

EUROPEAN GREEN PARTY

COMMON MANIFESTO

FINAL DRAFT – COMPROMISE PROPOSAL – 1.0

1 INTRODUCTION

2 believe that Europe, that the EU, is our common home and our future. That future is under threat. To
 3 safeguard our common future we want to change Europe, to strengthen it. That is why we stand for
 4 more solidarity and solidity, sustainability and justice than we find in Europe European Union (B today.
 5 We fight for stronger European democracy than exists today. We invite you to join us in building new
 6 European unity on this basis. Europe the EU and its member states who still hold many important
 7 keys to European progress, have been failing many of its citizens.

8 The idea of Europe European Integration has been met with growing frustration, fear, even with anger,
 9 because in the crisis many social, democratic and economic achievements have been threatened or
 10 destroyed. At the moment, 25% of Europe the EU's citizens are at risk of poverty and social exclusion.
 11 People are afraid. Europe is in crisis for many reasons. We have for instance allowed unacceptable
 12 risk-taking and greed by unleashing financial markets, resulting in high unemployment, stagnation,
 13 increased social division and injustice. Our economic model is not sustainable and is undermining its
 14 ability to create prosperity. The global climate conferences in the past years have demonstrated how
 15 dangerously far we are removed from avoiding catastrophic climate change. There is still not enough
 16 political will to achieve a turn-around. Short-termism and narrow lobbyist interests seem to prevail.

17 We invite you to join us in our efforts to turn anger about all this into new hope. Europe The
 18 European Union must change. Europe, indeed, needs fundamental transformation. DEAR EUROPEAN
 19 CITIZEN;

20 We the European Greens have two reasons for addressing you: We want you to participate in the
 21 European Parliament elections on May 22nd-25th, 2014. And we want you to vote Green.

22 LET'S BUILD EUROPE TOGETHER – BY CHANGING WHAT'S WRONG

23 We Greens If we give room to populism, nationalism or economic chauvinism, then no region, no
 24 country, no part of Europe will remain or become prosperous. In a globalised world, facing the
 25 daunting social, environmental and security challenges ahead, our European answer cannot be to
 26 revert to national boundaries. Only together will we Europeans be successful. But we must set the
 27 right priorities! We need fair economic cooperation that respects our ecological responsibilities. We
 28 need solidarity within and between our nations. We need a strong democracy. We must live our
 29 values, upholding freedom and liberties domestically and internationally. The Europe we fight for is not
 30 self-satisfied, but ambitious. It refuses to condone failure in European policies. It is able to better
 31 embrace the necessary change towards more sustainability and a good life for all its people.

32 CRISIS CREATES ANXIETY AND ANGER – WE WANT TO BUILD HOPE AND SECURITY

33 Hope and security and peace, that's why so many Europeans supported the European unification
 34 project in its early years. Europe This Union has delivered on peace. European unity freed the
 35 continent from centuries of antagonism and war. European Integration inspired the removal of
 36 dictatorships and authoritarian regimes in many European countries. But more recently,

37 DEAR EUROPEAN CITIZEN,

38 We want to invite you to participate in the European Parliament elections on May 22nd-25th, 2014.
 39 And we want you to vote Green. This year sees the 100th anniversary of the start of the First World
 40 War and is 57 years after the Treaty of Rome marked the founding of what is now the European
 41 Union. European unification has freed the continent from centuries of antagonism and war. It has
 42 inspired the removal of dictatorships and authoritarian regimes across most of our continent. It has

43 enabled the economic reconstruction of its member states in a spirit of social justice, and is making
44 our continent a pioneer of environmental sustainability. Each enlargement has enriched our cultures,
45 enabled us to recognise each other, making us all part of the same challenging project. There is no
46 doubt about it that the building of the European Union up to this point has been an historic
47 achievement.

48 EUROPE IS NOW AT THE CROSSROADS

49 We Greens believe that Europe is our common home and our future. Yet, that future is under threat.
50 If the EU's achievements are to be preserved and enhanced, now is the time for a fundamental
51 political reorientation and for a democratic renewal of the European Union. To safeguard our
52 common future we want to change Europe to strengthen it. That is why we stand for more solidarity,
53 sustainability and justice. If we give room to populism, nationalism or economic chauvinism, then no
54 region, no country, no part of Europe will remain or become prosperous on its own. In a globalised
55 world, it is only by acting together that we stand a chance of meeting the daunting social,
56 environmental, economic and security challenges ahead. We need fair economic cooperation that
57 respects our ecological responsibilities. We need solidarity within and between our nations. We need
58 a strong democracy. We must live our values, upholding freedom and liberties domestically and
59 internationally.

60 CRISIS CREATES ANXIETY AND ANGER – WE WANT TO BUILD HOPE AND SECURITY

61 Neo-liberal de-regulation has created financial markets solely driven by short-term greed resulting in
62 the global financial crisis that is still with us today. The crisis has threatened or destroyed many social,
63 democratic and economic achievements and as a consequence the conception of the European Union
64 is now being challenged by a growing sense of frustration, fear, and even anger. The medicine of
65 austerity that has been prescribed for several years now to countries in crisis has increased social
66 division and injustice, jeopardized the well-being of many of our fellow citizens, undermined the
67 capacity of our societies prosper, and crucially, weakened democracy. Today, 25% of Europeans are at
68 risk of poverty or social exclusion; 27 million are unemployed, including almost one out of five young
69 Europeans! The most fragile end up paying the heaviest price of the crisis. We are therefore not
70 surprised that this injustice is stirring fear and anger across our continent. While we share that anger,
71 we want to turn it into hope. At the same time the environmental crisis persists. Our economic
72 model is not sustainable. The continued failure to reach a global agreement at the climate conferences
73 demonstrates how far we are from avoiding catastrophic climate change. Short-termism and the
74 narrow interests of lobbyists continue to prevail. Europe is essential to build the more sustainable,
75 democratic and equal society we are calling for. Think of it: taming the forces of financial markets and
76 of global corporations, effectively fighting tax fraud and evasion, transforming Europe's energy supply
77 to combat runaway climate change. These are all examples of urgent actions that are beyond the
78 capabilities of even the largest of our member states. We need cooperation within the EU to
79 effectively deal with these issues.

80 The transformation we advocate must go hand in hand with a democratic re-foundation. We want a
81 European Union that pioneers a more direct and participative democracy. Executive bodies such as
82 the European Commission and Central Bank must be held accountable for their actions. The EU must
83 be an effective multi-level democracy, respecting subsidiarity and making its diversity one of its best
84 assets.

86 YOUR VOTE MATTERS – DON'T LET THOSE WHO WANT TO RUIN EUROPE WIN LET'S FIGHT 87 FOR A EUROPEAN ALTERNATIVE

88 We want you to join us in the fight for an economic, political and social transformation that will build
89 future prosperity on the basis of sustainable development and a Green renaissance of our industry.

90 With coherent and sustained policies new investment and many Green jobs can be created,
 91 constituting good and decent work, equal pay, workers' rights, increased economic mobility, regional
 92 development and better opportunities for small and medium sized enterprises or social businesses.
 93 We insist on a European energy policy, which will mitigate climate change: Yes to renewables and
 94 energy efficiency, phase-out to nuclear and coal and no shale gas. All this is part of our Green New
 95 Deal. We want you to join us in the fight for an economic transformation that will build future
 96 prosperity on the basis of sustainable development and a Green renaissance of our industry. Here
 97 many Green jobs can be created, constituting good and decent work, equal pay, workers' rights,
 98 increased economic mobility, regional development and better opportunities for small and medium
 99 sized enterprises or social companies. We insist on a European energy policy, which will mitigate
 100 climate change: Yes to renewables and energy efficiency, no to nuclear or more coal and shale gas. All
 101 this we call a Green New Deal.

