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PES 10TH CONGRESS
12 & 13 JUNE 2015
BUDAPEST

Budapest, 12th & 13th June 2015

Decisions taken by the 10th PES Congress

1. Congress organisation

- **Confirmation of voting rights:** 419 voting rights were considered valid (see composition of delegations in Annex 1).
- The Congress unanimously adopted the **Rules of procedures** (Annex 2).
- Jan Royall was unanimously elected as **Congress chair**.

Francisco André (PS Portugal), Anniken Huitfelt (DNA Norway), Randel Länts (SDE Estonia) and Karolina Leakovic (SDP Croatia) were unanimously elected **tellers**.

2. Elections

- **Election of the PES President:** Sergei Stanishev (BSP Bulgaria) was the only candidate. Enrique Baron Crespo decided to withdraw his candidacy during the congress. Sergei Stanishev was elected by the Congress with 69,5% in favour, 16,5% against and 13,3% abstention (Annex 3).
- **Election of the PES Presidency:** The Congress unanimously confirmed the **PES Presidency members**, as presented by the PES full and associate Member Parties and organisations (Annex 4).



- **PES Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, Secretary General and Deputy Secretary Generals**

At the proposal of the new PES President, the newly elected PES Presidency in its meeting of 13 June unanimously elected the following persons as part of the PES leadership. The congress was informed of the Presidency decision.

Vice-Presidents

- Jean-Christophe Cambadélis (PS France),
- Carin Jämtin (SAP Sweden),
- Katarína Nevedalová (SMER-SD Slovakia),
- Jan Royall (Labour Party UK)

Treasurer

- Ruairi Quinn (Labour Party Ireland)

Secretary General

- Achim Post (SPD Germany)

The following persons were – at the proposal of the newly elected President - appointed by the PES Presidency as **Deputy Secretary Generals**:

- Giacomo Filibeck (PD Italy)
- Marije Laffeber (PvdA, The Netherlands)
- Yonnec Polet (PS Belgium)

3. Reports

- The Congress unanimously adopted the **PES activity report**¹.
- The Congress unanimously took note of the **S&D group activity report**².

4. Resolutions

- The Congress unanimously adopted the resolution “**Roadmap for a progressive Europe**” (Annex 5).
- The Congress adopted the resolution “**For a tolerant, inclusive and democratic Europe**” with 99,8% in favor and 0,2% abstention (Annex 6).
- The Congress unanimously adopted the work plan “**Roadmap towards 2019**” (Annex 7)
- The Congress unanimously adopted the resolution “**Towards a strong progressive global agenda**” (Annex 8).

¹ Available on the PES website:

<https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/partyofeuropeansocialists/pages/2047/attachments/original/1434618404/009-PES-activity-report-RZ-48-49-x3.pdf?1434618404>

² Available on the PES website:

https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/partyofeuropeansocialists/pages/2047/attachments/original/1434542246/Activity_report_Mockup_S_D_v18.pdf?1434542246



5. Membership (see full Register of PES members in Annex 9)

- The Congress unanimously welcomed PD Italy as full member party.
- The Congress unanimously welcome Progressive Alliance as associate member organization.
- The Congress unanimously welcomed ARF Armenia, ESDP Egypt, Georgian Dream and USFP Morocco as observer member parties.
- The Congress unanimously welcomed the CEE Network for gender issues as observer member organization.
- The Congress unanimously confirm the membership of YES (full member organisations), HDP Turkey (associate member party) and Meretz Israël (observer member party), following their change of names.
- The Congress unanimously upgraded Concord Latvia and PDM Moldova to associate member parties.
- The Congress unanimously upgraded Rainbow Rose to associate member organization.

6. Statutes

- The Congress unanimously adopted amendments to PES Statutes (Annex 10).



Delegates to the 2015 PES Congress
On the basis of article 21 of the PES Statutes
Adopted by the PES Presidency on 12th June

There will be 905 delegates to PES 2015 Congress

- 419 delegates with voting rights
- 474 delegates without voting rights
- 12 ex-officio delegates without voting rights

Please note that according to Articles 21.4 of PES Statutes, **all delegations must be gender-balanced** (i.e. there should not be more than a difference of 1 delegate between the two genders). If a delegation does not respect this rule, its vote to the Election Congress will be proportionally reduced.

Delegates with voting rights³

Party / organisation	Number of Congress delegates	Presidency members	Congress delegates + Presidency members
Austria SPÖ	8	1	9
Belgium PS	6	1	7
Belgium sp.a	3	1	4
Bulgaria BSP	5	1	6
Cyprus EDEK	1	1	2
Croatia SDP	7	1	8
Czech Republic CSSD	8	1	9
Denmark SD	5	1	6
Estonia SDE	2	1	3
Finland SDP	4	1	5

³ PES Statutes

Article 21.1 – The PES Congress shall consist of the following delegates with voting rights:

- Representatives from full member parties, with the following calculation: 1/45th of weighted votes as defined in article 19.6 rounded upwards
- A representative from each national delegation of the Group in the EP
- Two representatives from each other full member organisation
- The members of the PES Presidency



France PS	40	1	41
Germany SPD	38	1	39
Greece PASOK	2	1	3
Hungary MSzP	5	1	6
Hungary MSzDP	1	1	2
Ireland Labour	4	1	5
Italy PD	50	1	51
Italy PSI	1	1	2
Lithuania LSDP	5	1	6
Luxemburg LSAP	3	1	4
Malta PL	4	1	5
Netherlands PvdA	9	1	10
Norway	6	1	7
Poland SLD	7	1	8
Poland UP	1	1	2
Portugal PS	11	1	12
Romania PSD	16	1	17
Slovakia SMER	10	1	11
Slovenia SD	1	1	2
Spain PSOE	28	1	29
Sweden SAP	9	1	10
UK Labour	38	1	39
Northern Ireland SDLP	1	1	2
S&D Group in the EP	28	1	29
PES Group in the CoR	2	1	3
YES	2	1	3
PES Women	2	1	3
FEPS	2	1	3
PES President		1	1



PES Vice-Presidents	4	4
PES Secretary General	1	1
Total		419

Delegates without voting rights⁴

Party / organisation	Election delegates without voting rights	Congress without rights
S&D Group in the EP	162	
PES Group in the CoR	119	
FEPS	14	
PES Women	15	
YES	49	
PS Albania	5	
SDP Bosnia & Herzegovina	5	
pBS Bulgaria	5	
SDSM FYR of Macedonia	5	
Samfylkingin Iceland	5	
DPS Montenegro	5	
SDP Montenegro	5	
DS Serbia	5	
PS Switzerland	5	
BDP Turkey	5	
CHP Turkey	5	
Socialist International	5	
Socialist group in the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe	5	
Socialist group in the Parliamentary Assembly of the OSCE	5	
Rainbow Rose	5	
PSD Andorra	2	

⁴ PES Statutes

Article 21.2 – The PES Congress shall also consist of the following delegates without voting rights:

- All members of its political groups in the EP and in the CoR not covered by article 21.1.
- Bureau members of other full member organisations
- 5 delegates from each associate members
- 2 from observer members



CTP Cyprus	2
Labour Party Israel	2
Meretz-Yachad Israel	2
LSDSP Latvia	2
SDPS Latvia	2
DP Moldova	2
Fatah Palestine	2
PSD San Marino	2
FDTL – Ettakatol Tunisia	2
ESDP Egypt	2
USFP Morocco	2
EFDS	2
ESO	2
IFM-SEI	2
ISDUE	2
IUSY	2
SAMAK	2
SIW	2
USLRRE	2
Total	474

Ex-officio delegates without voting rights⁵

President of the European Parliament	1
European Commissioners	8
1 st Vice-President of the Committee of the Regions	1
President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the OSCE	1
President of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly	1
Total	12

⁵ PES Statutes

Article 21.5 – The following are also ex-officio delegates, without the right to vote:

- The President of the European Parliament, if he/she is a PES member
- PES members of the European Commission
- The President of the European Council, if he/she is a PES member
- The President of 1st Vice-President of the Committee of the Regions, if he/she is a PES member
- The President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, if he/she is a PES member
- The President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the OSCE, if he/she is a PES member
- The President of the European Security and Defence Assembly, if he/she is a PES member
- The President of NATO Parliamentary Assembly, if he/she is a PES member



Rules of procedure Adopted by the PES Congress

Composition of the Congress

Article 1

The composition of the Congress is determined by article 21 of the PES Statutes. The Congress consists of delegates with voting rights and delegates without voting rights. The calculation of the number of weighted votes per full member party is calculated in accordance with the formula in article 19.6 of the PES Statutes, and in accordance with articles 21.4 and 43.4 of the PES Statutes and has been approved by the PES Presidency.

