

OFFICIAL LETTER OF APPLICATION (COMMUNICATION OF INTENT)

To: The Committee and the Council of the European Green Party (EGP)

Rue du Taciturne 34, 1000 Brussels, Belgium

Subject: Official Application for Associate Membership by the Green Left Party (*Yeşil Sol Parti* – Turkey)

Dear Green Colleagues and Friends,

On behalf of the Green Left Party of Turkey (*Yeşil ve Sol Parti*), we are writing to ask for your support for our application for Associate Membership in the European Green Party.

For us, this application is not the beginning of a new relationship. It is, rather, the continuation of a political relationship that has already existed for many years.

Our political tradition was previously represented within the European Green Party through the Greens and the Left Party of the Future (*Yeşiller ve Sol Gelecek Partisi*), which was a member of the European Green family. Under the exceptional political conditions of Turkey, however, we were compelled to make an unusual organizational decision. In order to contribute to a broader democratic alliance and to maintain political representation at a moment of profound pressure on democratic politics, the party was transferred to another political movement. We subsequently had to re-establish the Green Left Party as an independent political organization.

We are therefore in the unusual position of having to apply for membership of the European Green Party for a second time.

We hope that this decision will be understood in the political context in which it was taken. In an increasingly authoritarian country, where democratic space has been systematically narrowed and opposition parties face extraordinary legal and political pressures, solidarity between democratic political forces is not merely a matter of electoral cooperation. At times, it requires organizational decisions that would be difficult to imagine under more stable democratic conditions. Our decision was made precisely in this spirit of solidarity.

What has not changed is our political identity.

The Green Left Party remains an ecologist, egalitarian, libertarian, feminist, anti-militarist and pluralist political party. We defend ecological justice, participatory democracy, gender equality, human rights, the rights of nature, peaceful resolution of conflicts, social justice and international solidarity. We continue to see ourselves as part of the wider Green political family in Europe and beyond.

Over the past period, we have made every effort to rebuild and deepen our relationship with the European Green Party. An EGP fact-finding mission has taken place, providing an opportunity for direct political exchange and a closer understanding of our party and the conditions under which we operate. We also participated in last year's EGP Congress as observers. These encounters were extremely valuable to us, not only institutionally but politically. They reaffirmed our conviction that the Green Left Party belongs within this political family.

We have continued, on our side, to invest in these relations and to create the conditions for sustained cooperation. We want to participate actively in the discussions, campaigns and political work of the European Greens, particularly at a time when Europe and its

neighbouring regions are confronted with the intertwined crises of climate breakdown, militarisation, authoritarianism, social inequality, racism and the rise of the far right.

Turkey is a European and Mediterranean country whose political future is deeply connected to developments across the continent. For Green politics in Turkey, therefore, international solidarity is not an addition to domestic political work. It is an essential part of it. Likewise, we believe that a strong European Green family should include and strengthen Green political forces struggling under increasingly authoritarian conditions beyond the borders of the European Union.

Our application for Associate Membership reflects this understanding.

We fully endorse the principles of the European Green Party, the Global Greens Charter and the democratic rules governing the EGP. We want to contribute to the European Green family with our own political experience, struggles and perspectives, while learning from and acting together with Green parties and movements across Europe.

For all these reasons, a positive vote by the Congress would mean far more to us than the formal acceptance of a membership application. It would represent the restoration of a relationship interrupted by extraordinary political circumstances. It would also be a powerful gesture of solidarity with Green, democratic and progressive politics in Turkey.

It would be both deeply meaningful and a source of great pride for us to once again be able to say that the Green Left Party is a member of the European Green Party.

We therefore respectfully ask you to support our application for Associate Membership and to vote in favour of welcoming the Green Left Party of Turkey back into the European Green family.

We look forward to continuing our common struggle for an ecological, democratic, peaceful and just future.

In Green solidarity,



Didem Betül GÖÇER

Co-Spokesperson

Green Left Party (Turkey)



Ahmet ASENA

Co-Spokesperson

Green Left Party (Turkey)