



# Draft

**Title:** **Draft 2024 Manifesto - CHAPTER I: The Courage to Put Planet and People First – Our Green and Social Deal for Europe**

**Tabled by:** EGP Committee, Editorial- and Manifesto WGs

[PDF full draft Manifesto - Courage to Change](#) (no line numbering)

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[PDF Spreadsheet Amendments on Chapter 1](#) (18 January)

[for CAS 1 - PDF Pre-CAS Amendments on Chapter 1](#) (25 January)

[Outcome CAS 1 - PDF AMs on Chapter 1](#) (26 January)

[for CAS 3 - PDF AMs on Chapter 1](#) (30 January)

[Outcome CAS 3 - PDF AMs on Chapter 1](#) (31 January)

[Outcome CAS 5 - PDF AMs on Chapter 1](#) (2 February)

[For the Final CAS on 4 February - PDF AMs on Chapter 1](#) (3 February)

[Consolidated text Chapter 1 - CAS accepted AMs](#) (4 February AM)

## Draft text

- 1 Maria's electricity bill had never been as high as the previous winter's. Try
- 2 paying that on one income with two children to feed. She worked hard – too hard

3 if anything – but it was never enough at the end of the month.

4 She couldn't have got out of that situation alone, but she wasn't alone. The  
5 council finally opened the community childcare centre that they had been  
6 promising for years. A Green and Social Deal grant then came through and she  
7 renovated her draughty house. The new bus route meant she wasn't using half as  
8 much petrol each week.

9 It turned out that once society treated all our daily struggles as shared  
10 problems, together we could solve them. With our Green and Social Deal, together  
11 we can turn lives like Marias – like ours – into more secure, happier, and  
12 healthier ones, with cheaper energy bills, healthy food at affordable prices,  
13 and clean air in our towns and cities.

#### 14 **Climate justice and social justice are two sides of the same coin.**

15 Last year was the hottest year on record. The state of the planet is an  
16 emergency. The damage to lives and livelihoods – the homes flooded and farms  
17 bankrupted – caused by the climate crisis gets bigger each year.

18 We hear the urgent calls of scientists and activists. The animals and ecosystems  
19 dying off in record numbers cannot wait.

20 Climate action now will bring benefits across society, making our lives more  
21 affordable and pleasant in the years ahead. It will protect the nature that  
22 surrounds us.

23 Doing nothing will only serve the wealthiest profiting from fossil fuels, while  
24 leaving the poorest in our societies to bear the costs.

25 The living standards of people in Europe have been hit hard over the past few  
26 years. The cost of living is rising, forcing millions into insecurity with the  
27 most vulnerable paying the highest price.

28 Growing inequalities and burning economic injustice are not new. For decades,  
29 the ultra-rich have got away with paying next to no tax, while public services  
30 have been cut.

31 Jobs have become more precarious and too many people have had to leave the place  
32 they call home to find decent work.

33 None of this has to be normal. None of this is inevitable.

34 **We have the courage to do what it takes.**

35 They are our problems and we need to solve them now. We won't put it off for the  
36 next generation.

37 Fighting the cost of living crisis and economic inequality while protecting the  
38 climate and restoring nature will take investment. That is why we are proposing  
39 a major investment plan for Europe: the Green and Social Deal.

40 We will build new green infrastructure and fund quality public services. This  
41 economic opportunity will create new jobs and industries.

42 Everything we put forward combines improving lives with protecting the climate  
43 and environment.

44 We want toxic air pollution and wasteful fossil fuel subsidies to be things of  
45 the past. Tax havens for the few have no place in Europe or anywhere.

46 Affordable housing, renewable energy, and healthy food for all are what we will  
47 fight for. A stable climate and restored nature are what we will protect.

48 **The Green and Social Deal is our plan for a greener, healthier Europe where  
49 lives are secure, prosperous, and full of opportunity.**

## 50 **Protecting the Climate and the Environment**

51 Our Green and Social Deal leads the way on climate and environmental justice.  
52 The EU's climate and environmental policies set the pace and ambition of action  
53 across Europe and beyond. Much has been put in motion, we are on a path towards  
54 the green transition. Now the question is how to accelerate the much-needed  
55 action at the same time as protecting living standards, especially for the most  
56 vulnerable.

57 Our societies are only as healthy and secure as the natural world on which they  
58 depend. We are facing the consequences of climate change today: more extreme  
59 weather events such as storms, droughts, and floods, rising sea levels,  
60 desertification, and the melting of arctic ice and glaciers. One million animal  
61 and plant species are perilously close to extinction. The future of our planet  
62 and our relatively peaceful and prosperous societies depends on us acting now.  
63 Protecting the climate and environment is about protecting people.

### 64 ***Tackling the climate emergency***

65 Europe needs to face the climate crisis in its full urgency, reducing its  
66 emissions as rapidly as possible in line with scientific recommendations to  
67 secure the most liveable future possible for the years and decades ahead. At the  
68 same time, investing in a clean European economy and rapidly reducing our  
69 dependence on fossil fuels strengthens competitiveness and security.

70 The EU has committed to the European Green Deal and introduced key policies for  
71 climate protection in the past five years. We welcome the progress but continue  
72 to push for more ambition and the full implementation of the plans already set  
73 in motion. To recognize the climate and environmental crisis, we will push to  
74 include the right to a healthy and clean environment in the Charter of  
75 Fundamental Rights, which must be directly applicable to all EU citizens.

76 Europe can and must take steps to go beyond a 55% reduction in emissions by 2030  
77 and achieve full climate neutrality by 2040. These objectives should be set out  
78 in a revised EU climate law.

### 79 ***Building a community of renewable energy***

80 We will push the EU to build a community of renewables that connects and powers  
81 the continent. Renewables are the economic keys to the future. Cheaper and safer  
82 than any other energy source, renewables helped the EU economy save 100 billion  
83 euros between 2021 and 2023 and bring down energy bills for households.

84 We want to transform our energy system to rely 100% on solar, water, wind and  
85 geothermal, making it fossil-free by 2040. Only renewables can ensure a  
86 habitable planet, geopolitical independence from autocrats, and a resilient and  
87 democratically managed energy system.

88 We want solar panels on every roof possible to put citizens at the heart of the  
89 energy transition giving them cheaper energy and control.

90 Solving the climate crisis will create millions of jobs in sectors from  
91 renewable energy and construction to industry and transport. The “shovel ready”  
92 projects that we would kick start tomorrow represent 2 million jobs in the short  
93 and medium term and our long-term transition up to 10 million.

### 94 ***Ending fossil fuels in Europe***

95 The EU needs a clear plan for the total phaseout of fossil fuels: coal by 2030,  
96 fossil gas by 2035, and oil by 2040. The energy crisis of 2022 cost Europe over  
97 1 trillion euros between energy subsidies and inflated prices. We cannot afford  
98 this, and neither can the planet.

99 The acceleration of the transition to renewables will bring economic, health and  
100 security benefits, while further delay will only lead to higher costs down the  
101 line.

102 Europe needs a plan to phase out all fossil fuels subsidies by 2025 at the  
103 latest, and all other environmentally harmful subsidies by 2027 at the latest.  
104 The billions of euros from fossil fuel subsidies must be channelled into  
105 renewable energy, energy efficiency and energy savings. No European or member  
106 state public money should go towards fossil infrastructure.

107 Energy-saving measures to reduce demand are essential. Focusing on demand  
108 reduction and efficiency means using less and needing less energy – making it  
109 easier to green our energy system. The energy efficiency measures set out in  
110 recent EU legislation, such as introduction of the “energy efficiency  
111 principle”, are major achievements. Now they must be fully implemented.

### 112 ***Adapting Europe to an overheating planet***

113 Decades of climate denial and delay have left us vulnerable to extreme weather  
114 and the rising anti-climate backlash will make the situation even worse. Floods  
115 and fires have destroyed homes and businesses, while heat waves put lives at  
116 risk in homes and workplaces.

117 To make people and places less vulnerable to climate impacts, we will introduce  
118 a climate adaptation law grounded on ecosystem-based solutions.

119 Nature restoration and climate adaptation efforts will restore water retention  
120 in the countryside and urban areas through the revitalisation of rivers and  
121 floodplains. To recognize the key role of water, an integrated approach must  
122 mainstream water into all relevant EU policies.

123 The green transformation must go hand in hand with a strong cohesion policy to  
124 make sure that all regions of Europe benefit. Our expanded EU Solidarity Fund  
125 will focus on climate adaptation and preparedness for natural disasters.  
126 Dedicated and direct funding from the EU for climate action can relieve  
127 budgetary and political pressure on cities and municipalities and allow the  
128 transition to be shaped and led locally, no matter who is in office at the  
129 national level.

130 Based on the principle of European solidarity, we will create a European Natural  
131 Disaster Fund. We will also expand and co-fund the European firefighting fleet,  
132 including pooled qualified professional and voluntary personnel, firefighting  
133 equipment, assets, and firefighting planes, as well as near-real-time monitoring  
134 and an emergency coordination centre. Strengthening civil protection will make  
135 Europe more resilient to climate disasters.

### 136 ***Zero-pollution is about health***

137 A zero-pollution European Union will be a much healthier place to live. Air  
138 pollution is responsible for 300,000 premature deaths each year in the EU with  
139 children most vulnerable to the effects of fine particulate matter. We will push  
140 the EU to increase air quality standards for everyone, everywhere in the EU with  
141 no exceptions.

142 By 2030, air quality in the EU must meet World Health Organization guidelines.  
143 We will fight for a toxic-free Europe by 2030 by phasing out the use of the most  
144 harmful chemicals through a stronger chemicals law.

145 The climate crisis is also a severe threat to human health, seen in the effects  
146 that heat waves, droughts and other extreme weather events have on the general  
147 population. Reducing emissions now will help avoid a worsening situation in the  
148 years ahead.

149 ***Bringing nature back***

150 From the birds to the bees to the moors and wetlands, we need to protect nature  
151 that is the basis for life on this planet. One million species are threatened  
152 with extinction linked to damaged ecosystems, pesticide use and climate change.  
153 This mass extinction must stop.

154 From 2026, 10% of the EU budget must be spent on biodiversity objectives. Taking  
155 action against climate change and restoring healthy, biodiversity-rich  
156 ecosystems are two sides of the same coin.

157 As Greens, we will restore degraded ecosystems across the EU. We want to protect  
158 one third of the EU's territory and marine areas, so we can live in harmony with  
159 nature, including wetlands, forests, marine, agro-ecosystems, rivers, and lakes.  
160 As set out in the Nature Restoration Law that we fought for, we want to restore  
161 degraded natural areas. Working with farmers and local communities is key to  
162 protecting biodiversity and fighting climate change.

163 ***Forests as Europe's green lung***

164 Forests are threatened by deforestation and the consequences of climate change.  
165 They are our lungs and life-support system, home to most land-based biodiversity  
166 and major carbon sinks. Forests also play a crucial role in providing clean air,  
167 regulating the water cycle, and preventing soil erosion. Forest protection and  
168 restoration are key for reaching our climate goals.

169 As Greens, we see old-growth forests, closer-to-nature management, and  
170 biodiversity-friendly afforestation and restoration as key for healthy forests  
171 in Europe. We need a common forest fire strategy through near-natural mixed  
172 forests. We are determined to avoid clear cutting and establish protection  
173 corridors. Emergency measures are needed to protect forests from poor  
174 management, pollution, and climate change.

175 ***Caring for our soils with sustainable food and agriculture***

176 Europe needs a Common Food Policy to support changes in what we eat, how we  
177 produce food and where we get it from. We need a fundamental shift away from  
178 subsidies for industrial agriculture based on pesticides and monocultures and

179 towards massive investment into organic farming and agroecological production.  
180 Years of misguided subsidies have concentrated landholdings and driven small and  
181 medium-sized farmers into the ground.