102 ~~We~~ Greens remain reliable advocates of environmental responsibility. Help us take a strong stance
 103 against those on the right or on the left and from the lobbies, who would rather block progress. We
 104 demand more sustainable agricultural policies and have played a strong role in reforming the EU's
 105 fisheries policy. We advocate more transparency and corporate responsibility. We have consistently
 106 promoted consumer and citizens' rights. We demand more sustainable agricultural policies and have
 107 played a strong role in reforming the EU's fisheries policy. We have consistently promoted consumer
 108 rights. Environmentalism is also a social responsibility. If we destroy the environment, we destroy the
 109 basis of our economy and well-being.

110 ~~We~~ Greens mobilize under the banner of social justice against social exclusion, of sustainability
 111 against austerity. We want to live our lives as men and women in which security and opportunity are
 112 not just tales from yesteryear. We want to live our lives as persons for whom security and
 113 opportunity are not just tales from yesteryear. Here, without doubt, ~~Europe~~ the EU must change
 114 direction! We want to fight against youth unemployment, against homelessness, against poverty and
 115 hopelessness. Where member states refuse or fail to deliver, together as Europeans citizens we can
 116 overcome that. Let us strengthen a social European Union.

117 We see individual emancipation, freedom and liberties for all as very much under threat. Think of
 118 private and state-organized mass surveillance or the infringement on human rights of minorities like
 119 immigrants, the LGTFBI+ community or the Roma. We must not tolerate hate based on race, gender,
 120 sexual orientation, on anti-semitism or anti-muslim attitudes, age, ethnic origin, belief, on antisemitism,
 121 islamophobia or any other pretext. Gender equality is a fundamental principle of the European Union.
 122 There is however a huge gap between the recognition of a right and its implementation and legal
 123 progress achieved. We Greens support a dual approach for promoting gender equality and women's
 124 empowerment: gender mainstreaming and clear and binding targets in order to achieve gender
 125 equality at all levels.

126 We need a digital bill of rights, that guarantees our inherited liberties in the digital age. We helped
 127 defeat the "Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement" (ACTA), that threatened our freedom. We
 128 defended the right to water against privatization pressure. Such fights are touch on Europe's core
 129 values. We need a digital bill of rights. We helped defeat the dangerous "Anti-Counterfeiting Trade
 130 Agreement" (ACTA). We defended the right to water. These are fights over the very soul of Europe.

131 ~~We~~ Greens want to re-vitalize European democracy. Lobbyists, technocrats and populists have
 132 weakened it. The strength of lobbies, the narrow defence of their own interest by national
 133 governments, the power given to technocrats without democratic control, and the simplistic blame-
 134 game of populists, have all weakened democracy. The European Parliament must be strengthened and
 135 have control over the policies which the European Commission, the IMF and the European Central

136 Bank pursue within the so-called troika. Citizens must be better heard and have a more active say
137 through direct democracy. That starts at home, by defending for instance local self-rule, where the EU
138 has no business meddling. It includes pushing back against excessive lobbying. We also want more
139 gender democracy: more women in Europe's institutions and in the boardrooms of EU companies.
140 We should not shy away from sharing our sovereignty, where this is the only way of keeping it: as with
141 the banking union, the financial transaction tax and the struggle for tax justice and against tax evasion
142 and tax havens.

143 ~~We~~ Greens want the EU to pursue a policy of good neighbourliness on our borders and abroad. This
144 includes sharing culture and having joint education projects, and means~~This includes not~~
145 ~~closing~~keeping open the door on enlargement. We promote global justice, fair trade, protecting
146 human rights, civil conflict prevention and multilateral conflict solutions. Europe must be a fair haven
147 for refugees, not fortress Europe. A Europe ppe of global responsibility benefits the world and ourselves.

148 IT IS YOUR CHOICE

149 As the directly elected voice of the European citizens, the European Parliament is the joint lawmaker,
150 together with national governments, on topics that influence your daily lives, from work safety to
151 innovation and new jobs, from consumer protection to environmental policy, from food safety and
152 animal protection to data privacy to gender equity as well as EU funded local and regional projects
153 for sustainable development and social inclusion. Many local and regional projects rely on financing
154 through European funds.

155 ~~We~~ Greens make a difference in the European Parliament. We want to continue this with greater
156 strength. For this we need your support, your vote. Help changing Europe, vote Green!

157 YOU are Europe. Thank you for listening to us.

158 EUROPE NEEDS A GREEN NEW DEAL

159 | The ~~European Union~~ in the present crisis has not been delivering on its promises to a great number
 160 | of its citizens. And it has been everything but unified on how to change for the better. This is why we
 161 | ~~the~~ Greens propose to you a new strategy.
 162 | We Europeans should unite our strengths in order to shape our own future. That is what sovereignty
 163 | means. Instead of a socially deaf and environmentally blind austerity, we propose three coherent
 164 | avenues towards sustainability: ~~re-regulating the financial industry so it serves the real economy;~~
 165 | ~~transforming our economies with eco-efficient solutions to innovate and to tackle climate change and~~
 166 | ~~environmental degradation; fighting unemployment, poverty and all forms of social injustice; fighting~~
 167 | ~~unemployment, poverty and all forms of social injustice; transforming our economies with eco-~~
 168 | ~~efficient solutions to innovate and to tackle climate change and environmental degradation; re-~~
 169 | ~~regulating the financial industry so it serves the real economy.~~ We call this a European Green New
 170 | Deal.

171 SOLIDARITY, SOLIDITY AND SUSTAINABILITY

172 | We want to relieve ~~Europe the EU and its member states~~ from ~~its the~~ addiction to excessive debt.
 173 | That includes bringing financial debt, be it public or private, back to sustainable levels and make sure it
 174 | funds sustainable value-creating investments. This will require cases of restructuring public and private
 175 | debt. Equally, we must address social debt: reducing unemployment, poverty and inequalities,
 176 | improving health and education. This requires strong investment efforts. Last but not least, it requires
 177 | addressing the environmental debt: tackling climate change, the exhaustion of finite resources and the
 178 | erosion of biodiversity. We need a living countryside, with sustainable agriculture and economically
 179 | and socially vibrant rural areas. A debt-fueled economy is not sustainable. By becoming world leaders
 180 | in inventing and delivering solutions that make a good life possible for everyone while respecting the
 181 | limits of our planet, Europeans we will find the key to a new economic dynamic for jobs and
 182 | prosperity. We reject the so-called pact on competitiveness as this would entail wage cuts, reduction
 183 | of social welfare schemes and privatization of public goods. ~~Fiscal sustainability must go hand-in-hand~~
 184 | ~~with equally strong social and environmental sustainability. Austerity as imposed in the recent~~
 185 | ~~economic crisis takes us dramatically in the opposite direction. Fiscal sustainability must go hand-in-~~
 186 | ~~hand with equally strong social and environmental sustainability; and stronger shoulders must carry~~
 187 | ~~more of the burden. Austerity as imposed in the recent economic crisis takes us dramatically in the~~
 188 | ~~opposite direction.~~

189 LAYING THE FOUNDATION OF A SOCIAL EUROPE

190 | Social justice is a fundamental value of Europe. The past thirty years have seen a rise in inequalities of
 191 | income and wealth. Lack of structural reforms, missing investments for the future and the austerity
 192 | policies have made things worse to the point that a growing number of Europeans-European citizens
 193 | are now deprived of access to even basic health services.

