

1 1. Introduction

2
3 During 2018, our priority will be to prepare for the European elections 2019. We are
4 committed to conducting an effective pan-European common campaign, with a resonating
5 Green message. Together with our member parties, we are at the gateway of bringing
6 several important decisions that will shape not only our activities but the whole strategy for
7 the European elections. Thus, in 2018, we will focus on the activities and initiatives that will
8 provide us with political outputs to be built into the campaign strategy, planning, the
9 manifesto and our public profile for the elections.

10
11 We continue to witness important elections that will significantly influence the political
12 discourse towards the European elections, such as parliamentary elections in Italy, Sweden
13 and Hungary. 2017 has given Europe the effects of Brexit, the humanitarian refugee crisis,
14 important climate challenges, and the Spanish and Catalan issue, among others. New
15 political crises may also arise and it is our aim to ensure that we present a strong Green
16 perspective and that our responses are heard as part of the European debate within
17 different arenas and among the various stakeholders.

18
19 Therefore, we pledge to use 2018 to reach out and engage in dialogue with both our current
20 and potential allies and supporters.

21

22 2. Political priorities – towards 2019

23

24 JOINT CAMPAIGN

25 | In order to develop a **joint campaign**, the EGP Committee and the member parties will
26 cooperate with a coordinated approach.~~we will seek out maximum cooperation with the~~
27 ~~member parties.~~

28

29 Campaign Strategy Working Group

30

31 - We will establish a campaign working group in which all EU member parties and
32 partners willing to get involved in the preparation and execution of the campaign are
33 represented.

34

35 - With the aim of being more operative, and given the complexity of the coordination, the
36 Committee will invite members of this working group to form an executive board.

37

38 | - A communication group at a more executive level will also be appointed, consisting of
39 the communication people of the member parties.

40

41 Other ad-hoc groups with limited tasks can also be created and for a limited time if this is
42 necessary.

43 Associated tasks:

44 - **Campaign strategy**, common campaign preparation

45 - Coordination with the campaign agency

46 - Campaign managers' meetings

47 - Coordination of volunteers

48 - Election polling

49 - Research into the opposition

50 - Support for the Committee for coordinating with GGEP, FYEG and other relevant
51 actors

52 - **ChangeMaking Network**, subject to the Karlstad Council's adoption of the proposal

53 - Engaging in dialogue with change-makers

54 - Platform, database (data-protection rules), promotion, content/projects moderation,
55 participant management, coordination with member parties and partners

56 - Liaising with parties/(advisory board)

57 - **EGP Manifesto 2019** - Appointment of the manifesto working group (as well as a
58 manifesto editorial group)

59 The Committee will establish a working group to prepare the common manifesto 2019. An
60 editorial board will develop a comprehensive text encompassing our main Green political
61 agenda, with clear and credible proposals for a Green Europe. The manifesto will be voted
62 on at the Autumn Council 2018. We foresee a minimum of two meetings for the working
63 group and editorial board. This process will be linked to the decision-making process in the
64 2018 spring and autumn Councils.

65

66 FUTURE OF EUROPE

67 The future of Europe is no longer just a discussion for institutional specialists or
68 aficionados: in fact, it is gaining a growing resonance among the wider public. It is clear
69 that all-most policy areas that are relevant for citizens are affected by the existence of a
70 strong and democratic European Union, able to deliver on the economy, rule of law, rights,
71 well-being and security of its citizens and residents. Taking a clear stand on the EU, and
72 what it should be and do, can influence election results, as demonstrated in recent national
73 elections across the continent – and we are convinced this will be the case in 2019.

74 As Greens, we want to be part of and be able to influence this European-wide debate,

75 bringing concrete proposals for reform and campaign initiatives that can shape the
76 direction the EU is going.

77 Beside the activities of the working group on the Future of Europe, which will prepare
78 concrete proposals to be adopted by the Council in [Spring](#) 2018, we will organise an event
79 on the topic of a green 'resetting' of the EU. We remain open to alliances and collaboration
80 with other civil society actors to pursue this objective.

81

82 EUROPEAN IDEAS LAB (EIL) + REGIONAL EILs

83 Together with the Greens-EFA in the EP group, in 2018 we will continue our communication
84 and cooperation with stakeholders from the civil society, individual activists and
85 movements which are investing their efforts to achieve like-minded changes locally or in
86 our European societies. While ensuring a constant flow of information and mutual support,
87 we will focus on the European Ideas Lab events as a focal point for meeting, debating and
88 creating the seeds for future common actions.

