

1 31 March 2017 – Proposal ICV and EGP Committee

2

3 ~~Fighting-Opposing Trump's policies and fighting -and- the far-right: building the alternative~~  
4 ~~through-by deepening r-democracy tization and socio-economic integration in the EU~~

5

6 The election of Donald Trump as 45<sup>th</sup> US President last 8<sup>th</sup> November 2016 ~~is a result that will~~  
7 ~~not only entail a huge impact to those residing in the US, but, moreover, is likely to cause~~  
8 ~~major turbulences on a worldwide scale. President Trump~~ represents, primarily, a threat to  
9 democracy, freedom and the rights of American citizens ~~and is a result, which is likely to cause~~  
10 ~~major turbulences on a worldwide scale.~~The first months of his mandate already proved an  
11 agenda that restricts civil liberties, dismantles social rights and distributive policies, and  
12 criminaliszes minorities, while also representing a real threat to the division of powers.

13

14 In international relations we can expect the U.S. to disengage from multilateral bodies, such as  
15 UN, and to undo its international commitments to Human Rights, climate protection, security,  
16 developmental cooperation, women's rights (Gag Rule) monetary and financial stability. The  
17 introduction of protectionist barriers increases the likelihood for political tensions and trade  
18 conflicts, including with China.

19

20 In the EU as in the US, inequality is rising ~~as a result of neoliberal policies led by many~~  
21 ~~governments across the world~~ since the 70s and societies are deeply divided. Furthermore,  
22 over these last years, the financial crisis ~~has~~ threatened many social, democratic and economic  
23 achievements, fueling the fear of globalisation and laying bare the EU's and its member states'  
24 inability to offer viable and cohesive solutions. This helped populist parties and far right  
25 movements to gain ground and reach power in the US and in ~~many-some~~ EU member states  
26 using a nationalistic and xenophobic rhetoric ~~that has traces of the xenophobic propaganda~~  
27 ~~used by movements at the origin of authoritarian regimes of last century.~~

28

29 ~~In the nearest future, we are facing an alarming situation in France with Front National trying to~~  
30 ~~access the Elysée. All t~~These forces that ~~could be defined as the "Authoritarian International"~~  
31 sometimes work as an international authoritarian network have in common their will of  
32 dismantling the EU, which also appears to fit well in Trump's agenda.

33

34 The outcome of the Brexit Referendum and Trump's election ~~have-should~~ served as wake-up  
35 calls. ~~We cannot afford a normalization of the current situation and a political combat is~~  
36 ~~required in all fronts. The criticality of the current moment will unavoidably accentuate the~~  
37 ~~conflict within European society(ies) between the integration vs. withdrawal drive.~~As a pro-  
38 European force, we, Greens, need to fight for the European project, and we need to do this  
39 with all the energy and intelligence we have.

40

41 The business as usual approach will not help to overcome the growing cleavages in society. In  
42 order to unite societies again, it becomes more urgent than ever to offer a hopeful future

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43 perspective at the European level. We need to tackle the democratic shortcomings that we  
44 have in Europe, which have played a crucial role in the increased disaffection towards the  
45 common project and led many towards embracing national retreat postulates. Moreover,  
46 confronted with an opponent who represents a real threat to democracy within global  
47 governance, the only effective answer to such short-circuiting attempts at a European scale is  
48 to offer more democracy.

49  
50 The 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Treaty of Rome provides a unique occasion to ~~make this deep~~  
51 ~~reflection on the loss of global leadership~~ as well as to remind ourselves of the values and the  
52 founding objectives upon which the Union is grounded, which appear to have been partially  
53 left behind in the past years, and particularly in the so-called refugee crisis: unity in diversity,  
54 empathising and providing welfare to those who are in need and suffer, in order to not let  
55 anyone be left behind.

56 ~~To conclude, we, Greens, are committed to these values and essential aims for the future of~~  
57 ~~humankind, and that the path to confront Trump and the far right's logic is with concrete~~  
58 ~~effective policies.~~

59 ~~Hence, every policy field shall be a global ideological battlefield. We take a clear stance: In~~  
60 front of measurers fostering xenophobia and discrimination on religious grounds, we must  
61 foster open, intercultural societies of dialogue, tolerance and inclusion, also as the most  
62 effective way to tackle the roots of radicalisation leading to terrorism. And in front of climate  
63 negationism, we must step up our efforts and play again a leading role in order to achieve the  
64 required binding targets and effective related measures to prevent global warming. Also,  
65 thanks to the Global Greens network, we will keep building an even stronger solidarity alliance  
66 of resistance to the far-right in all five continents.

67  
68 ~~We are convinced that our proposal for Europe is the one that can defeat authoritarianism.~~  
69 ~~We have proven that we are not only a source of good proposals, but also that we are ready to~~  
70 ~~take the highest responsibilities, as Alexander van der Bellen did in the Presidential election in~~  
71 ~~Austria, where he was the one who managed to stop the far-right threat or the big increase of~~  
72 ~~green seats in the Dutch Parliament that contributed stopping Wilders.~~

73  
74 ~~So, we claim with pride and conviction that the Greens are the best antidote to Trumpism and~~  
75 ~~far-right across Europe and the globe!~~

76  
77 As such, we reaffirm our commitment to:

- 78 1. ~~S~~seek cooperation with ~~forces in the US that oppose supporters for climate policy and~~  
79 ~~environmental transformation of our economies from among the opposition in the US~~  
80 ~~against President Trump;~~ and support climate policy and the environmental  
81 transformation of our economies. ~~W~~we will focus on this core green responsibility in ~~all~~

