

## European Green Party Member of the Committee candidacy:

Dear European Greens

I am **Indrit Abdiaj**, member of the Albanian Green Party from 2015 when I was candidate for local councilor of the Municipality of Elbasan. From 2015 I became the first elected Green councilor of second biggest municipality of Albania and chair of the AGP for Elbasan District, with 2 councilors in the district and 1880 votes (2015 elections).

In the local election of 2019 as responsible of the campaign of AGP for Elbasan District we achieve a fantastic result with 10 local councilors and 4675 vote. This was a very good moment for AGP in all Albania that goes from 12 to 36 councilors that mean that AGP is a consolidated party and is growing and looking to coordinate green movements and activists and being a reliable partner to progressive parties.

After the elections I establish the Green- Social Group with 5 councilors on Municipal Council of Elbasan, and we get vice-chair of the Municipal Council and I was elected member of the District Council of Elbasan.

The Green Wave must not stop, it is now up to Southeast Europe to embrace it and convert it to the strengthening of green parties.

It is true that the region has problems with democracy, human rights, social equality and so on. But it is very true that environmental awareness is becoming more and more actual. By promoting the green economy we are protecting the environment but also fighting poverty in the region. And fortunately the resources are numerous. Greens will be able to bridge divisions and unite the region by setting a common agenda for EU integration. Membership of our party representative at the EGP Committee would be an additional political stimulus for the European southeast parties.

Building on best practices and personal experience so far, and firmly believing in our shared work, what we will aim for in the coming years is:

Establishment and networking of green parties throughout Southeast Europe, where there are none.

Support for achieving well-defined objectives for the upcoming local elections.

Establishment of the Balkan Green Group as an added value of the Mediterranean Network that will serve as a bridge linking east and west for European integration.

We will aim to create partnerships between northern European green parties with green Balkan parties (e.g. Sweden - Albania).

**We will aim to achieve at least one member in the national parliaments, especially in the countries of the Western Balkans Region in the upcoming parliamentary elections.**

I strongly believe that with my local experience, international cooperation on multiculturalism and the optimism that characterizes me, we will have, in a few years, South East European green parties that will be important contributors to the growth of the Greens / EFA Group.

Sincerely

*Indrit Abdiaj*