



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

Draft

Title: **Bas Eickhout**

Tabled by: GroenLinks, the Netherlands

Photo



Video

<https://youtu.be/hzXdplw7D3Q>

Motivation Letter [PDF]

Brussels, November 28 2023

Dear Green friends,

Our upcoming European campaign poses formidable challenges. In 2019, I had the honor of serving as your Spitzenkandidat, steering through what could be deemed the inaugural European climate campaign. Travelling from Helsinki to Barcelona, from Sofia to Dublin, I saw Fridays for Future active everywhere and making climate change one of the main topics in all the European debates we had back then. Culminating in the largest Green Group in the European Parliament ever.

The 2024 campaign, however, presents heightened difficulties. International tensions encircle Europe, from the Middle East to Ukraine. Simultaneously, the United States gears up for a Presidential campaign with uncertain outcomes. Amidst this, the European Union must carve a more politically sovereign position. Yet, the pressing issue in our countries is the soaring cost of living for many, intensifying uncertainties about the future.

Far right extremists stand ready to exploit those uncertainties and anxieties by giving false promises as if the past can be restored, global problems can be ignored and minorities are the ideal scapegoats for all the problems. The recent Dutch elections results have showed me all too closely how those far right promises attract many people in the voting booth.

We Greens have the responsibility to be the antidote of the far right. And we can be that antidote. However, this requires a broadening of our climate campaign. While we know that the climate urgency is stronger than ever, climate extremes are hitting our societies on a weekly basis, temperature records are already going beyond 1.5°C and sometimes even beyond 2°C. There is a political backlash against Europe's Green Deal agenda.

As Greens we will stand for Europe's Green Deal agenda, however we will also campaign on a much more coherent new Green Deal agenda. Von der Leyen's Green Deal 1.0 was only about climate and energy. It failed to deliver on the other crises, like pollution, addressing long-lived chemicals like PFAS and addressing the biodiversity crisis. Instead it gave way for more glyphosate, it delivered a failed reform of our Common Agricultural Policies, and the trade agenda was disconnected from any green transition agenda. We Greens will fight for a more comprehensive Green Deal, addressing the triple crises, with a transition of our food system as one of the most important priorities after the elections.

The Green Deal 1.0 agenda certainly failed on addressing the cost of living crisis. *Leave no one behind* has been a point of attention, but it was mostly addressed through the creation of certain funds. However, our economic system is inherently accelerating inequalities in our societies. Those who have the means can use those to further accumulate capital. And the most vulnerable people are being left behind. As Greens we will have to put redistributive instruments at the forefront of our social fight. And let's be honest, some of the green measures have been out of reach for those people who are struggling to pay the bills. In the 2024 campaign, it is of utmost importance that we show how our climate and environmental agenda is there to serve everyone, and not to make the lives of people more complicated. Without a socially just transition, the green transition will fail.

Our 2024 campaign needs to be an assertive campaign about our Green transition. A Green transition that delivers on quality jobs, a cleaner environment and lower costs of living. The

current energy crisis is a fossil fuel crisis: we chose to depend way too much on doubtful regimes that are willing to misuse their power over our resource dependency. In order to lower our resource dependency we need to create a more sovereign Europe. A Europe that takes its international relations serious as equal partners.

Curriculum Vitae [PDF]

This requires a massive European investment programme; the opposite of the renewed calls for austerity that will only deepen our crises. Greens across Europe have been consistently calling for European investment programmes, going against the frugal dominance in some of our countries. This also allows us to be much more outspoken towards our industries. It's the conservative right in Europe that pretends that our industry can compete internationally by pushing for less regulation. We Greens are the partners of those industries that truly want to innovate and create future quality jobs within Europe. A Green Deal 2.0 is an essential prerequisite for our future industry and not a threat to our industry.

