

22 March 2024

We, civil society organisations and social movements from across Europe, affirm our determination to promote a Europe that is fair, sustainable and based on solidarity. We believe that our future is directly linked to and common with peoples around the world. Addressing our common challenges thus requires cooperation and collaboration.

We affirm the equal right of all people to lead a decent life and emphasise that the fight against all forms of inequality, whether social, gender, racial, or any other, must be the cornerstone of all policies aimed at guaranteeing universal respect for human rights.

We affirm that, in an interdependent world, the only viable political option is respond to global challenges with more multilateral cooperation and international solidarity. That is why we are calling on Europe's political leaders to make a resolute choice: let us work together, within Europe and with the rest of the world, towards solutions that embrace six profoundly interlinked dimensions: a united response to global challenges; peace, human rights and security; in-depth transformation of our economy; respect for planetary boundaries; migration justice; and democratic participation.

Many of the challenges we face are rooted in an unsustainable economic model based on financialisation and competition. We call on Europe to change its perspective so as to play a leading role in reducing global inequalities, ensuring the stability of the international financial system and combating the race to the bottom on social, taxation and environmental standards, by strengthening democratic control of the markets and limiting the growing power of transnational corporations. Europe must put

collaboration, power sharing, human security, environmental integrity and fair access to resources at the heart of its foreign policy; it must aim to universalise the respect for human rights and implement the comprehensive vision of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

At a time when Ukraine is still fighting to put an end to Russia's invasion of its territory; when the population of the occupied Palestinian territory is the victim of heightened and tremendous suffering as a result of the Israeli war in Gaza; when the Democratic Republic of Congo is facing a humanitarian and security crisis with almost 7 million people displaced; and when many other conflicts are raging around the world without attracting the necessary attention from the media or political leaders, we call on Europe to be coherent in its approach towards international conflicts and the respect for international law. The EU should make peace-building and the right of all human beings to live in security key pillars of its foreign policy, in all contexts. This implies actively contributing to conflict prevention through diplomacy, tackling the root causes of conflicts and allocating sufficient financial resources.

At a time when scientists the world over are alerting us to the urgency of climate change and the collapse of biodiversity; when the majority of planetary boundaries are being breached; and when powerful industry lobbies and conservative currents are threatening the achievements of the European Green Deal, we call on our political leaders to take a leap of ambition. Europe must make the brave choice to ensure a just transition backed with a redistributive agenda and adequate public and private financial resources. Such a transition, which requires a purpose-driven vision of Europe's economic and industrial future, should enable everyone to lead a fulfilling life in a low-carbon economy in Europe and elsewhere in the world.

We are convinced that the response to these challenges cannot be achieved by making marginal adjustments to the current economic model, and we are therefore calling for a genuine ecological and social transformation of the European and global economy. In Europe, this will require the return of a strategic State that guarantees public services and assumes its role as a regulator of economic life, a trade policy based on the enforcement of human rights and social and environmental standards, with special and differentiated treatment for low-income countries, a reworking of the Common Agricultural Policy to promote sustainable and healthy food systems, the promotion of the decent work agenda, and concrete steps towards international tax justice.

We cannot remain silent in the face of a fortress Europe that closes in on itself to the detriment of the fundamental rights of migrants, but also of Europe's own long-term prosperity, and where cooperation with sovereign states may be dependent on migration control measures. People will always seek better lives. We call for a profound rethinking of European migration policies, basing them on migration justice, which is grounded in respect for fundamental rights and solidarity and a positive vision towards migration. Migration justice means first and foremost partnerships for sustainable development, so that every human being can live with dignity where they were born, combined with the opening of safe and legal channels for migration. It requires policies focusing on social integration and non-discrimination in host countries, and consistent with the Sustainable Development Goals and international human rights commitments.

Finally, noting the dangers to democracy and civic space in Europe and around the world, we call on Europe to strengthen its role as a promoter of democracy. This begins within the Union, with strict respect for fundamental freedoms and the rule of law, but also with greater transparency and enhanced citizen participation in political decision-making, including through social dialogue, and innovative bottom-up and

community-led initiatives. This also means adopting an ambitious strategy to support civic space globally: Europe must protect the existence of a diverse and autonomous civil society, and strengthen support to human rights defenders, as an essential ingredient of democratic life the world over.

We, civil society organisations, are committed, each in our own specific way, but united around these common messages, to pursue tirelessly and in partnership with organisations that share our vision throughout the world, our work of education, information, mobilisation and advocacy, in the service of a fair, sustainable and united Europe.

With just a few weeks remaining before the European elections, we are calling on citizens and politicians to make the choice of an open and caring society in a fair and sustainable world.