182 This green and social transition for agriculture, supported by retargeted EU  
183 funds, is an opportunity for secure and sustainable business models that will  
184 benefit millions of European farmers.

185 The Common Food Policy will condition EU agricultural funding on social and  
186 environmental criteria to provide quality jobs and increase food security. This  
187 means that one third of the EU budget will be dedicated to sustainable food  
188 systems that improve soil quality, cut emissions, and reduce food waste, while  
189 addressing the economic situation of farmers. The EU needs to take action to  
190 strengthen the plant-based protein sector.

191 Healthy food also means pesticide-free food. We must reduce the use of chemical  
192 pesticides to save ecosystems, keep soil healthy and protect human health. We  
193 will fight for a 50% reduction in pesticide use by 2030. Glyphosate is not  
194 necessary for productive farming, nor for weed control. Glyphosate can and must  
195 be banned, with economic support for farmers to make this shift.

## 196 ***GMO-free Europe***

197 We will keep genetically modified crops out of our fields and off our plates. We  
198 want animal feed to be free from genetically modified crops in the EU. As  
199 Greens, we are committed to the precautionary principle and will maintain the  
200 existing regulatory regime for all new genetically modified and new genomic  
201 techniques. New techniques must not be excluded from the protections already set  
202 out in EU law.

203 Farmers must be protected from agroindustry's use of intellectual property law  
204 to enforce economic dependency. All products that contain genetically modified  
205 products must be traceable and labelled. National governments must retain the  
206 right to ban the cultivation of genetically modified crops.

## 207 ***Making animal welfare a priority***

208 We will make animal welfare a priority at the EU level, with strict rules on



209 farming conditions, use of antibiotics and animal transportation. Zoonotic  
210 spillover and anti-microbial resistance risk another devastating pandemic.

211 We want to ban animal mega-farms and animal cruelty in industrial farming. While  
212 the European Commission did nothing with the historic European Citizens'  
213 Initiative on ending the cage age, we will take up the citizens' fight so that  
214 cage farming is finally banned. We will continue to fight for a maximum of 8-  
215 hour (with 4 hours for certain species) or 300-kilometre transport time and  
216 distance. We fully support the European Citizens' Initiative on a fur-free  
217 Europe.

218 Our Common Food Policy will take the funds currently used to support  
219 unsustainable industrial animal farming and redirect them to improving housing  
220 systems and management practices in the interest of animal welfare.

## 221 ***Clean seas and oceans***

222 From the Baltic Sea to the Atlantic Ocean, Europe's marine regions need  
223 protection. To safeguard our shared oceans and seas, we will introduce a Seas  
224 and Oceans Law to establish the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable seas  
225 and oceans in a fair and equitable way. We demand a strategy that leads to a  
226 clean and pollution-free ocean by 2030.

227 To protect access for local communities and protect marine ecosystems,  
228 overfishing practices need to be stopped and alternative sustainable economic  
229 models for coastal communities developed. It is not just about the amount of  
230 fish we are catching but how we catch it, we will put an end to bottom trawling  
231 practices that damage everything in their wake.

232 We will fight against deep-sea mining and call for a global moratorium. It is  
233 high time to protect deep sea marine ecosystems. We will oppose any and all  
234 expansion of offshore oil and gas exploration.

## 235 **Securing Livelihoods for All**

236 Our Green and Social Deal protects everyone's, including and especially the most  
237 vulnerable, right to life's essentials: renewable energy and green transport,  
238 decent housing and nutritious food, and quality education and care.

239 ***Renewable energy for all***

240 Everyone should have access to sufficient, affordable, and renewable energy as a  
241 basic right. 125 million people in the EU struggle to heat their homes with  
242 women and older people disproportionately affected. Eliminating energy poverty  
243 is an essential priority for the EU.

244 We support an Energy Guarantee to provide all households with a sufficient  
245 amount of energy at an affordable price. Vulnerable groups will benefit from  
246 targeted support, including for energy-saving investments, and no vulnerable  
247 household will be cut off from their energy needs because of their inability to  
248 pay. Consuming one's own energy, sharing it with neighbours, and joining an  
249 energy community must become an opportunity that all can benefit from.

250 ***Affordable housing for all***

251 Housing is a right, not a commodity. Decent, comfortable housing that is warm in  
252 winter and cool in summer should be accessible for all. On any given night,  
253 there are [900,000 homeless people](#) in the EU, while millions struggle with rising  
254 rents in big cities and energy poverty linked to poor-quality housing – all  
255 symptoms of chronic underinvestment in quality, well-insulated affordable and  
256 social housing.

257 We must encourage and increase public and private investment in affordable  
258 housing, including social housing. We support the introduction of rent control  
259 in cities and regions where rents have exploded to become out of reach. As  
260 achieved by several Green cities across the EU, we advocate limits on short-term  
261 tourist rentals to keep rents down. We will keep fighting for the right of young  
262 people to live in full independence.

263 We must take a European approach towards public housing policy, defining housing  
264 as a basic right and protecting those who rent properties from exploitation. EU  
265 funding for public housing must continue after the current Resilient and  
266 Recovery Fund expires.

267 ***Warm in winter, cool in summer***

268 We need an EU programme to renovate the homes of people facing the highest

269 energy bills on low incomes. A large-scale social energy renovation programme  
270 can make sure everyone lives in a healthy and fossil-free home by 2040. 75% of  
271 buildings are energy inefficient in Europe, responsible for 36% of carbon  
272 emissions – a huge opportunity for improvement through renovation and  
273 retrofitting.

274 Support needs to be available for all, with the bulk of financing targeting the  
275 most vulnerable, and renovation must be cost-neutral for tenants. EU, member  
276 state and private investment in rapid renovation will provide nicer, greener  
277 places to live and create quality jobs. Our fiscal proposals will incentivize  
278 public investment in green housing at the level of member states as well as  
279 unlock private money to renovate Europe’s housing stock.

## 280 ***Healthy food for all***

281 A shift to a sustainable, climate-friendly food system is imperative for people  
282 in Europe to enjoy affordable, nutritious food for which producers are properly  
283 remunerated. Many key risk factors of non-communicable diseases like cancer are  
284 dietary. Our vision is that of connecting consumers and producers, empowering  
285 people to make informed choices, and ensuring farmers get a fair price.

286 We will establish the right to food as a legal principle in EU legislation,  
287 leading to dedicated social security mechanisms at national level that guarantee  
288 access to healthy food while supporting local supply chains.

289 We will support small and ecological farming with massive investment. Millions  
290 of Europeans have struggled with soaring food prices in recent years. No one  
291 should go without healthy and sustainably produced food because it is too  
292 expensive.

293 It is time to stop the speculation on food driving hunger globally. Our  
294 financial transactions and windfall tax proposals will curb the speculation  
295 driving up food prices for households.

## 296 ***Water is a right***

297 Access to clean water should be guaranteed as a basic right. Water scarcity is  
298 already costing billions each year, with farmers and low-income households among

299 the worst affected and the Mediterranean region particularly vulnerable. Urgent  
300 action is needed to protect the right to water. We will take action using  
301 existing EU legislation to protect vulnerable reserves and prioritize drinking  
302 water over other uses.

### 303 ***Mobility justice for all***

304 We want people to be able to get around easily and cheaply on sustainable public  
305 transport. Mobility is crucial to everyone, every day. It connects people,  
306 communities, and businesses, while traveling to see friends and family or for  
307 leisure should be one of life's pleasures.

308 Today, transport systems are stacked in favour of the wealthy and against people  
309 and the planet. Working-class neighbourhoods suffer most from air and noise  
310 pollution and poorly connected rural and suburban communities often have no  
311 choice other than the car. High-emission transport is perversely subsidized, and  
312 private jets are pushing emissions ever higher.

313 We will introduce a European Climate Ticket framework, so that every part of  
314 Europe offers an affordable public transport pass easily used across different  
315 modes of public transport. Young people, single-parent families and the elderly  
316 should benefit from reduced fares.

317 Europe must invest in better public transport, safe and sustainable cycling  
318 networks, and people-centric urban planning, for cities as well as rural  
319 communities. As Europe phases out internal combustion engines, electric cars  
320 will be part of reducing transport emissions, but a real response makes much  
321 more room for public transport. To make electric cars affordable and create a  
322 second-hand market, the EU should mandate their uptake in corporate fleets.

### 323 ***Connecting Europe with an Infrastructure Union***

324 We need to massively increase investment in rail transport to literally connect  
325 Europe as part of our Infrastructure Union. Rail infrastructure in many European  
326 regions is in a state of disrepair and there is no high-speed rail coverage  
327 whatsoever in much of Central and Eastern Europe. The EU must therefore  
328 prioritize investment in the modernization and convergence of under-served  
329 regions.

330 To promote sustainable long-distance travel, we will invest in night train  
331 infrastructure and create a European Ticketing Platform to make booking cross-  
332 border journeys on sustainable transport straightforward. Rural areas and poorly  
333 connected regions will be prioritized in transport investments, including car-  
334 sharing initiatives and ferries.

335 We will make sure that fairer prices show the real cost of polluting transport,  
336 taxing air travel and fuel properly where efficient climate-friendly  
337 alternatives cannot be put in place. We will reduce demand for flights,  
338 introducing a frequent flyer levy, with exceptions for island regions, and  
339 banning short-haul where alternatives are available. We will fight to introduce  
340 a ban on private jets. We defend a just transition for all transport workers and  
341 will protect workers and passengers through road safety measures and an EU-wide  
342 speed limit.

### 343 ***Quality education for all***

344 Accessible quality public education, training and lifelong learning should be  
345 available to everyone in Europe, regardless of where they live or their wealth.  
346 Education can equip our societies so they can overcome inequality, make progress  
347 on the green transition, and stay at the forefront of science and culture. Jobs  
348 in new green industries can only be filled if we have the people trained to do  
349 them.

350 We have been ardent supporters of Erasmus+ since its inception and will  
351 introduce an Erasmus Equality principle to make sure that learners who could not  
352 otherwise afford Erasmus receive enough money to fully fund their time abroad.  
353 Erasmus+ must be equally accessible for all, regardless of one's country or  
354 economic background.

355 Our Green and Social Deal will introduce a shared green education and training  
356 project that helps connect schools, universities, and training centres to  
357 connect learning institutions across Europe. Citizenship education about the EU,  
358 including anti-extremism, anti-hate and anti-racism education, should be part of  
359 curricula and non-formal education learning recognized at the EU level.  
360 Education investments are a critical part of our proposals to finance the  
361 transition, and need to give everybody the chance to learn and provide the  
362 skills we need for the future.

363 ***Access to healthcare for all***

364 Health is a public good to which everyone has a right. The pandemic was tragic  
365 evidence that underinvestment, privatization, and the neglect of preventative  
366 approaches put patients and health workers at risk, physically and mentally.

367 A European Health Union should make sure member states provide everyone in  
368 Europe with universal health coverage. We will push to eliminate health  
369 inequities and guarantee access to affordable medicines and treatment, including  
370 for cancer and rare diseases, in ways that are inclusive to all parts of  
371 society, especially the most vulnerable and racialized communities. No one in  
372 Europe should feel forced to move to a different country because of unmet  
373 healthcare needs. European legislation on universal health coverage will require  
374 all member states to provide this essential social right.

375 The European Union should create an EU Health Force for cooperation on health  
376 emergencies and disaster response. All policies should be looked at from a  
377 health perspective.

378 ***A green society is a caring society***

379 Society runs on care. It is our overlooked, undervalued and often unpaid  
380 foundation. As Greens, we want to build a caring society and understand care as  
381 an overarching priority and concept. As European societies get older, the  
382 importance of care will grow, especially in those European countries that have  
383 recently experienced major emigration.

384 Our Green and Social Deal is also a Care Deal. We will push to improve working  
385 conditions for care workers, while protecting everyone's right to proper care.  
386 We will invest in comprehensive, life-long approaches, such as universal access  
387 to early childhood education and care and deinstitutionalized care for disabled  
388 people and the elderly. Early childhood education and care must be counted as  
389 social investment in the EU fiscal framework.