At the international stage we Greens have a consistent agenda on protecting human rights and our democratic values. Rightfully so, Europe is called out for its double standards, be it in our relation with regimes in Egypt or Qatar, or in our relation with Israel. In our 2024 campaign the fight for our rule of law will be crucial, both within in the European Union and outside. And again, the far right doesn't care anything about the protection of civil liberties. They also do not care about the importance of inclusivity across societies. See how Orbán is suffocating the civil society; see how Meloni is discriminating our LGTBIQ+ communities, and see how all right-wing politicians are using refugees as a scapegoat for all the problems within our housing and health care sectors. We Greens need to step up our offensive fight on defending everyone (!) in our European society.

It is clear that for all our values and political agenda, the far right is our enemy. The far right is not providing solutions; instead, it is offering polarization and exclusion. Anyone can be next to be excluded. Exclusion always starts with the vulnerable minorities, but exclusion never stops there. This will be key in our 2024 campaign as well. To succeed, we need to work closely together with all progressive forces in Europe. In the Netherlands we already do that with our social-democratic friends, because we have the same agenda. At the European level this cooperation is not as close as we see it in the Netherlands. This is also something I want to work on: bundling forces where needed. There is simply too much at stake at this moment.

Yes, the 2024 campaign will be more difficult than in 2019. And yes, we Greens will be more in the line of attacks, as we see in some of our countries, certainly in those where we currently govern. However, we have the right people to turn this 2024 campaign into an assertive campaign. This proactive campaign aims to deliver on our commitment to a truly green, socially just, and inclusive transition. We intend to reach out to those who feel marginalized by false promises, forging new alliances with innovative green companies along the way. By doing so, we aspire to create an engaging and empowering campaign that fights for the inclusivity of all Europeans. I eagerly anticipate participating in this dynamic campaign and hope to play a significant role as Spitzenkandidat.

Let's bring it on!

Bas Eickhout

Work experience

2009 – now

Member European Parliament European Greens/EFA

- Full member Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food safety (ENVI; since 2009)
- Coordinator for European Greens in ENVI (since 2014)
- First vice-chair for ENVI (since 2019)
- Substitute member Committee on Economic and Monetary affairs (ECON; since 2012)
- Substitute member Committee on Agriculture and Rural development (AGRI; 2009–2014)
- Substitute member Committee on Transport and Tourism (TRAN; 2014–2019)
- Member and coordinator of the Inquiry Committee on Dieselgate (2016–2019)
- Substitute member Committee on Budgetary Control (CONT; since 2019)
- Substitute member Special Committee on COVID-19 (COVI; 2022–2023)

2012 – now

Delegation leader GroenLinks in the European Parliament

2013 – now

Vice-president and treasurer of the European Greens/EFA Group

2000 – 2009

Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency (PBL)

- Project leader Bioenergy (2007–2009)
- Project leader EURuralis (European land use project; 2005–2009)
- Member 'Panel on Communication of Climate Change' on behalf of PBL (2004–2009)
- Contributing author IPCC's Fourth Assessment Report 2007
- Lead Author of UNEP's Global Environment Outlook
- Lead author of UNEP's/ World Bank's Agricultural Assessment'

Activities within European Green Party and GroenLinks

2023	Member of Committee proposing the candidate list for the national elections (joint list with Dutch S&D)
2004, 2009, 2014 and 2024	Co-author Election programme of GroenLinks for European elections
2019	Head of list for GroenLinks in European elections
2019	'Spitzenkandidat' for the European Green Party (together with Ska Keller)
2014	Head of list for GroenLinks in European elections
2005 – 2015	Delegate on behalf of GroenLinks for the European Green Party
2007	Member of Committee proposing the candidate list for the Senate
2005	Debater during the Dutch referendum on the European constitution

- 2004 Candidate on the European list for GroenLinks (nr 6)
- 2002 – 2006 Chairman Working Group Europe of GroenLinks

