils).
- The internal framework relies on the regional leadership board (*Mesa Regional*), the executive committee (*Ejecutiva*), internal electoral committees for primaries and guarantees commission.
- The party enforces an internal rule establishing a general limitation of a maximum of 8 years in the same public or internal executive office to prevent personalisation of the party and encourage renewal.
- A portion of the party's membership and leadership has public administration experience, endowing Más Madrid with technical competence and governance capacity. In 2024, Más Madrid faced a major crisis as one of its founders and key figures Íñigo Errejón faced accusations of sexual assault. It was widely recognised by the interlocutors we met that following the crisis, and despite the fact that Errejón was by far one of the most emblematic figures of the Spanish left and founder of Mas Madrid itself, the party was able to immediately take distance and also renew itself with a credible, feminist leadership.
- Internal participation and policy drafting are coordinated through open sectoral assemblies (*asambleas sectoriales*) focusing on core areas such as feminism, ecological transition, public health, social rights, and economic transformation.
- Discussions with leadership and team, as well as with external stakeholders and programme analysis, confirmed that Más Madrid's core programme aligns very closely with the foundational values of the European Green Party.
- On the European and international stage, stakeholders highlighted the party's consistently pro-European stance, noting its clear positions in defence of international law, multilateralism, and democratic norms against far-right authoritarian trends, aligning with the positioning of the European Green Party.

- Because Más Madrid's primary electoral footprint and institutional strength are concentrated in the urban centres of the Madrid region, expanding its narrative and organisational presence in more rural parts of the region remains an ongoing task.

EGP's current member parties in Spain have a positive view on the EGP strategy of enlarging the green space and specifically of Más Madrid. The parties have cooperated under the electoral and parliamentary umbrella of Sumar. In the city council and regional assembly of Madrid, Verdes Equo and Más Madrid form joint groups. There has, however, been some friction between the two parties in the daily political work. The friction has largely stemmed from concerns around recognition of the green contribution to these institutional groups, rather than ideological differences. This highlights the need for a continued strategic approach of the EGP regarding its members and partners in Spain.

Conclusions and recommendation

Conclusions

Several actors in Spain looking at the Greens as their international reference point. The fragmented nature of Spain's political landscape brings certain challenges in this regard. It is important to identify and work with actors – including in regions of relevant size – who can enable the green space to grow further and stronger in Spain. Más Madrid is certainly one of them. Más Madrid has established itself as a strong progressive and Green anchor in Madrid and in Spain, successfully merging social justice with ecological transition through a grounded, rooted and competent approach.

Their political trajectory, public perception and structural consolidation make them fully compatible with the European Green family. Formalising their integration into the European Green Party corresponds with the expectations of their base and solidifies the southern European and Spanish Green network alongside the current EGP member parties. It is advisable that the different Green parties in Spain continue cooperating under an EGP umbrella.

Due to the specific political fragmentation in the country, EGP considers it particularly important to ensure that ahead of elections and specifically national and European ones, all the EGP current and future member parties will engage into consultations among themselves before than with other potential partners.

Recommendation

The Committee of the European Green Party believes that Más Madrid meets EGP's membership criteria.

The Committee of the European Green Party sees the continued expansion and consolidation of the Green European family in Southern Europe as fundamental for strengthening our political weight and amplifying progressive governance.

Considering all the above, the EGP Committee recommends to the delegates of the 41st EGP Congress to accept Más Madrid as a Full Member.