The composition of the Congress is listed in Annex 1 (delegates with voting rights) and in Annex 2 (other delegates) of the Rules of Procedure.

The list of other parties, organisations and individuals invited to the Congress, adopted by the Presidency in accordance with article 21.6 of the PES Statutes, is available at the Congress Secretariat.

Registered PES Activists are invited to the Congress, in their own capacity, as guests. In this quality, they may attend plenary sessions without the right to speak or to vote.

Article 2

In accordance with article 43.4, member of the PES are not entitled to vote or take part in the Congress if they have not paid their annual membership fees.

Article 21.4 – All delegations must be gender-balanced (i.e. there should not be more than a difference of 1 delegate between the 2 genders). If a delegation does not respect this rule, its vote to the Congress will be reduced proportionally.

Powers of the Congress

Article 3

In accordance with article 20.1 of the PES Statutes, the Congress is the supreme organ of the PES.

Article 4

In accordance with article 20.5 of the PES Statutes, full and associate members may put forward and defend proposals at the Congress.

The Presidency or the Congress bureau may also invite guests to address the Congress.



Article 5

In accordance with article 20.2 of the PES Statutes, the Congress shall:

- elect the President through an open, transparent and democratic competitive process;
- confirm the members of the Presidency, as proposed by the Member parties and organisations, from among their senior members;
- adopt resolutions and recommendations to parties, the Presidency and the group in the European Parliament;
- adopt the activity report of the PES for the preceding period and the action programme for the future submitted by the Presidency;
- discuss and take note of the report of activities submitted by its group in the European Parliament.

In accordance with article 20.3 of the PES Statutes, the Congress shall by a superqualified or qualified majority (as ruled by PES Statutes in Article 19.5) and on a proposal from the Presidency:

- adopt the PES Statutes (after having adopted amendments to the Statutes), which will take effect at the closing of the Congress ;
- decide on the admission and exclusion of members as well as the status of member parties and organisations.

Article 6

Speaking time at the Congress will be shared fairly between full member parties and organisations on the basis of their number of delegates.

Conduct of the Congress

Article 7

In accordance with article 22.3 of the PES Statutes, the Presidency sets the date and venue for the Congress. It proposes the internal rules of procedure and the agenda which are adopted once the Congress is opened.

The President, the Secretary General or the Congress Chair announces the start and the end of the Congress.

Article 8

Following a Presidency proposal, the Congress elected a Chair, and 4 Congress Bureau members from different PES member parties by simple majority, to assist the Congress Chair.

The Congress debates are managed by the Congress Bureau. The Congress Bureau makes recommendations to the Congress on the procedure for decision-making debates and votes. These recommendations require simple majority.

Following a Presidency proposal, the Congress elects 4 tellers, from different member parties, by simple majority. The Congress tellers are responsible for counting the votes.



Decisions and votes by the Congress

Article 9

In accordance with article 19.5 of the PES Statutes, the quorum for votes requires two thirds of full member parties to be present.

Any request for a quorum must be made by 25 percent of full member parties. In the event that a quorum is requested and not met, the Congress Bureau shall declare that the vote cannot take place.

Article 10

In accordance with article 19.3 of the PES Statutes, policy decisions shall, in principle, be taken on the basis of consensus.

If a consensus cannot be reached, they shall be taken on the basis of a qualified majority.

The allocation of votes for a qualified majority per party and per organisation is equal to that party and organisation's number of delegates to the PES Congress (see Annex 1).

Proxy voting is not permitted.

Article 11

In accordance with article 19.7 of the PES Statutes, a full member party may declare that it is not bound by a political decision taken by qualified majority, provided it expresses the intent before the vote is taken.

Article 12

Rules concerning voting procedures:

- (1) Election of the PES President: by simple majority;
- (2) Confirmation of Presidency members: by simple majority;
- (3) Adoption of resolutions and recommendations to the parties, the Presidency and the parliamentary group: by qualified majority;
- (4) Delivering an opinion on the PES activity report for the preceding period and the future work programme submitted by the Presidency: by simple majority;
- (5) Delivering an opinion on the activity report submitted by the Parliamentary Group of the PES in the European Parliament: by simple majority;
- (6) Amendments and adoption of PES Statutes: by superqualified majority on a proposal by the Presidency;
- (7) Decisions on the membership and status of parties and organisations as well as exclusion of members: by qualified (SI member) or superqualified (non SI member) majority on a proposal by the Presidency.

Article 13

Amendments shall have priority over the text to which they relate and shall be put to the vote before the text.



If two or more amendments have been tabled to the same part of a text, the amendment that departs furthest from the original text shall have priority and shall be put to the vote first. If it is adopted the other amendments shall fall. If it is rejected, the amendment next in priority shall be put to the vote and similarly for each of the remaining amendments.

Article 14

In accordance with article 19.5 of the PES Statutes, votes are cast per member party and organisation.

Member parties and organisations are free to cast their votes individually or collectively. The Congress bureau shall call for a show of hands. If the result is unclear the Chair shall make a roll call per party.

The vote for the PES President shall be cast by secret ballot, following article 20.4 of PES Statutes.

Voting will start at 17.15 and close at 18.00 on 12th June.

Individual ballot papers will be distributed to the Heads of voting delegations, or their representatives, who will organise the vote inside their delegations and cast the vote on behalf of their full delegation.

Procedural Motions

Article 15

Any delegate may be allowed to speak to draw the attention of the Congress bureau to any failure to respect the Congress Rules of Procedure (Point of order). The delegate shall first specify to which rule s/he is referring.

A request to raise a point of order shall take precedence over all other requests to speak. Speaking time shall be one minute. The Congress bureau shall take an immediate decision on a point of order, in accordance with the Rules of Procedure, and shall announce that decision once a point of order has been raised.

Congress decisions

Article 16

In accordance with article 23 of the PES Statutes, the decisions and the documents adopted by the Congress shall be communicated to members of the PES and shall be published on the PES Website.





Results of the Election of PES President 10th PES Congress

Number of voting rights: 419
 Number of votes cast: 407
 Number of valid vote: 404
 Number of blank vote: 1
 Number of invalid: 2

Number of votes per candidate		
Sergei Stanishev		
YES283.....	votes = ...69.5... %
NO67.....	votes = ...16.5... %
ABSTENTION54.....	votes = ...13.3... %

BLANK + INVALID 3 0,01 %

Budapest, 12th June 2015

PES Election Congress Tellers

Stanislav F. Al. Anis Thurgel

Candidates' observers

[Handwritten signatures]

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PES Presidency
Elected by the PES Congress on 12th June 2015

Full member parties	
Austria SPÖ	Werner Faymann
Belgium PS	Gilles Mahieu
Belgium SPA	Said El Khadraoui
Bulgaria BSP	Kristian Vigenin
Cyprus EDEK	Demetris Papadakis
Croatia SDP	Neven Mimica
Czech Republic CSSD	Vladimir Spidla
Denmark SD	Jeppe Kofod
Estonia SDE	Marju Lauristin
Finland SDP	Tytti Tuppurainen
France PS	Philip Cordery
Germany SPD	Martin Schulz
Greece PASOK	Sylvana Rapti
Hungary MSzP	László Kovács
Hungary MSzDP	
Ireland Labour	Ruairi Quinn
Italy PD	Enzo Amendola
Italy PSI	Luca Cefisi
Lithuania LSDP	Zigmantas Balcytis
Luxembourg LSAP	Claude Haagen
Malta PL	MarcVella Bonnici
Netherlands PvdA	Kirsten Meijer
Norway DNA	Raymond Johansen
Poland SLD	Konrad Golota
Poland UP	
Portugal PS	Sergio Sousa Pinto
Romania PSD	Rovana Plumb
Slovakia SMER	Katarina Nevedalova
Slovenia SD	Tanja Fajon
Spain PSOE	Iratxe García Pérez
Sweden SAP	Carin Jämtin
UK Labour	Pat McFadden
Northern Ireland SDLP	Alasdair McDonnell
Full member organisations	
S&D Group in the EP	Gianni Pittella
PES Group in the CoR	Catuscia Marini
YES	Laura Slimani
PES Women	Zita Gurmai
FEPS	Ernst Stetter
Associate parties	
PSS Albania	
SDP Bosnia &	Zlatko Lagumdzija



Herzegovina	
pBs Bulgaria	Svetlina Yolcheva
DS Serbia	Bojan Pajtic
SDUM FYROM	Radmila Sekerinska
Samfylkingin Iceland	Árni Páll Árnason
Concord Latvia	Nils Usakovs
DPM Moldova	
DPS Montenegro	Tarzan Milosevic
SDP Montenegro	Ranko Krivokapic
DS Serbia	Bojan Pajtic
PS Switzerland	Mario Carera
CHP Turkey	Kader Sevinc
HDP Turkey	Doru Eyyup
Associate organisations	
SI	
Progressive Alliance	Konstantin Woinoff
Rainbow Rose	Aurelien Mazuy
Socialist group in the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe	Andreas Gross
Socialist group in the Parliamentary Assembly of the OSCE	



PES Roadmap for a Progressive Europe **Adopted by the PES Congress**

Europe is at a crossroads. The path that we choose will determine the direction of the EU and the way it answers its citizens' expectations during the years to come. European citizens have suffered deeply from the crisis, with economic stagnation, high levels of unemployment, growing inequalities and deep social problems. This has created profound divisions that risk undermining both citizens' welfare and the future of the European project: divisions between different parts of Europe and within our societies.

