

EGP/Global Greens Congress 30.3. – 2.4.2017, Liverpool, UK  
Withdrawal of the voting rights for the De Groenen, Netherlands

1<sup>st</sup> March – EGP letter to both De Groenen fraction about DG delegation at the EGP/Global greens congress in Liverpool

4<sup>th</sup> March – De Groenen Otto ter Haar response about DG delegation at the EGP/Global greens congress in Liverpool

6<sup>th</sup> March – De Groenen Jozef van Kessel response about DG delegation at the EGP/Global greens congress in Liverpool

10<sup>th</sup> March – De Groenen Jozef van Kessel informs EGP that DG will not be able to pay membership fee on time

**From:** Mar Garcia [mar.garcia@europeangreens.eu](mailto:mar.garcia@europeangreens.eu)

**Subject:** about De Groenen in the Congress

**Date:** 1 Mar 2017 11:16

**To:** Otto ter Haar [otto@degroenen.nl](mailto:otto@degroenen.nl), Jozef van Kessel [vnkessel@gmail.com](mailto:vnkessel@gmail.com), Jozef van Kessel [jozef@degroenen.nl](mailto:jozef@degroenen.nl)

**Cc:** Ann Verheyen [ann.verheyen@europeangreens.eu](mailto:ann.verheyen@europeangreens.eu), gwendoline [gwendoline.delboscorfield@europeangreens.eu](mailto:gwendoline.delboscorfield@europeangreens.eu), Vesna Jusup [vesna.jusup@europeangreens.eu](mailto:vesna.jusup@europeangreens.eu)

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Dear Otto,  
Dear Josef,

I hope this mail find you well.

We are contacting you over the confusion about who is the legitimate interlocutor in De Groenen.

We understand that within De Groenen two different and parallel congresses were held in the beginning of this year, and that another one is coming up on the 4th March. That De Groenen accounts have been blocked, and that now there is a legal issue about who is in the Executive Board of De Groenen.

We also learned that the Kamer van Koophandel of the Netherlands does not want to take sides and suggests you to take the issue to a civic court.

EGP Committee cannot take sides either.

With regard the delegation for De Groenen, we have received from each of you different nominees. We would like to address this to make sure there are no problems during the distribution of the votes in Liverpool.

Otto ter Haar has let us know that himself, Gerben Uunk and two ladies (still to be selected) will make up the delegation for Liverpool. Jozef van Kessel mailed to let us know that two of the 4 delegates will be himself and Jolanda Verburg.

We propose the following for the EGP Congress delegates from De Groenen:

- Otto ter Haar + female delegate and
- Jozef van Kessel + Jolanda Verburg

It also needs to be clarified who will be:

- the EGP Council session delegates (two delegates, 1 vote) and
- the Global Greens Congress delegate (1 delegate).

We expect you to let us know as soon as possible. In any case, please make sure the delegation is gender balanced.

With kind regards,

Mar and Gwendoline

**Mar Garcia**  
Secretary General

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EGP Committee  
Mar Garcia  
[mar.garcia@europangreens.eu](mailto:mar.garcia@europangreens.eu)

Representation of De Groenen at the Council and Congresses in Liverpool

Amsterdam, March 4<sup>th</sup> 2017

Dear Mar,

I received your message of March 1<sup>st</sup> in good order and discussed it with my substitute-delegate Gerben Uunk, my fellow board member Rijndert Doting and during the 66<sup>th</sup> congress we just concluded.

We understand the decision of the Committee to not take sides in the internal conflict within our party. The same position is taken by the Triodos Bank where the party has a bank account. We believe that this is a proper approach to the situation.

We do not support your proposal to distribute the votes allocated for De Groenen between the two factions. We propose to suspend the voting rights of De Groenen until the internal dispute has been resolved. In any way we object to allow either Van Kessel or Verburg to represent De Groenen since in our view they both have lost their membership since January 1<sup>st</sup>.

Gerben Uunk and I will attend the Congress in Liverpool in our private capacity as members of a Member Party without voting rights.

De Groenen is due to pay the EGP €1150 Membership Fee for 2017. Since our account at Triodos Bank is blocked we cannot use the funds available. We will pay as soon as we recover control of the account.

We will do our best to resolve the situation before the end of this month, but is certainly possible that it will take longer.

