



A Decisive moment for Europe: Democracy, Security, and Enlargement

European Green leaders' call for a stronger, more democratic and more united Europe

In a world where democracy is under threat, international law is being disregarded and global instability is increasing, Europe must boldly redefine what it stands for and how it acts.

As Green party leaders from across Europe, we agree that:

- Europe must reinforce its **independence** by ending the fossil-fuel era;
- Europe must strengthen and defend democracy inside and outside the EU;
- The United Kingdom's future lies in the European Union. We stand ready to **welcome the UK back**, alongside other countries, when it chooses this path;
- Europe must advance enlargement as a strategic priority, from Iceland to Ukraine and the Western Balkans, to strengthen and unite the European family.

This is not a normal political moment. In these times, we are witnessing a struggle over the future of democracy itself. From Ukraine to Palestine and in countries such as Sudan, Iran and Lebanon, it is civilians who are paying the highest price. The erosion of international law and the normalisation of repression are accelerating and undermining the very foundations on which Europe was built.

A strong and united Europe is essential. Only by working together can we respond to geopolitical instability, defend democracy and reduce our dependence on external powers. The European Greens welcome the democratic change in Hungary, where citizens voted out Viktor Orbán, ending years of obstruction. By using veto rights on foreign policy, he has held Europe hostage for years. Now is the time to **remove this paralysing veto** and strengthen European cooperation on diplomacy and security. Europe must become a geopolitical power and regain relevance. International law will only be upheld if power is in the hands of those who want it to prevail.

The cost-of-living crisis is fuelled by our dependence on fossil fuels. Every global energy shock results in higher household bills. Dependence on fossil fuels undermines Europe's sovereignty. Fossil fuels exacerbate conflict and empower authoritarian regimes. We therefore call on the European Commission to introduce a strong "Trump tax": a windfall tax of at least 50% on the excess profits of fossil fuel companies, with revenues used to support households and invest in renewable energy, energy efficiency and Europe's energy independence.



The time for renewable solar, wind and geothermal energy is now. It is both a climate imperative and the foundation of a more autonomous and affordable Europe. Accelerating our investments in renewable energy, grids, and energy efficiency is essential to protecting people in Europe and stabilising our economies. Every step away from fossil fuels brings us closer to lower, more stable costs and stronger European independence. Europe must act on the required scale, including by strengthening its shared **common financial capacity**. The core idea behind the creation of Europe was collective action on energy and industry to bring peace. In 2026, this idea is more relevant than ever. Security in Europe also encompasses more than just defence. It also means safeguarding people against climate risks, economic instability and social insecurity.

Across Europe and beyond, citizens and activists are coming together to reclaim their future. We stand with them, and we act with them.

Green leaders are already delivering this change. In cities and communities, they are enhancing quality of life and cutting costs. These are not just idealistic or empty promises; they are concrete realities today, implemented by many green mayors, including five mayors of European capital cities and hundreds of local councillors who defend democracy, drive the green transition and protect social security for our citizens.

Europe must continue to open its doors to those who share its values. Enlargement remains a strategic priority for peace and stability. Brexit has been a political and economic failure with lasting negative consequences for people in the United Kingdom and across Europe. The European Green family is clear: **the United Kingdom's future lies in the European Union. We stand ready to welcome the UK back alongside other countries when it chooses this path.**

Let us choose to be united, sovereign and free.