For us, the Party of European Socialists, the crisis has demonstrated the absolute necessity of uniting, of working together to find common European solutions and an EU reform agenda to promote jobs and growth, and of putting an end to austerity-only policies that have fallen short of promoting growth and quality jobs. Conservatives and liberals claim to have understood the root causes of the crisis, but in practice they refuse to take the steps needed to overcome it and to prevent the next crisis. We are also confronted with populists who try to feed divisions, euroscepticism and hate. All this is extremely concerning for the European project and the benefits it can bring to people's lives. Never before has Europe been so criticised. It is our duty to embrace this challenge and lead the battle of ideas with our values, vision and achievements.

The European Union is the result of a common journey of Europeans from across our continent who came together to share a common vision of a better future for all. A common journey to overcome divisions, to strengthen cooperation at every level and put integration at the heart of our project, in full respect of national specificities and differences.

It is that common and progressive vision that we want to revive. The common vision is our answer to all those who want to undermine our Union. We need to restore the sense of a common future, of solidarity, of belonging that has been the real driving force behind the European Union. Europe has had many positive impacts on people's lives and can bring many more. That is why we urgently need to rebuild the trust between Europe and its citizens.

European citizens want a Europe that they understand and an alternative that combines new thinking with concrete and realistic proposals. A Europe that will answer the challenges of today: the long lasting economic and social effects of the financial crisis, global climate change and scarcity of natural resources, a more interconnected, more globalized and more competitive world, and an unstable geopolitical environment. Our roadmap and our priorities are clear:

- We want to bring hope and ambition back to the heart of the European project.
- We want to foster a Social Union where strong social rights are on an equal footing with economic freedoms.
- We want to lay down the foundations for a prosperous future for Europe's citizens.

This is our framework and commitment in 10 concrete steps:

1. More and better jobs

The harmful austerity-only policies and the rampant level of unemployment are key challenges that maintain our countries in a lasting crisis. Creating more jobs is an



urgent priority. This is both a social and an economic imperative. We will continue our efforts, to help the younger generation of Europeans who have been hit hard by this crisis by promoting the quick implementation, the expansion, and increased funding of the Youth Guarantee. We will strive to ensure its success, in full respect of high labour standards and put into place active policies to support the young and long term unemployed to get a decent job.

We will strengthen innovative production based on investment, progressive reforms and natural resource efficiency. Job creation is not only about quantity, it is also about quality. Economic recovery cannot take place at the expense of the protection of workers, of decent salaries, of working standards, and of a good work-life balance. Social protection and social dialogue are not optional. They are essential tools for a sustainable and fair future for all, with social rights, affordable access to healthcare, and quality education. We want binding targets on poverty and social cohesion. Economic freedoms must not overrule social rights in the European internal market.

Pursuing our focus on quality work and decent wages, we will fight against in-work poverty to ensure that employment is an effective way out of poverty. We will work towards the prohibition of zero-hour contracts and regulate low-hours contracts to ensure that workers are entitled to a minimum level of paid employment and can earn a decent living from their work. We will introduce decent minimum wages, either by law or collective bargaining, decent minimum incomes and adequate pensions in Europe to ensure all Europeans, including those in old age, enjoy decent living standards and prospects. Through our efforts we strive to strengthen the Social Dialogue, worker's participation, co-determination and the convergence towards higher social standards for everyone in Europe, without lowering those set in national welfare systems. We will fight for social investment and for voluntary mobility with more portability of social rights. We want to put an end to social dumping, by ending the practice of exploiting workers and precarious contracts that harm many Europeans, and revise the Posting of Workers' Directive. At all levels, we will continue to insist on combating rising inequalities, which are threatening the European social model.

2. Investing in growth

At the same time, we must do everything to re-launch the real economy. The fact that we now have a European Investment Plan is a great achievement of our political family. Our call to increase public and private investment has been heard. In order to ensure the success of the European Investment Plan, we will remain vigilant regarding its implementation, its increase, and its concrete impact on closing the investment gap in the EU. Only through financing sustainable, innovative, ambitious projects in growth and long-term quality job-creating sectors can we drastically improve the economic situation in Europe and bridge social and territorial inequalities. We will tackle economic divergences between Member States and regions and focus on promoting investment in the regions and countries with high levels of unemployment and slow job creation where biggest investment gaps are seen. Economic inequalities and excessive wealth concentration have a negative effect on the economy as a whole. We will therefore pursue policies that reduce inequalities in wealth and income in Europe as a key means of economic recovery, as well as an end in itself. We are fighting so that Europe's great investment potential is developed and exploited to the fullest and supported with all available financial means including by a strong EU budget with the necessary budgetary means, involving an own resource system. In order to absorb



economic shocks, progressive fiscal policies that react to the fluctuations of the economic cycle should be implemented, and the necessary fiscal 'room for manoeuvre' given to all Member States, including those that are most affected by the financial and economic crisis, to actively pursue quality public investment, that expand rather than shrink our economy, especially in infrastructure, and research and technology.

3. Supporting green growth

A prosperous and healthy future for all has to involve the highest standard of protection of our environment and climate. For us, Socialists and Democrats, fighting climate change and protecting the environment is neither a luxury nor a burden but an opportunity. It is an opportunity and indispensable investment in our future. It is also an objective that can, in the short and medium term, contribute to re-launching the economy with real green job creation. More efficient use of resources is a key element in securing Europe's competitive edge in the global economy. The challenge of global warming questions our economic and development model. We want to transform our economy into a circular economy that makes better use and re-use of resources and that prevents wasting resources in the first place. The PES is committed to reaching a global, legally-binding agreement on the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions during the 2015 COP 21 Global Climate Summit in Paris with the objective to keep global warming below the 2°C limit. A reformed Emissions Trading System with a carbon market stabilisation mechanism and a European system of carbon taxation that drives investments in low-carbon production shall be the backbone of Europe's contributions to saving the world's climate.

4. Managing the energy transition

We support the creation of a balanced Energy Union to secure the provision of clean, sustainable, safe, reliable and affordable energy. These are challenges that can only be met if we work together, united, as Europeans. In doing so, we also want to increase energy independence vis-à-vis third countries. We are committed to promoting the increased use of renewable energy and improving energy efficiency and decarbonising our economies. This energy transition bears enormous investment and job-creation potential and must therefore be accompanied by strong social dialogue. We support the shift to a more decentralised, more transparent and more democratic energy model with forms of local energy production that enable citizens to be involved in, to profit from and to actively shape the European energy transition. We strive for more public and private investment in research and in the development of sustainable energy technologies and smart grids that enable renewables to flow freely between Member States. We will ensure that energy poverty, consumer protection and energy efficiency are addressed effectively in all relevant EU legislation. The energy transition is not only an ecological imperative. It is also a means contributing to sustainable and inclusive growth.

5. Making the economy work for all citizens

This crisis has exposed many of the shortcomings of the current economic and financial system. Fixing these now has to become one of the key priorities for Europe. We want an efficient and fair Single Market including in the digital economy and energy. We have to further regulate the banking and financial sectors, to make sure that they actively contribute to the promotion of sustainable economic growth and to ensure that citizens never again have to pay the price for bankers' mistakes. Credit has to flow to support the economy, especially Small and Medium Enterprises.



Progressive measures such as the implementation of a substantial Financial Transaction Tax (FTT) must be supported to effectively tackle financial speculation and promote long term investments. Moreover, we must promote responsible fiscal policies and create a coordinated and fair fiscal system is needed, where no one avoids their responsibilities to society, and everybody contributes to ending the crisis. Much needed revenue can be accumulated by promoting tax policies that prevent tax dodging, such as the Common Consolidated Corporate Tax Base and aiming at convergence of rates not below a certain minimum, and ensuring transparency and a fair corporate taxation that does not lead to a fiscal race to the bottom. We will tackle tax evasion and avoidance and crack down tax havens. The country where a company makes its profits must be the country of taxation.