- 82 | ~~of our~~ international cooperation in order to make Europe a leader and standard-bearer  
83 | in the green transformation;
- 84 | 2. Foster transnational cooperation and exchange of experience around the necessary  
85 | fight to defend democracy against the emerging international far right and plutocracy of  
86 | the 0,1%. Strengthening European democracy, particularly on the transnational level;  
87 | ~~making good with progressive policies what the populists have promised falsely by~~  
88 | ~~shouting: "Take back control!"~~; unmasking far-right leaders in Europe who portray  
89 | themselves as anti-establishment and ~~are usually nothing~~, but clear exponents of the  
90 | establishment itself, and helping others to fight against shrinking space for civic and  
91 | democratic engagement ~~are two sides of the same coin~~;
- 92 | 3. Continue our fight against unjust trade and investment relationships; we oppose  
93 | Trumpian policies of protectionism plus nationalism, as well as so-called free-trade  
94 | policies which favor only the economically powerful; we will fight for free and fair trade  
95 | and international exchange in a multi-lateral approach guided by the goal of global  
96 | justice;
- 97 | 4. ~~We clearly reject reaffirm that racism, xenophobia, anti-Muslim propaganda, anti-~~  
98 | ~~Semitism, misogyny or any other~~ hate propaganda ~~has~~ which always met and will  
99 | always meet with our strong opposition. We oppose policies that ignore our  
100 | responsibilities towards refugees and asylum-seekers and we advocate a migration  
101 | policy that creates a credible alternative to Fortress Europe; we insist on a consistent  
102 | anti-authoritarian policy in Europe and beyond;
- 103 | 5. Cooperate with partners in the US and internationally to create resilient  
104 | alternatives to the social divisions and injustice plaguing our societies.  
105 | This is done by relating our actions to the root causes of the insecurity  
106 | and injustice, and by addressing the victims of this situation with true  
107 | solutions. Socioeconomic security, equality, decent employment and  
108 | public services are the best ways to rebuild the social cohesion,  
109 | experience of inclusion and wellbeing within the society. They reduce the  
110 | frustration and aggression arising from the injustice and sense of  
111 | meaninglessness caused by the current policies that cut the public  
112 | services and benefits of the citizens, accumulate wealth, employment and  
113 | security for a more and more limited group of people, casting more and  
114 | more Europeans into the outskirts of our societies. To succeed we must  
115 | struggle to maintain the financial sustainability of our equality securing  
116 | public services, by new green jobs, preventing tax-dodging, fighting  
117 | corruption and by not using public money for purposes that only create a  
118 | false sense of security without improving our wellbeing. ~~coöperate with~~  
119 | ~~partners in the US and internationally to create resilient alternatives to the social~~  
120 | ~~divisions and the social injustices that are plaguing our societies and to provide a~~  
121 | ~~adequate true comprehensive socioeconomic alternative based on solidarity; we want~~  
122 | ~~to exchange with them novel ways of creating justice and fighting those who benefit~~

- 123 | ~~from injustice. This includes a fight against tax dodging, against exploitation, uneven~~  
124 | ~~gender relations, against exclusion of young people or ageism.~~
- 125 | 6. Continue to fight for progressive, cosmopolitan and open-society values in order to  
126 | defeat the cultural backlash based on bigotry, supremacism, "my nation first",  
127 | isolationism and patriarchy.
- 128 | 7. ~~confront the simplification of analysis, "alternative facts" and a post-~~  
129 | ~~post-truth approach of the far-right populism. to confront the far-right~~  
130 | ~~populism attempts to neutralize any ideological debate through the simplification of~~  
131 | ~~analysis, "alternative facts" and a post-truth approach, u~~Unveiling their inconsistencies  
132 | by bringing the debate back to the domain of concrete public policies confronting them  
133 | not only with facts but also with a narrative that creates a wider and inclusive "we" to  
134 | overcome the exclusion that creates their "we against others approach".
- 135 | 8. ~~to~~ work further to be able to propose a political alternative to the misuse of the  
136 | national identities and to confront populist positions based on segregation and  
137 | alienation of 'others' who are used as scapegoats; ; to work thoroughly in order to  
138 | prevent a split taking place in Europe, it being an existential risk as we could envisage in  
139 | some of the passages of the economic crisis.
- 140 | 9. Build a truly functioning, inclusive and transparent democracy at  
141 | European level, capable of guaranteeing the common good, to tackle  
142 | economic imbalances and social injustices, to protect fundamental rights  
143 | and freedoms, to fight the severe social crisis in some EU member states  
144 | and to ensure environmental protection within and beyond its borders.~~To~~  
145 | ~~promote effective steps towards a resilient Union, whose main and most urgent~~  
146 | ~~challenge at the moment in this sense is concluding the democratic-fiscal integration of~~  
147 | ~~the Eurozone, where regretfully, the level of development and consensus in the~~  
148 | ~~concretion is much smaller than in other domains still.~~
- 149 | 10. Continue our work in local and regional governments with pioneering projects of  
150 | hosting and inclusion of refugees, migrants and asylum seekers; creating more  
151 | inclusive, participative and greener cities, with all the necessary social services for all;  
152 | and also with our presence in national parliaments and governments, pushing for the  
153 | much needed clean energy transition, for instance in Germany, or even recently being  
154 | at the forefront of the climate deal in Sweden.
- 155 |
- 156 | ~~10.~~ We have proven that we not only have good proposals, but also that we are ready to  
157 | take the highest responsibilities, just as Alexander van der Bellen did in the Presidential  
158 | election in Austria, where he was the one who managed to stop the far-right threat or the big  
159 | increase of green seats in the Dutch Parliament that contributed to stopping Wilders.
- 160 |
- 161 | So, we claim with pride and conviction that our project is the best antidote to Trumpism and  
162 | far-right across Europe and the globe!