194 | One of the key elements of injustice is widespread unemployment, particularly youth unemployment:
 195 | or old age poverty Political measures that promise relief, such as the European Youth Guarantee
 196 | Scheme will not be successful unless adequately funded and above all underpinned by a strong policy
 197 | of job creation. ~~Europe The EU~~ must put an end to social dumping: zero-hours contracts, low-pay
 198 | mini-jobs and unfair internships. ~~We~~ Greens advocate fair and gradually converging minimum social
 199 | standards in Europe in accordance with national conditions and labour market models – particularly
 200 | in terms of job quality and security, of wages, of public health, of pensions. We want to move towards
 201 | better portability of social benefits through the introduction of a European social card which
 202 | streamlines administrative processes across countries and which makes a genuine European

203 citizenship more concrete. We want the European Central Bank to include employment among its
 204 policy objectives. Moreover, to boost employment in Europe we need to work further to make the
 205 project of the Single Market fully operational, particularly in the area of free movement of workers
 206 and services. Shaping a better and more inclusive Europe also requires fighting against the spread of
 207 child-poverty and homelessness.

208 We advocate the inclusion of a social progress clause in European law, which emphasis the priority of
 209 building social Europe. Social balance across Europe must address the threat of a brain-drain -
 210 especially of the youth - away from crisis-stricken regions and the exploitation of migrant workers,
 211 while respecting the fundamental right to free movement. ~~Social balance across Europe the EU must~~
 212 ~~address the threat of a brain-drain away from peripheral regions and the exploitation of migrant-~~
 213 ~~workers, while respecting the fundamental right to free movement.~~ The Greens wish to see new
 214 instruments developed to mitigate larger differences in economic cycles including unemployment
 215 rates. We ~~Greens~~ promote the emancipation of women in society and in the economy. "Equal
 216 payment for equal work" must be a standard all over the EU, as well as equal representation of
 217 women in company boards. ~~Having a family should not be an obstacle to a successful career for both~~
 218 ~~men and women. Having a family or sharing care should not be obstacles to a successful career for~~
 219 ~~both men and women. To counter age discrimination Greens do oppose any age limits to public~~
 220 ~~services and we stand for the implementation of reliable basic standards in the pension models of all~~
 221 ~~member states.~~

222 BRINGING FINANCIAL INDUSTRY UNDER CONTROL

223 Five years after the outset of the financial crisis, our system remains dominated by banks that are too
 224 big or too interconnected to fail and therefore too dangerous. Bank bail-outs have cost billions to the
 225 European taxpayers; this should never happen again. We want to ensure a properly sized, diverse and
 226 resilient financial sector that serves society and helps mobilizing sustainable investments in the real
 227 economy. We propose stringent rules for the separation of banking activities into those which are
 228 essential to society and those which are not. Greens have contributed strongly that financial products
 229 and activities which produce no benefit for the real economy and have the potential to destabilize the
 230 financial system can be banned and taken off the European market. European authorities should make
 231 use of this possibility. Only financial products and activities which demonstrate benefits for society
 232 must be authorized. We want to ensure consumers receive good, independent advice on all financial
 233 services. Financial services legislation must not support further concentration of market power at the
 234 detremential of small sustainable banks.

235 We advocate a European banking union, combining a strong common oversight of our banks, a
 236 common authority and fund to restructure failing banks and a common system of insurance for
 237 deposits up to 100.000 Euro or equivalent. ~~We~~ Greens are proud of achievements in this domain to
 238 date: ~~We~~ banned naked speculation on sovereign debt; curbed bankers' bonuses; forced banks
 239 to disclose activities in tax havens; submitted the European Central Bank's banking supervision to
 240 more democratic accountability. We need to build on these successes. EU institutions must also
 241 contribute to tackling financial short-termism that limits the level of sustainability ambition in
 242 strategic investment decisions.

243 PUBLIC FINANCES: FAIR AND EFFECTIVE TAXATION

244 At the moment, the tax burden weighs disproportionately on low and medium income earners~~the~~
 245 ~~bulk of the tax burden weighs on the least privileged citizens~~ and on the small and medium
 246 enterprises, while an estimated 1.000 billion Euro annually escape through evasion and fraud. Our goal
 247 is to restore tax justice and efficiency. We want to reduce the tax burden on labour and move
 248 towards taxing pollution and waste. We will do our utmost to enact a financial transaction tax despite

249 powerful lobbies opposed to this plan. As we want large corporations and wealthy individuals to
 250 contribute their fair share, we advocate a more common European approach at corporate and wealth
 251 taxation, including minimum rates. Last but not least, we advocate a common offensive against tax
 252 evasion, tax fraud and tax havens, starting by putting an end to bank secrecy. Last but not least, we
 253 advocate a common offensive against tax evasion, tax fraud and tax havens, starting by putting an end
 254 to bank secrecy. We also want that an end be put to the unanimity rule in tax matters, which should
 255 be subject to co-decision by the EU Council and Parliament. On the expenditure side, Greens
 256 explicitly fight wasteful and ecologically harmful spending such as fossil fuel subsidies or nuclear
 257 programmes such as the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER). Managing legacy
 258 public debt together, by setting up a debt redemption fund and gradually issuing common debt
 259 instruments (Eurobonds) under clearly defined and realistic common fiscal discipline rules are key
 260 moves in order to ensure the sustainability of public finances. In order to revive economies in crisis
 261 and preserve the monetary union, we advocate an increase in the EU budget, primarily funded by own
 262 resources, and the creation of financial solidarity instruments aimed at helping to finance the
 263 economic recovery.

264 RISE: RENAISSANCE OF INDUSTRY FOR A SUSTAINABLE EUROPE

265 ~~We want to transform our European economy into a global champion of energy and resource-~~
 266 ~~efficiency based on renewable energies instead of fossil and nuclear fuels. We want to transform our~~
 267 ~~European economy into a global champion of energy and resource efficiency based on less energy-~~
 268 ~~intensive technologies and renewable energies and on improving the way we manage, use, reuse,~~
 269 ~~recycle, substitute and value resources. We want resource efficiency and eco-innovation to underpin~~
 270 ~~policies and investment in all sectors of the economy. This Green offensive will create many quality~~
 271 ~~new jobs in a variety of industries for high-skilled as well as low-skilled workers, and it will enhance~~
 272 ~~working conditions and workers health. It will also enhance future economic resilience and~~
 273 ~~competitiveness. Industry should not follow false leads like shale gas or converting food to fuel.~~
 274 ~~Rather it should become a key partner in this innovation-oriented Green transformation. Eco-design~~
 275 ~~rules, public procurement, state aid rules, private investment, promoting small and medium sized~~
 276 ~~enterprises and cooperatives, fighting corporate vested interests, better funding for research,~~
 277 ~~development and education, promotion of entrepreneurship, and in particular social entrepreneurship,~~
 278 ~~good industrial relations and workplace democracy. These must all be elements of our effort. We~~
 279 ~~want to strengthen trade unions and the right of male and female workers to equally participate in~~
 280 ~~decision-making processes. Trade policy should support a sustainable industrial renaissance in Europe~~
 281 ~~and show respect and solidarity for our global partners. This Green offensive will create many good~~
 282 ~~new jobs in a variety of industries. It will also enhance future competitiveness. Industry should~~
 283 ~~become a key partner in this innovation-oriented Green transformation. Eco-design rules, public~~
 284 ~~procurement, state aid rules, private investment, promoting small and medium sized enterprises and~~
 285 ~~fighting corporate vested interests, better funding for research, development and education,~~
 286 ~~promotion of entrepreneurship, good industrial relations and workplace democracy. These must all be~~
 287 ~~elements of our effort. We want to strengthen workers unions and the right of workers to participate~~
 288 ~~in decision-making processes. Trade policy should support a sustainable industrial renaissance in~~
 289 ~~Europe.~~ One project of particular relevance in this context will be creating a European Renewable
 290 Energy Community to help break our addiction to fossil fuels.

