



1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44

Opposing discrimination against disabled people

The people of Europe, those within the EU and those without, have a common history, ties and traditions that bind us together. As Greens, we feel this solidarity goes further than just humanity and includes the very surroundings we live in. We care for one another and we try to protect one another.

Over the past few decades, a toxic ideology has taken root within our society. The idea of austerity has led to mass exploitation and pitted brother against brother just so the rich can get away with their livelihood. Communities have been destroyed, the planet has been exploited and whole groups of people have been cast as villains to obscure the true culprit.

The huge cuts forced on Greece by the Troika were beyond reasonable, driven by the ideology of austerity. The tax avoidance by Starbucks, Amazon and their ilk has almost grown out of control – instead of curtailing it, individual nations are running one another into the ground with lower tax rates and obscure tax rulings. Again, austerity is to blame. Dieselgate has shown us how important it is to stand up to big business and look beyond the nearest quarterly profits. Yet austerity has seeped into several governments, allowing the car industry to get away with vague promises of improvement. The idea of austerity requires public spending to be cut, with cuts being felt by those least able to withstand them.

As a joined people and a family of Greens it is our duty to stand up against this: to stand up for democracy and human rights and to stop from being subverted by the rich and powerful. Every time these are threatened we should stand up, together, and say enough. We must say this is too far, we will not accept it. For as long as we allow ourselves to be divided, austerity will rule.

The EGP together in Karlstad, Sweden:

Recognising:

- that austerity is a toxic ideology;
- that austerity measures tend to hurt most those who can bear them the least;
- that austerity has been infecting policymakers all over the European continent;
- that just recently the United Nations Committee for Convention on the Rights of Disabled People (UNCRC) has concluded that the austerity agenda and its welfare cuts have led to a “human catastrophe” in the UK;
- that this condemning report would not have been possible without the strong campaigning by deaf and disabled people and their organisations;
- that the UK government ‘does not recognise itself’ in the UNCRC report and will most likely disregard it; and
- that this is probably just one example and there will be many more.



Draft EGP Resolution

- 45
- 46 Concluding:
- 47 - that basic human rights are being threatened by the toxicity of austerity;
- 48 - that it is necessary to call these things for what they are and not allow any
- 49 government to simply ignore these grave injustices; and
- 50 - that public statements and political pressure is needed to fight this toxic ideology.
- 51
- 52 Resolves to:
- 53 - denounce the UK government for their horrible treatment of deaf and disabled people;
- 54 - encourage every member to call on their respective governments to pressurise the UK
- 55 to amend the current situation;
- 56 - fight against the injustice of austerity where ever it is found; and
- 57 - strengthen our ties with the many organisations which stand up against the cruelty of
- 58 austerity so that we may be stronger together.