



**Draft**

**Title:** **Conclusions of the Conference on the Future of Europe: Time has come to deliver and build Europe better**

**Tabled by:** EGP Committee, on behalf of the Green Taskforce on the Future of Europe

### **Draft text**

1 The European Union is living in unprecedented times. It has never been more  
2 needed and it has never needed changes more than now.

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4 The recent COVID-19 pandemic has cost millions of lives, deepened social  
5 injustices, and put our societies at risk. It has shown the fatal impacts of our  
6 abusive exploitation of natural resources and our short-term profit-driven  
7 model. It has shown even more clearly the unsustainability of our trade models  
8 and of the underfinancing of public services. It has shown how vital European  
9 coordination and solidarity are, and how there will be no just recovery without  
10 them.

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12 As we were progressively recovering from this crisis, Vladimir Putin's regime  
13 conducted an aggressive, imperialistic and unjustifiable fully-fledged invasion  
14 of Ukraine – a war against a sovereign and democratic country and a war  
15 against the core values of the European Union. This war is showing at the  
16 greatest cost the need for a Common Foreign and Defence Policy, fossil fuel  
17 independence, energy transition and a more united European Union on the global  
18 stage.

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20 This war also puts us, Europeans, in front of the mirror.

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22 In bombarded Kyiv, in a country resisting to survive, President Zelenskyy did

23 not only ask for support, but he signed the request for Ukraine to join the  
24 European Union. This powerful choice, that Ukrainians have repeatedly expressed,  
25 reminds us of what the European project is, how much the values on which it has  
26 been built matter, and how these need to be defended and reinforced daily.

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28 It reminds us why it is so important that the EU becomes stronger, more  
29 efficient, more united.

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31 This will be only possible with citizens and thanks to them.

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33 Many times in the past, the future of Europe was decided behind closed doors and  
34 citizens were only consulted at the end of the process, after intergovernmental  
35 negotiations. This approach has contributed to fuelling mistrust as well as  
36 overlooking citizens' demands and needs.

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38 For us Greens, citizen participation is key in shaping the Europe we want in the  
39 future. This is why we have supported the process of the Conference on the  
40 Future of Europe since day one. This is also why we fought for real citizen  
41 participation and for an inclusive process.

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43 We value and welcome the work and engagement shown by citizens, organised civil  
44 society and members of parliaments throughout the duration of the Conference.

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46 We welcome the conclusions of the Conference on the Future of Europe and the  
47 clear ambition that citizens have shown to move Europe towards a green, social  
48 and democratic future.

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50 We especially welcome those proposals that have been agreed to and that are key  
51 for a more progressive and sustainable future for our continent, such as:

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53 • Reducing dependencies from oil and gas imports through energy efficiency  
54 projects, ; support of affordable public transport, high-speed rail and  
freight network, expansion of clean and renewable energy provision;

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56 • Democratic changes like the end of unanimity, i.e. the abolition of  
57 vetoes, the introduction of transnational lists, the strengthening of  
58 transparency in decision-making, and a broader right of access to  
documents, in particular in Council;

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• Independence from oil and gas imports by replacing them with renewable

60 energies by Speeding up the green transition, in particular through more  
61 European investments;

62 • Right to affordable energy, to access to the internet, to minimum social  
63 standards, including minimum pensions, access to social housing when  
64 needed, better and harmonised rights at birth of children and for families  
65 for marriage and adoption;

66 • Ensuring that social rights take precedence in case of conflict with  
67 economic freedoms, including via the introduction of a social progress  
68 protocol in the Treaties;

69 • Guaranteeing that large companies should be taxed properly, tax havens in  
70 the EU should be abolished;

71 • The Rule of Law should be protected more effectively, including by making  
72 the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights universally applicable and  
73 enforceable;

74 • European Trade agreements with third countries should be in line with the  
75 Paris Agreement and address serious human rights issues. Trade should  
76 become a true means to an end, and no longer an end in itself.

77 The Conference on the Future of Europe process has confirmed that it is both  
78 possible and necessary to include citizens in a participatory way. It has  
79 created innovative tools for citizens' participation and for inclusive  
80 deliberation. It has demonstrated that building more democratic and accountable  
81 institutions requires the introduction of new instruments for the participation  
82 of citizens in EU decision-making.

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84 As the Conference on the Future of Europe nears its end, the European Greens:

85 • Call on all responsible institutions, including national governments, to  
86 deliver by following up on the clear demands posed by the Conference.

87 • Call on all relevant actors to approve the reform of the European  
88 electoral law and fully implement it in time to establish a transnational  
89 constituency and draw up transnational lists in the 2024 European  
90 elections.

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- As numerous demands require Treaty change to be implemented, call on the European Parliament to use Article 48 of the Treaty on the European Union to start a Treaty change procedure via a European Convention and call on the European Council to follow up on it.
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- Commit to base our work in our common manifesto for the 2024 European elections on the demands formulated by the citizens in the Conference on the Future of Europe.
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- Call on all Greens elected at the local, regional, national or European level to implement the conclusions of the Conference on the Future of Europe wherever they have the capacity to do so, and to actively communicate on its conclusions to provide support, understanding and ownership across the electorate.