390 ***Mental health is political***

391 Our Universal Health Coverage will go beyond physical health and make sure that  
392 public healthcare systems include mental health care with no additional costs

393 for individuals. Mental and physical health must have parity of esteem. To  
394 tackle the mental health crisis, we recognize the need for inclusive,  
395 comprehensive, preventive, and healing strategies that include culture and sport  
396 as well as social and creative activities.

### 397 ***Legalize it – Time to rethink Europe's drug policy***

398 Drug policy must be based on evidence, not prejudice. We advocate for drug  
399 policies based on harm reduction, health, and help for people who suffer from  
400 drug abuse, not punishment. As Greens, we work towards decriminalizing cannabis  
401 for adult use with the goal of legalization and regulation whilst protecting  
402 minors.

### 403 **Building a Europe of Social Rights**

404 Our Green and Social Deal will put people and their wellbeing at the centre of  
405 Europe's green transformation and economy. The social welfare state was one of  
406 Europe's biggest successes. Rebuilding that welfare state for the 21st century  
407 is the only way to protect and extend social rights for everyone in Europe. A  
408 Europe of Social Rights must empower and protect workers and communities in  
409 transition and be inclusive to all. It must protect the people who face multiple  
410 and intersectional forms of discrimination in their daily lives.

### 411 ***Decent jobs for all***

412 European workers deserve a fair wage, especially after years of price rises. We  
413 fight to end in-work poverty. In the last EU mandate, we won an EU-wide living  
414 minimum wage framework that sets minimum wages at a decent level and indexes  
415 them to the cost of living. We won measures on pay transparency that will help  
416 end the huge pay discrepancies that exist within companies and institutions.

417 We are fighting for legislation that will recognize platform workers as workers,  
418 with all the rights to minimum wages, collective bargaining, and employment  
419 conditions and protection that workers are legally entitled to.

420 The jobs in the key sectors for the future from construction to care and from  
421 energy to education must be well-paid jobs. We support the role of trade unions  
422 in ensuring that workers get their fair share of profits. Our tax proposals will

423 increase take-home pay by shifting the tax burden to polluters and the ultra-  
424 rich.

### 425 ***Fighting poverty comprehensively***

426 Everyone has the right to a decent income. A strong social safety net should  
427 protect people in employment transitions and those who cannot work. We call for  
428 an EU framework directive on minimum income to establish an adequate level of  
429 support (60% of the median income) in each EU country for people between jobs or  
430 who cannot work and guarantee its coverage and take-up.

431 The short-term SURE unemployment insurance programme should be made permanent to  
432 protect the livelihoods of workers affected by transition. We continue to demand  
433 an integrated anti-poverty strategy for the EU to end homelessness and halve  
434 child poverty by 2030.

### 435 ***Nothing about workers without workers***

436 Our Green and Social Deal protects workers and their rights. We want to build a  
437 Union where people are properly treated and paid for their work, especially the  
438 essential workers who keep society running and everyone building the  
439 infrastructure necessary for a green tomorrow.

440 There should be nothing about workers without workers. We will fight for the  
441 rights of trade unions to organize, collective bargaining and strike. Workers  
442 affected by the twin green and digital transitions should have guaranteed rights  
443 to information, involvement through collective bargaining and social dialogue,  
444 and training. Unionizing for new or non-standard forms of work should be  
445 supported to guarantee the rights of all workers. These rights and standards  
446 should be protected by a Just Transition Law. A Lifelong Learning Directive  
447 should protect the right to paid training leave.

### 448 ***Fair labour mobility for all***

449 Europe must enable and protect fair mobility of workers across borders, so no  
450 one falls through the cracks of nationally fragmented social systems. To avoid  
451 social dumping, social rights and access to the labour market must be ensured.  
452 Administrative tasks should be possible in different languages, social services



453 should be open to mobile workers, and social coordination on EU level should be  
454 fostered. The recognition of professional qualifications should be made easier.

455 Many EU countries are suffering from the consequences of massive emigration. The  
456 economic and social convergence of EU countries must be a priority for EU  
457 policymaking and investments to improve the quality of life and opportunity for  
458 people across Europe.

### 459 ***New rights for the future of work***

460 Work should take place on decent terms and in safe conditions. We will dismantle  
461 the current system that exploits interns and trainees. We will end the practice  
462 of unpaid internships so that young people are guaranteed proper pay and safe  
463 working conditions. Mobile and migrant work should be properly regulated with  
464 all such workers receiving decent and affordable accommodation.

465 Occupational health and safety measures must be updated for the reality of  
466 climate change and enforced, such as rules on heatwaves and working in extreme  
467 temperatures. Too much work causes stress and ill health. We will introduce  
468 measures that reduce working time and improve work-life balance, including an EU  
469 Right to Disconnect, Right to Remote Work, and flexibility in working hours. We  
470 support the efforts across the EU to introduce a four-day working week. We will  
471 not let workers be monitored by artificial intelligence-based surveillance  
472 tools.

### 473 ***Equal pay for equal work***

474 We will fight for equal pay for equal work and equal opportunities for all at  
475 work. It is long overdue to fully eliminate the gender pay gap through binding  
476 measures for all employers. The gender pay gap depends on factors such as  
477 ethnicity, disability, access to education, and age. Different groups of women  
478 experience very different gaps in pay. The fair mobility of workers should be  
479 ensured to protect social rights, access to the labour market, and avoid social  
480 dumping. Universal and equal access to childcare and long-term care facilities  
481 and the revision of the Work-Life Balance Directive and the Maternity Leave  
482 Directive can move Europe towards fully paid parental leave of equal and  
483 sufficient duration.

484 ***Equal opportunities from the start***

485 As the start of life is decisive, we demand adequate funding for the European  
486 Child Guarantee giving time to care and resources to parents. At the same time,  
487 we want to support parents' participation in the labour market. All children  
488 have the right to participate in play, recreation, sport and culture.

489 All children in the EU should have guaranteed access to high-quality care and  
490 education – no matter their passport. We want to work with member states to  
491 ensure that the direly needed investment in education and care infrastructure is  
492 finally taken up.

493 **An Economy that Works for All**

494 The European Union is the key level for climate and environmental policy where  
495 we make those crucial, shared decisions that steer European societies on a  
496 greener path.

497 Thanks to the mobilisation of the climate movement, we Greens managed to push  
498 for a European Green Deal in 2019 and put the climate crisis at the top of the  
499 agenda. But progress is too little and too slow. The quicker Europe moves  
500 forward with its green transition, the sooner our investments and efforts will  
501 pay off. The climate will not wait for other crises to pass.

502 Our Green and Social Deal envisions a major investment plan to build a  
503 prosperous and dynamic society based on climate neutrality, green industries and  
504 technologies, and sustainable digitalisation.

505 ***Investing in a green and better future***

506 Europe's economic and fiscal policies need to focus on improving people's  
507 wellbeing and quality of life and maintaining a stable climate and a healthy  
508 environment. In a break with the austerity of the past, Europe must enable  
509 investment to fix the problems of the present and future. We will revise the  
510 arbitrary limits of the Maastricht Criteria and the Stability and Growth Pact.  
511 They have left Europe exposed to crises and cut public services and public  
512 investments to the bone.

513 Instead, we will introduce a new wellbeing-based macroeconomic governance that  
514 prioritizes quality investment in public goods and the green transition to avoid  
515 further crises and their social consequences.

516 We call for the introduction of a Green Golden Rule and a reformed European  
517 Semester to create space for future-oriented green and social investment.

518 We will revise the European Central Bank's mandate to include employment,  
519 climate, and environmental protection, alongside price stability. As fossil  
520 fuels are vulnerable to price hikes and drive inflation, interest rates should  
521 be lower for green investments.

## 522 ***Greening industry for our future competitiveness***

523 The green transition is the challenge of our generation, and it will not be  
524 achieved without active industrial policy. Greening industries through  
525 investment in Europe is a huge opportunity in terms of both competitiveness and  
526 climate neutrality.

527 We will push for a Green Transition Fund equivalent to 1% of EU GDP per year.  
528 The backbone of our Infrastructure Union, it will fund green infrastructure  
529 projects such as public transport and energy grid connections as well as  
530 emerging green industries.

531 A key lever to fight deindustrialisation across the EU, this fund will support  
532 member states with fewer economic resources and sectors affected by the  
533 transition. EU-level investment is needed to protect the single market and win  
534 political backing for the green transition in all EU countries.

535 EU industrial policy must be designed with the participation of citizens, trade  
536 unions and businesses and not become a way of socializing the costs while  
537 privatizing the profits. We will make sure that the public purse benefits from  
538 the proceeds of investments in industries, for example through equity stakes.  
539 Industrial policy should not be introduced at the expense of emissions  
540 reductions and regulation. European support for research and development can  
541 also contribute towards scientific and technological development, as well as  
542 other societal goals, and should be increased.

543 ***Financing the Green and Social Deal***

544 The money to finance this much-needed investment is there. We are convinced that  
545 the EU can help channel it towards green and social investment. A mix of fiscal  
546 policy, public investment, and private initiative will drive this change. A  
547 fairer economic system requires a greater redistribution, a better use of public  
548 funds, and that all actors in society play their part.

549 ***Creating a fair tax system***

550 Europe needs a just tax system that takes the burden off workers and small  
551 businesses and makes polluters, multinationals, and the ultra-rich pay their  
552 fair share.

553 We will establish a minimum level for capital gains tax in the EU to rebalance  
554 the tax burden away from employees. We will close the loopholes in the OECD  
555 corporate minimum tax agreement and push EU member states to implement the  
556 agreement at a higher level. Loopholes that leave room for tax avoidance and  
557 evasion inside and outside the EU as well as fraud and money laundering will be  
558 closed. We will fight against tax havens, be them in the EU or anywhere else in  
559 the world.

560 The European Union requires greater budgetary resources to face our common  
561 challenges. Europe must extend the carbon border tax to new polluting sectors,  
562 apply the polluter pays principle across all sectors, and abolish free quotas  
563 ahead of the current 2034 date. We will increase the scope of existing taxes on  
564 plastics.

565 We will push to increase the size of the EU Social Climate Fund to ensure a just  
566 transition for low-income households.

567 We call for an EU-wide wealth tax to fight inequality and finance the green  
568 transition. In addition, we will push for a European Financial Transactions Tax  
569 to generate revenue while curbing speculation. We will make the EU windfall tax  
570 on energy companies permanent to prevent profiteering in future energy crises  
571 and apply it to commodity traders and banks too.

572 ***Greening finance for real***

573 We will regulate financial services to promote long-term investment in a green  
574 and social future over short-term speculation. We will fight to revise the Green  
575 Taxonomy to make sure that gas and nuclear are not greenwashed as “sustainable”.

576 Financial services for coal, oil and gas extraction, coal-fired energy projects,  
577 and the companies that develop them must be prohibited with a Brown Taxonomy.  
578 The continued development of high-emission activities jeopardizes the EU’s  
579 climate and environmental commitments and increases financial risks.

580 We will oblige financial actors to adopt robust climate transition plans to  
581 support their economic transition and enable a gradual transformation. Their  
582 content and implementation must be regulated, with sectoral policies for the  
583 highest-emitting activities and methods for setting decarbonization targets.

#### 584 ***Stable and inclusive banking for Europe***

585 Households should no longer end up lining the pockets of financial players  
586 speculating on food, energy and housing or bear the fallout of financial  
587 crashes. The EU needs to complete its much overdue banking union and introduce a  
588 common deposit insurance system.

589 The European Central Bank should offer a public digital euro to offer an  
590 alternative to private payment systems, crypto-currency markets should be  
591 properly regulated, including their environmental impacts, and the right of  
592 people to access and use cash should be protected as a matter of inclusion.