Supporters

- VESNA – zelena stranka, Slovenia, Partido Ecologista Os Verdes, Portugal, Cyprus
Unpaid side activities
 Greens - Citizens Cooperation, Cyprus, Stranka mladih – Zeleni Evrope, Slovenia, déi
 greng, Luxembourg, Irish Green Party / Comhaontas Glas, Ireland, Die Grünen - Die
 Grüne Alternative, Austria, Vihreät - De Gröna, Finland, LMP – Magyarország Zöld Pártja,
 Hungary, Bündnis 90/Die Grünen, Germany, Zelená Strana zelených, Czechia
 Párbeszéd – A Zöldek Pártja, Hungary, Eestimaa Rohelised, Estonia, LIVRE, Portugal,
 SE Green Left, Denmark, Zelena Alternativa, Croatia, Groen, Belgium, Zieloni,
 Poland, Europe Ecology – Les Verts, France
- Since 2019 Member Supervisory Board of the Dutch 'Vereniging Vogelbescherming Nederland'
 (Dutch member of Birdlife International)
- Since 2020 Member Programme Council Rathenau Institute (the Rathenau Institute supports the
 business of public and political opinion on socially relevant aspects of science and
 technology)
- Since 2023 Member of Alumni-Advisory Council for the Faculty of Science of the Radboud
 University Nijmegen
- 1999 – 2000 President of student fraction ONS in the Student Council of Radboud University
 Nijmegen
- 1996 – 1998 Chairman of the chemistry study association Sigma

Education

- 1994 – 2000 Radboud University Nijmegen
 Study: Chemistry
 Specialisation: analytical chemistry, including an internship at the Clarkson University,
 Potsdam, New York, US
- 1996 – 2000 Radboud University Nijmegen
 Study: Environmental studies
 Specialisation: air quality, including an internship at the Nijmegen Science Shop, based
 on an assignment of local citizens concerned with local air quality in Nijmegen
 because of industrial sites nearby
- 1988 – 1994 Atheneum Cobbenhagen College in Tilburg



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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.



Elina 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: @ElinaPinto

POLITICAL AND CIVIC
ENGAGEMENT

PROGRESĪVE:

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 entrepreneurs 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

01/2006–02/2007 **Junior human rights councillor**
de la gauche, Luxembourg, LMP – Magyarország Zöld Pártja, Hungary, Párbeszéd – A Zöldek Pártja, Hungary, Festima, Rehelised, Estonia, ADPD, Malta, Esquerra Verda, Catalunya Spain, Groen, Belgium, Stranka mladih – Zeleni Evrope, Slovenia
Delegation of the General Secretariat of the Council of the EU to the United Kingdom, 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)



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Title: Terry Reintke

Tabled by: Bündnis90/Die Grünen

Photo



Video

<https://youtu.be/4rcy2gaoxto>

Motivation Letter [PDF]

Dear European Greens,

We are living in challenging times. Multiple, interwoven crises shape our era and require our united efforts. The escalation of violence in the Middle East, the brutal war in Ukraine, and the associated energy crisis. Growing social inequality. An authoritarian backlash against democracy and fundamental rights. The aggravating climate and biodiversity crises.

The world has become darker in recent years. And often, it has become more challenging to find hope and look positively towards the future. **But especially now, precisely for these challenges, the Greens are needed.** And we as Greens are taking this responsibility in governments all over Europe:

With the “child basic income”, we have shown in Germany that it is possible, that **we can make our societies fairer.** Organizing the necessary majorities for this is our task. Also at the European level.

In Ireland, the Green Minister for Energy, Eamon Ryan, is expanding offshore wind power on the west coast.

In Belgium, the Greens have initiated a law against femicides. The first of its kind. Because we will **NEVER** accept that every third day a woman is killed by her partner or ex-partner.

In Latvia, we appoint the Defense Minister. On the eastern flank of NATO, we are taking on responsibility, for the security of the entire European Union.

In Austria, the Green Minister for Climate and Transport, Leonore Gewessler, has further expanded night trains and introduced a climate ticket.

In Spain, the new left-progressive-green government will have a wonderful green Minister of Culture, Ernest Urtasun.

