



The New Social Europe

There are those who argue that Europe can no longer afford its welfare states due to the unrelenting pressure of globalization - that nations should compete to set the lowest rates of taxation and have the fewest workers rights.

Europe's socialists and social democrats know there is a better way. We say Europe will not be reduced to a competition between states – we stake our claim to a NEW Social Europe. Our task is to renew and strengthen our welfare states. This is not to preserve them as they are but to reform them with new rights and duties and a new deal between people and government.

TEN PRINCIPLES FOR OUR COMMON FUTURE

“A New Social Europe: ten principles for Our Common Future” is a resolution adopted unanimously by all socialist, social democratic and labour parties at the PES Congress in Oporto in December 2006. The New Social Europe report, presented to the Congress by Poul Nyrup Rasmussen and Jacques Delors, is the culmination of over a year of meetings and debates involving all member parties.

These ten principles form the roadmap of European socialists and social democrats towards the creation of a New Social Europe in our Member States and at European level.

1. Rights and duties for all

Clearly stated and understood rights and duties for all (individuals, government, business and trade unions) will create new social cohesion and give everyone a chance to participate in, contribute to and benefit from society.

2. Full employment

Europe cannot afford to exclude people from the workplace. We must harness everyone's talents and skills. That is the road to prosperity and to a fairer society.

3. Investing in people

Investing in people - through education, training and progressive social policies, is essential if Europe is to maintain its prosperity. To move from the old job to the new job, Europe must invest in constantly developing the skills and knowledge of its people.

4. Inclusive societies – nobody left behind

Everybody counts! Globalization and demographic change will bring new opportunities for many but market forces will marginalize millions unless balanced by progressive policies and good services.

5. Universal child care

Good quality, affordable and accessible child care is a necessity for the 21st century family. It gives children the best possible start to their education, frees parents to enter paid employment, creates jobs, and integrates families into the community.

6. Equal rights for men and women

Inequality between men and women is still unacceptably strong. New policies to cut gender inequality - in working, family and public life - will bring social justice and economic benefits.



“The New Social Europe”

A roadmap for renewing our welfare societies
Report presented by Poul Nyrup Rasmussen and Jacques Delors
To order a copy – www.pes.org

7. Social Dialogue

Trade unions and employer organizations must work together to manage change and meet the needs of workers and business. Government has a big role to strengthen this 'social dialogue' at all levels.

8. Making diversity and integration our strength

Socialists say 'no' to intolerance and hatred. Without strong respect for diversity, it will be impossible to resolve the genuine challenges of integration.

9. Sustainable societies – tackling climate change

Raising energy efficiency, reducing energy consumption and investing in renewable energy can create jobs, tackle global warming and resolve the problem of security of energy supplies.

10. An active Europe for people

The EU is more than a market place. It is an essential part of our New Social Europe – helping regions and countries achieve more together than they could ever do on their own.

Join PES activists

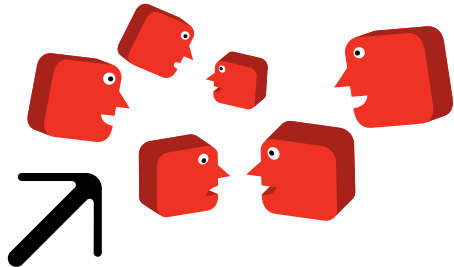
Join the fight for a New Social Europe with PES activists.

Individual members of Europe's socialist, social democratic and labour parties can participate directly in our European political family by becoming a PES activist.

PES activists campaign across Europe – in the street and on-line – they exchange information and views and take part in PES meetings and activities. PES activists are a web-community, but there are also PES groups in many cities, and frequent opportunities to meet up together to campaign and discuss political change.

manifesto2009.pes.org
Yourspace

Your say on the PES manifesto for the 2009 European elections



An open consultation on priorities and progressive policies for the manifesto of the PES for the European elections in June 2009, running until June 2008. Let's meet on Yourspace <http://manifesto2009.pes.org>

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