#### 593 ***Closing the loop with a circular economy***

594 Produce, consume, and throw away – the economy of our society leads to the  
595 exploitation of resources beyond the limits of our planet. If we do nothing to  
596 change this, we will need three Earths by 2050 to satisfy our need for raw  
597 materials. This linear model fuels the climate crisis, environmental  
598 destruction, and human rights violations in resource extraction. It leaves our  
599 supply chains vulnerable to crises and our economies and businesses dependent on  
600 imports.

601 Waste must become a design flaw. We want to build a fully renewable, fully  
602 circular, and non-toxic economy by 2040 with clear and binding targets and

603 transition pathways to reduce consumption and resource use by 2030.

604 As the green transition requires growing amounts of metals, we must adopt a  
605 sufficiency approach and prioritize the development of processing and recycling  
606 capacities for strategic materials.

607 If extraction in the EU proves to be unavoidable despite demand curbs, we must  
608 impose the highest environmental and social standards. There should be no ground  
609 for exemption of any EU legislation or human and environmental rights  
610 conditions, strict and irreversible “no-mining” areas, and continuous effort to  
611 improve mining techniques and corresponding working conditions (including safety  
612 and health coverage) and ban of most harmful ones. Affected communities –  
613 particularly Europe’s last indigenous community, the Sami people – must receive  
614 early information, participation, consent, and fair compensation.

### 615 ***Zero waste is the business model of the future***

616 Our vision is a fully circular economy where we reuse, upcycle, share, and  
617 recycle our products to keep the materials in a closed loop. This approach  
618 protects resources and the climate and saves money for consumers as products  
619 last longer. Environmental and consumer protection go hand in hand. As Greens,  
620 we will push for the fast implementation of the mandatory sustainability  
621 requirements for our products and for EU action to ensure industry compliance.

622 We will fight the planned obsolescence that is devastating to the planet as well  
623 as the budget of households. We will make sure that an effective and affordable  
624 right to repair, including an EU-wide repair score and an open repair market for  
625 independent repairers and consumers, is properly introduced so it makes a real  
626 difference. We will support the creation of an internal market for second hand  
627 goods and refurbishment. We want new technical standards such as the common  
628 charger incentivizing our product’s durability, paving the way to our vision of  
629 a zero-waste society, and ending waste exports to third countries.

### 630 ***Building a social and collaborative economy***

631 This vision of our economy is dynamic and circular where the small and medium-  
632 sized businesses (SMEs) that form the backbone of Europe’s economy thrive  
633 alongside new models of community, social and collaborative economies.

634 SMEs should operate on a level playing field with large companies. We will  
635 facilitate their access to EU funding and investment programmes through  
636 simplified application procedures. With fixed quotas, we ensure that SMEs also  
637 benefit from these programmes.

638 The power of sustainable public procurement should be unlocked to foster high  
639 ecological and social standards. European regulation should enable alternative  
640 economic models such as cooperatives, crowdfunding, social entrepreneurship, and  
641 the commons.

## 642 ***Sustainable digitization for the people and the planet***

643 Digital technologies are an ever-more important part of our lives; they should  
644 protect the rights of individuals and serve the common good, not private  
645 corporations. Caught between US surveillance capitalism and China-style state  
646 control, Europe needs a rights-based, decentralized approach to digitalization  
647 to reap its benefits.

648 We will introduce a European Data Space that opens anonymized social data for  
649 non-commercial uses that serve the common good, including the fight against  
650 climate change.

651 Interoperability is key to successful digital policy. The European  
652 Interoperability Framework is a good starting point, but it does not yet create  
653 a level-playing field. We will push to open standardization to developers, civil  
654 society and small and medium-sized enterprises. Their involvement must be paid  
655 so that everyone can equally participate in this process on an equal footing.

656 If truly open and with rights protected by legislation, digitalization will be  
657 an opportunity for people in Europe. Recent EU legislation will provide greater  
658 choice and transparency online, protecting against violations of rights and  
659 freedoms. However, the EU needs to introduce a Digital Fairness Act to protect  
660 people from intrusive online advertising practices.

661 As well as reuse and recycling of digital devices, we will cut the energy  
662 consumption linked to data processing and cryptocurrency by regulation to  
663 massively reduce the internet's material footprint.

664 ***Continuing a success story: protecting European consumers***

665 Strong consumer protections such as roaming rights and passengers' rights and  
666 product safety measures are major successes of the single market. But with the  
667 economy changing fast, the EU's high standards need an urgent update to protect  
668 people, especially online.

669 Consumers should enjoy the same rights online and offline. With an increasing  
670 share of e-commerce involving potentially unsafe purchases directly from third-  
671 party sellers, we are calling for greater responsibility on online marketplaces  
672 and extended and coordinated approval and testing procedures by customs and  
673 market surveillance authorities.

674 As Greens, we will make sure that people receive clear and comprehensive  
675 information about the environmental impact of products and services sold in the  
676 EU, including information on expected product lifespan and its environmental  
677 footprint. In the single market, there must be no first- or second-class  
678 consumers. Products marketed in the same way in different European countries  
679 must be of the same quality and composition. Consumer rights should be upheld  
680 fully everywhere in the EU.





**Draft**

**Title:** **Draft 2024 Manifesto - CHAPTER II: The Courage to Stand Up Against the Far Right – For a Europe of Democracy, Feminism and Human Rights**

**Tabled by:** EGP Committee, Editorial- and Manifesto WGs

[PDF full draft Manifesto - Courage to Change](#) (no line numbering)

Deadline for tabling amendments: 17 January, 23:59 CET

[PDF Spreadsheet Amendments on Chapter 2](#) (18 January)

[for CAS 2 - PDF Pre-CAS Amendments on Chapter 2](#) (25 January)

[Outcome CAS 2 - PDF AMs on Chapter 2](#) (26 January)

[for CAS 4 - PDF AMS on Chapter 2](#) (30 January)

[Outcome CAS 4 - PDF AMs on Chapter 2](#) (31 January)

[Outcome CAS 6 - PDF AMs on Chapter 2](#) (2 February)

[For the final CAS on 4 February - PDF AMs on Chapter 2](#) (3 February)

[Outcome final CAS on 4 February - PDF AMs on Chapter 2](#) (4 February)

[Consolidated text CAS accepted AMs on Chapter 2](#) (4 February AM)

**Draft text**

1 Charlie just wants to be Charlie. Nothing more. Why is their gender so difficult  
2 for the world around them to accept?

3 Zara knows what she wants: end the horrible pain of endometriosis. Find a drug  
4 that could help so many women. But sometimes it seems like people can't see any  
5 further than her skin colour, her last name, or her choice of clothing.

6 Daniel wants to scream it out to the world. He is in love with a man. He wants  
7 to go out at night, walk the streets of Sofia with his partner, and bring his  
8 partner to the company Christmas party.

9 Prejudice and discrimination continue to hold our societies back. But we can  
10 change this. It must change.

11 **The European Union of democracy, freedom and fundamental rights is ours to**  
12 **build.**

13 Racism never went away. Today, Islamophobia, anti-Semitism and anti-Gypsyism are  
14 all on the rise. Discrimination and exclusion remain far too common for people  
15 living with disabilities, people living in poverty and other vulnerable groups.

16 At Europe's borders, people are dying. Mediterranean migration routes are the  
17 deadliest in the world. People seeking safety and protection increasingly face  
18 detention, brutal and illegal pushbacks, and violence at the hands of smugglers  
19 and border authorities. The far right exploits and deepens their suffering,  
20 dragging mainstream parties to the right and normalizing migration policies that  
21 are both dysfunctional and unsustainable.

22 Far-right parties are gaining ground with their tried and trusted tactics of  
23 spinning half-truths and scapegoating minorities. This conservative backlash is  
24 working strategically to roll back our rights and freedoms. Once firm believers  
25 in the European project, even mainstream Conservatives are opening the door for  
26 anti-democratic forces who threaten the rule of law.

27 **We have the courage to stand up to the far right to protect everyone's rights**  
28 **and freedoms.**

29 Greens will safeguard democracy and the rule of law and demand a different

30 European Union. We are convinced that the European Union needs to be more united  
31 to tackle our shared problems. We call for a federal European Union with  
32 increased powers, deep democracy, and real transparency and accountability.

33 We will fight racism and exclusion in all its forms. We will make sure that  
34 nobody can make decisions about your body. We demand a fair asylum system that  
35 defends human rights and dignity. We work towards a migration policy that  
36 recognizes the immense contribution that migrants make to our societies. We  
37 believe that policies work best when shaped by the people concerned. We are  
38 certain that democracy cannot flourish without vibrant civic space and empowered  
39 civil society actors.

40 The European Union was founded to protect peace and democracy and uphold  
41 freedom, rights, and justice.

42 **We will make that founding promise a reality for all.**

## 43 **The Necessary Next Step: A United Europe Ready** 44 **for Enlargement**

45 To face the great challenges of our century, from the green transition to  
46 fighting growing inequalities and protecting democracy, the European Union needs  
47 to reform its treaties, move forward towards a federal Europe, and ensure its  
48 ability to act when welcoming new members.

49 At the Conference on the Future of Europe, European citizens gave a clear  
50 message that they support new treaties giving the EU greater competences. They  
51 called for deepened European democracy, with more power for the European  
52 Parliament, an end to national vetoes, a larger EU budget, and stronger EU  
53 competences on key issues such as health, tax, and social protection. As Greens,  
54 we stand behind their proposals.

### 55 ***Extending democracy at the heart of Europe***

56 We stand for a federal Europe, for a fully fledged supranational democracy able  
57 to deliver.

58 The need for unanimity between European member states on matters from tax and  
59 foreign policy to anti-discrimination and Article 7 procedures to protect  
60 democracy prevents the EU from taking decisions for the common good.

61 The European Parliament must have the right to propose legislation and equal  
62 budgetary power. The Council of the European Union should act as a second  
63 chamber for EU law making, not the venue for late-night haggling over inter-  
64 governmental deals. The President of the European Commission should be proposed  
65 by the European Parliament. The current budget of the EU is patently  
66 insufficient to address the challenges Europe faces. Supported by its own  
67 resources, the EU budget should be raised significantly, with an expanded role  
68 of the European Parliament and civil society in monitoring EU spending. EU  
69 competences should be expanded to ensure the EU can deliver. This truly  
70 transnational democracy must also ensure a residence-based European citizenship.

71 For Europe to take this much needed step, a democratic mandate from citizens is  
72 vital. That is why an EU-wide inclusive constituent process should lead to these  
73 treaty changes.

74 Treaty changes should then be ratified through a European-wide referendum  
75 according to a double majority system: a qualified majority of states and a  
76 majority of European citizens.

### 77 ***Bringing Europe to life with citizens' participation***

78 Public participation and engagement strengthen the European Union. The EU  
79 institutions should take steps to make voting in EU elections more accessible,  
80 including for people with disabilities. To increase democratic participation, we  
81 want to champion internet-voting at least for mobile European citizens to be  
82 piloted for the 2029 EU election. Transnational lists for the European  
83 Parliament should be introduced alongside national lists, creating an additional  
84 single EU-wide constituency to which citizens will elect a large number of MEPs.

85 As democracy is about more than elections, the Greens will push for the  
86 introduction of standing citizens' agoras to make EU policy more inclusive. The  
87 framework for petitions and specifically the European Citizens Initiative must  
88 be strengthened to open more channels for citizens to influence EU policy and to  
89 oblige the European institutions to respond with legislative proposals. A  
90 framework for EU-wide referenda should be introduced.

91 ***Stronger together: enlarging the Union***

92 Many people in the European neighbourhood long to become EU citizens, first and  
93 foremost with Ukraine fighting for our values and European security. Our Union  
94 holds the promise of peace, justice, shared values and prosperity and each  
95 member, old and new, is responsible for upholding these principles and  
96 objectives.