With kind regards,

Otto ter Haar

**From:** Jozef van Kessel vnkessel@gmail.com  
**Subject:** RE: about De Groenen in the Congress  
**Date:** 6 Mar 2017 11:37  
**To:** Mar Garcia mar.garcia@europeangreens.eu  
**Cc:** Ann Verheyen ann.verheyen@europeangreens.eu, gwendoline gwendoline.delboscorfield@europeangreens.eu, Vesna Jusup vesna.jusup@europeangreens.eu, jolanda.verburg@planet.nl, Ronald Schönberger ronaldschonberger@hotmail.com

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On our congress 4 March we decided not to send any delegates to the EGP Congress nor Global Green Congress 30 March-2 April in Liverpool. During last year Jolanda Verburg has developed some serious health issues, and that is for us a valid reason not to come. As a most probable cause for the health issues she sees the enduring conflict within the board of De Groenen. Nevertheless individual members are entitled to visit the congress in Liverpool, but because of the internal conflict within De Groenen they can not and will not represent opinions of De Groenen. We let you decide whether those delegates are entitled on any reimbursement.

We expect that the problems within De Groenen will be solved after summer when the next EGP Council takes place November 2017.

Furthermore the congress of De Groenen has decided first to try advise, mediation, conciliation with help of the EGP, before we should decide to go to civil court in the Netherlands. We see a civil court as a last resort when any other form of political agreement should fail. Otto ter Haar has shut down the internal conciliation committee (geschillencommissie) of De Groenen and refuses any mediation or communication.

For that reason we ask the Committee to organise a meeting in Eindhoven or any other city in the Netherlands; if necessary we can also come to Brussels. We would simply like to talk about the ongoing conflict with some members of the Committee and the EGP-bureau.

We remind you that the conflict has emerged and become apparent for everyone after our conversation with Gwendoline Delbos during the Council in Utrecht May 2016. Gwendoline has still scheduled a private conversation with Jolanda Verburg, that could take place too. We do not wish that Otto will be present during our first conversation because he is very intimidating towards other people etc.

Since our last congress De Groenen is represented by a new board consisting of Ronald Schönberger as chairman and party leader, Jozef van Kessel as secretary and Jolanda Verburg as treasurer.

Jozef van Kessel,  
Secretary De Groenen, Nederland

**From:** Jozef van Kessel vnkessel@gmail.com

**Subject:** Re: About De Groenen in the Congress

**Date:** 10 March 2017 at 08:07

**To:** Mar Garcia mar.garcia@europeangreens.eu

**Cc:** Vesna Jusup vesna.jusup@europeangreens.eu, Gwendoline Delbos-Corfield gwendoline.delboscorfield@europeangreens.eu, Ann Verheyen ann.verheyen@europeangreens.eu

JV

Dear Mar,

Thank you for the information you sent us.

We regret that De Groenen was not able to pay the yearly contribution to the EGP in 2017, and therefore has no voting rights in Liverpool.

I made a donation to De Groenen February 2016 of 5000 euros, but Ter Haar has blocked our bank account since January 2017 for his political reasons. He refuses to let us make use of our bank account and pay the EGP-contribution. You can understand that I will not donate another 1150 euros from my own private bank account above my donation in 2016. I now regret that I did not split up that donation between De Groenen and the EGP, each 2500. Ter Haar can not be trusted in his financial actions either.

Also Ter Haar sabotages our visit to the Global Green Congress. We do not understand why he made Gerben Uunk delegate because Gerben lives in Ireland and just has become a member since September 2016 in the midst of the crisis. Uunk rarely visits our meetings. Let it be clear that Ter Haar and Uunk will visit the Congress without our consent, as individual members of De Groenen and without any voting rights. They do not speak on behalf of De Groenen which we as a board represent.

We expect that we can start a law suit in Dutch court soon after the Congress. For this reason we have decided for the time being only to communicate with Ter Haar and Uunk by lawyer, and not by sending him any information by mail which he would use against De Groenen. He is just destroying our party. We ask you not to redirect our e-mails.

Non the less Jozef van Kessel has decided to come to Liverpool 30 March -2 April. Jolanda is, for health reasons, not able to come, but I have close contacts with her and our new chairman Ronald. Maybe we can talk in Liverpool there a bit about the future of De Groenen, off the record.

Jozef van Kessel,  
Secretary De Groenen

On Wed, Mar 8, 2017 at 1:43 PM +0100, "Mar Garcia" <[mar.garcia@europeangreens.eu](mailto:mar.garcia@europeangreens.eu)> wrote:

Dear Otto and Jozef,

Thank you very much for your mails regarding the Liverpool Congress and the internal conflict within De Groenen.

Following both your responses, the state of play is that:

- The Committee will propose to suspend the voting rights of De Groenen until the problems are resolved.
- The representatives of both factions to the Liverpool Congress will be:
  - on the one hand, Otto ter Haar and Gerben Uunk
  - and for the other faction, individual members of De Groenen, still to be communicated.

Regarding reimbursement, EGP will apply the rules and reimburse four delegates, without voting rights, if gender balanced.

Regarding the membership fee 2017 we acknowledge the situation that the Triodos account has been blocked. The EGP Treasurer and Committee will be informed.

With kind regards,

Mar and Gwendoline

