

AMENDMENT OF PASOK ON THE DRAFT OF PES MANIFESTO

(Amendments are marked red, bold, underlined)

GROWING STRONGER TOGETHER **Five commitments for the next five years**

Manifesto of the Party of European Socialists for the June 2004 European Parliament elections

The European elections in June will be historic. For the first time, people from 25 countries will choose Members of the European Parliament to ensure that Europe serves the needs and priorities of its 450 million citizens.

The Party of European Socialists urges voters to seize the opportunity of the elections to shape Europe's future. Problems and challenges common to all European countries are best tackled at European level. Decisions on European law and spending made by MEPs in Brussels and Strasbourg might seem far from home, but they deeply affect the working and living conditions of each and every one of us.

A vote for Social Democrat MEPs is a vote for a Europe that combines social justice and solidarity between countries with economic success and shared prosperity. We seek a strong, social Europe that provides security for its people.

Social democrats throughout the European Union are pro-European, strongly in favour of a united Europe that is an area of peace that respects the rule of law. In contrast, the Christian Democrats and Conservatives of the European People's Party as well as the European Greens are divided between pro- and anti-Europeans.

The Party of European Socialists is proud to put forward a programme for a progressive Europe that takes on board people's concerns. We give voters five key commitments for the European Parliament's next five-year term and pledge ourselves to work throughout Europe to ensure that all citizens, in both the existing and the new member states, benefit from EU enlargement.

1. Boosting Europe's growth, fighting poverty and creating five million jobs

Our overriding objective is: to turn Europe into an area of growth, full employment, social justice and prosperity for all its citizens. Social democrats drew up the first European economic and social reform action plan, adopted by the EU in its Lisbon Strategy four years ago. Now we want to give fresh impetus to that strategy. We have detailed proposals to create more than five million high-quality jobs by 2010. Our work programme involves greater investment in technology, supporting new growth sectors and reinforcing modern education, training and lifelong learning.

We reject the attempts of right-wing governments to derail the Lisbon process by concentrating on the strategy's economic goals at the expense of its social objectives.

We demand targeted action to meet the social and employment objectives of the Lisbon strategy, with particular emphasis on reaching the 70 per cent overall employment rate and the 60 per cent rate for women's participation in the workforce.

We have already fought for and secured European laws to promote greater equality between women and men at work. Progress is still needed to ensure that equality laws are put into effect and that there is sufficient support for working mothers.

This historic EU enlargement will have a positive effect on jobs by stimulating trade in a larger single market.

The EU budget must be able to cover the real needs of the enlarged European Union. Decisions regarding the EU budget should ensure that finances are raised in a fair way and used efficiently. They should promote solidarity between richer and poorer regions **and enhance economical and social cohesion.**

A reformed stability and growth pact should promote growth and employment as well as stability.

We reject the right-wing's crude view that unfettered market competition takes precedence over social justice. We see Europe as a community based on the principles of the social market economy. Our Europe is founded on mutual cooperation for the benefit of all and accepts its responsibilities in the world. It is a Europe that promotes economic strength, serves its people and responds to their concerns.

The European social model remains an indispensable component of our societies. It must be preserved and strengthened by adjusting it to present conditions and realities.

We aim to:

- Target EU funds on job creation.
- Develop a European monetary policy that promotes growth and employment in a social market economy.
- Reform employment law and provide the necessary infrastructure to make it easier for women to take up jobs.
- Introduce measures to help women and men achieve a better balance between working life and family commitments.

2. Bringing the European Union closer to its citizens

The European Union must ensure not only that citizens benefit from its actions but also that they are involved in its decisions. At the same time, in line with the subsidiarity principle, the EU should not act when national or regional bodies are better placed to do so.

Decision-making in EU institutions must be more simple, democratic and efficient. European governments are now considering a draft European Constitution aimed at achieving this goal and making Europe more relevant to its citizens. Adoption of the Constitution is crucial to the success of an enlarged EU and should be an absolute priority for EU governments.

In a Europe for citizens, we will propose policies to improve people's quality of life, focusing on equal rights for women, rights of consumers, safety of food, quality of the environment and access to transport. We want greater European cooperation in the fight against cross-border crime to make society safer for everyone.

Policies must provide for future generations by taking on board the priorities of young Europeans in education, information technology, environment and cultural diversity. We must continue to build upon the success of the EU's youth programmes.

We aim to:

- Create a European Seniors' Forum to highlight the concerns of the EU's senior citizens.
- Promote cheap, environment-friendly travel.
- Improve access to information technology and guarantee broadband internet access for all citizens by 2012.

- Strengthen European police cooperation through Europol and create a European Drugs Squad to step up the fight against cross-border drug trafficking and money laundering.