In Poland, we fought along with the civil society, especially the women against a continued dystopian future. **And we won.**

And without us Greens in the European Parliament, there would have been no ambitious Green Deal in the last five years. No European combustion engine phase-out. No European truck toll. No reform of emissions trading. No climate-social fund to protect people from energy poverty.

We have succeeded in getting the European Union to **finally join the Istanbul Convention**, thus sending a strong signal for the protection of women’s rights.

In the EU, we Greens are needed to advocate for greater social justice. Many people all over the EU are afraid of the end of the month because they are not sure anymore that their money will last that long. Truck drivers fight for fair wages, caregivers for better working conditions, seasonal workers for reliable health protection. They rely on the EU.

The EU can provide the protective framework for robust social security systems. Instead of pitting people against each other we have to make it clear: **Together in a strong European Union, we are all safest and strongest.**

Social justice is the foundation of democratic societies. With the European minimum wage and the pay transparency directive, we have shown: **The EU can be social and just.**

We have achieved a lot in recent years. The massive mobilization of the climate movement and the **Green wave** in parts of Europe in the 2019 election have cut through many knots and made changes possible that previously lacked majorities.

But these advances, the Green Deal, are under massive pressure. Conservatives and liberals are allying with far-right extremists to dilute or entirely prevent progress in nature and environmental protection or in industrial and energy transition. But we will not give in.

Achieving climate goals has long become a question of future **competitiveness and security**. We must not make ourselves vulnerable to blackmail by autocratic regimes again. On the contrary, we must become leaders in **green transformation, green technology, and green industry**.

Curriculum Vitae [PDF]

Smart industrial policy requires smart investment policy. An EU that cuts back on spending will not be able to compete globally. If the economy is weak and the infrastructure is simultaneously in a desolate state in many European countries, then we must massively invest in the future viability of the European Union: from green hydrogen pipelines to fiber-optic networks, from railway tracks to functioning hospital structures. Let's make **the Infrastructure Union** a reality together.

Europe has a dark past. And it has been shown that we were always strong when, instead of authoritarian suppression, we opted for democratic renewal.

Autocrats are currently trying to undermine our democratic societies. They attack minorities, deny women basic rights, undermine the rule of law, and dismantle the separation of powers. They want to destroy everything that has made us strong and secure in the past decades.

We will not allow that. **We Greens fight for an EU that takes its values seriously** and defends and develops democracy and freedom. For all these challenges, a strong Europe is needed and a European Parliament with strong Greens.

I have been in the European Parliament since 2014 and have been co-chair of the largest Green group of all times. I cannot tell you how 2024 will turn out. But, I know that together we can handle anything, position ourselves wisely, and negotiate hard but fairly.

But one thing I can tell you with absolute conviction.

The next months are not yet decided; they lie in our hands.

But now, dear friends, now we fight.

And I want to fight with you. To make our Europe greener, fairer and more democratic.

Let's do it together.

All the best,
Terry

TERRY REINTKE

Co-president Greens /EFA

- Born on May 9, 1987, in Gelsenkirchen
- since 2022 Co-President of the Greens/EFA-Group in the European Parliament

- 2019-2022 Vice-President of the Greens/EFA-Group in the European Parliament
- since 2014 Member of the European Parliament
- studied political science in Berlin and Edinburgh
- Key Themes: Green Transformation, Social Policies, Rule of Law, Equality



Terry Reintke was born in 1987 in Gelsenkirchen, a city in the beating heart of the Ruhr area, the industrial region of West Germany. This background has shaped her profile as progressive Green politician committed to social rights, gender equality and a green and fair industrial transition.

In October 2022 she became co-chair of the group, together with Philippe Lamberts. She now serves as substitute member of the committees on Employment and Social Affairs, on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs, as well as on Women's Rights and Gender Equality. For several years she served as co-chair of the cross-party LGBTI Intergroup in the European Parliament, where she rose to one of the politicians most strongly connected with the fight for queer rights in Europe.

