

Draft Resolution

1 **On Fighting Climate Change:** 2 **From Civic Action to COP21 Diplomacy to Civic Action**

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4 *“If you have ever looked in wonder at a wildflower meadow in summer or a frozen spider's web in*
5 *winter, you know that nature is beautiful and has a value beyond money. Greens are environmental*
6 *activists and we understand the interdependence of nature and ourselves in a way that other political*
7 *parties do not. We know that sustainable development means managing our natural resources wisely so*
8 *that our children and our children's children will still have a viable planet to live on.” (Steve Emmott)*
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10 **The Paris Moment: Deal or no deal that is the question!**

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12 This December at the global COP21 climate conference in Paris the international community has
13 the obligation to act on catastrophic climate change and to move towards an ambitious and just
14 global agreement that on average keeps global warming to below +2C as compared to pre-
15 industrial levels. We European Greens urge all the heads of states and governments to seize this
16 moment and to come up with a binding global climate deal to that effect.
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18 A lot of time has already been lost in this fight, because leaders year after year have listened
19 more to narrow economic interests, in particular those of the fossil industries, than to the voices
20 of the people. This time it must be different. Climate change will not only impact future
21 generations. It is already wrecking havoc in regions all over the globe.
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23 Over the course of 2015 a great array of actors has mobilised for the fight against climate change
24 ranging from academia to NGOs and green civil society, from green businesses to faith-based
25 communities, some inspired by Pope Francis' climate encyclical, from environmentally conscious
26 political leaders and judges to some institutional investors and celebrities. We European Greens
27 have always been part of the climate movement. We know: COP21 in Paris will only become a
28 transformative moment on the road towards the end of the fossil fuel age and the
29 decarbonisation of our economies, if broad pressure from as many corners of society as possible
30 forces governments to move. No movement at climate negotiation tables without strong climate
31 movement on the streets. We will therefore support the great climate demonstration in Paris on
32 November 29 with delegations from all our member parties, and we invite everybody to join
33 also.
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35 We realise that the COP21 will not achieve every necessary and desirable goal. The pledges that
36 countries have made for their respective national contributions against climate change, the so-
37 called INDCs, are insufficient. The EU must accept its responsibility as a climate leader and
38 ratchet up its targets so that they reflect the urgency of a shift to a fully renewable system. Also
39 the pledges from rich countries to help financing mitigation and adaptation in the poorer
40 countries still fall short. But in any case the Paris conference must deliver the deal that has
41 evaded us since the dismal failure of climate diplomacy in Copenhagen. It must provide an
42 ambitious decarbonisation and climate vision – Keep it below 2! -, set binding marks on the basis
43 of the INDCs, guarantee just climate finance, plot a policy-maker's climate roadmap post-Paris
44 including regular climate reviews in the future, as in line with the Sustainable Development Goals
45 (SDGs) the world will have to commit to higher climate commitments than presently offered.

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Post-Paris: We are in for the long haul!

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We European Greens will focus our continuous climate activities on three dimensions of action:

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Promote the necessary climate and environment friendly transformation of our economies.

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Join the global fossil fuel divestment movement, because “it is not realistic, that those profiting from destruction are likely to stop it”.

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Combine the fight against climate change with the fight for Sustainable Development Goals.

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End of draft.