3. Pursuing integration and managing migration

We want active, firm and just management of migration and integration. We recognise the positive contribution of legal migration and support a multicultural and tolerant society. At the same time, we must tackle illegal immigration and crack down on human trafficking.

We vehemently oppose racism and xenophobia wherever it is found. We reject attempts by right wing forces to exploit the issue of immigration to create divisions in our society and to undermine the diversity and stability of Europe.

To complement national measures, we will seek an EU-wide approach with two key features. First, we will take into account the potential benefits and challenges of migration to employment. This will be the backdrop to an active policy of social inclusion and integration. Second, in partnership with other progressive forces, we will foster a global development policy that promotes a better life in the countries of origin of migration.

Europe must continue to be a place of refuge for victims of persecution and it must offer full protection to genuine asylum seekers.

We aim to:

- Develop a European immigration and asylum policy with a common visa system and rules on asylum status and access to social services.
- Use the European Social Fund to set up integration policies that include better education for migrants and community involvement.
- Improve the standard of living in countries of origin of migration through international organisations and cooperation agreements.

4. Promoting a more secure, sustainable and just world

We want a strong Europe that has a clear voice in international forums, pressing for a just, stable and peaceful world. **We must therefore strengthen the Union's Common Foreign and Security Policy.**

In cooperation with other progressive forces in the world, we will propose new policies to meet global challenges. These policies will include trade with fair access to markets for developing countries, aid for social development, health and education, greater investment and an emphasis on sustainable development. We will step up efforts to cancel Third World debt and intensify the global fight against AIDS.

We need reform of the United Nations to safeguard global peace and security. The European Union must play a leading role in multilateralism, enabling countries to work better together to resolve conflicts and to respond to new security threats. The fight against international terrorism will succeed only if we tackle the **roots causes** of terrorism.

We want to contribute actively to shaping a more democratic global governance system underpinned by a more balanced and symmetrical representation and reflecting the interests of all countries of the international community.

In the enlarged EU, it will be crucial to forge stronger relations with our new neighbours, as well as improving links with our Mediterranean partners.

We should build on the European Security and Defence initiative by also creating a ~~non-~~**military civilian** EU rapid reaction force to deal with humanitarian crises.

We aim to:

- Reform the UN and strengthen cooperation between countries around the world.
- Increase spending on the fight against AIDS by one billion euro.
- Establish a Third World Action Programme to end quotas and tariffs on Third World exports.
- Develop a European Counter Terrorism strategy.
- Ensure that our development policies respect the priority of protecting and sustaining the environment.
- Use EU influence to restart world trade talks and reach agreement.

5. Promoting Europe as an area of democracy and equality

Our vision is of a European Union based on democracy, the rule of law, respect for human rights and equality.

Democracy is only possible when citizens are equal. We oppose all forms of discrimination, including that based on race, religion, gender, disability, age or sexual orientation.

Fraud and corruption undermine democracy and we will root them out wherever they are found. We oppose monopoly control of the media, economic and political power.

We will continue to press for further reform of the EU's institutions. We will fight for openness and transparency, with sound financial management, open competition and value for money.

We aim to:

- Strengthen alliances against extreme right-wing forces and urge other parties, in particular those belonging to the right-wing European People's Party, to sign the EU Charter for a Non-Racist Society, already signed by all European Social Democrat parties.
- Increase the size of the European Fraud Office to ensure that it acts earlier on cases of concern.

Your vote counts

The Party of European Socialists urges all voters to take part in the elections of June 2004 and to vote for our vision of the future.

Europe is growing: together we can make it stronger, **better and larger.**

Europe needs your vote.

The Party of European Socialists is made up of 28 Socialist, Social Democratic and Labour Parties from 25 Member States and Norway, as well as 13 associate and observer parties. It seeks common strategies and coordinates policy positions.

The manifesto provides an overview of our guiding principles and policies. In addition we have a wealth of detailed policy documents:

Europe and a New Global Order - bridging the global divides

tabled by Poul Nyrup Rasmussen, former Prime Minister of Denmark May 2003

Europe's new neighbours - A post-enlargement strategy for European foreign policy

tabled by PES Vice-Chairs Rudolf Scharping and Jan Marinus Wiersma March 2004

Approving the new constitution: democracy and transparency

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tabled by Alfred Gusenbauer, leader of the SPÖ-Austria Sept. 2002 / March 2004

-Promoting investment, sustainable growth and full employment

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tabled by PES Vice Chair Jan Marinus Wiersma Nov. 2003

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These reports, along with national manifestos of PES parties, are available on the PES website — www.pes.org. Additional documents are available on the website of the PES Parliamentary Group: www.socialistgroup.org

DRAFT

GROWING STRONGER TOGETHER
Five commitments for the next five years

Ταίριος -ου!

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