Moreover, in order to promote viable economic growth it is important to mutualise responsibility and rights especially within the Eurozone. We will bring down deficits in a sustainable and fair way and manage public debt in Europe with new instruments. The Economic and Monetary Union must be strengthened financially, institutionally, and by strong democratic institutions to foster real cohesion and solidarity. Our aim is to actively promote sustainable, quality public investment in Europe to support upward convergence between Member States. Europe needs a strong social dimension and to consider scenarios for complementary unemployment schemes. We will also promote other forms of fiscal and investment capacity in the Eurozone to support countries undergoing shocks and to sustain the welfare state.

6. For an innovative and digital economy

The digitalisation of industries and services offers opportunities for European businesses to gain and maintain a competitive edge. The digital transition needs to be flanked by active industrial policies, by the skilling, re-skilling and up-skilling of the workforce. We want to ensure the security of private and corporate data. Economic, social and scientific stakeholders need to be coordinated in order to spur research and development, and to foster technological and social innovation in a digitalized economy. We want businesses that do not compete just on prices, but mainly on the quality and innovativeness of its products to create fair jobs and growth. This transition needs to be inclusive, affordable to all, and supported by education and awareness campaigns in order to make sure that each EU citizen is an integral part and can take full advantage of the digital society.

7. Promoting progressive reforms

To fight unemployment, inequalities, to maintain our European social model, we have to work to modernize our economies and our societies. In the eyes of the right, reforms mean liberalisation, flexibilisation, dismantling the social acquis and blanket deregulation of the labour market. These have had a strong deflationary impact, and have perpetuated the crisis. On the contrary, we are committed to reforms that improve the Europeans' socio-economic situations, strengthen social and territorial cohesion, improve education, support innovation, make public administration perform better, ensure adequate social protection and access to healthcare, restore equal opportunities, and advance the inclusion of vulnerable groups in the labour market. Our objectives are thus reforms that, combined with investment, will develop the growth potential, increase productivity, improve wages, reduce social inequalities, and improve sustainability. We want reforms that ensure government's efficiency in the field of taxation and in delivering justice. This includes a strong push for the adoption of European legislation fighting against discrimination. Our aim is to promote quality



and durability instead of quantity and short termism. We want social and economic concerns to be given equal attention. We want to implement a new set of progressive reforms that answer the challenges which our societies face, reinforce our social model and set Europe on the path to sustainable growth. We will be tough guardians of public money at all levels, enhancing the quality of public spending, cutting out waste and directing expenditures to get the best value for Europe's people.

8. For real gender equality

The fight against all forms of inequality remains at the heart of our political action. Equal pay for equal work is a fundamental principle that we will continue to defend and promote. We will spare no effort to make sure that the gender pay and pensions-gap finally becomes a thing of the past, that women are fully represented in all sectors and level of the economy and society, and that they benefit from the same social rights as men. We will continue our work to eradicate gender-based violence, including domestic violence, and sexual mutilations, and to ensure that sexual and reproductive rights, including unhindered access to safe abortion, are guaranteed to all women across Europe and the world. And we will continue to spearhead the fight for maternity, paternity, parental leave, balance in work and family life and against all forms of gender discrimination, including gender identity and gender expression. We call for a distinct, strong and clear EU gender equality strategy 2015-2020 to be put forward by the European Commission.

9. For a fair mobility in Europe

Freedom of movement is a fundamental right and founding principle of the EU. Voluntary and fair mobility is at the core of European citizenship and one of the keys of the success of the single market, not only economically, but also socially, culturally, and in promoting our common values. Mobility should be a choice not an obligation. We will continue to defend the fundamental right of the freedom of movement of all EU citizens and their families, established by any form of union legally recognised in one or more EU Member States. We must harness the potential of mobility for communities, public services and welfare systems. We will combat all kinds of fraud, abuse and the undermining of national labour market conditions and wages, to protect this right in a sustainable and fair way. We will counter the populists who are trying to twist the facts and try to transform one of Europe's main achievements into an instrument of fear.

10. Progressive asylum and migration policies

On migration and asylum our first duty is always to protect human lives. Too many have been lost already. Europe must live up to its moral and legal obligation to offer safe access, protection and asylum to those who are fleeing war, dictatorship, persecution - including that which is based on gender, sexual orientation and gender identity - and to those whose lives are at risk. Europe must act in the spirit of solidarity, and promote the fair sharing of responsibilities. We want to tackle the root causes of migration and improve the safety and quality of life in migrants' countries of origin or transit, by supporting third countries, promoting peace, democracy and social and economic development. We must also help crack down on criminal networks of smugglers and human traffickers that are feeding on people's despair. Finally, Europe must develop a well-managed and organised policy of legal migration and integration - including labour mobility schemes for both highly skilled and low skilled labour - which can enrich our continent culturally, socially and economically. Europe must act concretely to facilitate asylum seekers' access to protection in Europe, by defining



common and easier European procedures. The dramatic situation at the Mediterranean Sea is a strong reminder that Europe has a duty to protect the lives and fundamental rights of migrants, and protect them from all forms of exploitation.

We, the Party of European Socialists, are committed to overcome the challenges ahead. Not with slogans. But by bringing the concrete change in politics and policies that will deliver results, and have a positive impact on people's lives. We will ensure that Europe is a driving force for positive change for all.



For a Tolerant, Inclusive and Democratic Europe Adopted by the PES Congress

This year we celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Schengen Agreement, which is a cornerstone for more inclusive, free and open societies. The Agreement shows that the signatory countries trust each other sufficiently to live without internal borders. This idea is under threat today.

The Party of European Socialists (PES) pledges to stand firmly for peace, progress and prosperity for all Europeans by fighting the demons of the past. What we have achieved so far is today taken for granted. The result is a worrying backlash against European values and their democratic essence, challenged by extremist ideologies and movements.

We might risk the rise of illiberal democracies legitimised by elections, where freedom and individual liberties are under threat. Rule of Law is the very essence of democracy. The abuse of power is a great danger that only democracy can address.

Strengthening the Rule of Law

Promoting and safeguarding our core values with a balance between freedom, security, protection and privacy on the basis of democratic principles is our main challenge. The PES reasserts its attachment to fundamental rights as outlined in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, and in particular to the right of every EU citizen to:

- Human dignity;
- Liberty and security, right to marry and right to found a family, freedom of thought, conscience and religion, freedom of expression and information, freedom of assembly and of association, education, asylum, protection in the event of removal or expulsion or extradition;
- Equality before the law, non-discrimination, cultural, religious and linguistic diversity, equality between men and women, protection of the rights of the child and the elderly, integration of people with disabilities;
- Access to fair and just working conditions, to social security and social assistance, to healthcare and access to services;
- Voting rights and freedom of movement and residence.

The EU is faced with significant challenges in standing up for the Rule of Law. In the case of breaches by a Member State, EU action is limited. In the last decade, conservative leaders, including Viktor Orbán in Hungary have regularly breached the Rule of Law by violating rights and freedoms. Corruption is also a serious threat that the EU has to address in several Member States. Apart from political dialogue, the only way



to act is by using Art. 7 of the Treaty on European Union which introduces an alert procedure with a final provision to suspend voting rights. This option is so serious that to date it has not been applied.

We welcome the EU Rule of Law Framework established by the European Commission, nevertheless we ask for the introduction of an **EU Democracy Scoreboard** (to function as an **early warning system**) to monitor whether Member States are complying with EU common values and respect for fundamental rights. This does not require the founding of new agencies or institutions. It requires better coordination, enhanced cooperation and making full use of both existing legislative and non-legislative tools in the relevant areas.

The EU must meet this challenge to ensure that the Rule of Law is applied and guarantees equal justice to all.

United against fear

Our core European values are under attack on multiple fronts. We are witnessing the rise of extremist movements on all fringes of the political spectrum with ideologies promoting intolerance, disrespecting minorities and polarising our societies. Austerity policies, the democratic deficit and continuing economic challenges for citizens have weakened trust in political institutions. This has created fertile ground for the re-emergence of nationalism, hate speech and the politics of fear – the very foundations of right-wing populism and extremism. These parties create false propaganda and weaken our social peace.

Europe has faced several terrorist attacks deliberately aimed at creating mistrust within our societies, threatening democracy and our most fundamental values. Europe needs a coordinated and collective answer to these threats that respects fundamental liberties. It is our common responsibility to improve coordination at the European level. The dramatic events earlier this year have shown clearly that action is needed.

We believe that the European Union must guarantee safety for all citizens, and therefore strengthen the cooperation between Member States. In doing so we must ensure the correct balance is reached and full respect for European citizens' fundamental rights is achieved. Combatting terrorism and radicalisation must go hand in hand with an intensified dialogue to promote truly inclusive societies. We want a society where people's rights are guaranteed by law, irrespective of race, disability, religion, origin, gender, gender identity and sexual orientation or any other form of discrimination.

