31st Council
10-13 June 2020
Online
by the European Greens

Draft

Title: **Elīna PINTO**

Tabled by: Progresīvie, Latvia

Photo



Video

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J5BQZQW2z4s

Motivation Letter [PDF]

27 November 2023, Riga/Luxembourg

Elīna Pinto – Political agenda – Europe Empowers

As I put forward my bid for the *Spitzenkandidat* selection of the European Greens, I stand for Europe that Empowers.

I come from the Northeastern border of Europe. It is where we need the EU to help accelerate future-proof reforms for a greener economy, but also where the EU's past policy errors are still painfully visible – with austerity having left whole regions without the energizing presence of young talent and future prospects. It is where we need the EU for empowering individual freedoms and equality, and also from where we were calling for realistic caution and energy autonomy with regard to Russia for far too long. This is where – twenty years after re-joining the European family – a new generation of Europeans like us in Progresīvie are ready to take full responsibility for and leadership role in a reenergized, progressive Europe.

My three children, when asked where they come from, answer that they are Europeans. They say they have roots in three great naval nations – on the Baltic coast, in Portugal and in Luxembourg (always masterfully navigating between the bigger neighbours). We know in our family how it is to be on the very edge of Europe, and at the same time belong to its very heart, - and that the one cannot do without the other.

This is also what I represent in this bid – strengthening and connecting the rim of Europe to the core of our European policy ideals. Green ideas and politics have been embedded the heartlands of Europe for a while now, but today the European rim marked by coastlines and borderlines is the frontline of our shared values. We witness it most manifestly and tragically in Ukraine, but there are other less visible value battles to be fought around the Europe's rim.

To deliver on this, I stand for the manifesto of the European Greens, and in particular for:

- **Europe that Empowers our connections**
  This means a rewired grid of energy interconnections, cross-border and inter-regional rail connectivity and infrastructure for rapid military mobility, such as Rail Baltica. This means a strengthened common European media space; European solutions in support of talent attraction to peripheries; connecting youth – including underprivileged - through Erasmus Equality and European University networks; connecting the local mayors and local green hubs across Europe and with the accession countries. This is Europe within which everyone is free to move, but no one needs to feel the need to leave due to discrimination, lack of access to healthcare or in-work poverty.

- **Europe that Empowers us for peace**
  Beyond the commitment to conflict prevention and resolution, this means a coherent, modern, credible and effective European security and defence policy, with coordinated, mobile and interoperable capabilities and command algorithms strengthening the complementarity of European and NATO frameworks, including with regard to cyberthreats and hybrid warfare. This includes mainstreaming biodiversity and climate targets within all security and defence instruments.

Our commitment to peace also means us standing firm, for as long as it takes for a full and just victory, in our undivided solidarity and support for Ukraine in every possible way.

Curriculum Vitae [PDF]

This needs to go hand in hand with a strengthened commitment to alleviating humanitarian causes and support for climate activists and human rights defenders across the globe.

- **Europe that Empowers us for a new standard of wellbeing**
  Ours is the EU that fully embraces the European Green transition and raises our collective level of climate ambition, accompanied by robust skills agenda and social support measures to enable the change. This means nurturing of green innovation and industry to increase attractive employment opportunities. This means a strong push for organic and agri-ecologic production. This means to not only protect and preserve our biodiversity for future generations, but also to increase the resilience of our economic system with stable and secure green energy autonomous of hostile regimes. This means a strong European Health Union. This requires economic governance allowing for the necessary room for manoeuvre to finance investments in a just transition, and a wellbeing reference framework for the EU budget.

- **Europe that Empowers our voices and trust**
  This means raising the voices of youth, women, LGBTIQ+, civil society, the underprivileged often excluded from the halls of decision-making. This means an EU-driven binding recognition of basic rights like marriage equality for all and protection from gender-based violence across the EU – as, despite our efforts, reactionary policies are still too deeply engrained in some EU Member States. This means acknowledging the significance and empowering the civic role of the mobile EU citizens. This means making citizen voices better heard in EU decisions and elections, through rollout of i-voting and innovative citizen engagement.

  This also means protecting our shared ideals of freedom and liberty - effectively combating both kinetic and hybrid aggression from hostile regimes on the outside, but also at times cynical and opportunistic manipulation from within. This requires a renewed focus on robust rule of law and anticorruption effort, with a strengthened EPPO and the highest standard of integrity for the EU policymakers.

With a shared history with our Eastern neighbours, a shared tradition with the Southern seafarers and a passion for a re-empowered Europe I believe to share with all of you, I am putting forward my candidacy for the *Spitzenkandidat* selection in support of our European election campaign 2024.