97 A new push for enlargement is long overdue. The EU has always been a project  
98 with geopolitical implications. As the EU is built on shared rules and values,  
99 it helps make borders less important. The EU's enlargement is therefore the best  
100 prospect for lasting peace and security in Europe.

101 All countries who strive to be part of or re-join the EU and who share our  
102 values must be welcomed on the path to EU membership and given all the required  
103 support in fulfilling the criteria.

104 ***Keeping our promises: A pathway to joining the European***  
105 ***Union***

106 The European Union must keep its promises to candidate countries: Albania,  
107 Bosnia and Herzegovina, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, and  
108 Ukraine. We support Georgia and Kosovo's efforts to become candidates for EU  
109 membership. We will support these countries on their paths to meet the  
110 Copenhagen Criteria. Accessing the single market and EU budget requires meeting  
111 these criteria and progress in the process must be based on merit. As Greens, we  
112 believe that the EU must work more closely with civil society in the accession  
113 process. We will work towards overcoming unanimity in the Council that is  
114 currently hindering accession.

115 The future of Ukraine lies in the European Union. We will support Ukrainian  
116 authorities in introducing the reforms required for EU membership. EU assistance  
117 to Ukraine should, insofar as possible, enable a climate-resilient  
118 reconstruction and recovery, built on renewable energy, modern infrastructure,  
119 and a sustainable and inclusive economy.

120 Welcoming new members must serve as a vital push for internal reforms to make it  
121 easier for the EU to make decisions efficiently and effectively.

122 ***Taking rapid action for democracy and the rule of law***

123 One of the biggest blows to European progress in recent years has been the  
124 development of authoritarian tendencies in the heart of Europe. Citizens of  
125 these countries are EU citizens, and the EU must defend their rights against  
126 government power grabs. We want rapid action to put an end to EU law's  
127 violations by member states through infringement procedures. This needs a clear  
128 timeframe, including for the Article 7 procedure.

129 We will introduce a Fundamental Values Annual Review to monitor, enforce and  
130 sanction the infringement of fundamental values across the EU.

131 We must ensure that EU funds strengthen prosperity, democracy and the rule of  
132 law and do not disappear into the pockets of autocrats and their friends. We  
133 have made important progress in equipping the EU with better tools to do so, but  
134 they need to be fully implemented.

135 Access to justice must become a reality for all people in the European Union. It  
136 is essential that vulnerable groups, such as people on low incomes and from  
137 marginalized communities, can access their right to seek responses and remedies  
138 for injustice.

139 ***Fighting corruption! Politics need to be transparent and***  
140 ***accountable***

141 Citizens' trust in democracy rests on political integrity. Transparency and  
142 accountability are vital for democratic scrutiny and public oversight. When the  
143 trust in politicians and democratic institutions is under serious threat, we  
144 must act.

145 The Qatargate scandal showed that the EU institutions are not equipped to  
146 prevent corruption and massive misconduct. Rather than another advisory body,  
147 the EU institutions need an independent Ethics Authority with the power and  
148 resources to investigate and sanction unethical conduct and abuse of office. We  
149 need comprehensive legislation on lobbying activities at EU level, including a  
150 mandatory EU transparency register.

151 It remains virtually impossible for citizens to understand how decisions are

152 made in the Council of the EU. This must change. Corruption and misuse of the EU  
153 budget undermines the entire European project. We support the bodies responsible  
154 for protecting the EU's financial interest, OLAF and the European Public  
155 Prosecutors Office, and call for greater resources for anti-corruption efforts.

## 156 **A Union of Rights and Freedoms: For a Truly** 157 **Feminist and Anti-Racist Future**

158 As Greens, we want to build a world where we all live free from violence,  
159 racism, sexism, queerphobia and coercion. We fight for a world where we get to  
160 decide over our bodies, where we can love who we want to love, and where racial  
161 justice becomes a reality at last. This world is possible, and we will not stop  
162 fighting for it. The harder the attacks, the more convinced, compassionate, and  
163 determined we will be.

### 164 ***Equal rights for all***

165 We fight for equal rights for all. This is why we want the Charter of  
166 Fundamental Rights to be directly applicable to European citizens and  
167 fundamental rights to be direct EU competences.

168 We call for an overall assessment of the EU Anti-Discrimination framework,  
169 acknowledging the need for an intersectional and comprehensive approach. To  
170 effectively counter discrimination against racialized communities and ensure  
171 equal rights and equal treatment for all, the Horizontal Anti-discrimination  
172 directive needs a major update. It has been 15 years since it was first brought  
173 forward.

### 174 ***Smash patriarchy!***

175 Women are not all the same and understanding their diversity is key to fighting  
176 inequality and discrimination.

177 A feminist Europe must guarantee policies that ensure financial independence for  
178 women, notably by abolishing tax regimes that discriminate against women and  
179 ending the gender pay gap via binding measures for companies and public  
180 authorities.

181 We demand universal and equal access to childcare. We call for the revision of  
182 the Work Life Balance Directive and the Maternity Leave Directive to advance  
183 towards fully paid maternity and paternity leaves of equal length.

184 Gender mainstreaming must make sure that European money benefits men and women  
185 equally. We defend a binding parity mechanism for the lists in the European  
186 elections and gender balance in EU decision-making, including for the top-jobs.  
187 The EU Commission and the Council need specific portfolios for women's rights  
188 and gender equality.

### 189 ***Your body, your rights***

190 We fight to expand reproductive freedom. Sexual and reproductive health and  
191 rights, including the right to safe abortion, are fundamental rights. They  
192 belong in the EU treaties - as core principles and competences of the EU and in  
193 the directly applicable Charter of Fundamental Rights. Safe and legal abortion  
194 must be available in all EU member states. Abortion care is an essential health  
195 service.

196 We stand up against the devastating regression on reproductive rights all over  
197 the world. No one should be criminalized for seeking or accessing abortion  
198 services. Women must have access to medical abortions. As Greens, we advocate  
199 the provision of free, high-quality contraceptives for all. Young people have  
200 the right to comprehensive sexuality education.

### 201 ***End gender-based violence***

202 All women and girls across Europe have the right to live a life free from  
203 violence. Gender-based violence is a brutal human rights violation and an  
204 expression of the unequal power relations in our societies. We continue our  
205 unswerving fight for comprehensive EU legislation that prevents, responds to,  
206 and ends gender-based violence online and offline across the EU. Greens  
207 strengthen victims' rights with specialized support, access to justice and  
208 protection for victims with special attention to marginalized communities. All  
209 EU member states must ratify the Istanbul Convention.

### 210 ***Pride, respect and equality for LGBTQIA+***



211 A renewed LGBTQIA+ Equality Strategy should ensure that trans, intersex, and  
212 non-binary people are also protected under the EU legal framework, closing  
213 legislative gaps in the areas of non-discrimination and hate crime. We want to  
214 end intersex genital mutilation. We push for legal gender recognition based on  
215 self-determination and access to trans-specific healthcare. The European Union  
216 should act politically for an EU-wide ban on so-called “conversion therapy” and  
217 forced sterilisation of transgender people. Rainbow families and their rights  
218 must be protected in all of the EU, including the full application of the  
219 freedom of movement with no loss of rights.

## 220 ***Fight racism and exclusion***

221 Racism in Europe is not just a problem of individual attitudes, it is a  
222 structural and systemic challenge that must be addressed as such. Racial justice  
223 should be mainstreamed in all EU policies, based on meaningful participation of  
224 all ethnic and racialized communities to ensure their lived experiences are  
225 considered.

226 Anti-Semitism and anti-Muslim racism are on the rise. The EU must be safe for  
227 everybody to live. We will protect Jewish and Muslim communities and demand an  
228 end to all forms of discrimination.

229 We will ensure that the EU Action Plan Against Racism is implemented, and work  
230 towards its renewal for 2025 with appropriate funding and a civil society  
231 advisory body. National Action Plans must be mandatory for all member states.

232 It is a democratic problem that 96% of Members of the European Parliament are  
233 white. As Greens, we work towards having candidates from racialized communities  
234 on electable spots. We actively encourage racialized and ethnic-minoritized  
235 Greens to run for the European Parliament.

## 236 ***Young voices matter: more rights, more representation***

237 We fight for votes from 16 for all elections in Europe and the right to stand as  
238 a candidate from 18, starting with the European elections. As European Greens,  
239 we work towards having young candidates in electable spots on party lists.

240 EU legislation must work for young people. The European Union needs to support

241 the adoption of an International Convention on the Rights of Young People.  
242 Consultation methods such as annual dialogues with youth representative  
243 organizations and youth citizens' agora should be institutionalized and  
244 legislative impact assessments should systematically include young people. EU  
245 funds must properly finance youth organizations.

## 246 ***No to ageism***

247 Age must not be a barrier to a full and active life, but too often older people  
248 are held back by aged-based discrimination and exclusion. Older people are among  
249 the social groups most at risk of poverty as well as digital exclusion. As  
250 Greens, we will take a stand against ageism in European policies and support  
251 measures that promote the inclusion of older people.

252 We demand fair pensions for all seniors in the EU. We believe that the mandatory  
253 retirement age should be a concept of the past. We want to have strong long-term  
254 care services that benefit the wellbeing of people with long-term care needs, as  
255 well as their families and communities. Intergenerational justice is not just a  
256 concept: exchange between generations should be anchored in our educational  
257 systems, but also more broadly in our community activities.

## 258 ***For a Europe that is accessible for all***

259 People with disabilities in the European Union must be able to pursue a full  
260 participation in political, social, and public life, including employment. We  
261 will push for the effective monitoring and enforcement of European accessibility  
262 legislation and the introduction of Disability Card recognized across the EU.  
263 The EU should begin collecting disaggregated data by gender, age, and type of  
264 disability to assess the impact of EU policies and monitor progress on the  
265 inclusion of people with disabilities generally.

## 266 **A Union of Rights and Freedoms: Protecting the** 267 **Rights of All**

268 Protecting the rights of all is a key battle against the far right. All over  
269 Europe, the far right is instrumentalizing migration to spread fear and  
270 resentment. They wish to roll-back the rights and freedoms of women and people  
271 from the LGBTQIA+community as well as racialised people. We are fighting against

272 this backlash, standing resolutely for democracy, freedom, and human rights.

### 273 ***Upholding human rights with a humane asylum system***

274 We uphold a fair asylum system that defends human rights and dignity, based on  
275 solidarity and responsibility sharing. We are convinced that when the political  
276 will is there the European Union can tackle humanitarian challenges and protect  
277 the people seeking safety with humanity. As we uphold the fundamental principles  
278 of the European Union, the right to asylum is not up for negotiation.

279 We want to work towards a human asylum system with fast and decentralized  
280 procedures. Member states must fairly share the responsibility for asylum  
281 applications. For us, it is clear that we need a mandatory relocation mechanism.  
282 Parties across the political spectrum let themselves be dragged towards far-  
283 right migration policies, as the EU's new Migration and Asylum Pact sadly  
284 reflects. The successful use of the Temporary Protection Directive in response  
285 to the refugee situation caused by the war in Ukraine should be replicated.

286 We call for EU visas for Human Rights and Environmental Defenders. New climate  
287 visas should be created to allow victims of natural disasters to seek protection  
288 and security in the European Union. The specific vulnerability of LGBTQIA+  
289 asylum seekers must be addressed.

### 290 ***End the criminalisation of people on the move***

291 There has been an intolerable escalation of violence against people seeking  
292 protection. We must stop violence, torture, and inhuman and degrading treatment  
293 at Europe's borders. Illegal pushbacks at the borders of the EU must end.

294 EU laws to harmonize standards on asylum procedures, reception conditions and  
295 safeguards must be enforced. We cannot accept imprisonment, mistreatment and  
296 abuse towards people seeking protection and a better life in the EU.