Recalling the PES Leaders declaration of February 2015, we deeply deplore any attempt to justify terrorist attacks, or their use to stigmatize any community and to limit anyone's freedom. These attacks have only strengthened our resolve to stand up for inclusive and free societies and our respect for the freedom of expression.

We deeply deplore the vile reaction of far-right parties that have tried to benefit from the attacks by responding with their own campaign of hatred. Our response to terrorists and extremists is unity. We strongly believe that there cannot be any security without respect for democratic principles and the Rule of Law.



The PES firmly rejects any form of anti-Semitism, antigypsyism, Islamophobia, racial hatred, homophobia, xenophobia, transphobia and all forms of intolerance towards people with disabilities. We also reject hate speech, which constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence inflicted upon communities.

Seven years ago the European Commission proposed a law banning discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation, but also age, disability and religion, outside of employment. We deeply deplore that seven years later, in spite of strong pressure from the European Parliament, the proposal still remains blocked in the Council. We therefore need to continue our struggle for a European directive against all forms of discrimination, inside and outside the working environment.

Active policies to fight any form of discrimination and intolerance are needed. The European guidelines for respect and protection of all minorities must be carefully implemented. Roma are especially in need of access to education, health care, housing and actions counteracting segregation.

Empowerment and involvement of European citizens

Europe is experiencing a decline in civic participation, decreases in political and social capital, lower levels of voter turnout, especially at European elections and a lack of trust in politics and politicians.

The PES will address abstention and disenchantment towards politics. Our objective is to re-engage with all citizens. To enhance civic participation and strengthen democracy, tolerance and fundamental freedoms we must invest more in civic education and education in values and rights to build inclusive societies.

The PES sees the problem of voting abstention as a major political challenge. As democrats we must be able to convey what democracy is about, especially to younger generations. Today electoral systems vary greatly from country to country, fewer and fewer citizens use their democratic right to vote.

Our political family has a special responsibility in ensuring that the fundamental right to vote is and remains a reality for all voters across Europe. Therefore, we support electoral reforms which extend the possibility to vote and simplifies the system to make sure that everyone can be part of the democratic process both at National and European level. We want to explore the benefits of early voting, to increase accessibility of polling stations and to mobilise young voters.

PES will work towards the reform of the European Electoral Act with a view to strengthening the European dimension of European elections as well as the notion of European citizenship. It remains important that we raise the level of significance of the European Parliament. We need to strengthen its democratic powers so that every individual considers their vote to be valuable. That is the main and intrinsic motivation for people to get out and vote. The social democratic family needs to elaborate a common electoral strategy for the next European elections. The PES needs to engage people in presenting the European political issues at stake during those elections. We had a common Manifesto, a common candidate for the Presidency of the European



Commission, we need to build on these important steps via a continental campaign that can promote the issues and the strategy of social democrats.

We strongly believe that we, social democrats, have to put democracy, the Rule of Law, our values and above all European citizens at the core of our actions. The PES and its member parties and organizations must engage in all relevant processes to earn people's trust and confidence in politics, voicing their values and articulating their aspirations by offering real, progressive political solutions, distinct from those of other European political parties.

In summary the PES urges all European political parties to embrace the following:

- an **EU Democracy Scoreboard** to function as an **early warning system**, namely to verify thoroughly that there is respect for fundamental rights and the Rule of Law not only in those countries applying for membership of the EU but also States who are already Members;
- a proposal for a **binding procedure** in case of any breach of our fundamental values and rights by any of the EU Member States;
- a strong commitment to solve the remaining legal issues standing in the way of much-awaited **accession to the European Convention on Human Rights**;
- The adoption of the **EU anti-discrimination Law** to ensure equal treatment regardless of religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation;
- Explore the **simplification** of voting and registration systems and extension of voting.

The PES, in line with its Statutes, will not accept any declaration or action threatening our shared principles, nor to have any relations with a Party not sharing them. We make the motto of the EU, “united in diversity”, ours, and ask all other European political parties to do the same.



PES Roadmap toward 2019 **Adopted by the PES Congress**

Introduction – Who we are

The Party of European Socialists (PES) is the second largest political party in the European Union and is the most coherent and united political movement. In a number of member states our family leads the government, in some states we are part of the government coalition, in others we are the leading opposition party while we are overall strongly present in regions and cities. Our parties all over are working to improve people's lives by promoting equality, diversity, social justice and fair and sustainable growth.

The **PES is our common platform**, where our members come together: activists, party executives, Secretary Generals, Leaders, youth organisations, MPs, MEPs, European Commissioners, Ministers and Prime-Ministers of socialist, social-democratic, labour and democratic parties and organisations within Europe. Together, we change the European political agenda. We also exchange best practices and engage in political campaigning. Our main aim is to support our member parties and organisations.

Founded in 1992, we have advanced from a common initiative to being a major European political party. Together with our members we engage with citizens to pursue a European agenda following the principles of freedom, equality, solidarity, social justice and democracy, as well as to promote the respect of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, and respect for the Rule of Law.

2014 – 2019: A new political cycle

Our common campaign for the European elections of May 2014 and the preparations during the 18 months ahead have brought our political family to a new level and quality of cooperation and campaigning. For the first time in the history of European democracy we had a **common candidate, a common manifesto and a European wide grassroots mobilisation**. We were the initiators of a major change in European democracy. Our common campaign was a democratic innovation, which has set the standards for the future. Given the enormous challenges that the European Union and democracy in Europe are faced with today, we want to take further steps to strengthen the PES and define a new way forward.

We are now at the start of a new European political cycle. The **PES has already made outstanding progress in its development as a strong and united political party** on the European level in the last twenty years, and we are committed to strengthen it further.

We are currently leading 11 governments, but also taking part in 6 others as junior coalition partner. However, our family of social democrats did not manage to become the biggest political group during the 2014 elections. Although the last European elections were sometimes a historical success in some member states, it was also a



defeat in other member states where we saw social-democrats defeated by right wing populists. We missed our goal to get a progressive majority because we failed to convince voters that between conservatives and populists, the actors of solidarity and equal justice are social-democrats. In most states our main competitors can be found amongst green or radical left wing parties.

The conservative EPP became again the largest group, although they lost 53 MEPs when our family only lost 5. Right wing and left wing populists and nationalist parties gained territory. Moreover, right wing extremist parties won a large number of seats by calling against further European integration.

We have to show that the PES parties represent a clear alternative. We have to prove to our citizens that the PES, within the European Parliament, the European Commission, and the European Council, is able to promote and concretely implement our call for a change of paradigm in European policies, from blind austerity to investment, growth policies and solidarity.

The social-democratic family needs to elaborate a common electoral strategy for the next European elections. The PES needs to engage with people by addressing the European political issues at stake during those elections. We had a common Manifesto, a common candidate for the Presidency of the European Commission, we need to build on these important steps with a continental campaign and a common strategy to all social-democrats.

We have taken stock of the results of the 2014 EU elections, amongst others by having a detailed scientific post-election analysis prepared of the **PES voters' profile 2014**.

Together with the study 'profiling PES voters 2009' and other electoral data this helps our member parties to be able to develop a strategy to target best potential voters in the run-up to the 2019 European elections. The turnout in 2014 was 42,6%, which is almost the same number as in 2009 (43 %). Despite the fact that **young voters** between 18-24 years of age are the most positive of all age groups towards Europe, only 28% went to vote. The average age of PES voters in 2014 went up to 53 years compared with 51 years in 2009. We need to show young people that they can count on socialists to make Europe a safe space for them again, as they are the first struck by the crisis and believe less and less that democracy can make a difference to their lives. It is our responsibility to prove them wrong. Only 41% of all female voters casted their votes in 2014. The percentage of women amongst PES' sympathizers went down from 58% in 2009 to 55% in 2014. All international studies show that **progressive parties can only win with women and young voters supporting** them. Therefore the PES in close cooperation with its member parties, PES women and YES, will step up its efforts to engage with women and youth in the run up to 2019.

We need to regain the trust of workers, employed and unemployed, whose interest are the ones our movement was born to defend. We need to reconnect with this core constituency of ours.

2014 – 2019: Support and strengthen our member parties in order to win

The PES should not only be a platform for member parties and organisations to discuss European policies, but also a place where **member parties come together** to formulate the political vision, strategies and policies for socialists, social democrats and progressives across Europe.



We will further strengthen our political movement by:

- **continuing to exchange best practices and electoral strategies;**
- **offering the presence and visibility of our leaders and Prime Ministers' networks;**
- **co-organising events with our member parties in the member states;**
- **providing training to member parties and organisations and activists;**
- **echoing the communications of our member parties and organisations.**

In order to become the **strongest political force in Europe in 2019**; to become the **biggest group in the European Parliament** in an alliance of MEPs from our sister parties and those sharing our common values and political agenda, and the leading group of a progressive coalition; and to deliver the next president of the European Commission, we will continue to help support and strengthen our member parties. The strategic political, electoral and practical exchange and cooperation in the framework of the **Taskforce national elections** of the last two years with our member parties. The **Leaders' meetings; the Secretary Generals' network; campaign managers' network; the media network and the taskforce elections** are good examples to maintain and reinforce.