89 The main EIL will be organised in Brussels in March 2018. It will bring together Greens and
90 change-makers from across the European Union in large numbers, to discuss political
91 priorities, and to present and build upon one another's achievements. At the same time, the
92 EIL is an incubator for ideas for shared actions and cross-sectorial or cross-national
93 cooperation.

94 Two smaller-scale, regional EILs will be organised in cooperation with Green parties from
95 the respective regions. In May, another one will be held in Denmark and in autumn 2018
96 there will be an EIL in the Czech Republic.

97

98 GREENS JOINING COMMON ACTIONS

99 Over the last two years, the EGP has invested in developing its relationships with different
100 civic movements and has enhanced its capability to actively participate in pertinent
101 campaigns. In particular, we gave emphasis to the divestment campaign.

102

103 For 2018, the EGP Committee proposes to go one step further. We propose to make a
104 concerted effort to team up with different movements on different topics and different
105 occasions around the year. We want to develop our capacity in sharing campaigning efforts
106 between as many of our member parties as possible for specific occasions.

107

108 The EGP will provide campaigning material in the required languages, activity proposals
109 and action ideas as well as common documentation of the efforts of the member parties.
110 We are proposing that member parties participate in as many action days as they want. Of
111 course, the more common effort we manage to organise, the better. Our hope is that all
112 member parties could benefit from increased visibility of the European Greens in these joint
113 activities.

114

115 We will provide material and support for the following action days in 2018:

116

117 • Women's Day, 8 March

118 • Earth Day, 22 April + Commemoration of the Chernobyl Nuclear Disaster, 26 April
119 (+ Divestment)

120 • Europe Day, 9 May, focusing in particular on democracy in Europe

121 • World Refugee Day, 20 June

122 • Coastal Clean-up Day, third Saturday in September + Maritime Protection Day,
123 last Thursday in September

124 • Anti-corruption Day, 9 December

125

126

127 GREEN CITIES CONFERENCE

128 We will continue working on a Green cities conference as a format that can provide us with
129 the opportunity to strengthen the Greens at the local level, and provide, promote and
130 transfer Green answers and concrete policies.

131

132 GENDER and LGBTIQ work

133 We will build upon the results achieved in 2017 and continue mainstreaming these issues
134 throughout our work. The Gender and LGBTIQ network will foster active discussions within
135 their membership and organise gatherings at the EGP Council alongside their own
136 activities, the aim being to provide outputs in their field of competence and interests in
137 preparation of the European election campaign.

138 Following our positive experiences, we will support one of the European pride events
139 organised through the Queer Network, supporting the local member party and their efforts
140 and struggles towards our shared goal – an equal society.

141

142 PARTY LEADERS MEETINGS

143 Maximum two Party Leaders meetings will be organised through-out the year in accordance
144 with the pre-agreed dynamic and agenda. These meetings will ensure that the base for the
145 common campaign is grounded in the different realities, and the needs and expectations
146 from the Common campaign are matched.

147

148 3. Partners

149

150 Green Group in the European Parliament – Greens in the EP

151 The Committee is pursuing the continuation of a strong working relationship with the
152 Greens-EFA Group in the European Parliament. Joint efforts will focus mainly on the
153 upcoming elections in 2019.

154 The Committee will continue the practice of holding joint meetings with the GGEP Bureau,
155 at least twice in 2018.

156 The GGEP has started to develop the components for its 'information campaign' in view of
157 the 2019 European elections, with the aim of providing a source of in-depth political content
158 for the member parties and candidates-to-be.

159 We will continue to cooperate on the European Ideas Lab projects, as explained above.

160

161 **Federation of Young European Greens – FYEG**

162 We envisage enhanced cooperation while preparing for the 2019 election campaign and will
163 promote Youth issues as a high priority in our political work and transversally through other
164 topics.

165 We will join in the FYEG 30th anniversary celebration which will be marked by a series of
166 events.

167 The EGP is continuing its financial support for FYEG (as per the agreement in Copenhagen,
168 May 2012), based in the EGP premises. Moreover, we will continue to cooperate with our
169 very committed youth wing on joint activities. We appreciate the high level of campaigns,
170 political debates and trainings they manage to organise with relatively few resources.

171 Committee members Reinhard Bütikofer and Thomas Waitz will continue as primary
172 contacts for FYEG.

173

174 **Green European Foundation – GEF**

175 The Committee is continuing to build on the strong cooperation with GEF on transnational
176 activities, the summer universities being the best example, among others, and appreciates
177 their valuable training and research capacity as well as the Green European Journal.