Another Europe is possible, let us make it happen!

SIGN THE DECLARATION

The list of organisations signing this declaration will be published at the end of the European Citizens' Summit on 21 and 22 March 2024 in Brussels.

Signatories

CNCD-11.11.11	Belgique
Le Monde selon les femmes	Belgique
Rise For Climate Belgique	Belgique
Caritas International	Belgique

CONCORD		Europe
Association des Dynamiques des Jeunes Marocains		Maroc
ATTAC		Spain
Entraide et Fraternité		Belgique
Centre tricontinental-CETRI		Belgique
Viva Salud		Belgique
Bth ENDS		Netherlands
Fairwatch		Italy
EDUXO Italia APS		Italy / Belgique
Solsoc		Belgique
Humundi (ex SOS Faim)		Belgique
European Network on Debt and Development (Eurodad)		Europe
Minka International (Réseau Minka AISBL)		Belgique
Climate Action Network (CAN) Europe		Europe
Oxfam en Belgique		Belgique
European Alternatives		Europe
Search for Common Ground,	Belgique (and 30+ countries)	
Moc		Belgique
Migration Law Research Group,	Ghent University	Belgique
Solsoc		Belgique
Grands-parents pour le climat		Belgique
ACT Alliance EU		Europe
ActionAid International	International/Belgique	
ACODEV		Belgique

EU LAT Network	Belgique
CFSI	France
DGD	Belgique
Réseau Europe-Afrique centrale, EurAc	Europe
Solidaris – Union Nationale des Mutualités Socialistes	Belgique
Attac Bruxelles	Belgique
Fédération des Services Sociaux	Belgique
Broederlijk Delen	Belgique
INEES	Luxembourg
ULB-Coopération	Belgique
MOC (Mouvement Ouvrier Chrétien)	Belgique
La Coordinadora de Organizaciones para el Desarrollo	Spain
GUINEE 44	France
RISE asbl	Luxembourg
BATIK INTERNATIONAL	France
Association Xylm	France
ARTISANS DU MONDE	France
11.11.11	Belgique
Artisans du Monde	France
FOS ngo	Belgique
collectif Bruxelles-Bujumbura	Belgique
QUEST	Europe
Oxfam Belgique	Belgique
SOLIDAR	Belgique

nONE	France
Fédération Artisans du Monde (bureau collégial)	France
Povod Institute	Slovenia
CEBioS	Belgique
Global Responsibility	Austria
SOS Faim	Luxembourg
Dynamo International	Belgique
independent	Belgique
Avocats sans frontières	Belgique
Südwind	Austria
E'changeons le Monde-Artisans du Monde	France
Citizens for Ecological Learning and Living (CELL)	Luxembourg
E'changeons le Monde-Artisans du Monde	France
Risome	Belgique
WSM	Europe
Iles de Paix	Belgique
Plataforma Portuguesa das ONGD	Portugal
Fairtrade Belgique	Belgique
Commission Justice et Paix Belgique	Belgique
SNETAP-FSU	France
Protection International (PI) Global	
Asociación por la Paz y los Derechos Humanos Taula per Mèxic	Spain
Idecosa cgt	France
Gringgo s.c.	Luxembourg

ELA	Basque Country
Citoyenne	Belgique
Informationsstelle Peru e.V.	Allemagne
CFSI	France
European Network for Citizen Initiatives in Global Solidarity	Europe
FDH Belgique	Belgique
Educational Society of Malopolska (MTO)	Poland
Belgian Ministry for Foreign Affairs	Belgique
Open Plan Foundation	Poland
CELL	Luxembourg
Geomoun NGO	Belgique
Afrique Developpement et Avenir asbl	Belgique
Grands-Parents pour le Climat	Belgique
Foundation for the Cultural Exchange toTU toTAM	Poland
FIAN European sections	Belgique
Hungarian Society for Environmental Education (HSEE)	Hungary
Société civile	Belgique
TROCA- Plataforma por um Comércio Internacional Justo	Portugal
Wilde Ganzen	The Netherlands
Action contre la Faim	France
WSM	Belgique
Coordination SUD	France
ACODEV	Belgique
Quaker Council for European Affairs	Europe

European Environmental Bureau	Belgique
Save the Children	Europe
CEPAG asbl	Belgique
FGTB wallonne	Belgique
Friends of the Earth Hungary	Hungary
Caritas Europa	Belgique
INDECOSA-CGT	France
HAND	Hungary
LA CIMADE	France
The Civic Resource Centre	Romania
FOND	Romania
European Grandparents for Climate	Belgique
Klimadelegation e.V.	Germany
Kalejdoskop Kultur	Poland
Corpora e Europe Observatory	Belgique