### 297 ***Rescue is not a crime***

298 We call for an EU-funded and EU-led Search and Rescue Mission in the  
299 Mediterranean and strengthen the humanitarian mandate and responsibility of  
300 Frontex. We want to end the criminalisation of humanitarian assistance, and

301 prolific use of state of emergency to limit access to asylum and legitimate  
302 rights of oversight by civil society and media. People do not belong in prison  
303 simply for seeking asylum. Asylum seekers should be guaranteed access to legal  
304 help.

### 305 ***No dirty deals with dictators***

306 We fiercely oppose so-called “migration deals”, such as that with Tunisia, where  
307 the EU pays off countries to keep out migrants. Any cooperation with third  
308 countries on migration needs a human rights assessment. Making development  
309 cooperation with third countries conditional on “migration management” is  
310 unethical. We cannot accept that refugees and migrants are exploited for  
311 geopolitical gain. Human trafficking can never be a weapon of hybrid warfare.

### 312 ***A fair migration policy for the benefit of all***

313 Throughout history, people have always moved from place to place. Migration is  
314 as old as history, and we must return to this pragmatism. Migration can benefit  
315 all. It can fill labour shortages – today a key economic challenge. Migrants  
316 make an essential contribution to the European economy and enrich our culture,  
317 communities, and daily lives.

318 The establishment of legal and accessible channels for migration is a necessary  
319 precondition for ending human trafficking and exploitation. We want to develop a  
320 new, comprehensive Migration Code, providing for visa opportunities for families  
321 to be reunited and for work at different skills levels. It should also allow  
322 migrants already in the EU to change their status, for instance from student to  
323 employee. We want to make it easier for newcomers to start working and integrate  
324 into our societies, by offering them access to education, language support and  
325 job opportunities.

326 To prevent exploitation of migrant workers, access to justice needs to be  
327 ensured in all EU countries. We call for a comprehensive campaign to regularize  
328 long-term “sans-papiers”, living in EU countries. Whatever their status, people  
329 coming to the European Union to build a life should enjoy equal social,  
330 cultural, economic, and civic rights including freedom of movement, the right to  
331 work and to social protection, and access to healthcare and education.

332 ***For a fair and safe digital world***

333 As the digital world has become an integral part of our lives, the same freedoms  
334 and protections that exist offline should exist in online spaces. Preventing the  
335 spread of online hate is key to making sure that certain groups are not excluded  
336 from the political arena. Countering disinformation is essential for functioning  
337 and trusted democratic institutions.

338 The EU has made progress on the fight against disinformation and the regulation  
339 of online platforms with the Digital Services Act. Now its provisions must be  
340 enforced. Online platforms must protect legal content and be subject to public  
341 scrutiny and transparency on the removal of illegal content.

342 The EU should use its powers to make particularly harmful manifestations of hate  
343 chargeable as EU crimes with minimum rules regarding their definition and  
344 related sanctions. Women and racialized people suffer from disproportionate  
345 amounts of online hate. The internet must be free from illegal hate speech and  
346 discrimination. We want to give support to platforms, civil society  
347 organizations, and media initiatives promoting media literacy and anti-hate  
348 strategies.

349 We will push for the right not to be tracked. The EU must lead in the global  
350 battle against mass surveillance. Adequate EU legislation must protect citizens  
351 against the abuse of spyware and stop member states from evading accountability  
352 by evoking national security.

353 ***Putting humans at the centre in artificial intelligence***

354 Artificial intelligence has enormous potential. It can lead to both incredible  
355 developments as well as tremendous risks for humanity. Artificial Intelligence  
356 must work for people, society, and the planet, not for surveillance states or  
357 tech capitalism.

358 Strict limits should therefore be enforced. The most unethical and undemocratic  
359 practices in the EU, such as biometric mass surveillance, AI systems used to  
360 recognize emotions, gender or sexual orientation and AI used for predictive  
361 policing should not be permitted. Non-discrimination laws and data protection  
362 laws must be strengthened and enforced to guarantee that AI systems do not

363 discriminate against racialized communities.

364 We also want to ensure AI promotes, not hampers, the Green Deal with key  
365 environmental provisions. In the workplace, workers should always have the  
366 possibility to disconnect from AI systems. Copyright legislation should be  
367 properly enforced in the context of AI models to fully protect content creators.

### 368 ***For a strong and dynamic civic space***

369 Civil society organizations (CSO) are at the heart of every democracy. This is  
370 why we want to make them strong and truly European. We call for an EU mechanism  
371 to protect civil society, activists, and defenders from all forms of attacks,  
372 discrimination, and harassment. An EU mechanism should allow CSOs to report  
373 these attacks, including through an early warning system. Adequate funding  
374 should also be guaranteed, both at EU and national levels.

375 Measures to support a regular, meaningful, and structured dialogue with civil  
376 society during legislative procedures are essential. We will introduce a statute  
377 for European cross-border associations and non-profit organisations. We advocate  
378 for an EU-level civil dialogue, modelled on the social dialogue, between CSOs  
379 and EU Institutions.

### 380 ***Free and independent media for Europe***

381 Media concentration has reached alarming levels, threatening their editorial and  
382 economic independence. The protection of journalistic sources is hampered by  
383 sweeping anti-terrorism laws and far-reaching mass surveillance measures.  
384 Defamation suits and abusive judicial proceedings have become key methods to gag  
385 investigative journalists.

386 We need an EU framework to prevent media concentration and enable journalists to  
387 work freely. Investigative journalism needs dedicated safeguards. Free and  
388 independent journalism can never be a question of the necessary finances. We  
389 want to closely monitor the application of EU law, in particular EU laws such as  
390 copyright, trade secrets, the data protection regulation, the Audio-visual Media  
391 Services Directive to ensure they are not abused. We will work towards the  
392 proper implementation of the future Media Freedom Act and anti-SLAPPs (Strategic  
393 Lawsuits against Public Participation) directive.

394 We support the emergence of pan-European media outlets and quality content on  
395 European affairs, European citizenship, and European identity, as core elements  
396 for a shared European civic and information space, dispelling EU-related myths  
397 and building a sense of European belonging.

### 398 ***Culture as the spark of change***

399 Art and culture are some of society's most powerful tools to tell stories,  
400 change minds, and build solidarity. As Greens, we believe that the worlds of  
401 culture and creativity can play an important political role in helping us  
402 imagine solutions to the challenges of our time.

403 The ability to produce together is a truly transformative aspect of the Creative  
404 Europe programme. Continued support for the production and distribution of art  
405 and culture produced across Europe, particularly supporting experimentation and  
406 diversity of expressions and organizational forms, is essential.

407 We will push for an EU strategy to engage the cultural sectors in our Green and  
408 Social Deal and in any constituent process on the future of Europe. Cultural  
409 diplomacy and exchange should form part of the accession process for all  
410 countries looking to join the EU. Learning the difficult lessons of the  
411 pandemic, we call for common European standards on employment, social guarantees  
412 and working conditions in the cultural and creative sectors.

### 413 ***Defending Schengen, enjoying free movement***

414 Freedom of movement – the right of people to travel and move around the European  
415 Union freely and without hindrance – has touched and shaped the lives of EU  
416 citizens like no other achievement. Millions of people have built lives and  
417 relationships in EU countries other than their own and millions more regularly  
418 cross national borders for professional opportunities and leisure.

419 As the border checks in the pandemic reminded us, the days of queuing at the  
420 border are thankfully behind us. We intend to keep it that way. The European  
421 institutions should act to reverse the steady re-emergence and illegally  
422 unlimited maintenance of border checks within the Schengen area, especially  
423 based on the justification of migration. As full EU members who have met all the  
424 requirements for Schengen membership, Bulgaria and Romania should be welcomed so

425 their citizens can enjoy their full rights as EU citizens.

### 426 ***Policing without prejudice***

427 No one in the European Union is above the law, including police and security  
428 agencies. This core principle that protects everybody's fundamental rights is  
429 regularly undermined, seen in all too often cases of police brutality.

430 To protect the rights of racialized groups disproportionately at risk of police  
431 violence and profiling, the EU's Race Equality Directive should be updated to  
432 explicitly cover policing and institutional violence. With the right to protest  
433 increasingly under threat, we will defend the right to assembly and peacefully  
434 demonstrate in line with international and European law.

### 435 ***A European fight against organized crime***

436 Organized crime harms our democracies, puts lives at risk, and destroys local  
437 environments. As organized crime is transnational, it can only be fought through  
438 European cooperation. We support policies that improve exchange and information  
439 flows between European police and intelligence services and create a Europe-wide  
440 exchange programme for police officers.





# Draft

**Title:** **Draft 2024 Manifesto - Chapter III: Courage to Take Responsibility – Building a Union of Security, Peace and Global Justice**

**Tabled by:** EGP Committee, Editorial- and Manifesto WGs

[PDF full draft Manifesto - Courage to Change](#) (no line numbering)

Deadline for tabling amendments: 17 January, 23:59 CET

[PDF Spreadsheet Amendments on Chapter 3](#) (18 January)

[for CAS 2 - PDF Pre-CAS Amendments on Chapter 3](#) (25 January)

[Outcome CAS 2 - PDF AMs on Chapter 3](#) (26 January)

[for CAS 4 - PDF AMs on Chapter 3](#) (30 January)

[Outcome CAS 4 - PDF AMs on Chapter 3](#) (31 January)

[Outcome CAS 6 - PDF AMs on Chapter 3](#) (2 February)

[For the Final CAS on 4 February - PDF AMs on Chapter 3](#) (3 February)

[Consolidated text CAS accepted AMs on Chapter 3](#) (4 February AM)

**Draft text**

1 Yulia left her farm four months into the fighting. The harvest had always been  
2 the best time of year, but this year it was too dangerous. There was nowhere for  
3 the grain to go anyway.

4 The Russian blockade was a tragedy for Yulia as it was for the millions who  
5 depended on Ukrainian food exports around the world. Just as Ukraine's economy  
6 has been shaped by Russian needs over centuries, unjust trade and the afterlives  
7 of colonialism mean that entire regions do not provide for their own food needs.  
8 Heat waves and droughts make this bad situation worse.

9 **It is why we need a global just transition, because our future is everyone's**  
10 **future and everyone's future is our future.**

11 Peace, prosperity, and sustainability go hand in hand. The world cannot have  
12 one, while it ignores another. The full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine was a  
13 turning point in the history of our continent and the world. It violates the  
14 rule of international law, peace, and security.

15 As Greens, we stand firm in our undivided solidarity with and support for  
16 Ukraine, as long as it takes. The struggle of the people of Ukraine for freedom,  
17 peace and joining the European Union is our struggle.

18 It is not only Ukraine. Globally, peace and security are under threat. Painful  
19 conflicts are raging in the Middle East, the Caucasus, and the Sahel.

20 Growing tensions and shrinking space for democracy and civil society threaten  
21 the integrity of the international system and the hope for a better world.  
22 Europe's dependence on authoritarian regimes blinded us to this reality for too  
23 long.

24 The accelerating climate crisis, natural disasters, and the race for resources  
25 sit alongside the global inequality that remains baked into economic relations,  
26 trade deals, and multilateral institutions. The legacy of colonialism is still  
27 with us.

28 In today's world, we believe the European Union must be a strong player. The EU  
29 is and has always been a peace project. We must be able to stand up for the EU's  
30 security as well as peace and universal values in our neighbourhood and the  
31 world.

32 Human rights and economic prosperity cannot be a luxury for the world's richest.  
33 Global justice and development are the cornerstone of a secure, cooperative, and  
34 peaceful world.

35 A global just transition from which all countries and regions can benefit is key  
36 to that future.

37 Our answer starts with the EU achieving greater security in geopolitical and  
38 economic terms and acting as one internationally. For the EU, our security also  
39 depends on our support for Ukraine.

40 We will make values, peace, and reconciliation priorities for the EU's  
41 international policies, building a more stable world through human security,  
42 diplomacy and conflict prevention. The EU must be ready to work with all friends  
43 of peace, human rights, and multilateralism to these ends.

