

1. Introduction

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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

2. Political priorities – towards 2019

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24 JOINT CAMPAIGN

25 In order to develop a **joint campaign**, we will seek out maximum cooperation with the
26 member parties.

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28 Campaign Strategy Working Group

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

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

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37 - A communication group at a more executive level will also be appointed.

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

41 Associated tasks:

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

43 - Coordination with the campaign agency

44 - Campaign managers' meetings

45 - Coordination of volunteers

46 - Election polling

47 - Research into the opposition

48 - Support for the Committee for coordinating with GGEP, FYEG and other relevant
49 actors

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

51 - Engaging in dialogue with change-makers

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

54 - Liaising with parties/(advisory board)

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

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

63

64 FUTURE OF EUROPE

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

72 As Greens, we want to be part of and be able to influence this European-wide debate,
73 bringing concrete proposals for reform and campaign initiatives that can shape the
74 direction the EU is going.

75 Beside the activities of the working group on the Future of Europe, which will prepare
76 concrete proposals to be adopted by the Council in 2018, we will organise an event on the

77 topic of a green 'resetting' of the EU. We remain open to alliances and collaboration with
78 other civil society actors to pursue this objective.

79

80 EUROPEAN IDEAS LAB (EIL) + REGIONAL EILs

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

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

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

95

96 GREENS JOINING COMMON ACTIONS

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

100

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

105

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

112

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

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- 115 • Women's Day, 8 March
- 116 • Earth Day, 22 April + Commemoration of the Chernobyl Nuclear Disaster, 26 April
- 117 (+ Divestment)

- 118 • Europe Day, 9 May, focusing in particular on democracy in Europe
119 • World Refugee Day, 20 June
120 • Coastal Clean-up Day, third Saturday in September + Maritime Protection Day,
121 last Thursday in September
122 • Anti-corruption Day, 9 December

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124

125 GREEN CITIES CONFERENCE

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

129

130 GENDER and LGBTIQ work

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

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

139

140 PARTY LEADERS MEETINGS

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

145

146 3. Partners

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148 **Green Group in the European Parliament – Greens in the EP**

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

152 The Committee will continue the practice of holding joint meetings with the GGEP Bureau,

153 at least twice in 2018.

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

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

158

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

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

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

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

169 Committee members Reinhard Bütikofer and Thomas Waitz will continue as primary
170 contacts for FYEG.

171

172 **Green European Foundation – GEF**

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

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

180

181 **Global Greens**

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

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

188 A new MoU between the EGP and GG will be signed in November 2017. The GG secretariat
189 will move out of the EGP premises by mid-2018. In principle, the next GG congress will be
190 organised in 2022, presumably hosted by the Asia-Pacific Greens Federation.

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

194

195 4. Working Groups and Networks

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

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

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

202

203 5. Relations with our members

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

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

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

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

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

222

223 **6. Organisation**

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225 **European Political Party**

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

229

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

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235

236 **EGP Office**

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

242

243

244 **Councils and Committee meetings**

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

248 During and in-between the Councils, 10 Committee meetings will be organised to manage
249 the party, execute its priorities and prepare for the Councils. The 2018 Committee meetings
250 are scheduled for: 19-20 January; 23-24 February; 13-14 April; 17 May at the Spring Council,
251 18-20 May; 15-17 June Retreat; 13-14 July; 14-15 September; 19-20 October; 22 November
252 at the Autumn Council, 23-25 November; and 14-15 December.

253 Committee meeting minutes are posted on the internal delegates' platform on the EGP
254 website.