

# PRESS STATEMENT

**Conference of the Black Sea Greens  
30<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>th</sup> of October 2009  
Sevastopol, Ukraine**

Sevastopol, 31<sup>st</sup> of October

## **'Just asking for EU membership will never be enough'**

"Let's make a succes of the Eastern Partnership and make our relations with EU more fruitfull and deepen our cooperation. We have to be ambitious and reach for the same standards in democracy, economics and ecology. Let's start working, just asking for membership will never be enough" declared Serghiy Kurykin, president of the Green Party of the Ukraine at the Conference of Black Sea Greens that was held this weekend in Sevastopol. Mr.Vitaliy panibratetz, ahead of the Sevastopol regional organisaion of the Party of Greens of Ukraine declared to be honored to co-host this International Conference of Greens and highlighted the environmental problems and new dangers that the city and whole region has to confront.

### **Support for Eastern Partnership**

On 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>th</sup> of October 2009 around 30 participants from all Black Sea Countries gathered in Sevastopol to discuss the Greening of the new Eastern Partnership. This initiative by the European Union and the governments of Belarus, Moldova, Ukraine, Georgia, Azerbaidjan and Armenia aims to strengthen and deepen the relations between these countries on the basis of international law and fundamental values such as democracy, rule of law, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

The Black Sea Greens are of the opinion that at a time that in many countries around the Black Sea a deterioration and stagnation of democratic development is clearly noticeable and regional stability is at stake, this initiative may prove to be timely. Essential for succes is involvment of civil society on all levels, emphasizing the potential of the Eastern Parnership for regional and local needs levels.

### **Jobs and innovation: Green the economy**

The Greens however stress that to make the Eastern Partnership a success it is needed to address the real needs of the population. Jobs and innovation of economical structures may be reached if concrete projects are based upon greening the economy. This according to the Black Sea Greens is also needed to fight global warming. CO2 emissions have to be controlled and strongly lowered at global level. A shift is needed from fossile fuels towards renewable energy: wind, water and solar. Investments here will help to modernise and create tens of thousands and of jobs as has been proven in EU countries.

### **Now action for results at Global Climate Conference in Copenhagen**

The Black Sea Greens agree with the conclusion of the recent EU summit that around 2020 on a global level 100 billion Euro will be needed to support developing countries in their fight against climate change. They regret however that the EU did not commit itself with a financial offer. Not doing this can undermine the leading and result oriented position that the EU has towards the global summit on climate to take place in Copenhagen in December this year. The Black Sea Greens call upon the EU leaders and their own goverments to change this attitude and commit themselves also financially for results in Copenhagen

### **Sevastopol and Sochi**

Black Sea Greens call for special caution concerning the irresponsible lobbying for some construction projects in Black sea area such as Sochi Olympic games infrastructure developments or the coal terminal in the Sevastopol bay. Both are incompatible with long term environmental and health protection interests of local inhabitants.

The succesfull Conference of Black Sea Greens was organised in the framework of the Green East-West Dialogue and was supported by the Green European Foundation with financial support of the European Parliament.