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## Lettre de candidature

Dear Delegates, dear Friends,

Hereby, please find my candidacy to the election of EGP representatives in the Global Greens Coordination, which is to take place during the Utrecht EGP Council in May 2016. Attached is my resume/Curriculum Vitae.

Let me start with the fact that I am a Dutch national living in Paris and have been a member of Europe Écologie Les Verts since my retirement from the Dutch diplomatic service. As you will see in my CV I have lived more years in Paris than anywhere else. This dual background, Dutch by upbringing, French by university and career, the former practical, “terre à terre”, the latter more, let’s say for brevity sake, political, lucid, in questions of organisation, solution, ... has been an advantage for me, as I have learnt that there are other ways, all truly valid, to come to a mutual understanding and a collaboration/cooperation. Apart from travelling, having lived in Africa and North America, and in South and South-east Asia - and in Europe of course - makes it possible for me to grasp what sometimes is the real meaning behind words and gestures of those with whom we are discussing, with whom we are working, but coming from another “culture”.

Since 2012, the Athens’ Council, I have been attending the Councils in various capacities: simple member, representative of the EELV Treasurer unable to attend, and finally as a delegate. I am also representing the EELV in the Working group on Foreign Affairs. With the other members of the EELV delegation we convey our feedback to the party leader and to the different working groups of our party dealing with the topics discussed during the Councils. I prefer a collegial approach in all these matters.

It is this experience as a former diplomat, as well as my years working for Amnesty International in Paris, that I’d like to offer to the GGC. In those 30 years as a diplomat, I have been organising and co-organising conferences, big and small, together with colleagues of other countries. I know that the advantage of being in an organisation like the Global Greens sharing the same vision and goal means that the various opinions coming from different backgrounds will be less “controversial” though. Moreover other political visions on how to deal with environmental issues in its broadest sense, constitutes an tremendous asset in developing a Global Greens’ policy.

I am “using” my retirement time to be active in EELV as a member on the boards of the Transnational Working group and of the Working group on Europe, as well as working with diverse NGO’s. I am fully aware that being member of the GGC requires a real commitment, that I am more than willing and able to fulfil, Let me be clear I totally endorse Global Greens’ endeavours to establish ecological policies in all its fields.

I am also conscious of the importance of the next Global Greens meeting in Liverpool for the worldwide Green policies on the one hand, and for the Global Greens as “clearing house” for all the Green Parties on the other hand, as it will enlarge the work and scope of its networks. The conference in Liverpool will mark and consolidate the cooperation between the national parties and their federations, and the cooperation among them. I’d also like to mention the Global Greens Women’s Network as an example for other networks Global Greens could support, if not initiate.

It will be with pleasure and dedication that I will perform to the most of my abilities the tasks of the GGC. I am not afraid of putting hours into my work. I am able to see the broad lines on the one hand, and to fine-tune minutes and resolutions on the other hand. You might as well know that I possess a, sometimes wicked, sense of humour. Be sure that I am an earnest advocate of a collegial approach in the matters the GGC is dealing with.

I am at your disposal for any information you might need

Thanking you for your attention,  
I remain  
Ecological yours  
Robert Aarsse