291 ONE PLANET, OUR HOME!

292 GETTING SERIOUS ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ECOLOGICAL CRISIS

293 Climate change and biodiversity loss ~~are not merely environmental problems but~~ pose threats to
 294 societies across the world. ~~The ecological crisis has been overshadowed by the current economic~~
 295 ~~crisis but the situation is becoming more and more acute, with the potential collapse of ecosystems~~
 296 ~~putting our way of life at risk. In 2013 we consumed more of the Earth's resources by August than~~
 297 ~~can be renewed in a year. The ecological crisis has been taken a back-seat as a result of the economic~~
 298 ~~crisis but the situation is more acute and urgent solutions are needed.~~

299 There is no longer any doubt about ~~man's~~mankind's role in causing climate change and the ~~enormous~~
 300 ~~economic and moral catastrophic~~ consequences of inaction. The planet is close to tipping point and
 301 without a ~~dramatic~~radical change in our energy consumption and production patterns damaging
 302 climate change can become irreversible. However, ~~there are solutions which~~the solutions are already
 303 ~~at hand and~~ will deliver massive economic, social and health benefits.

304 EUROPEAN CLIMATE LAW

305 We want ~~comprehensive a~~European climate ~~legislation~~law ~~consistent with our fair share of global~~
 306 ~~efforts, built on legally binding emission on existing national and regional initiatives, which means a~~
 307 ~~strong judicial form with both~~ targets and sanctions to ensure that the climate goals will be met. This
 308 will ~~create the incentives towards~~ ~~commit~~ ~~Europe~~ the EU to a path of sustainable economic
 309 transformation and ~~away~~averting dangerous ~~from devastating~~ climate change. ~~With~~ ~~the~~ UN climate
 310 summit in Paris in 2015 (COP 21) ~~hoping~~must ~~to~~ deliver a binding global agreement, the clock is
 311 ticking and the EU ~~together with member states~~ needs to play a leading role ~~in the negotiations to~~
 312 ~~secure binding commitments from all negotiating parties. This means increasing its existing and~~
 313 ~~outdated greenhouse gas emissions reduction target for 2020 from 20% to 30%, it also means setting~~
 314 ~~a target to reduce these climate-damaging emissions by [60%] [at least 55%] from their 1990 levels by~~
 315 ~~2030. This also means increasing its existing and outdated greenhouse gas emissions reduction target~~
 316 ~~for 2020 from 20% to 30% from their 1990 levels, and setting a target to further reduce these~~
 317 ~~emissions by [VOTE: [60%] [at least 55%] [at least 50%]] from their 1990 levels by 2030.~~ Reviving the
 318 EU's emissions trading scheme is essential to this and means setting an adequate price for CO²
 319 emissions. ~~Businesses must be encouraged to divest from climate-damaging assets. Businesses, and~~
 320 ~~especially the financial sector, must be encouraged to divest from climate-damaging assets.~~ Public
 321 subsidies for and investments in fossil fuels should be ended. We want to invest in European energy
 322 networks connecting renewable energy production in different parts of the continent, increasing
 323 energy security and cutting costs.

324 ~~A coherent energy policy, based on energy savings and efficiency and renewable energy is the only~~
 325 ~~way to achieve a nearly full renewables-based economy by 2050. Therefore, further binding targets on~~
 326 ~~energy efficiency and renewable energy are essential. Our energy consumption must be reduced by~~
 327 ~~40% over the next 15 years and, at the same time, renewable energy, excluding agrofuels, must be~~
 328 ~~boosted to ensure 45% of our energy consumption by 2030. This is not only essential for limiting~~
 329 ~~global warming below 2 C, it also makes economic sense, as it stimulates economic activity, creates~~
 330 ~~jobs and reduces Europe's dependence on costly imports of fuels. This must be backed by a coherent~~
 331 ~~energy policy, prioritising energy savings and efficiency and renewable energy. This is not only essential~~
 332 ~~for the EU's energy security and climate change goals, it also makes broader economic sense, as it~~
 333 ~~stimulates economic activity, creates jobs and reduces Europe's dependence on costly imports of~~
 334 ~~fossil fuels. Today~~ ~~Europe~~ the EU spends twice as much per year on energy imports than on research
 335 ~~and development. We want combined energy savings of 40% over the next 15 years. Building on the~~

336 | ~~success of the EU's 2020 renewable energy target, we want to ensure a target for 45% of energy to~~
 337 | ~~be supplied from renewable sources by 2030.~~

338 | Nuclear power is expensive and risky, ~~increases the risk of spreading of nuclear weapons~~ and has no
 339 | part to play. We will continue to say “Nuclear? No thanks!” and renew our engagement to phase-out
 340 | nuclear energy in Europe while making sure this does not increase carbon emissions. We must shut
 341 | down the most risky power plants immediately, end ~~direct and indirect state~~ subsidies and insist that
 342 | existing operators bear full liability ~~for in case of any accident, in particular for~~ the fall-out from
 343 | nuclear accidents.

344 | SUSTAINABILITY IS THE KEY

345 | Sustainability must be put at the heart of every major economic decision. We want to see
 346 | environmental and biodiversity protection and sustainable development given international priority.
 347 | We propose the creation of a World Environment Organisation by combining and expanding the role
 348 | of the different disjointed agencies that already exist within the United Nations. We cannot measure
 349 | the quality of life only in coarse monetary terms: we need new indicators to complement and extend
 350 | Gross Domestic Product as a measure of sustainable prosperity and well-being.

351 | ~~The diverse natural environment in Europe is beautiful and has a value beyond money. The Greens~~
 352 | ~~know that sustainable development means managing our natural resources wisely so that our children~~
 353 | ~~and our children's children will still have a viable planet to live on. We believe that you know this too~~
 354 | ~~and share our worries that we are living way beyond our means by consuming natural resources at a~~
 355 | ~~rate at which they cannot be renewed, as well as polluting our air, soil and water. We want to~~
 356 | ~~encourage resource re-use, repair and recycling in place of the designed-for-the-dump approach. The~~
 357 | ~~ultimate goal should be a closed-loop society, where waste from one sector becomes an input for~~
 358 | ~~another. We cannot measure the quality of life only in coarse monetary terms: we need new~~
 359 | ~~indicators to complement and extend Gross Domestic Product as a measure of sustainable~~
 360 | ~~prosperity and well-being.~~

361 | The Greens know that sustainable development means managing our natural resources wisely so that
 362 | our children and our children's children will still have a viable planet to live on. We believe that you
 363 | share our worries that we are living way beyond our means by consuming natural resources at a rate
 364 | at which they cannot be renewed, as well as polluting our air, soil and water with hazardous
 365 | substances. We want to reduce our ecological footprint and our resource consumption and ensure
 366 | that goods are fit for re-use, repair and recycling in place of the designed-for-the-dump approach. The
 367 | ultimate goal should be a closed-loop society, where non-hazardous waste from one sector becomes
 368 | an input for another.

369 | PRIORITY FOR GREEN TRANSPORT

370 | Aviation and road transport are major sources of greenhouse gases, air pollution and noise. The
 371 | current volume of Using fossil fuels used for the transport sector not only has a strong negative
 372 | impact on public health and the environment but also makes the EU dependent on energy imports
 373 | and exposed to rising prices. We need to shift to more sustainable and less environmentally-damaging
 374 | modes like waterways, cycling, public-collective transport and rail. Trans-European Transport
 375 | Networks must prioritise existing cross-border rail connections before roads and aviation, especially
 376 | for the movement of goods. Improving the energy efficiency of cars helps cutting the fuel bills of
 377 | European citizens and improves air quality. We also want to spur innovation by making electric
 378 | bicycles, tramways and trains, electric cars, all bases on renewable sources, a more attractive options.

