Dear Green delegates,

Dear Green friends,

I am writing to you to present to you my candidacy for the by-election one female member for our Conciliation Panel. A member of the Finnish delegation, I am honoured to have secured the support for my candidacy of the Greens in Finland.

My first entry into Green politics happened due to my passion for human rights, as the Greens were the only political party in Finland that had a genuine human rights policy. I would dare to say that this has not changed, be it in Finland or at European level.

I was fortunate to then join the European Parliament as an advisor to Heidi Hautala, when she became the Chair of the European Parliament Subcommittee on Human Rights. I now have worked at the European Parliament for over ten years, where among other things, I have worked as a group adviser to the Greens in the Legal Affairs Committee. I am also a member of the EGP Working Group Statutes and Rule Book and a Board member and a Treasurer of the Finnish Greens in Brussels.

By my profession, I am a qualified Barrister, specialising in international human rights and criminal law, having practiced in both, at the Bar of England and Wales and in international courts and tribunals.

Working at the European Parliament, I have gained a professionally advanced knowledge of the funding of the political parties and foundations, as this is something I worked on for many years with Heidi Hautala in her role as a Vice-President of the European Parliament, as her advisor. Working in the European Parliament Bureau, I also gained good experience in statutory compliance, rules of procedure, budgetary procedures, transparency, scrutiny, as well as the electoral rules.

Currently, I work at the European Parliament's Directorate-General for Parliamentary Democracy Partnerships as an Advisor to the Director General. I am also the Internal Control Coordinator of the Directorate-General. One of my key responsibilities is administrative and budgetary reporting and oversight. In this work I always seek ways to make procedures clearer, transparent, with broad consultation and pragmatic.

Rules ought not be seen as restrictions. To me they represent first and foremost fairness. Good and well drafted rules, as well as procedures, are the best guarantee of fairness. If done correctly, they help bring out the best outcome - be it the best possible resolution, higher quality work program, transparent consultation or a more inclusive decision.

Personally I am committed to applying statutes and rules at all times in a manner that is not only fair and transparent, but also equal. The rules apply to everyone and the rules are the same for everyone. To me this is what the Greens are fundamentally about – fairness.

This is the reason why, to me, the work of Conciliation Panel is of crucial importance. The opportunity to join the Panel would be a great honour.

Yours,

Eeva Heikkila