178 The EGP is represented by four people from GEF bodies: Co-Chair Reinhard Bütikofer is a
179 member of the GEF Board; Committee member Gwendoline continues as GEF GA member;
180 and two other representatives from EGP member parties have a seat at the GEF General
181 Assembly, which meets twice a year.

182

183 **Global Greens**

184 The priorities of the Global Greens are built around two issues: climate change and
185 democracy.

186 The EGP continues to support the Global Greens with its membership fee, as in previous
187 years. ~~Post Liverpool Congress and post Margaret Blakers, the Global Greens are in a~~
188 ~~transitional period: selection~~The selection of the next convener and a co-convener has
189 been finalised. Their cooperation will be evaluated in September 2019.

190 A new MoU between the EGP and GG will be ~~negotiated an, when signed, a copy will be~~
191 ~~shared with the Council delegates and the member parties.~~signed in November 2017.

192 The GG secretariat will move out of the EGP premises by mid-2018. In principle, the next GG
193 congress will be organised in 2022, presumably hosted by the Asia-Pacific Greens
194 Federation.

195 The EGP is represented in the Global Greens Coordination by two Committee members:
196 Evelyne Huytebroeck as a full member and Gwendoline Delbos-Corfield as an alternate
197 member.

198

199 4. Working Groups and Networks

200 Through our working groups and networks we are able to enhance the involvement of
201 member parties. Apart from the regular parallel sessions held at the Councils, any
202 additional activities will be focused on raising awareness for the common 2019 campaign.

203 **Working Groups:** Future of Europe, Foreign and Security Policy, Trade.

204 **Networks:** Balkan Greens, Gender, LGBTIQ, local councillors (Green Cities Conference),
205 ENGS

206

207 5. Relations with our members

208 In an effort to build a relevant and efficient Common campaign, together with the member
209 parties, we will organise visits to their respective countries. Scouting missions will be
210 arranged to those countries either where recent political changes have shaped new
211 relationships within the political spectrum, or where the European narrative has significantly
212 changed in recent years, or where the member parties have experienced changes in their
213 political status.

214 Furthermore, we will organise study visits to the member parties, following up on the
215 invitations and matters of common interest. Additional working meetings will be organised
216 to sustain the debate and explore the perspective of collaboration during the European
217 elections campaign.

218 We will further develop tools to help member parties by responding to their specific
219 requests. These may include providing speakers for events, linking member parties that can
220 learn from each other, sharing materials and identifying possible solutions to challenges
221 the parties are facing.

222 To save resources and maximise on efficiency, relations with the member parties will be
223 focused mainly on the common campaign, as described above.

224 Nevertheless, we will be available to our member parties outside of the EU, to support them
225 when needed, based on the availability of current resources.

226

227 6. Organisation

228

229 **European Political Party**

230 We will work towards strengthening cooperation with the other relevant European Political
231 Parties. We want to join forces around the concept of leading candidates for the upcoming
232 EU elections.

233

234 As an officially registered European political party, the EGP is entitled to apply for European
235 Parliament contributions. In 2018, distribution of the total EP contribution to political parties
236 is based on 10 parties. The EGP has applied for a contribution based on 42 MEPs in the
237 Greens-EFA group and expects to receive EUR 2.3 million.

238

239

240 **EGP Office**

241 The 2018 financial resources will allow for the EGP office to remain staffed with 14 regular
242 employees (including the Secretary General). In addition, in 2018, the team will be enlarged
243 with extra staff in the run up to the 2019 EU election campaign. Currently, we foresee
244 between three and six extra staff members, depending on the final size of the campaign
245 budget and the necessities that will be detailed in the campaign plan.

246

247

248 **Councils and Committee meetings**

249

250 The Committee proposes to hold the 28th EGP Council on 18-20 May 2018 (venue to be
251 decided) and the 29th EGP Council on 23-25 November 2018 (venue to be decided).

252 During and in-between the Councils, 10 Committee meetings will be organised to manage
253 the party, execute its priorities and prepare for the Councils. The 2018 Committee meetings
254 are scheduled for: 19-20 January; 23-24 February; 13-14 April; 17 May at the Spring Council,
255 18-20 May; 15-17 June Retreat; 13-14 July; 14-15 September; 19-20 October; 22 November
256 at the Autumn Council, 23-25 November; and 14-15 December.

257 Committee meeting minutes are posted on the internal delegates' platform on the EGP
258 website.