379 | PROTECT HEALTH AND SAFETY

380 | We support measures to reduce air pollution – a major cause of premature death.

381 | We are pushing hard for better controls of electronic and hazardous waste, drug and pesticide
 382 | residues discharged into our water systems and the use of nanotechnology in cosmetics, medicines,
 383 | food and biocides, as well as for reduced exposure to substances that negatively affect our hormonal
 384 | system. Together with Civil Society Organizations, Greens have successfully driven the environmental
 385 | and public health agendas in the European Parliament, shaping for instance safety rules for pesticides
 386 | and for chemicals. ~~The Greens are pushing hard for better controls of electronic and hazardous~~
 387 | ~~waste, drug and pesticide residues discharged into our water systems and the use of nanotechnology~~
 388 | ~~in cosmetics, medicines, food and biocides.~~

389 | We will continue our campaign against the dangerous and damaging practice of shale gas and oil
 390 | extraction by 'fracking', which can contaminate our water supplies and our environment and is of
 391 | dubious short-term economic benefit. ~~We want to establish fracking-free regions throughout Europe~~
 392 | the EU following the successful GMO-free model. ~~other unconventional fossil fuel extraction and call~~
 393 | for an immediate ban on hydraulic fracturing ("fracking"). In the interim we will work to establish
 394 | fracking-free regions throughout Europe following the successful GMO-free model. Fracking
 395 | contaminates our water supplies and our environment with chemicals used in fracking fluids.
 396 | Methane leakages during extraction of shale gas add to climate change. Moreover, the economic
 397 | benefits have been grossly exaggerated, with production rates dropping rapidly after the first year of
 398 | fracking, causing boom-and-bust economies in local communities. It is time to ban shale gas!

399 | FOOD NOT FUEL

400 | Fuel made from food crops is not a sustainable solution to the climate, energy and poverty crisis.
 401 | Feeding crops into cars has forced up food prices, resulting in land grabbing, rainforest destruction
 402 | and threatens the food security of millions in the developing world: whilst having a negative climate
 403 | impact. In particular, biodiversity-rich tropical rainforests are being slashed and burnt to make way for
 404 | palm oil plantations intended for fuel and food ingredients.

405 | We will continue to campaign for alternative, renewable, non-food sources of agrofuels for transport
 406 | - the so called 3rd and 4th generations made from feedstock such as waste and waste gases, woody
 407 | residues and algae with stringent climate safeguards in place. The real long-term solution however lies
 408 | in more sustainable transport models and increased fuel efficiency for all vehicles.

409 | We will continue to campaign for alternative, renewable, non-food sources of agro-fuels - the so-
 410 | called 3rd and 4th generations such as waste, wood residues and algae - with stringent climate
 411 | safeguards in place. The long-term solution lies in more sustainable transport models and increased
 412 | fuel efficiency for all vehicles.

413 | BETTER FOOD, BETTER LIVES

414 | Our food chain is malfunctioning. Industrial agriculture, based on pesticides, monocultures and an
 415 | overuse of antibiotics, is thriving at the expense of our health, the environment and increasing animal
 416 | suffering. Recurring food scandals have made consumers justifiably insecure about what we are eating
 417 | and where it comes from. The diversion of food crops to fuel, combined with financial speculation on
 418 | essential food commodities, has led to increased food prices and hunger worldwide especially in
 419 | developing countries. On the other hand we are consuming more and more junk food, heavy with
 420 | added salts and sugars, resulting in rising levels of obesity in Europe and driving up the rate of heart
 421 | disease, diabetes and cancer. ~~We want a food revolution to change things.~~

422 | The Greens want to promote sustainable, healthy, tasty, diverse and ethical food, not standardised,
 423 | tasteless food designed simply to look good on supermarket shelves. This means encouraging local

424 production chains, organic farming and fair trade products from developing countries. We have
 425 succeeded in fighting several misleading practices, and in improving country of origin and nano-
 426 ingredients labelling. We will continue to demand improved transparency in food labelling. With
 427 Europe throwing away 90 million tons of food annually, we also want action to cut down food waste.
 428 We launched a food revolution, increasing public awareness, personal engagement and participative
 429 democracy in determining and improving food policies throughout Europe. We call for a self-
 430 sustaining, nurturing system that increases fertility, diversity and prosperity rather than destroying
 431 natural and social capital in a race to the bottom.

432 GREENING AGRICULTURE

433 We need to make our farming climate-smart, sustainable, fair- and ethically sound. We need resilient,
 434 biologically diverse, healthy and robust agro-ecosystems that not only adapt to climate change but
 435 mitigate it. The European Parliament now has equal responsibility for the EU's Common Agricultural
 436 Policy, ~~but the recent reform of the CAP was a missed opportunity for creating a sustainable, non-~~
 437 ~~polluting model of agriculture and rural development.~~ We need a system which allows for a much
 438 fairer distribution of public funds, including more support for small farmers, for local production and
 439 sale, which brings farmers closer to consumers, and for organic ~~production~~ farming and for
 440 conventional farmers who want to green their production methods. Farmers deserve a decent price
 441 for their produce and we need to stop corporate buyers driving farm-gate prices below sustainable
 442 levels. We need to increase soil fertility, drastically cut the inputs of pesticides and synthetic fertilizers
 443 and eliminate harmful export subsidies. We need to move away from intensive industrial farming.

444 We oppose the further privatisation of seeds and plant material in EU rules on seeds. We will
 445 continue our campaign for fair and unrestricted access to plant breeding material and against the
 446 patenting of plants and animals. We will keep fighting against the corporate control of the seed
 447 industry which makes farmers reliant on seed designed specifically for use with chemical fertilisers
 448 and pesticides, instead of allowing them to save and breed their own seed and adapt their crops to
 449 changing local conditions.

450 NO TO GMOs

451 ~~The Greens~~ We have been consistent in our opposition to genetically-modified organisms in food and
 452 farming and in our support for a GMO-free Europe. ~~We~~ Greens will continue to lead the fight against
 453 cultivating GMOs here, for GM-free food and for a ban on importing GMOs for animal feedstuffs. We
 454 must insist on the right to continue to make our own rules: and impose mandatory GMO labeling.
 455 European consumers have the right to know what their food is composed of and where it comes
 456 from.

457 Biodiversity loss and excessive pesticide use has meant habitat destruction and led to a massive
 458 decline in bee and other insect populations, which disturbs natural pollination of many plants and
 459 crops. meaning the natural chain of pollination is damaged. If we want healthy local fruit and
 460 vegetables, we must 'give bees a chance'.

461 MORE FISH IN THE SEAS

462 The Greens have played a lead role in pushing for a more sustainable Common Fisheries Policy. The
 463 policy of throwing unwanted fish back into the sea was a massive waste of food and income and will
 464 now be curtailed. Fish stocks will be better managed and the capacity of the fishing fleet better
 465 regulated. You will now be able to see not only where your fish came from but how it was caught.
 466 Much remains to be done to implement these reforms and ensure loopholes are not exploited. We

467 will continue to fight for better controls over intensive fish farming, which is highly polluting and for
468 fairer treatment for small-scale, local fishing inside and outside Europe.

469 ANIMAL PROTECTION

470 We are well known for our commitment to animal protection and our MEPs are at the forefront of
471 moves in the European Parliament to provide ever increasing standards of well-being for all sentient
472 beings. ~~The Greens have led the fight against animal testing under EU legislation and will continue to~~
473 ~~do so.~~ We are well known for our commitment to animal protection. Our MEPs are at the forefront
474 of moves in the European Parliament to provide ever increasing standards of well-being for all
475 sentient beings.