44 **We have the courage to make the EU a force for a different, more just world.**

45 Europe's green transition is both a geopolitical tool and a global  
46 responsibility. Climate diplomacy and cooperation on green technology and  
47 investment are key to how we will deal with the world.

48 We will fight for global justice. The EU can rewrite unjust trade rules to make  
49 the world fairer and more equal. All countries must have a stake in the new  
50 decarbonized global economy.

51 A secure and peaceful world, where Europe works with partners to put people and  
52 planet before war and exploitation.

53 **This is the future we want, and that Europe can help build.**

## 54 **A Union for Peace, Cooperation and Human Rights**

55 Security policy is at and will stay at the centre of the EU agenda. As Greens,  
56 we are convinced that the EU needs a new mindset and a clear willingness to act.

57 It is time to rejuvenate multilateralism and values-based foreign policy. The  
58 European Union has grown strong through integration, sharing and connection –

59 not decoupling or building walls. What we endeavoured to do with the European  
60 project must also guide our international relations. We need to stand in  
61 solidarity with our partners and knit an expanded network of ties and strategic  
62 partnerships working together in an ever-more complex and interconnected world.

63 The green transition has always also been a question of security. For us Greens,  
64 it is clear that with more control over our energy system, crucial technologies,  
65 and vital supply chains, the EU can make a greater impact in foreign policy and  
66 towards a globally just transition. It is an opportunity for the EU to become a  
67 more effective actor alongside its partners and multilateral institutions,  
68 advancing peace and security as well as universal values, human rights, and  
69 democracy around the world.

### 70 ***Cooperation based on universal values and principles***

71 The EU must prioritize cooperation and alliance building with democratic  
72 partners to defend human rights, universal values, and norms. We need to act  
73 with our allies and like-minded partners wherever possible while retaining the  
74 ability to act independently when needed.

75 As Greens, we envisage a European Union that works closely with democracies and  
76 like-minded partners to stand up to aggressors worldwide and create new ties for  
77 multilateral cooperation outside the Global North. The EU must be ready to work  
78 with all parties committed to peace, human rights, multilateralism, and  
79 international law.

### 80 ***Multilateralism and cooperation for global security***

81 Peace and freedom are built through values-based and fair dealings with our  
82 partners. We believe in international solidarity and multilateralism. The United  
83 Nations upholds our shared global values, and we will defend it against attacks  
84 and advocate for reforms to enhance transparency, accountability, and  
85 effectiveness.

86 In these challenging times, the EU must actively seek out all opportunities for  
87 international cooperation and use all channels of cooperation to preserve peace,  
88 also within the OSCE. The multilateral system must be strengthened through fair  
89 representation for the Global South, for example on the UN Security Council and

90 in international financial institutions. This engagement is the best way to  
91 achieve multilateralism based on the strength of international law, not might is  
92 right.

93 For the EU, a multilateral approach also includes strengthening and deepening  
94 cooperation with NATO, while respecting a clear division of competences and  
95 without setting precedence. Member states decide for themselves about NATO  
96 membership. The EU has a collective duty to safeguard its security from the  
97 oscillations of US politics and create the conditions to allow the EU to freely  
98 determine its engagement in the rapidly shifting geopolitical environment.

### 99 ***A new peace contract for Europe***

100 With increasing conflicts around the world, including in the European  
101 neighbourhood, the EU must work with international partners to build peace and  
102 reduce the risk of conflicts. We will take a transformational approach to tackle  
103 the root causes of conflict, strengthening civilian conflict prevention,  
104 mediation, and reconciliation as well as crisis management beyond borders,  
105 including peacebuilding, peacekeeping, and enforcement.

106 The climate-security nexus is about more than the EU's own stability. Climate  
107 and environmental initiatives as well as efforts that strengthen the political,  
108 social, and economic participation of women are essential to building peace and  
109 providing security through development. Their funding must rise in step with any  
110 increase in military spending.

111 Military interventions must only ever be the last resort. They must be based on  
112 long-term political strategies, comply with international law, and have European  
113 Parliament approval.

114 Regarding the Middle East conflict, we will push for the EU to relaunch  
115 political negotiations towards a two-state solution, based on secure and agreed  
116 borders. Lasting peace in the region requires negotiated outcomes that respect  
117 the right of both Israel and Palestine to exist as democratic and sovereign  
118 states and the Palestinian people to a home of their own.

### 119 ***A European Security Union***

120 As no country can face the threats to security alone, the EU must develop a  
121 Security Union that centres human security and people's needs. This approach is  
122 essential to protect human rights, prevent conflict, and create and maintain  
123 peace.

124 Security is about strong civil societies, the global just transition and long-  
125 term preventative strategies and not only about defence. Not only the short but  
126 the long term is our horizon of action, not only conventional conflicts but  
127 hybrid threats are our targets, not only states but civil societies. We advocate  
128 for a strong European External Action Service as a force for truly transnational  
129 diplomacy that can fight impunity and build reconciliation and lasting peace.

130 Within the European Union, we demand a credible policy of solidarity and mutual  
131 assistance in line with article 42(7) of the Treaty of the European Union. This  
132 means cooperation on military capabilities and creating synergies, for example  
133 through promoting interoperability and coordinating procurement, maintenance,  
134 and supply systems. The increasing threat of disinformation and interference in  
135 sovereign democracies must be met by cybersecurity efforts.

### 136 ***No longer relying on authoritarian regimes***

137 We must not repeat mistakes of the past. For too long, the European Union and  
138 its members were complacent about economic dependence on authoritarian regimes.  
139 Lulled by fossil fuels, the EU ignored Putin's rising authoritarianism, human  
140 rights violations, and the threat his regime posed to international security. We  
141 Greens will make sure that Europe does not make the same mistake again with  
142 other war-mongering regimes around the world.

143 We recognize the threat posed by China towards Taiwan that puts international  
144 peace and security in jeopardy. We advocate for an active, clear-eyed, and  
145 common EU policy on China. The EU must implement a robust human rights policy  
146 that starts with de-risking our supply chains, while acknowledging that  
147 interdependence remains a starting point for a peaceful international system and  
148 a global just transition.

### 149 ***Fighting for global human rights***

150 Civil society organizations are crucial for human rights, democracy and self-

151 determination and fighting corruption and discrimination. They are the EU's  
152 natural allies who can change the world for the better. However, human rights  
153 around the world are too often not safe. Environmentalists, investigative  
154 journalists, women, members of the LGBTQIA+community, land and indigenous rights  
155 defenders, trade unionists and progressive politicians around the world are  
156 intimidated, subjected to smear campaigns, imprisoned on trumped-up charges,  
157 and, in the worst cases, murdered.

158 As Greens, we will fully implement the EU guidelines on human rights defenders  
159 and provide easier access to visas. We want the EU to provide more support to  
160 civil society generally, for example through sustainable funding. Transnational  
161 repression by authoritarian regimes must be a priority for human rights  
162 protection.

### 163 ***No peace without women: for a feminist foreign policy***

164 Women and marginalized groups continue to have limited access to power across  
165 the world. A feminist foreign policy will put gender equality and human security  
166 at the core of our foreign and security policy. Societies will be more peaceful  
167 and prosperous when everyone plays an equal part in political, social, and  
168 economic life.

169 As Greens, we will push for a feminist foreign policy at EU level that  
170 implements intersectional strategies. We need to ensure political and civic  
171 participation of girls, women, and marginalized groups as well as an inclusive  
172 quality education for girls and young women. We must promote the economic  
173 empowerment of girls, women, and marginalized groups as a key foreign policy  
174 objective.

### 175 ***No arms exports to dictators and authoritarian regimes***

176 Global arms spending is higher than ever and has increased every year since  
177 2015. We advocate for arms control and disarmament, including a ban on  
178 autonomous lethal weapons and the nuclear ban treaty. We call for an EU-level  
179 arms export policy that prohibits arms exports to authoritarian regimes,  
180 dictatorships and human rights abusers while supporting countries defending  
181 themselves against aggressors. Comprehensive monitoring mechanisms for arms  
182 exports to all partners must be introduced.

183 **Justice and Development through the Global Green**  
184 **Deal**

185 The European Union must use its influence, power, and resources to build global  
186 justice and enable a Global Green Deal. The accelerating climate crisis is  
187 undermining peace and prosperity the world over. The future of the climate  
188 depends on every country in the world taking action and stopping fossil fuels.

189 For centuries, we have been exploiting the Global South, hindering development  
190 by imposing economic structures and exploiting people, land, and resources.  
191 Global justice, in action and not just words, is an ethical responsibility but  
192 also a geopolitical need.

193 Our proposals combine international partnerships and trade reform with  
194 development and humanitarian initiatives. They are rooted in our commitment to  
195 global justice and sustainability, as well as our awareness of colonialism's  
196 persistent legacy.

197 ***Recognizing our responsibilities through climate diplomacy***

198 We want climate diplomacy to be central to the EU's relations with its global  
199 partners. The EU must recognize the role European countries have made in  
200 contributing to placing the Global South at the front line of the climate  
201 crisis. As set out in the Paris Agreement, the EU must honour commitments to  
202 providing international climate finance for mitigation and adaptation in line  
203 with its fair share and make multi-year pledges to the new Loss and Damage Fund.  
204 The EU can lead the way by building high-ambition climate coalitions on  
205 investment, sectoral and technological priorities for decarbonisation.

206 We will fight for policy coherence across all internal policies to reflect their  
207 global implications with a legislative check for how they will help reach the  
208 Global Sustainability Goals. As Greens, we go beyond the do-no-harm-principle.  
209 We will use all tools at hand to engage with partners to jointly change people's  
210 lives for the better and take action against the climate crisis, biodiversity  
211 loss, and environmental degradation. We will continue our push for the  
212 international recognition of the crime of ecocide.

213 ***Green Deal partnerships for global justice***



214 We want the EU to make Green Deal Partnerships with countries, regions, and  
215 civil society actors to support the necessary Global Green Deal with investment,  
216 access to technology, and expertise. We want the EU to shape and share the  
217 technological development and economic frameworks of the decarbonized world,  
218 including by facilitating technology transfer to the Global South.

219 Initiatives such as the Global Gateway and Just Energy Transition Partnerships  
220 must become key vehicles for opening green and resilient development pathways  
221 with partners and regions. The EU should seek to unlock as much investment in  
222 the green transition globally as it spends in the EU.

### 223 ***For resource justice, against extractivism***

224 Countries around the world must benefit so the green transition does not become  
225 a race that excludes the Global South. At the same, the EU's immediate need for  
226 metals and other resources cannot be satisfied without access to new materials.  
227 The EU must therefore speed up its transition towards a fully circular economy  
228 to reuse materials as long as possible and meet ambitious resource reduction  
229 targets. Furthermore, it needs to enable resource-rich countries to extract,  
230 process, and recycle raw materials, while prioritizing a "people and planet"  
231 approach that protects communities, nature, and biodiversity.

232 Extraction in the Global South must be done according to the same conditions as  
233 within the EU. The EU's resource needs should not further exacerbate existing  
234 inequalities, nor climate and environmental injustice. Our sufficiency approach,  
235 backed up by reduction and recycling targets within the EU, will help minimise  
236 the global mining sector's huge impact in terms of human rights violations,  
237 environment destruction, and climate.

### 238 ***Decolonize now!***

239 The legacy of the colonial era still weighs heavily on relations between certain  
240 Europe's countries and their former colonies. It is reflected in the unequal  
241 global distribution of wealth, ongoing economic dependencies and unjust economic  
242 structures, and lack of representation in our institutions as well as globally.  
243 We want the EU to face up to its historical responsibility arising from the  
244 crimes of colonialism.

245 We call for a deep comprehensive and inclusive review of Europe's colonial  
246 legacy to ensure reparation and accountability for past crimes. We support the  
247 push for the return of cultural artifacts. We want to correct disadvantageous  
248 clauses in trade agreements and push for reforms in development banks. The EU  
249 and its member states must work for sound debt restructuring and debt relief for  
250 particularly burdened countries.