Elīna Pinto

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Elīna Pinto

Born on: 24/05/1981 | Citizenship: Latvian, European

https://www.linkedin.com/in/elina-pinto/
https://www.facebook.com/elina.dzalbe.3
X: @EliinaPinto

POLITICAL AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

PROGRESĪVIE:

Member, vice-chair of the party strategic council (*dome*), candidate at the elections of the President of Latvia (2023)

Civic engagement:

European Latvian Association (board member and president, 2014-2022), civil society delegate at the National Tripartite Council for social dialogue (2017-2019, 2022-2023), at the National Council for Diaspora (2018-2022), at the Consultative Council of the National Board for Public Media Broadcasters (2018-2019), at the strategic council of the Society Integration Foundation (2019), #esiLV-movement of expat professionals, scientists and enterpreneurs for sustainable development of Latvia (co-founder, board member), European Movement International – Latvia (board member, 2015-2022), Europeans Throughout the World (board member, 2019-now)

Volunteering:

Engure Association of Volunteer Firefighters and Lifesavers (member, since 2023), European Policy Innovation Award (jury member, since 2018), European Anti-poverty network goodwill envoy for European Minimum Income in Latvia (2018)

Conference speaker:

wellbeing economy, political innovation, public governance

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Since 04/2023 — **Communication and Outreach Team Leader**
Representation of European Commission in Luxembourg, Luxembourg

03/2022 – 04/2023 — **Public governance expert-consultant**
OECD, Public Governance directorate, Paris, France

07/2019 – 02/2020 — **Advisor to the President of Latvia, Sustainability and Modern State**
Chancellery of the President of Latvia, Office of the President, Riga, Latvia

01/2012– 03/2019 — **Translator**
European Commission, Luxembourg

02/2011– 01/2012 — **Advisor to the Deputy Secretary General**
European External Action Service, DSG for crisis management and defence, human rights and inter-institutional relations, Brussels, Belgium

02/2008–02/2011 — **Advisor to the Director General for external relations and politico-military affairs**
General Secretariat of the Council of the EU, Brussels, Belgium

01/2007– 04/2010 — **International Election Observer**
European Commission / International Organisation for Migration, Nigeria, Kenya, Rwanda, Togo

02/2006–02/2008 — **Lawyer linguist**
European Court of Justice, Luxembourg (freelance)

03/2007–02/2008 **Director of the Human Rights Department, human rights councillor**
Office of the Ombudsman of Latvia, Riga, Latvia

Supporters

déi gréng, Luxembourg, LMP – Magyarország Zöld Pártja, Hungary, Párbeszéd – A Zöldek Pártja, Hungary, Eestimaa Rohelised, Estonia, ADPD, Malta, Esquerra Verda, Catalunya Spain, Groen, Belgium, Stranka mladih – Zeleni Evrope, Slovenia

01/2006–02/2007 **Junior human rights councillor**
Delegation of the General Secretariat of the Council of the EU to the United Nations, Geneva, Switzerland, and New York, USA (fellowship)

10/2003–09/2004 **Translation and terminology assistant**
General Secretariat of the Council of the EU, Brussels, Belgium

10/2003–02/2004 **Research assistant**
University of Latvia Faculty of Law and Eurofaculty, Riga, Latvia

02/2001–09/2003 **Legal advisor**
Sworn notary's office, Riga, Latvia

EDUCATION

01/2023 – 04/2023 **Sustainable Finance – Executive Certificate**
University of Luxembourg Faculty of Law, Economics and Finance, Luxembourg

03/2022 – 07/2022 ***Public Policy Innovation – Executive Certificate***
London School of Economics, London, UK

09/2004–09/2005 **European Master's degree in Human Rights and Democratisation**
European Inter-University Center for Human Rights and Democratisation, Venice, Italy, and University of Strasbourg, France

09/1999–07/2004 **LLM in Law**
University of Latvia, Faculty of Law, Riga, Latvia

09/2002–06/2003 **Inter-university diploma in EU Law and Politics**
University of Latvia (Latvia), Sciences Po Aix (France) and Université Nancy-II (France)

09/1997–06/1998 **Deerfield Academy**
Massachusetts, USA (Scholarship of excellence)

09/1987–06/1999 **Jelgava State Gymnasium**
Jelgava, Latvia

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Mother tongue: Latvian

Foreign languages: English (fluent), French (fluent), Russian (proficient), Portuguese (conversational), Luxembourgish (basic), German (basic)