476 We need urgently to move away from factory farming, with its horrendous record on animal welfare
477 and its intensive use of antibiotics. We have led the fight against excessive animal testing not related to
478 health issues and will continue to do so. We want to ~~dramatically~~significantly reduce animal transport
479 times and to end live animal exports. At international level, the EU must be more energetic in
480 combatting wildlife trafficking, protecting marine mammals and defending its ban on seal products. We
481 support a ban on fur farming.

482 **EUROPE IN THE WORLD**

483 The EU has often been a reluctant player in global politics, reacting more than acting, and facing many
 484 difficulties in defining common position. We want the EU to establish a value-driven common foreign
 485 policy and to play an important international role, to address the structural causes of poverty,
 486 promoting global justice and solidarity, peace, and the defence of global common goods. In today's
 487 context of shifting global power, rising global inequalities and questioning of the universality of human
 488 rights, passivity is however not an option. We want the EU to have a common voice on foreign and
 489 security policy. We have had positive signs in this direction on the issue of Kosovo-Serbia, or Iran. The
 490 EU should pursue strong and fair partnerships with countries of the global south, aiming at reducing
 491 inequalities within and between societies through development cooperation. The EU and its partners
 492 need to work together to find answers to problems like climate change, nuclear proliferation and
 493 regional conflicts around the world. The EU and its partners need to work together to find common
 494 answers to problems like climate change, nuclear proliferation and regional conflicts around the
 495 world, or the unacceptable pillage of natural resources in many countries, particularly in the global
 496 south. That cooperation will not be credible if it is not democratic, accountable, transparent, and
 497 based on universal principles. We want the EU to support a multilateral global governance,
 498 strengthening and reforming the role of the UN, the rule of law and the responsibility to protect.
 499 Priority must always be given to civilian conflict management. Over the last years energy security has
 500 become one of the main priorities of EU foreign policy. The over-reliance on gas and oil makes the
 501 EU “corruptible” and is playing into the hands of those autocrats that control European hydrocarbons
 502 supplies. We must cut off this dangerous and toxic link.

503 **UPHOLDING HUMAN RIGHTS**

504 The EU institutions should mainstream human rights in its external policies, including trade. Following
 505 Green pressure, an EU Special Representative for Human Rights was appointed to enhance the
 506 visibility of the European Union’s human rights policy.
 507 We must live up to our promises on human rights when we are asked to help with disaster relief. This
 508 includes a strong commitment to the basic humanitarian principles: humanity, impartiality,
 509 independence and neutrality. The EU must become more efficient, more vocal in the defence of the
 510 rule of law, freedom and human rights, including socio-economic, environmental rights within and
 511 outside its borders. Following Green pressure, an EU Special Representative for Human Rights was
 512 appointed to enhance the visibility of the European Union’s human rights policy.
 513 On the Millennium Development Goals (MDG), which include the fight against poverty, hunger,
 514 environmental destruction and exclusion of women, Europe the EU has not done enough. That must
 515 be a motivation to support strong new sustainability goals. It entails the integration of the MDG
 516 review and the Sustainable Development Goals process, which emerged from the Rio+20
 517 Conference, into a single comprehensive framework and set of goals to eradicate poverty and
 518 promote sustainable development after 2015. We urge member states to fulfil their commitments to
 519 spending 0.7 % of GDP on development cooperation, giving 0.7 % of GDP in development aid. The EU
 520 EU institutions should mainstream human rights in its external policies, including trade:

521 **WORKING FOR PEACE POLICY**

522 The EU was created to ensure peace after devastating wars. Today it must contribute to ensuring
 523 peace not only in Europe but throughout the world. Greens want to promote non-violence and a
 524 culture of cooperation. The EU has played and can continue to play an important role in conflict
 525 prevention, civil conflict-resolution, peacebuilding and peacekeeping. It must help developing pillars of
 526 peace by promoting freedom and eradicating poverty and by increasing mutual understanding

527 ~~between cultures. Greens have won a much larger EU budget to be spend on peace-building through~~
 528 ~~the Instrument for Stability and Peace. We have also supported the idea of an EU Peace Corps and~~
 529 ~~the creation of a Peace Institute. We are opposed to financing military research from the EU budget~~
 530 ~~to the development of European drones and to Europe being a nuclear warehouse. We will continue~~
 531 ~~to fight for nuclear disarmament (Global Zero).~~

532 ~~European~~ ~~The EU's arms trade with the Middle and the Far East is exporting insecurity to these~~
 533 ~~regions. Greens want to cut down this trade and prevent such exports including surveillance~~
 534 ~~technology where they could be used against freedom movements and civic protest. This year we are~~
 535 ~~commemorating the 100 years of the beginning of World War I. The EU was created to ensure peace~~
 536 ~~after devastating wars replacing confrontation with cooperation. Greens want the EU to actively~~
 537 ~~promote non-violence and a culture of dialogue, mediation, reconciliation and cooperation. The EU~~
 538 ~~has played and can continue to play an important role in conflict prevention, civil conflict-resolution,~~
 539 ~~disarmament, arms control, peacebuilding and peacekeeping. The concept of human security must lie~~
 540 ~~at the heart of the EU's external action. We also believe that the EU should help the UN to be~~
 541 ~~empowered with more efficient tools of de-escalation and - if needed - peace enforcement. We~~
 542 ~~consider the adoption of the 'Responsibility to Protect' concept by the UN as progress, but the EU~~
 543 ~~needs to make its contribution to further refine and tighten the rules for its application. It is now~~
 544 ~~important to strengthen parliamentary control of EU military operations by giving the European~~
 545 ~~Parliament a role in decision-making. Thanks to the Greens, a much larger part of the EU budget is to~~
 546 ~~be spend on conflict prevention through the Instrument for Stability and Peace. We have also~~
 547 ~~supported the idea of an EU Peace Corps and the creation of an EU Institute for Peace. We are~~
 548 ~~opposed to financing military research from the EU budget, to the development of European drones~~
 549 ~~and to Europe being a nuclear warehouse.~~

550 ~~We will continue to fight for nuclear disarmament both globally and in Europe and for concrete steps~~
 551 ~~towards a Middle East Weapons of Mass Destruction Free Zone. Greens also want to ban weapons~~
 552 ~~such as depleted uranium ammunition and white phosphorus. Investments by European banks,~~
 553 ~~pension funds, insurance companies and others in companies which produce landmines, cluster~~
 554 ~~munitions have to be banned too.~~

555 ~~European trade in arms, including surveillance technology, is exporting insecurity to regions such as~~
 556 ~~the Middle and Far East. Greens want to cut down this trade and prevent arms exports where they~~
 557 ~~could be used against freedom movements and civic protest.~~

558 ~~Extra-territorial targeted killings outside of armed conflict by drones or other means have broken the~~
 559 ~~barriers of established rule of law. Greens call on the EU to ban such acts as crimes under~~
 560 ~~international humanitarian and human rights law, and to engage with UN members to achieve a~~
 561 ~~worldwide ban, as well as a ban on the use of fully automatized lethal weapons' systems.~~

562 ~~FIGHTING FOR FAIR ASYLUM AND MIGRATION POLICIES~~

563 ~~UNHCR estimate that the world as of 2013 has a population of people displaced of almost~~
 564 ~~40.000.000 of which at almost half are refugees outside their own country. Mankind has always been~~
 565 ~~migrating and will continue to do so. Although Still the UN estimates that 200.000 of these UN~~
 566 ~~refugees urgently need to be resettled every year, but only half of them find a new home; and more~~
 567 ~~worryingly only 4.500 are resettled in Europe the European Union (80.000 per year in the USA).~~
 568 ~~Greens oppose the restrictive system that the EU and its member states now have imposed.~~
 569 ~~Thousands of people die on Europe's external border every year, because of ever stricter controls at~~
 570 ~~the external borders and because the means of legal entry into the EU remain limited. The EU has a~~