In the framework of the Taskforce national elections we will increase our focus on the co-organisation of activities **with member parties in EU member states**, to get out of the so called Brussels bubble. Together with the S&D Group, we will also strengthen the cooperation among national parliamentary groups. And we will keep **providing training to member parties and organisations and activists**, in the framework of the **PES European Training Academy**.

PES activists played a key role in getting the common candidate message across to voters in the last election through the 'knock the vote' trans-European grassroots mobilization campaign. This was only possible because of the joint efforts and cooperation of the PES, the member parties and activists together. This potential must be nurtured to achieve an even greater impact in 2019.

Furthermore, we will continue to strengthen the coordination with the S&D group, FEPS, YES, PES in the CoR and to launch a structured coordination with the new European Commissioners from the PES family.

Strengthening the Party of European Socialists is fundamental for the future of European social democracy and for all socialist, social-democratic, labour, democratic and progressive parties in Europe. The PES and its member parties and organisations are **strongly committed** to investing all our energy and resources into developing our vision, modernizing our structures, broadening our bases and achieving our common ambition of **winning elections and leading** in Europe and in the Member States in order to develop a progressive society in the 21st century.

The European political cycle

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Our **main challenge** for the European political cycle ahead of us is to win the European elections and to become the **first group in the European Parliament in 2019** and have our common candidate elected as **European Commission President**. To this end we will:

- Actively **set the European agenda with clear social-democratic and progressive ideas** by developing effective cooperation with the S&D group, EU Commissioners from our political family, the PES Group in the Committee of the Regions (CoR), the Foundation for European Progressive Studies (FEPS), PES Women, the Young European Socialists (YES), ESO, Rainbow Rose, and other PES partners, to disclose, coordinate and make better use of available information, policies and existing resources within our political family.
- Build together a **social-democratic and progressive strategy** in order to (re)gain power in the member states, at local, national and European level – to become a more visible actor at European level.
- Further establish the **PES as a relevant political and visible actor at European level as well as on the national and international levels** and to strengthen our ties with strategic partners, in particular the progressive parties outside the EU, the trade-unions, and notably ETUC and the sectoral federations, and civil society actors – in close cooperation with PES member parties and member organisations, in order to build a mobilisation and a social majority in Europe around our project and values.
- Promote and **strengthen European democracy and equal societies** within the EU, reinforcing social democracy as a frontrunner in the fight against populism, erosion of the rule of law and electoral abstention.
- Further **develop the PES as a European political party** by implementing the new regulation on European political parties and further build cooperation with other European political parties.

We will strive to have a gender-balanced Commission in 2019 and encourage governments to appoint more female Commissioners. Gender equality will be one of the decisive criteria for our support to the new Commission.

Our main aims are to reach a progressive majority in the Parliament to finally change people's lives in Europe; to strengthen our political family in the run up to the 2019 European elections; to enter the elections with a common manifesto and a common candidate; to become the biggest group in the European Parliament and to deliver a PES president to the European Commission.

2014 – 2019: Policy priorities

Europeans, women and men, must have decent jobs that allow them to have a **good quality of life**. Yet here is the legacy of the economic policies of the last five years, in stark figures: nearly 27 million Europeans who want to work, cannot find a job, including nearly a quarter of our young people. 120 million in Europe are at or under the poverty threshold. Therefore our efforts for the European Union during these 5 years are aimed to **bring back job creation** through public and private investment into the real



economy, a **productive economy**, a **sense of solidarity and community** and respect for all **people**. We want to put citizens back in charge and bring back hope to Europe's youth.

We have to **advance the European political agenda with clear social-democratic and progressive ideas** and common projects, with a particular focus on the following 7 policy priorities:

- **Full employment through a progressive economy agenda** for sustainable growth, decent work and investment
- A strong **social, healthy and environmentally committed Europe** with high social and fiscal standards to put an end to social and fiscal dumping
- **Gender equality, equal and age-friendly societies and fight against discrimination**
- **Democratic societies**, in a democratic and transparent Europe, fighting against corruption
- A real and progressive **policy on migration**
- A Progressive European Union for a **Fairer World**
- Transformation of our energy and production models in order to **protect the environment**, the planet and mankind

The main concerns of citizens in Europe⁶ remain the **economic situation** and **unemployment**. Through these times of major challenges for the European Union, our member states, our parties and our common social democratic answers and policies are much needed.

The European political and socio-economic context leads us to work even closer together. We will launch policy initiatives to promote a European Union which will bring back job creation, a productive economy, public investment and quality of public services, in a sustainable framework.

In order to create decent jobs, we need investment and a renewed, innovative **industrialization**, with respect for the environment. The PES will step up its efforts in the **fight against climate change**. The EU has to tackle social and health inequalities in order to reach the Europe 2020 poverty and social exclusion target. The PES will continue the **youth guarantee** campaign and the **fight against tax havens**. In addition, the PES will develop and launch new topical campaigns, which need support from all member parties and organisations, for example around the topics of decent **job creation, democracy and equality** (Europe for Equality (E4E)). All campaigns will be coordinated with the PES member parties, and member organisations.

Our vision includes a sense of community and respect for people, in which **democracy, equality** and **transparency** will be at the core. We contribute to raise awareness in Europe; to this end we will actively use occasions such as the Europe Day to increase citizens' involvement. The key principles for our mission are: cooperation, interaction,

⁶ Standard Eurobarometer 81, spring 2014



solidarity and subsidiarity. We can only win if we work closely together to develop a Europe based on progress, jobs, equality, social justice, economic fairness, sustainable and green growth, health and consumer protection, territorial cohesion and active democracy. The PES will promote the vision of a well-managed migration policy based on solidarity and fair sharing of responsibility, as a real opportunity for our societies to counter populist rhetoric.

Strong cooperation with trade unions, NGOs and **civil society** is also required; this is why the PES and SOLIDAR have been reinforcing their close cooperation. For this purpose, we will set up a structured dialogue with trade unions, civil society organisations and initiatives both on the European and the national level.

The PES will foster common actions among its member parties and organisations. The PES will keep strengthening its commitment towards **LGBT rights**, which are an intrinsic part of civic rights, with closer links to Rainbow Rose.

The work of the PES is part of a wider international movement. Our fundamentals are based on **international** values. Our work and vision do not stop at the borders of the EU. We will continue to participate and invest in relationships with international partners outside the European Union. Working on a fairer world remains central part of our policy agenda and activities.



Towards a strong progressive global agenda Adopted by the PES Congress

Foreign policy has always been central to the European debate, but in the last few years, a number of challenges have brought it even more to the fore. The sudden conflict in Ukraine led to a climate of confrontation unseen in the post-Cold War era, and to a serious breach of the European peace order. The speed at which events unfolded took the world by surprise, and the complexity of the situation did not always allow for a coherent response. This underlined the need to reassess relations with our Eastern Neighbours and Russia. Similarly, the European Union needs a global strategy to respond to the migration crisis in the Mediterranean and to fight human trafficking, as the Mediterranean cannot become the graveyard of Europe.

The Arab uprisings of early 2011 created an atmosphere of hope and announced the start of a new democratic transition. When we look at the region today, a gloomier picture comes to mind. The protracted conflict in **Syria** affects millions of people every day while civil wars and tribal infighting are ravaging Libya, Iraq and Yemen. Egypt continues to face political and social difficulties. The **Middle East Peace Process collapsed**, while calls for peaceful alternatives and a two state solution remain unheard. The **brutal force of groups like the Islamic State (IS) and Boko Haram**, together with a rise in terrorist attacks and the savage acts of extremist Islamist groups in Iraq and Syria have sent shock waves throughout the globe. Tunisia remains one of the few countries that managed to go through a positive transition. The Sahel has become a ticking time bomb, plagued by bloody religious wars, abject poverty, lawlessness and severe draughts. Part of these problems stem from an increase in poverty and inequality while resulting in massive migratory waves towards the EU and the loss of thousands of lives in the process. This shows that development cooperation and humanitarian aid are important tools to implement a fair European wide approach toward migration.

Meanwhile, the ongoing debates on **climate change** have gained renewed momentum in light of the debates on energy diversification and an increase in extreme weather disasters, often forcing people from their homes. This has also become a crucial theme in the discussions on the **Sustainable Development Goals**, which will be agreed on by the end of this year.