Terry believes in a green and fair industrial transition that creates green jobs in Europe, with better social protection and more workers' rights.

In 2014, at the age of 27, she was elected to the European Parliament for the first time - as its then youngest female Member. Because of her age and her early beginnings in European politics, Reintke represents a generation that wants to see the European Union moving forward, where member states share and live up to the values of democracy and equality, where all citizens enjoy their fundamental rights. Her opposition against the current authoritarian backlash all over Europe is strong and outspoken.

Terry studied political science in Berlin and Edinburgh, and has been involved in politics ever since in the struggle for a fairer, more equal, more diverse Europe. As a student, she was spokesperson of the Federation of Young European Greens.

In 2017, Time Magazine chose Terry as one of the 'People of the Year' for speaking out against sexual harassment as part of the #MeToo movement. Terry is a member of the German United Services Trade Union, ver.di.



Draft

Title: **Benedetta Scuderi**

Tabled by: Federation of Young European Greens

Photo



Video

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B_MxCcTU32g

Motivation Letter [PDF]

A Youth-Powered Change: for a Green, Feminist and Inclusive Europe

In the face of escalating climate change, widening social inequalities, tremendous conflicts around the world, and the unsettling rise of the far-right, Europe stands at a crossroads. In June 2024, EU citizens will have the chance to choose a **Europe for the people and the planet**, or one for hate and discrimination. We must provide a concrete alternative for voters; we must be protagonists of a positive change.

The European Union (EU), with all its difficulties and contradictions, still represents a lighthouse for many of us. Coming from a country where the far right is in power, with deep internal differences, an unstable job market, lack of opportunities for young people, strong organised crime, rising climate denial and profound environmental issues, I have experienced the fundamental relevance of a **green and progressive EU**.

The outstanding result of the Greens in 2019 has ignited the most ambitious EU we had ever experienced. **We pushed for change, we pushed for justice**. We naturally are the mover of progress, because we see the world from a revolutionary perspective: everything and everyone in this world is worthy of equal respect and care, we fight for social and environmental justice, as we deeply understand they are consistently interconnected. **I believe in 2024 we will do better**.

We must be politely disruptive in our ideas, proposals and communication. We must provide a vision of Europe and the world that is unprecedented, unique and desirable. In front of these sliding doors, we should not be scared of **being brave**, we should not be scared of promoting change. If we **communicate to and empower** workers, students, youth, racialized people, discriminated groups, rural populations, people living in the fringes of the EU, and whoever is in need, we will do better! We should show that we are an integral part of these communities, that we understand and live their struggle and diversity. We must **acknowledge the profound differences within our Union**, tackling the ones that represent inequalities and valuing those that are a cultural enrichment.

Europe is a mosaic of cultures, histories, and identities, and our green vision must be inclusive and tailored to the unique challenges faced by different regions. It is undeniable how in the South and the East, social inequalities, economic disparities, infrastructural underdevelopment and patriarchal heritage are felt much stronger than in the rest of the EU. We must give a meaning to EU citizenship, envisioning a Europe where social class, ethnicity, gender, geographic origin, are no longer a barrier to inclusion in politics, education, and the workforce. Our policies must involve everyone, be directed at everyone, and be conceived with and for the communities. This means **addressing systemic inequalities and racism, dismantling discriminatory structures, and ensuring that our green transition benefits all**. By actively engaging with and learning from diverse perspectives, we can create a more inclusive and cohesive Europe.

We must challenge the far-right narrative, which envisions us as people's enemies, and stand for a transition that is not only ecologically sound but inherently just for every individual. By recognizing our diverse socio-economic landscapes, our green policies have to be crafted with an unwavering focus on inclusivity and an intersectional approach. Our vision for a **just green transition** should extend beyond rhetoric to **tangible actions**. We must invest in an **EU common energy system** based on renewables, having the phase out from fossil fuels as a priority. The EU should define a common and updated climate adaptation strategy and push its Member States (MS) to have binding plans on it. We must continue our efforts on climate neutrality, nature preservation, regenerative agriculture, biodiversity protection, roll-out of nature-based solutions, and generally upgrade the Green Deal.