571 ~~duty to ensure that these people can seek protection. Thousands of people die on Europe's external~~
 572 ~~borders every year and we have a duty to ensure that these people get protection.~~ The EU's
 573 FRONTEX agency must ~~be forced to~~ live up to human rights standards under EU and international
 574 law: we need a revision of ~~its~~the FRONTEX whole-mandate to include "rescues at sea". We demand a
 575 fundamental revision of the Dublin III regulation so that asylum seekers are able to choose in which
 576 country they want to apply for asylum. Therefore then member states need ~~to adopt a shared~~
 577 ~~responsibility. show solidarity and adopt a shared responsibility. Mankind has always been migrating~~
 578 ~~and will continue to do so. Greens oppose the restrictive system that the EU and its member states~~
 579 ~~now have imposed.~~ Instead of closing itself off, the EU needs to combine its refugee and immigration
 580 policy with its development, foreign trade and human rights policy. ~~We need to create more legal and~~
 581 ~~safe routes to the EU and humanitarian visas should be implemented. We suggest a pact with~~
 582 ~~countries on the Mediterranean Sea to avoid more human dramas and deaths. We suggest a pact~~
 583 ~~with these goals with countries on the Mediterranean Sea to avoid more human dramas and deaths.~~

584 ~~We~~ Greens have been successful in our fight for the creation of an EU Joint Resettlement Programme
 585 as well as for funds for emergency resettlement of refugees that are facing a humanitarian crisis
 586 situation such as those living in camps in Syria: there is money available for resettlement of refugees in
 587 the EU and EU member states must use it and help the United Nations to resettle as many refugees
 588 as possible, even if temporarily.

589 TAKING THE LEAD ON CLIMATE CHANGE

590 For many years the European Union has played a positive role in international climate negotiations,
 591 but recently, this role has ~~vanished~~windled. It is one of our prime Green foreign policy concerns to
 592 make Europe once again a leading actor against climate change and environmental degradation.
 593 Climate change already causes damage and suffering all over the world. Many people have to leave
 594 their land and become climate refugees, because of desertification, soil erosion, heavy rainfalls or
 595 rising sea levels. We want to see the concept of climate refugees incorporated into international law.
 596 The EU must therefore play a leading role on climate migration in international institutions and at
 597 home. It must enhance its support for climate mitigation and adaptation. Climate financing plays a key
 598 role for developing countries and ~~we~~ Greens will hold the EU to its promises and its responsibility.
 599 Climate financing must be new and additional to existing development aid. We advice mainstreaming
 600 environment into development projects to promote an effective climate change mitigation and
 601 adaption strategy.

602 PURSUIING A COHERENT ENLARGEMENT AND NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICY ~~AND~~ 603 ENLARGEMENT

604 ~~Europe~~ The European Union has to play a vital role in its direct neighbourhood in order to
 605 strengthen stability and democracy. Greens support an EU accession perspective for all the countries
 606 of the Western Balkans and will not exclude any European country from possible future accession,
 607 provided they fulfill the membership criteria. Greens want to speed up fair and credible negotiations
 608 with Turkey. This is why ~~We continue to support~~ ~~we~~ Greens ~~stick to~~ the policy of EU enlargement
 609 and want to strengthen the Eastern Partnership and specifically our engagement towards countries
 610 like Ukraine, Georgia and Moldova. This means asserting itself as a principled and honest partner with
 611 our neighbours. The EU should work with civil society, granting asylum and support to defenders of
 612 freedom and democracy and granting scholarships to the youth of our neighbouring countries.
 613 We want the EU to focus on the transformation of the neighbourhood in the Mediterranean and in
 614 Eastern Europe. We want the EU to effectively support reform efforts in these countries. We support
 615 ~~an EU accession perspective for all the countries of the Western Balkans and will not exclude any~~

616 ~~European country from possible future accession, provided they fulfil the membership criteria. We~~
 617 ~~want to speed up fair and credible negotiations with Turkey.~~ Moreover, the EU should strengthen its
 618 partnerships with other existing regional organisations from Africa, ~~South-East~~ Asia and Latin America.

619 FOR A FAIR TRADE POLICY~~INTERNATIONAL TRADE RELATIONS~~

620 In trade the EU is a global power. The European Parliament plays an important role in Europe’s trade
 621 relations, because it can veto trade agreements, as it did for ACTA. ~~But we need more transparency~~
 622 ~~for the European Parliament during trade negotiations.~~ But we need more transparency during trade
 623 negotiations and an effective cooperation between the European and national Parliaments on these
 624 issues. ~~We~~ Greens are in favour of a multilateral trade order. ~~Trade must be fair.~~ Trade should support,
 625 not hinder, the development of poorer countries and the transition to a green, social, equitable and
 626 democratic development model. This includes opening EU markets for less developed countries, to
 627 substantially reform the WTO to make it more development-friendly and to subordinate trade rules
 628 to human rights, social and environmental rights. Trade must be fair and it should not undermine the
 629 EU's social model.

630 Presently, many bilateral EU trade deals are being negotiated, in particular the Transatlantic Trade and
 631 Investment Partnership (TTIP) agreement with the United States. Greens contest the lack of
 632 transparency of these negotiations, where important democratic choices are on the agenda. Greens
 633 not only defend our environmental, health, agriculture and food, consumer and labour standards,
 634 public interests and data protection but also the possibility to strengthen them to implement the
 635 Green New Deal. We oppose biotech and toxic financial products marketed in the US being
 636 automatically approved for the EU. We draw clear red lines against any weakening of EU legislation.
 637 We refuse, through the inclusion of international investor-state dispute settlement in trade
 638 agreements, to allow private companies to sue democratically elected governments in order to
 639 protect corporate interests against social or environmental reforms. ~~We will mobilize against any~~
 640 ~~trade agreement that does not honour these principles~~ We mobilize against the current TTIP agenda
 641 because it does not honour these principles..

642 FOR A MORE VIGOROUS DEMOCRACY

643 More democracy, not less, is the answer to the crisis. We believe that a shift towards more citizen's
644 participation, accountability and transparency is crucial to gain legitimacy for future European
645 cooperation. This means that we the Greens are working for increased transparency in the entire
646 decision-making process from the Commission via other EU-institutions to member state
647 governments. ~~But this also means more:~~ Even more importantly we work for the right of citizens to
648 determine the future of the Union by their choices inthroughout the law-making ~~and policy-making~~
649 ~~processes~~.

650 WITHOUT GENDER EQUALITY THERE IS NO DEMOCRACY

651 The Greens believe that the EU's response must be to mainstream gender issues at all policy levels.
652 Gender democracy means that women are part of the public life of our societies and take decisions
653 in institutions and companies in equal footing than men. We support the Commission in its work on
654 legally binding quotas for women in corporate boardrooms. At the present pace it will take more than
655 50 years until 40% of all boardroom members of European companies would be women. We demand
656 a quota to achieve this objective until 2020. For reaching equality, we believe that the EU should
657 adopt a more comprehensive policy approach against gender-based violence, including EU legislation
658 in the form of a directive proposing measures to address violence against women (policy, prevention,
659 protection, prosecution, provision and partnership). According to the EU Human rights convention all
660 EU Member States to define rape and sexual violence against women within marriage and intimate
661 informal relationships as a crime.