This is a crucial time for progressives. With shifting alliances and new and unpredictable balances of power, we need to re-evaluate our place in the world and take a strong progressive stance in line with our core principles of human rights, gender equality and social justice. The party of European socialists and its member parties have an important role to play in building alliances with political parties and regional networks around the world. Regional and global progressive networks provide useful forums for the PES to support progressive parties across the world. The PES, in this new and complex international environment, expresses its commitment to strengthen the capacity of the EU to play a crucial role in analysing and acting on the global scene. The roles of the EU and the High Representative have to be a strong point of reference in promoting the vision of the Union and the values of peace, justice and democracy all over the



world. Working together we can support progressive forces to play a positive role in the development of stable and effective democracies in their countries. Only with a strong unified voice will we be able to tackle the challenges ahead.

1. A diversified European Neighbourhood and enlargement policy

Respect for democracy, human rights, gender equality and the rule of law should be at the heart of our European Neighbourhood Policy. At the same time, to deal with today's challenges, we need to understand the multi-faceted and diverse causes that they originate from. Countries in the South and East of Europe are each defined by their own history and socio-economic background, which also determine their relationship with the EU. Therefore, we want to emphasize the need for **a diversified approach that acknowledges the differences between countries and offers tailor-made instruments to establish a secure and prosperous neighbourhood**. Fundamental freedoms, in particular freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly and the realisation of economic, social and cultural rights should be given special consideration in the development of the European Neighbourhood Policy.

The EU has to remain a positive pole of attraction. We need to actively support reforms in the countries of the Western Balkans and promote an agenda of social justice, universal social protection and inclusive socio-economic development. Many countries in the Western Balkans are facing difficult socio-economic and structural problems that are slowing down their EU integration process. We need to be a reliable partner to our neighbours and offer tangible results to those that make significant progress. EU enlargement policy has proven its benefits in the past, and remains one of the most important foreign policy instruments at the EU's disposal. The EU should remain committed to enlargement negotiations with candidate countries, who can join once they fully comply with the Copenhagen criteria. The prospect of EU membership should remain open for those countries that respect and uphold European values.

The crisis in Ukraine is a major challenge for peace and security in the European continent. We strongly insist on full implementation of the Minsk agreements and call for a comprehensive political solution of the conflict. We are convinced that this conflict can only be resolved by diplomatic means, in compliance with international law, and with full respect for the territorial integrity, unity and independence of Ukraine. We believe in the necessity of constructive dialogue with Russia and we deem it crucial for the fulfilment of the obligations that Russia itself has taken for a peaceful and sustainable solution of the crisis. All parties have to work for this solution. In the long run, enduring stability on the European continent can only be achieved through cooperation. A serious reconciliation process needs to start within Ukraine, with full respect of rule of law, which is actively supported by the international community. Promised reforms with regards to corruption and decentralisation need to be implemented.

2. Peace in the Middle East and the Mediterranean

The Middle East today represents an intricate web of shifting geopolitical interests, with multiple religious- and other groups fighting a complex battle of influence and power, often driven by foreign powers. The rising force of IS feeds on existing tensions, inter-



and intra-religious differences, stark socio-economic inequalities, and protracted conflicts and unrest across the whole Middle East..

The latest efforts to revive the Israeli-Palestinian peace process did unfortunately not succeed. The absence of a two-state solution and the dire humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip have caused a long-lasting political crisis. **Nonetheless we maintain our support for the establishment of a viable Palestinian State, in accordance with UN resolutions, alongside a safe and secure Israel.** All the efforts from the EU High Representative, Israel and Palestine to advance peace should be welcomed.

The crisis in Cyprus still and unfortunately could not be solved and the failure of the Annan plan discouraged further attempts to come to a solution. The EU should support an inclusive dialogue in Cyprus, in order to come to a solution that is fully supported by both sides.

The situation in Libya represents a crucial challenge for security and peace in the region and in Europe. The international community needs to assist Libya in seeking a political solution to the crisis so it can form an independent government of national unity. This is a prerequisite to counter the danger posed by terrorism and radicalism.

We believe it is time for the EU to take up a stronger role in the Middle East. The crucial part the EU has played in negotiating a nuclear agreement with Iran shows that it has the potential to be an influential diplomatic actor in the region. As socialists and democrats, we should tackle crucial violations of women's rights and adopt a human-rights based approach.

Together with our partners and allies, we should work on a comprehensive approach involving all the key players in the region. We have to depart from the era of proxy wars destabilising the whole area and beyond, and enter into a strategic dialogue. The multiple lines of fracture, which confront actors with opposing interests at the expense of innocent local populations, must be brought together under a new framework of dialogue and cooperation, which the EU can promote within the international community. This strategy from the MENA region should include a focus on human rights and a balanced approach on countering terrorism and security policy.

The **initiatives** set up in the 1990s, such as the Process of Barcelona and, subsequently, the Union for the Mediterranean, have achieved limited results, due in part to the fact that European countries have found themselves immersed in one of the greatest economic crises, lasting now more than seven years, and also because the Arab countries have experienced profound changes as a result of the so-called Arab Spring. However, The PES remains fully committed to the aims of these initiatives, and reaffirms the need to create a space for cooperation and dialogue between all the countries of the region, to enable us to jointly address the global challenges we face. We need to promote a renewed approach to European Mediterranean policy, based on the shared responsibility of all. And, therefore, give a new, multilateral, dimension to relations, based on broad cooperation and solidarity, in which both shores participate under equal conditions in order to define a global Mediterranean initiative to regain and revitalize the spirit of the Barcelona Process.

The alternative of carrying on with business as usual is no longer acceptable neither from the tactical nor from the strategic point of view.

3. Security, defence and peace building

The changing internal and external threats the EU is facing have given new impetus to the debates on security and defence. While it is imperative that our citizens live in a



secure and peaceful environment, we have to tread carefully in order not to compromise our fundamental rights and freedoms. As progressives, we have to come forward with our own agenda which combines our message of peace and human rights with the need for a safer world and aligns our priorities in the field of human rights, development, security and defence. We must support human rights defenders and the people struggling for democracy, social justice and non-discrimination.

The global challenges and realities clearly show that the boundaries between internal and external security are becoming more and more blurred. We need to develop a comprehensive framework for the EU's common security and defence policy, which is in line with the EU's humanitarian and development priorities.

War, conflicts and instability affect both men and women. Yet women often remain underrepresented at decision making levels and excluded from the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts. Specific attention should be paid to women under the UN 1325 resolution to guarantee their rights, participation and protection, including access to SRHR as part of adequate health assistance.

We need to establish long-term strategies and strengthen the EU's capacity to react immediately. A deeper and more efficient cooperation on internal and external security, civilian conflict prevention, defence and military matters will prepare the EU, not only to defend itself, but also to support peacebuilding efforts worldwide. At the same time, we have to prefer non-violent, civilian conflict solutions. We must promote first steps towards a gradual disarmament and restrictions of the international arms trade for a more peaceful world. Sustainable and social development is a new name for peace. Confronted with the instability at Europe's borders we need to be more careful in our weapon export to other countries. The EU should speak with one voice when it comes to peace, security and human rights, but should also act accordingly. That means that member states should apply the same strict rules when selling weapons.

4. Strong global alliances

In a rapidly changing global environment we need to expand our partnerships with different regions of the world and jointly define geostrategic scenarios. These partnerships must be built on shared common values, economic growth, security cooperation and fair trade. We want a robust transatlantic relationship to tackle global challenges ahead. Furthermore we should strengthen relationships with **like-minded partners in Latin America and the Caribbean, ASEAN and the African Union, by supporting their regional integration processes.**

Especially in **the Sahel** we must upgrade our role in order to become a key partner for economic, human and democratic development. We cannot stand by while a whole region perishes in a vicious spiral of violence, poverty and religious strife. We have to learn from past and recent experiences and address the situation hands on, before it becomes uncontrollable and spills over to the whole African continent. The world cannot afford another generation that grows up in despair. Increased cooperation and investment to eradicate poverty, promote education and inclusiveness, allow universal access to health care, promote sexual and reproductive rights for all women and men and safeguard security in bordering countries must be at the core of our actions on the continent. We must also ensure that our actions in the EU do not negatively affect the poorest people on the planet and it is high time that the resources of the African continent benefit to its people.



5. Sustainable Development

2015 is a crucial year for international development. The UN will publish a new framework to follow the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The EU is already the world's largest donor of development assistance. However, in many countries the support for development assistance is under pressure. It is imperative that EU Member States honour their commitment to spend 0.7 per cent of GNI on official development assistance in order to build a fairer, democratic and more sustainable development in the world." As progressives, we will play a critical role in the development of these Sustainable Development Goals which must be universal, ambitious, transformative and inclusive in nature with a strong objective – leaving no one behind. Equality and solidarity remain at the core of our progressive human-rights based message. Respect for the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, including the abolition of the death penalty worldwide, is instrumental for the EU to establish itself as a primary defender of human rights. We should also remain ambitious when it comes to women's rights and gender equality. While the UN has reached an agreement on having gender equality and women's rights as a Stand Alone goal as part of the Sustainable Development Goals, as social democrats we need to ensure that gender equality is an integral part of all SDG's and that it is adequately funded.

