

R6 Concrete social policies for a real social and fair Europe

Proposer: Les Jeunes Ecologistes, Joves
Ecosocialistes, écolo j
Agenda item: 1. Resolutions

Motion text

Concrete social policies for a real social and fair Europe

Context : The Europe of the economy is falling apart

Since 1950 and the CECA, the European construction was made through reinforcing economic cooperation and the market. However, this has shown its limits.

Indeed, there has been a clear increase in inequality in Europe since the 1980s, with an alarming rise in poverty rates. It is in this more general context of inflation, of difficulty for Europeans to have access to essential goods, aggravating these heavy trends, and when the far right is trying to stripe of the social progress made so far, that Europe must implement social mechanisms and must adopt directives that improve our living conditions in a very concrete way.

What is at stake : the need to build a more social Europe

All of this makes us believe that there is a crucial need to build a concrete European project, in which people can believe in, which addresses planetary and social crises. We must strongly defend a justice project: tax justice (See title 4, subtitled "Fiscal Policy" of the political platform) that gives us the means to achieve social and environmental justice.

A more social Europe to build a concrete Europe for its citizens...

We urgently need concrete mechanisms to create a feeling of belonging to the EU. People must be aware that what is decided at European level impacts on them daily. They must understand that the impacts can be particularly positive if they mobilise themselves with us for a real project for a Social Europe that

24 breaks away from the neo-liberal vision that has been the norm until now. One
25 example is the Social Imbalance Procedure (SIP), a mechanism to enhance social
26 rights in the EU and assess EU members social policies.

27 *... includes a transformation of its institutions...*

28 It is therefore a project for the transformation of the EU, a concrete project,
29 clear, legible in the measures we must propose. A project that contrasts with
30 the commonly shared vision of a technocratic Europe that does not care about the
31 general interest and the interests of all EU citizens. In this way, it is
32 crucial to extend and deepen the social pillar of the EU.

33 This project of a concrete social and federal Europe is the only serious project
34 able to receive the assent of a majority of Europeans, particularly those from
35 the working and middle classes who today abstain from voting or oppose the
36 current European project.

37 We must strongly advocate for a Europe of reduced inequality: a Europe where all
38 citizens are winners. We also defend a Europe which prioritises action towards
39 planetary crisis, since the increasing pollution, climate change, and
40 biodiversity loss, among other issues, are affecting ecosystems and human
41 health. The COVID-19 pandemic is a clear example of disease of the anthropocene.
42 The right to the protection of human health is included in the EU Social Charter
43 as a main principle, and needs to be boarded up. Indeed, the green Europe we
44 want to build needs to be just and pursue across-cutting equity, making sure
45 that existing inequalities, as well as structural obstacles for marginalised
46 groups are being diminished.

47 Moreover, in this context of inflation, and in particular of energy price
48 inflation, which impacts the whole supply chain, which therefore strongly
49 affects the purchasing power of citizens, we, as Greens, must strongly defend
50 the access to carbon neutral energy as a right, and we must be in this way, a
51 force of proposal for reforming the European energy market. We can only note the
52 major failure of energy liberalisation. Competition has not led to lower prices,
53 quite the opposite. We urgently need to revise European energy policy. We need
54 to act structurally to better control energy prices to guarantee fair and
55 affordable prices, in quantities compatible with the necessary sobriety of a
56 carbon neutral society, to every European citizen, public organisation, and
57 company.

58 **Implementation: involve every level of governance and multi-**
59 **stakeholders in constructing a social Europe**

60 **We call upon the European Parliament, the Member States and the European**

61 **Commission to:**

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- 63 • Set up a European legislation for a European minimum income from the age
64 of 18 years old : For it to be pertinent, this minimum income needs to be
65 at least equal to the poverty line of the country. This income has to be
indexed to inflation.
- 66
- 67 • We call on the European Union to put in place the most coercive mechanism
68 possible to ensure that Member States implement correctly the Minimum Wage
Directive (EU) 2022/2041
- 69
- 70 • Extend and deepen the already existing social pillar through the regions
71 of the EU by funding them at a satisfactory level, focusing on education,
72 health, housing, employment, social security and migration. It is an
73 important way to build a federal Europe and to make the UE more tangible
74 for EU citizens and to ensure the EU Green deal enhances a green
75 transition that is just and leaves none behind (following what it is
76 stated in the "[Green Principles for a Just Transition](#)"). We therefore call
77 to increase ERDF resources and increase the percentage allocated to
78 social, job creation and local development components. We also call to
increase the resources of the European Social Fund (ESF+).

79 **We call upon the FYEG's executive board to :**

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- 81 • Be proactive on social issues during the building of the campaign with
82 partner organisations, and on the fact that having a solid discourse for a
83 real social and federal Europe is the only way that the Europe we all want
can finally come into reality.

84 **We propose the FYEG's executive board to :**

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- 86 • Implement a back-to-school campaign for a European minimum income from the
87 age of 18. It may be a significant marker to launch the dynamic for the
88 European campaign and to increase the capacity and number of members of
89 our Member Organisations thanks to a campaign that is appealing to young
people because it is significant for their quality of life.

90 **We suggest Member organisations of the FYEG :**

- 91 • To implement FYEG's Campaign for a social Europe in their local context.
- 92 • Spread the voices of young ecologists sharing their stories on social and
93 economic rights.
- 94 • To advocate towards their local, regional and national governments to
95 implement and enhance the exposure of EU wide social projects.