662 CITIZENS AS EUROPEAN DECISION MAKERS

663 We want to strengthen your opportunities to influence decisions. We want to work for more
664 participatory democracy. Greens helped introduce the European Citizens' Initiative. It is time to take
665 the next step. We want to make it more substantialefficient and citizen-friendly. by, fFor example by,
666 giving citizens the opportunity to put forward suggestions on all questions that the European
667 Commission can deal with. In order to strengthen democracy we also want to create a legal basis for
668 EU-wide referenda.

669 Where citizens are being deprived of their rights in an EU member state without remedy from that
670 country's judicial system they should have the possibility of taking collective legal action in the EU's
671 Court of Justice.

672 STRENGTHEN THE ROLE OF PARLIAMENTS

673 By choosing the Members of the European Parliament, citizens have a say on how many crucial issues
674 of our times will be tackled, from climate change to bank regulation, from the refugees' crisespolicy
675 on refugees to youth unemployment. ~~We want to give the European Parliament also a stronger role in~~
676 ~~EU crisis management and economic policy making. We want to give the European Parliament a~~
677 stronger role, particularly in EU crisis management and economic policy making. We want to lower
678 the voting age to 16 for the European Pparliament and to additionally the option of introducing pan-
679 European lists ~~ofwith~~ transnational candidates.

680 The growing influence handed to the European Parliament by the Lisbon Treaty must be exercised
681 responsibly and not undermined by lobby interests. In the Council of the European Union, as well,
682 more transparency and accountability is needed, for example by publishing all voting results.

683 To get a broader and more open debate it is necessary that the national parliaments take more
 684 responsibility by imposing better control over governments' actions in European affairs. We also want
 685 to extend the national parliaments' opportunities to react when the EU exceeds its authority by not
 686 following the rules on subsidiarity. National parliaments should also have more avenues of
 687 cooperation with the European Parliament.

688 FIGHT CORRUPTION AND FRAUD

689 The EU needs a stronger anticorruption policy and more effective instruments against organized
 690 crime. Reduced corruption is necessary to strengthen democracy and the rule of law, but also to
 691 strengthen competitiveness in the European economy. Corrupt behavior by EU officials or
 692 parliamentarians in their relations with lobbyists must be met with very strong reactions. Big business
 693 is still influencing the commission too much. Almost 80% of all stakeholders appointed by the
 694 commission represent corporate interests, despite commitment to change. A regulation must be
 695 enforced also to tackle the problem of “revolving doors” where high bureaucrats and politicians in
 696 European institutions join private organizations which they were responsible for regulating. We want
 697 to safeguard democracy from corruption by ~~demanding~~making transparency about the financing of
 698 political parties, candidates and election campaigns fully transparent. The EU needs to take the lead in
 699 this field by making robust rules safeguarding the transparency of the financing of national political
 700 parties and candidates contesting an election for the European Parliament. We want to provide the
 701 Court of Justice of the EU and the European Court of Auditors with stronger tools to control the
 702 way in which the EU resources are spent and to act against corruption both within the EU
 703 institutions and in the case of serious problems within the member states.

704 MORE OWN RESOURCES FOR THE EU BUDGET

705 The EU budget must be increased and must principally be based on a system of own resources, for
 706 instance a carbon and/or energy tax, to reduce the dependency on national contributions. The
 707 common interest is too often overlooked in negotiations between governments as it was in the 2013
 708 budget negotiations that failed to come up with effective policies to fight against the crisis. The EU-
 709 budget must be based much more strongly on a system of own resources to reduce the dependency
 710 on national contributions. The common interest is too often overlooked in negotiations between
 711 governments. Greens have been fighting a tough fight for greater accountability and transparency in
 712 budget-making. We are also suggesting more participation too: citizens could be given the right to sign
 713 up for pilot-project initiatives to be approved by the Budget committee of the European Parliament.

714 A DIGITAL BILL OF RIGHTS

715 The Greens in the European Parliament are at the forefront of the fight for digital rights. We helped
 716 stop the ~~ACTA-treaty~~Anti-Counterfeit Trade Agreement (ACTA) and we are fighting for a strong
 717 protection of personal data, for the right to privacy and for strict net neutrality. Now it is time to
 718 defend and protect both the European citizens and the internet from pervasive corporate and
 719 governmental surveillance and to safeguard fundamental rights on the internet. European data-
 720 protection law and strict net neutrality. Now is the right time to go all the way and take civic rights-
 721 into the digital age. Your pPersonal data should belong to youthe person, not to companies or
 722 governments. ~~Your p~~Privacy must be respected. The data retention law, which obliges telecom
 723 providers to store data about whom youcitizens communicate with, is a serious mistake and must be
 724 abolished. Governments have to abide by their own laws. Whilst national security is important,
 725 personal freedoms and liberties must not be overridden. Governments must ensure that national
 726 security agencies work for all citizens to secure freedom and liberty for everybody.

727 UPHOLD THE RULE OF LAW

728 The Union is founded on the values of respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the
 729 rule of law and respect for human rights. Greens do not compromise on human rights. Pluralism,
 730 nondiscrimination, tolerance, justice, solidarity and equality between women and men must prevail.
 731 There is a great lack of women in EU institutions. ~~Democracy means that women participate on equal~~
 732 ~~terms. In many member states equal rights for LGTBT+ citizens are still not guaranteed. We Greens~~
 733 ~~will push for effective anti-discrimination policies to overcome such injustice. In many member states~~
 734 ~~equal rights for LGBT+ citizens are still not guaranteed; people with disabilities are still too often~~
 735 ~~treated as second-class citizens. Discrimination of people because of age, race, ethnic origin, religion~~
 736 ~~or belief is still a reality. Islamophobia, homophobia and anti-semitism are growing. Greens will push~~
 737 ~~for effective anti-discrimination policies to overcome such injustice and are long-standing advocates of~~
 738 ~~the extension of the anti-discrimination Directives to become a fully-fledged Equalities Directive.~~

739 For our democratic rights to be upheld and recognized, we need to keep the integrity of the rule of
 740 law both at the EU and national level. The EU lacks effective monitoring and sanctioning tools when
 741 there are violations of our values in the member states. This is why we have been pioneers in
 742 demanding the creation of a Copenhagen Commission in accordance with the EU treaties and the
 743 European Convention on Human Rights to make sure that the democratic demands that are put
 744 upon candidate countries when applying to EU accession are not followed by backsliding into
 745 authoritarianism and cronyism once a Member-state is already in the EU. The current limitations to
 746 the Charter of Fundamental Rights should be abrogated so that the impressive list of guarantees and
 747 protections for citizens will apply in practice where citizens live.

748 A GREEN DEMOCRATIC REFORM OF THE EU

749 Democracy is never finished or complete. Climate change and globalization are two challenges that
 750 have to be met by improved common decision-making. European Greens are convinced, that the
 751 current EU institutional setting is not up to what the EU faces. The development of the Eurozone and
 752 the banking union means we need adequate democratic reforms which strengthen the European
 753 Institutions.

754 Our proposals for more democracy, more transparency and more accountability at the EU level
 755 require clear changes in the functioning of the EU. The European Parliament should have the right to
 756 initiate legislation. It needs more legislative co-decision powers while national veto-rights should be
 757 diminished. Some decisions must, on the other hand, be taken much closer to the citizens.

758 Europe cannot just wait for the EU heads of state and government to take limited initiatives that will
 759 only lead to more technocratic control. A most simple example: The European Parliament wants a
 760 single seat and to stop the travelling circus between Brussels and Strasbourg. ~~We~~ Greens share that
 761 demand, as do most European citizens. But the European Council just does not listen.

762 Europe needs a fresh effort towards integration. Therefore we want a new democratic Convention
 763 that will determine the future of European integration, a Convention with strong parliamentary and
 764 civil society participation. Its procedure must be fully transparent and democratic. European citizens
 765 should have a final say through an EU-wide referendum.