### 251 ***From development aid to a global just transition***

252 Europe needs to increase funding for international development aid and  
253 humanitarian action to at least 0.7% of member states' economies. Development  
254 policy must be guided by a decolonial and anti-racist perspective.

255 Guided by the Sustainable Development Goals, we want to coordinate locally led  
256 development work better and increase funding to grassroots civil society, in  
257 line with the OECD DAC recommendation, avoiding duplication and wasting  
258 resources. We will follow a detailed approach to scrutinize and align the EU  
259 international cooperation budget with Agenda 2030, focusing on global justice,  
260 tackling inequalities, and transparency for private sector involvement. The EU  
261 must reconvene the Multi-stakeholder Platform on Sustainable Development Goals.

262 We want to promote local knowledge and local initiatives to support the  
263 development of economic cycles and social security systems. To this end, we want  
264 to further develop the existing European development cooperation in dialogue  
265 with our partners. We reject tying international aid and assistance to migration  
266 deals. The integrity of development assistance must be maintained and closely  
267 monitored.

### 268 ***Ending global hunger: food sovereignty for all***

269 The multiple crises of our time, first and foremost the climate crisis, pose  
270 existential challenges to food security worldwide. To end hunger, the EU must  
271 work for a sustainable and resilient global food system and contribute to the  
272 implementation of the right to food. The EU must prioritize agroecological  
273 approaches and align its own food and trade policy with the principles of food  
274 sovereignty for communities around the world.

### 275 ***Supporting global justice with sustainable trade***

276 As Greens, we believe in a global trading system that is based on equity, shapes  
277 globalization for the better, and puts human wellbeing at its centre. We believe  
278 in re-shaping the EU's trade policy towards sustainable development and stronger  
279 human rights protection. The EU should only enter new trade deals with countries  
280 that implement the Paris Agreement. Our Green Partnerships and the EU's new  
281 carbon tariff system (Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism, CBAM) can create fair  
282 competition by making decarbonisation and environmental protection a joint  
283 effort. For the CBAM to be effective and fair, it must be complemented with  
284 higher EU spending on climate action in low-income countries.

285 The Greens successfully introduced legislation on due diligence, deforestation,  
286 and forced-labour-free supply chains, setting standards for imports into the EU.  
287 We will continue by updating the Public Procurement Directive and introducing a  
288 new Unfair Trading Practice for the textile sector.

289 We advocate rebalancing the global system of intellectual property rights to  
290 ensure the Global South can access key technologies, including for health and  
291 decarbonisation. As Greens, we will push for progress in the World Trade  
292 Organization reform to reflect the needs of the global just transition.

### 293 ***Remodel trade deals to protect social rights, environment*** 294 ***and climate***

295 As Greens, we will push to improve bilateral trade and investment agreements  
296 with binding and sanctionable sustainability provisions. Sustainability goals  
297 and the Paris Agreement need to be horizontally anchored in all chapters of  
298 trade deals, from raw materials and agriculture to procurement.

299 Impact assessments for trade deals should include human rights, gender,  
300 biodiversity, and animal welfare. The precautionary principle needs to be fully  
301 respected and International Labour Organization standards fully implemented.  
302 Pre-ratification commitments, a European Parliament vote on the mandate, and  
303 full transparency shall ensure democratic legitimacy and the inclusion of civil  
304 society and trade unions.

305 We fight to end protections for fossil fuel investment and instead incentivize  
306 sustainable investment. The move to exit the climate-destroying Energy Charter  
307 Treaty is a major success. All investment agreements need to fully respect the  
308 right to regulate. We advocate abolishing Investor State Dispute Settlement

309 mechanisms and their replacement with a multilateral investment court system.

310 Trade rules should not impede climate action, nor limit our ability to enact  
311 social and environmental policies. On the contrary, trade must be part of our  
312 efforts to limit emissions, switch to net-zero technologies and end ecological  
313 degradation. Trade of sustainable goods and services should be facilitated, so  
314 that they will become cheaper and broadly available. Freer trade should be  
315 paired with measures to limit environmentally harmful subsidies, including those  
316 for fossil fuels.

### 317 ***Making trade fair for all***

318 As Greens, we push for strategies to integrate fair trade principles into key EU  
319 policies related to production, consumption, and trade, promoting living incomes  
320 and wages, inclusive decision-making involving smallholder farmers, artisans,  
321 and workers, and supporting measures to reduce pesticide usage in third  
322 countries. We demand that companies adopt sustainable purchasing practices and  
323 promote mission-led business models to free supply chains from exploitation.



**Draft**

**Title:** EGP Priorities '24

**Tabled by:** EGP Committee

[PDF spreadsheet amendment on EGP Priorities '24](#) (18 January)

[For Final CAS on 4 February - CAS accepted amendment on the EGP Priorities '24](#) (4 February)

**Draft text**

1 **EGP Priorities '24**

2 **The Green and Social Deal for Europe**

3 We will kickstart a massive investment plan worth at least 200 billion euros per  
4 year to protect people and the planet. This plan will secure livelihoods for all  
5 and build a prosperous economy.

6 The investment will go towards expanding public transport and reducing ticket  
7 prices, putting solar panels on all roofs, and creating millions of good jobs in  
8 sectors such as construction, energy and transport.

9 Investing in renewables and home insulation will mean lower energy bills. Our  
10 Energy Guarantee will make sure that energy is affordable and that no vulnerable  
11 household has their energy cut off.

12 This plan will be financed fairly by taxing workers less and the wealthiest  
13 firms and individuals more, eradicating fossil fuel subsidies, and using EU-

14 level funding.

## 15 **Climate Action! 100% Renewable Energy by 2040**

16 The costs of burning fossil fuels are growing by the day. Europe must lead the  
17 way to a fossil-free future. Building a 100% renewable energy system by 2040  
18 will protect the climate and create two million new jobs. It will mean fewer  
19 extreme weather events such as heat waves and therefore bring about a more  
20 secure future for all.

21 It makes economic sense too. Renewables are the cheapest form of energy, while  
22 expensive fossil fuels caused the cost-of-living crisis. The cost of inaction  
23 will only mount. We will stop adding fuel to the fire by phasing out all fossil  
24 fuel subsidies from 2025. A climate-neutral EU will be more competitive and no  
25 longer hostage to foreign dictators.

## 26 **Good Jobs and Fair Pay for All**

27 We cannot accept that workers struggle to make ends meet and live in poverty in  
28 the world's second-biggest economy. After years of high prices, European workers  
29 deserve decent pay and a fair share of the profits. We will fight for an EU-wide  
30 minimum income sufficient to keep people out of poverty whether they are in or  
31 out of work. We will make European unemployment insurance permanent to protect  
32 workers in times of economic crisis.

33 Trade unions are key to achieving higher wages and better conditions for  
34 workers. They are our allies, and we will fight for their rights and their  
35 essential democratic role. We will improve working conditions and make sure that  
36 the green transition leaves no worker behind. We will fight for the recognition  
37 of platform workers as workers and ban unpaid internships.

## 38 **Restore Nature, Protect Biodiversity**

39 We need to bring back nature and restore the precious ecosystems today under  
40 threat. We will stop the extinction of species and protect at least a third of  
41 Europe's land and sea, including wetlands, forests, rivers and lakes. We fight  
42 for a zero-pollution European Union, with breathable air, clean water and toxic-  
43 free consumer goods. We will keep dangerous pesticides such as glyphosate out of  
44 our fields.

45 **Ensure Affordable Housing for Everyone**

46 Everyone must have a comfortable home that is warm in winter and cool in summer.  
47 We will fight to end the rent explosion, invest in affordable and public  
48 housing, and support rent controls where necessary to protect tenants. A large-  
49 scale renovation programme will cut energy poverty and protect the most  
50 vulnerable.

51 Young people bear the brunt of high rents and house prices. We must ensure they  
52 can make their own start in life with affordable homes and all the necessary  
53 conditions for independent living.

54 **Healthy, Pesticide-Free Food for Fair Prices**

55 We want healthy food at fair prices to become a reality in Europe. Millions of  
56 Europeans are struggling with soaring food prices, while big agro-business  
57 continues to poison our bodies and pollute our soil and water.

58 We will take the third of the EU budget today spent on industrial agriculture  
59 and invest in sustainable farming instead, making healthy food more accessible  
60 at fair prices for both consumers and producers. We will end the speculation  
61 forcing people to go hungry while traders make record profits.

62 **End Animal Cruelty! Stop Mega Farms and Long-Distance**  
63 **Transport**

64 Animals deserve care and protection. We will fight for animal welfare alongside  
65 the millions of Europeans who signed European Citizen Initiatives demanding the  
66 end of exploitative practices. We pledge to ban cruel mega-farms, the use of  
67 cages in animal farming, and fur factory farms. We will limit animal transport  
68 and put an end to long-distance live animal transports in trucks and ships.

69 **We Pay Our Taxes. Billionaires and Multinationals Must Also**  
70 **Pay Their Fair Share.**

71 A thriving economy puts people and the planet first, not corporations and the  
72 ultra-rich. Helping the most vulnerable and investing in climate and  
73 environmental protection are emergencies that can no longer be ignored, so our

74 unjust tax system must be reformed.

75 We will bring in a minimum tax on capital gains and an EU-wide wealth tax, as  
76 well as ending tax avoidance by multinationals. We must stop the profiteering  
77 driving up prices with windfall taxes and a financial transaction tax.

78 Fair taxation will reduce the tax burden on workers, so they have more money in  
79 their wallets at the end of the month.

## 80 **A Strong Europe To Protect Democracy, Fundamental Rights and** 81 **Freedoms**

82 The far-right backlash only makes us more determined: Greens will stand up for  
83 European democracy and the rule of law. We will ensure public funds benefit all  
84 citizens, not autocrats and their corrupt cronies. Rapid action will be put in  
85 place to prevent violations of EU law. We will continue the fight for  
86 transparency and integrity and against corruption.

87 We will continue to tirelessly fight all forms of discrimination and hatred.  
88 Everyone in the EU must be safe from hate crime and hate speech. We will defend  
89 the right to protest and fight against the criminalisation of activists and  
90 civil society organisations.

91 We will build a humane asylum system that upholds human rights and does not  
92 criminalise people on the move. We will welcome people that seek help with  
93 humanity and solidarity, not with fear.

## 94 **A Feminist Europe: Your Body, Your Choice!**

95 We must dismantle patriarchy and build a racially just society. Everyone has the  
96 right to make choices about their own body, decide who they love, and express  
97 their identity. We will champion self-determination and bodily autonomy by  
98 guaranteeing access to legal gender recognition, trans-specific healthcare, and  
99 contraception.

100 We will guarantee access to safe and legal abortion and recognise sexual and  
101 reproductive rights as fundamental rights. We fight to end violence against  
102 women and girls everywhere and will increase support for victims.



103 We will make sure that men and women are paid equally for the same work and keep  
104 on fighting for full equality between men and women in all areas of employment  
105 and public life.

## 106 **Europe United for Peace and Security**

107 The European Union was born as and must remain a project for peace and security.  
108 In times of rising authoritarianism and war, it must speak with one voice.  
109 Autocrats can no longer be allowed to hold the EU hostage and prevent it from  
110 standing with partners for peace, human rights and multilateralism. National  
111 vetoes must end so the EU can work effectively on foreign policy and other key  
112 areas.

113 Ukraine's future is in the European Union and we must continue to support it.  
114 The EU needs to be ready to welcome new members and help candidate countries  
115 prepare for accession. The EU needs to take responsibility as a peace-building  
116 actor. This is more crucial than ever in the Middle East.

117 The green transition has always also been a question of security. Becoming  
118 energy-independent, building a circular economy, and gaining greater control  
119 over vital technologies and supply chains will make us independent from  
120 autocrats and thus safer.

121 \* \* \*