



**Federation of Young European
Greens**

fyeg

Amendments to the Political Statement of FYEG

to be presented, amended and voted during the General Assembly 2009, Maastricht.

Brought in by Jong Groen

Replace

§ 2.4

“who need it”

by

“Single parent families, unemployed, students, pensioners”

Brought in by Jong Groen!

Replace the whole paragraph

§ 2.6

“In cities with more than 50.000 inhabitants, a system of bicycle rental should be set up”

Brought in by Jong Groen!

Add to

§ 3.5

“Climate change demands a radical change, especially in the production and consumption of energy. FYEG wants the EU to act as a pioneer in global climate issues and especially in the following climate conferences. To take up this role the EU must take more concrete initiatives. A real energy revolution is needed: radical saving of energy, more energy efficiency and a drastic increase of the amount of renewable energy in Europe’s energy mix. To realize all this, FYEG advocates the foundation of a European Renewable Energy Agency, by analogy with the ECSC and Euratom.”

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Brought in by Jong Groen!

Add to

§ 15.2

“FYEG wants a real European constituency for the European elections. We consider this the only way to realize a real European political scene. Such a constituency will mean a real engine for strong European parties and personalities. Politicians on the European level will thus be forced to take up a supranational attitude. Via the European constituency they will be accountable to the whole European population.”

Brought in by Jong Groen!

Add to

§ 15.7

“For us, young ecologists, quality prevails over quantity. For the time being we don’t want any further enlargement of the European Union until we know what the future will bring for Europe. FYEG sees this future as a future with more integration, harmonization and supranational decision-making. Every future enlargement of the EU needs to be positive, both for the EU as for the joining country. FYEG does not want any downward levelling of standards when new countries should join the EU. Member states are forced to pursue the most ardent and ambitious standards on social-economic, humanitarian and ecological level without the possibility to go backwards afterwards.”

Brought in by Jong Groen!

Add to

§ 15.8

“For FYEG, the European trade and development policy can never be based solely upon economic motives. In her contacts with developing countries the EU needs to promote actively ecological, social, humanitarian and democratic values. Now we see that the European agricultural policy plays a very pernicious role in the development of the South. From now on, FYEG believes that trade measures and development policy need to be fine-tuned upon each other. In this, global redistribution, fair trade and real durable development will be at the centre of the policy.”

Brought in by Jong Groen!

Replace the whole paragraph

§ 15.9

“FYEG wants to close the gap between the civilian and the European political scene. Therefore, it is crucial that debate and involvement are realized. A new Treaty on the future of Europe has to instigate an intense debate all over Europe. In a first phase FYEG wants the direct election of a Constitutional Council; this Council needs to elaborate a Treaty on the (institutional) future of the European Union. Afterwards, this draft Treaty will be the subject of public debate over whole Europe, with an important role for education and media to stir debate. Finally, a pan-European referendum, which will take place simultaneously in all member states, will ensue. The Treaty will come into force only if a majority of Europeans votes in favour.”

Brought in by Jong Groen!

Replace the whole paragraph

§ 15.11

“To reinforce the position of Europe in the world FYEG pleads for a European defence policy. A strong European defence policy can act as a securing counter-balance against the US, China, Russia and NATO. The defence policy needs to focus on humanitarian missions and durable development. Pure military strategies are seldom successful; therefore the young ecologists think that a European defence power only makes sense if it is part of a broader common European foreign policy. Another important aspect is democratic control. European military missions always need the approval of the European Parliament; which can also intervene afterwards on the nature and length of the missions.”

Brought in by Jong Groen!

Delete the whole paragraph

§ 15.13

Brought in by Jong Groen!

Create new section and add new paragraph

§ 18: Green product policy

“For a fundamental durability transition, different production and consumption patterns are crucial. We don’t only need to consume less, we also need to consume differently. FYEG wants a European product policy whereby durability is key. The responsibility of choices cannot always be transferred to the individual consumer. To realize a green product policy, positive and negative incentives are needed. Producers will be forced to be as good as the most green version on the market within a reasonable term. Importation legislation for non-European products and services is possible, but only from a durability point of view. These criteria apply

obviously also for European products and services. After all, the European product policy can never be used to boycott durable products from other regions.”

Brought in by EcoloJ

Add to

§ 5. Social System

“By massively injecting new funds into private companies and banks which were otherwise facing bankruptcy, most heads of state as well as the international monetary and financial institutions reinforced the idea that public authorities are entitled to help businesses in need, hereby implicitly ignoring the principle of competition, one of the main pillars of the global market. Indeed, not all businesses, not all banks, made risky or even immoral investment choices; yet, those who did were rescued by public funds, often without any specific binding conditions.

FYEG understands that these measures were necessary to maintain a certain social and economic system on its feet, but it demands that the same rules be applied to individuals : Europe's first priority should therefore be an ambitious plan to tackle homelessness.

Despite the current financial and economic crisis, most European States are still prosperous. That, Europe-wide, thousands of people remain unable to enjoy the comfort of a home, which remains a fundamental human right and, to some extent, provides personal structure and self-confidence, is therefore intolerable.

This is why FYEG calls for a general European agreement, between both governments and related NGO's, that would set out definitive answers to this problem, not only to allow homeless people to recover their dignity, but also for the sake of Europe's own dignity.

In this perspective, we suggest a comparative study on the existing measures in support of homeless people in each member State, the creation of a specialised cell within the European Commission's "Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities" Directorate (which would report directly to the President of the Commission), regular meetings of the Council of Social Affairs on this specific issue (at least once a year), as well as temporary state-financed public housing of homeless people. The latter would require a bigger supply of public housing, in adequacy with the needs, the use of abandoned public facilities, and the requisition of private houses and buildings that have been abandoned in order to speculatively increase their selling value.

FYEG also requests a study on the financial cost of public spending to eradicate homelessness.

The European Young Greens think that, with the necessary political will and human dignity, the objective of 0 homeless people throughout Europe by 2015 is realistic, and thus reachable.”