We firmly believe that strong Sustainable Development Goals, supported by substantial means, can lead the path toward a better and fairer world. We want to advance a common global agenda that will **reduce inequality, tackle climate change and the issue of climate refugees and promote universal social protection. Our concrete proposals include supporting developing countries in fighting tax evasion and illicit capital flows, promoting a new positive approach to migration and extending the concept of universal health coverage.** A Progressive agenda is however not only about aid. It is also about fair trade, promoting decent work and just and safe use of raw materials. Only when people are able to make a living and nature is respected, growth can be sustainable.



Register of PES members (Article 8 of PES Statutes)

Memberships are ruled by Chapter II of PES Statutes.

The following parties and organisations are members of the PES:

FULL MEMBER PARTIES

Sozialdemokratische Partei Österreichs (Austria)
Parti Socialiste (Belgium)
Sociaal Progressief Alternatief (Belgium)
Bulgarska Sotsialisticheska Partiya (Bulgaria)
Socijaldemokratska Partija Hrvatske (Croatia)
Kinima Sosialdemokratoron EDEK (Cyprus)
Ceská strana sociálně demokratická (Czech Republic)
Socialdemokratiet (Denmark)
Sotsiaaldemokraatlik Erakond (Estonia)
Suomen Sosialidemokraattinen Puolue (Finland)
Parti Socialiste (France)
Sozialdemokratische Partei Deutschlands (Germany)
The Labour Party (Great Britain)
Panellinio Sosialistiko Kinima (Greece)
Magyar Szocialista Párt (Hungary)
Magyarországi Szociáldemokrata Párt (Hungary)
An Lucht Oibre / The Labour Party (Ireland)
Partito Democratico (Italy)
Partito Socialisto (Italy)
Lietuvos Socialdemokratu Partija (Lithuania)
Lëtzebuurger Sozialistesche Arbechterpartei (Luxembourg)
Partit Laburista (Malta)
Partij van de Arbeid (The Netherlands)
Social Democratic and Labour Party (Northern Ireland)
Det Norske Arbeiderparti (Norway)
Sojusz Lewicy Demokratycznej (Poland)
Unia Pracy (Poland)
Partido Socialista (Portugal)
Partidul Social Democrat (Romania)
SMER - sociálna demokracia (Slovakia)
Socialni Demokrati (Slovenia)
Partido Socialista Obrero Español (Spain)
Sveriges Socialdemokratiska Arbetareparti (Sweden)

FULL MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

Political groups in EU institutions

Party of European Socialists
Parti Socialiste Européen

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Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialist & Democrats in the European Parliament (S&D)

PES Group in the Committee of the Regions

Sectoral organisations of the PES

PES Women

YES

Political Foundation

Foundation for European Progressive Studies (FEPS)

ASSOCIATE PARTIES

Partia Socialiste e Shqipërisë (Albania)

Socijaldemokratska partija Bosne i Hercegovine (Bosnia & Herzegovina)

Partiya Bulgarski Socialdemokrati (Bulgaria)

Socijaldemokratski Sojuz na Makedonija (FYR Macedonia)

Samfylkingin (Iceland)

Sociāldemokrātiskā partija "Saskaņa", SDPS (Latvia)

Partidului Democrat din Moldova (Moldova)

Demokratska Partija Socijalista Crne Gore (Montenegro)

Socijaldemokratska Partija Crne Gore (Montenegro)

Demokratska stranka (Serbia)

Sozialdemokratische Partei der Schweiz/Parti Socialiste Suisse (Switzerland)

Cumhuriyet Halk Partisi (Turkey)

Halkların Demokratik Partisi (Turkey)

ASSOCIATED ORGANISATIONS

Rainbow Rose, the LGTB network in the PES

Progressive Alliance

Socialist group in the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

Socialist group in the Parliamentary Assembly of the OSCE

Socialist International

OBSERVER PARTIES

ARF-Dashnaktsutyun (Armenia)

Partit Socialdemocrata (Andorra)

Cumhuriyetçi Türk Partisi (Cyprus)

Georgian Dream (Georgia)

Israel Labor Party (Israel)

Meretz (Israel)

Latvijas Sociāldemokrātiskā Strādnieku Partija (Latvia)

Fatah (Palestine)

Partito dei Socialisti e dei Democratici (San Marino)

FDTL – Ettakatol (Tunisia)



ESDP (Egypt)
Union Socialiste des Forces Populaires (Morocco)

OBSERVER ORGANISATIONS

CEE Network for Gender Issues
European Forum for Democracy and Solidarity (EFDS)
European Senior Organisation (ESO)
International Falcon Movement – Socialist Educational International (IFM-SEI)
International Social Democratic Union for Education (ISDUE)
International Union of Socialist Youth (IUSY)
Joint Committee of the Nordic Social Democratic Labour Movement (SAMAK)
Socialist International Women (SIW)
Union of Socialist Local and Regional Representatives in Europe (USLRRE)



**Amendments to the PES Statutes
Adopted by the PES Congress on 12th June 2015**



Chapter	Article number	Amendment
I – General Provisions	<i>Add new article</i>	Add new article “ Article 5 – Logo The logo of the Party of European Socialists is a red square with the acronym of the Party (PES) at the top, and the words “Socialists and Democrats” at the bottom in white letters. Official PES documents are also featuring a rose, surrounded by a ring of stars.”
II - Members	8.3 <i>Admission of members</i>	“Socialist International parties in countries that are candidates [add: or “potential candidates”] for accession to the European Union, or are EFTA Member States, or in countries [add: from the European Neighborhood Policy] with a [add: signed] association agreement with the Union, and having had national parliamentary representation in one of the past two parliamentary terms, may become associate parties of the PES. Non Socialists International parties respecting these criteria may also become associate member parties, following the rules states in article 8.9”
	8.5 <i>Admission of members</i>	“Social-democratic, socialist and democratic progressive parties [add: from countries within the European Neighborhood Policy or in the EU Customs Union] having close links with the PES may become observer parties of the PES.”
	15 <i>ECOSY</i>	Replace <i>ECOSY</i> by YES “Article 15 – YES YES is the youth organization of the PES. [...]”
IV - The Congress	21.1 <i>Composition of the Congress</i>	“The PES Congress shall consist of the following delegates with voting rights: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● representatives from full member parties, with the following calculation: 1/45th of weighted votes as defined in article 19.6, rounded upwards; ● a representative from each National delegation of the Group in the European Parliament ● [add: representatives of the group in the Committee of the Regions, equal to 1/3 of the number of National delegations, rounded upwards] ● two representatives from each other full member organisation; ● the members of the PES Presidency.”



VI - The Council	29.1 <i>Composition of the Council</i>	<p>“The PES Council shall consist of the following delegates with voting rights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • representatives of full member parties, representing half of the Congress delegates, as defined in Article 21.1; • representatives of its group in the European Parliament, equal to 50% of the number of National delegations, rounded upwards; • [add: representatives of the group in the Committee of the Regions, equal to 1/6 of the number of National delegations, rounded upwards;] • one representative from each other full member organisation; • the Members of the Presidency.”
	30.1 <i>Meetings of the Council</i>	<p>“The PES Council shall meet in those calendar years where no Congress [add: nor Election Congress] is held.”</p>
VII - The Presidency	32.3 <i>Powers of the Presidency</i>	<p>“The Presidency shall, after an open and transparent nomination and consultation process, following the proposal of the President:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • elect the Vice-Presidents (maximum 4); and define the tasks and responsibilities of the Vice-President(s). President and Vice-President(s) should be [add: geographically and] gender balanced. • elect the Secretary General, the Treasurer [add: and, if need be, the Deputy Secretaries General]. “
	36.1 <i>The President</i>	<p>“The President, [add in co-operation with the Vice-Presidents and] with the assistance of the Secretariat, shall ensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the day-to-day administration of the PES and the preparation of meetings of the Presidency • the implementation of Presidency decisions and any general or specific instructions given by the Presidency • liaison between the PES and the parties, the group in the European Parliament and the Socialist International [add: and other international initiatives such as the Progressive Alliance and the Global Progressive Forum • representation of the PES in any organization or institution, in particular, the institutions of the European Union, European trade-unions, professional organisations, co-operatives and associations”
VIII – PES Leaders’ Conference	38.1 <i>Composition of the Leaders’ Conference</i>	<p>“The Leaders’ Conference consists of: [...]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - [delete: <i>two representatives from the</i>] PES Members of the European Commission, including the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, if he/she is a PES member [...]