Our transition must **not come at the cost of the Global South or of the less privileged groups**. We must foster a circular economy to reuse raw materials in order to end extraction and hoarding of resources, provide concrete alternatives for all the sectors that will be phased out, force the MS to define and implement industrial transition plans, ensure no one will suffer for green policies. The **cost of the transition** must be **borne** by the ones responsible for the climate collapse: the **billionaires**, the Oil & Gas companies and all that are generating extra profit from the crisis. Our green transition must involve a **structural change of our socio-economic paradigm**, from one served by people to one at the service of people, going beyond GDP and embracing planetary boundaries.

A more just and equal Europe, must provide inclusive and human responses to the **migration** flows towards the EU, that climate change will only exacerbate. Our outer borders are witnessing thousands of deaths every year, our migration policies and externalisation of border security is a constant threat to human rights. We must end fortress Europe, towards a Europe of integration and solidarity, creating legal and humane corridors, as well as proper integration policies, to be harmonised in every MS. This cannot be separated from the continuation of a fair **enlargement process**, based on democratic and justice principles, that we as greens must be leading in collaboration with our eastern members, who are fighting to enhance democracy, justice and ecologism in their countries.

In 2019 we have experienced the **power of young people in leading change**, young activists have initiated the green wave making a huge difference in the EU Parliament fate. That enthusiasm faded away and it is now transformed into disillusionment. We are angry, worried, but we are also ready to take responsibility for building the world we deserve, a world that will allow us to have a future. We do not want to push for change, **we now want to be the change**. By involving young voices in policy-making, we can rekindle hope, demonstrating that a green and just future is not just a distant dream but an achievable reality.

We are a **generation of crisis**. Living our 20s/30s without future perspectives is scary. However, it is even more scary knowing that our present is at stake too: high unemployment, housing crisis and a spiking cost of living. This situation is worsened **in Southern and Eastern countries**. Being a young southern Italian, I face very different challenges from many of my EU peers. We live our lives frugally, being unable to leave our parents homes until we are 30. Our best opportunity lies in emigrating, with low opportunities to come back. As a young woman, I too often felt there is no space for my development, being discriminated against, not taken into account. This is not the Europe I want; this is not the Europe I believe we can build together. We must give hope to young people all over the Union and the continent. We must push the EU on more coherent policies for youth rights and participation.

We can only make a difference through a more democratic and **feminist Europe**, enhancing participation, fostering transparent governance, and prioritising the needs of the people. We must build a Europe of the people, where policies are shaped by the diverse voices that make up our Union. As a young woman fighting the far right every day in my country, I am aware of the struggle, of the hate and the abuse one can receive when forced into this patriarchal system of power.

There is a violent propulsion aimed at shrinking the rights of women and queer people, putting our existence under threat, while denying the system of oppression. They want us quiet and that's why **we must be as loud as possible**. We must fight for equal pay, equal rights and opportunities, LGBTQIA+ rights, enshrine abortion rights in our constitutional laws. We must eliminate gender violence and discrimination, through education, prevention and smashing patriarchy step by step. The EU has the enormous responsibility and opportunity to breach the gap among MS also on this issue. Women and queer people must be free and safe everywhere.

This political agenda is a pledge to navigate towards an ecologist, feminist, and inclusive Europe, that not only addresses its internal differences but also engages meaningfully with all the territories beyond the EU bubble. Together, we can create a Europe of shared values, where justice, democracy, and hope flourish for all its people.

We don't have time to lose, but we still have time to win!

Green Greetings,

Benedetta

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Benedetta".



Driven, enthusiastic professional and political activist with extensive experience in sustainability, energy and community engagement.

