

EUROPA. STÄERKEN, WAT EIS SCHÜTZT.

Manifesto



SHORT ELECTION PROGRAMME FOR THE EUROPEAN ELECTIONS ON 9 JUNE 2024

FOREWORD

The European Union has been a guarantor of **peace**, **stability and prosperity** for decades. Its value led approach aims to enable people to live in personal freedom and social security.



But times have become more turbulent in recent years – in Europe and around the world. We are confronted with **social upheaval**, **climate change and geostrategic risks**.

We can only overcome these major challenges if we **tackle the problems together in Europe!** Only together as Europeans can we solve the tasks that one state cannot tackle alone. This is especially true for our small country in the heart of Europe: Luxembourg is strong when Europe is strong.

To achieve this, we need a European Union that is **self confident**, **resilient and**, **above all**, **capable of taking action**. We must strengthen the EU and its institutions now: for a life in peace and freedom, with prosperity and social security. There is no time to lose!

Europa. Stäerken, wat eis schützt.

That is what we stand for, that is what the Democratic Party stands for.





The European Union enables its citizens to enjoy a comparatively high standard of living – with social security, social participation, personal fulfilment and social prosperity. In order to guarantee this in the future, the EU needs fair social policies that help those in need and competitive economic policies that strengthen Europe as a business hub in the long term.

- work towards a competitive, resilient and sustainable economy that creates jobs;
- not create any new administrative hurdles in Europe until a strategy is in place to significantly reduce red tape;
- ensure that employees can increasingly work from home in order to improve their **work life balance**;
- strengthen European cooperation in the healthcare sector and expand medical production and storage capacities in order to ensure a reliable supply of medicine and medical products for the public;
- take action against all forms of dumping, particularly with regard to social and sustainability standards;
- **combat all forms of persecution and discrimination** against people based on gender, sexual orientation and any other form of identity;
- quickly introduce the **EU disability card** to ensure uniform recognition of the status and thus simplified access to services.



The world as a whole has become more insecure in recent years. Russia's brutal war of aggression against Ukraine has made us all realise that Europe must noticeably strengthen its ability to defend itself. This can only succeed if the Member States of the European Union join forces in a common foreign, security and defence policy. This also includes significantly expanding protection against attacks originating from the Internet.

- not lose any more time on the determined path to a Europe of defence:
- work to strengthen the EU as a political union in order to become a fully fledged foreign policy actor;
- maintain NATO while making our European defence more independent;
- expand technical and organisational cooperation between the armed forces in Europe;
- ensure humanitarian, military and financial support for Ukraine, if necessary through borrowing;
- work in the short term for a ceasefire in the Gaza conflict, for the release of hostages and for humanitarian aid for the civilian population. In addition, we will support the peace movements in both camps in order to facilitate negotiations on the two state solution;
- create an EU Africa free trade area, support the institutional stability of African states and campaign for an African seat on the UN Security Council;
- expand our capacities in the area of cyber defence.



Fundamental values such as freedom, democracy, solidarity and the rule of law are the indispensable foundation of the European Union. They are non negotiable and must be upheld by all Member States at all times. In order to defend these fundamental values in the long term, the EU's ability to act and its institutions must be further strengthened.

- drive forward the European integration in order to secure the EU's ability to act;
- implement **effective sanctions** against Member States that disregard the rule of law;
- **support** the **gradual accession of new Member States**, provided that it is guaranteed that they fulfil the EU's strict requirements in terms of stable institutions, human rights, the rule of law and a strong economy at all times (Copenhagen criteria);
- reject any co operation with parties that tolerate Nazis in their ranks;
- **defend** the **right to asylum** and advocate greater solidarity in the admission of asylum seekers by the Member States.



Europe has a duty to shape a sustainable future for generations to come. Tasks such as effectively combating climate change, improving educational opportunities and expanding European infrastructure are major challenges for decades to come that the countries of the European Union can only overcome together. By making these investments today, we are already securing the prosperity and quality of life of our children and grandchildren.

- make unprecedented efforts to generate renewable energies in order to free ourselves more quickly from our dependence on fossil fuels:
- consistently invest in the ecological and digital transformation;
- fulfil the obligations arising from the Paris Agreement and the Green Deal;
- continue to invest in research and development;
- **consistently expand our infrastructure**, e.g. better rail connections (to and from Luxembourg) and night trains;
- invest in extracurricular education and promote the harmonisation of education systems, particularly with regard to the recognition of qualifications;
- Expand exchange programmes for training and (voluntary) work such as Erasmus + in terms of quantity and quality to help young people learn a high quality profession.

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