Work Experience

Account Manager ESG Consultant (Mar 2023 – ongoing)

Azzeroco₂, Rome (IT)

- Collaborating with technicians and clients to develop sustainability paths
- Responsible for developing relationships with the clients on reforestation and energy communities activities

ESG Consultant (Oct 2020 – Now)

Ventitrenta Società Benefit, Rome (IT)

- Drafting sustainability reports and plans, according to international standards.
- Stakeholders and Community Engagement
- Execution of impact assessments and management

Sustainability and Community engagement, Junior Consultant (Sep 2018 - Sep 2020)

Hpc Ag, Milan (IT)

- Assistance for drafting and executing stakeholder engagement plans and social impact assessment studies
- Assistance for implementing and monitoring Environmental Management systems (e.g. ISO 14001)

Account Manager (Jan - Sep 2017)

Pro Servo, Bristol (UK)

- Built and maintained strong relationship with customers and suppliers
- Built and maintained strong relationship with customers and suppliers

Legal Trainee (Aug - Dec 2016)

Scuderi Law Firm, Salerno (IT)

- Assistance for solving legal issues and drafting of memorandums

Education

Public Policy MSc – University College London (UCL), London – Distinction – (Sep 2020 – Sep 2021)

- Gained extensive knowledge on many aspects of political science theory relevant to understand how public policies are formulated, with a final research project focused on building an integrated capacity building framework to facilitate vulnerable households' participation into Renewable Energy Community projects

Summer School, the Journey – Climate KIC, Utrecht-Budapest – (Aug 2018)

- Summer school on entrepreneurship and climate change; learning how to create new enterprises to fight climate change

Master MaGER, Green Management, Energy and CSR – Bocconi University, Milan (IT) – 106/110 – (Jan - Dec 2018)

- Gained extensive knowledge on sustainability, energy and ethical business, concluding with a final project on stakeholder analysis and engagement

Law Master's degree – Università Roma 3, Rome – 110 cum laude – (Sep 2010 - Mar 2016)

- Developed extensive knowledge on Italian, European and International law, I participated at the Erasmus Programme at Madrid Carlos III University for 6 months and I Conducted 6 months of field at Shanghai International Studies University

Volunteering and Activism

Co-Spokeperson - previously Executive Committee Member (Jun 2021 - Now)

Federation of Young European Greens, Brussels (BE)

- Leader of a Federation representing more than 30 Member Organisations (MOs) all over Europe, responsible for the coordination and development of the MOs and for creating and implementing the Federation strategy

International Officer (Jul 2020 – May 2022)

Giovani Europeisti Verdi, Italy (IT)

- Co-founder of the Italian Young Green, I contributed to the drafting of the internal rules and Political Platform, and I was responsible for international relations.

European Volunteer Service, Community development (Sep - Nov 2017)

Eko Centar, Latinovac (HR)

- Promoted an eco-lifestyle through organising events and workshops for local community engagement

Faculty Co-coordinator (Dec 2010 - Oct 2011)

Ricomincio dagli Studenti, Rome (IT)

- Networked for resources, partnerships, and participation, as well as organised events and campaigns

Local Group Organiser (Sep 2010 - Dec 2013)

Libera, Associazioni Nomi e Numeri contro le Mafie, Rome (IT)

- Co-founded a local group in Rome and organised events and workshops for engaging young people in the fight to organised crime

Skills

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| ➤ Research and analysis | ➤ Organisation |
| ➤ Team working | ➤ Communication |
| ➤ Customer relations | ➤ Analytical mind |
| ➤ Complex problem solving | ➤ Working under pressure and with tight deadlines |
| ➤ Attention to details | ➤ High profile presentations |

Languages

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| ➤ Italian: Mother tongue | ➤ Spanish: Intermediate |
| ➤ English: Fluent | ➤ Chinese: Elementary |

Achievements and Publications

Satisfactory Completion of Bar Exam (Fully Accredited Lawyer) - (Nov 2018)

Publication on the Journal MUI: "City of Cape Town Water Crisis Management" - (Nov 2018)

Personal Interests

Politics, Music, Cinema, Theatre