



FOR THE CREATION OF A EUROPEAN FUND FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT - A STRONG EUROPEAN INITIATIVE

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The aim of this initiative is to show our willingness to respond to the challenge recently launched by the European Union to European citizens, with the "European Fund for financial stabilization" which is a war machine against the people of Greece, the people of Ireland, and others in the future, and, more generally, with the hyper-austerity plans implemented in all countries, as part of a submission to the demands of the financial markets.

To meet this challenge, we must initiate a grassroots campaign, very large, well-prepared, reasoned, and organized at European level.

The Proposed Method:

Using the "citizens' initiative" instrument (collection of one million signatures to submit to the European Commission), established by the European treaties. The Commission, in the case of an initiative being accepted, should promote an open debate on the petition's subject.

The use of this instrument does not mean that, under any circumstances, we approve the treaties.

We use this procedure to make possible the mobilization of citizens against submission to financial markets, and therefore, against the logic of the present European treaties. We want to increase political debate on what is unsustainable and should be changed. We want to shake the balance of powers and achieve the most concrete results as possible.

Which proposal?

Contrary to the "European fund of financial stabilization" and the austerity plans, we demand the creation of a EUROPEAN FUND FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT to finance public investments that create jobs, expand training, research, useful infrastructures, and achievements in the environmental field.



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This fund should not depend on financial markets because we want to reduce the omnipotence of the markets, which is at the heart of the crisis. Several financing means are possible and complementary.

- The taxation of financial transactions is needed, but it is not enough.
- The French economists, the German trade union DGB et many other representatives of EL member parties submit the idea of attributing a completely different role to the ECB from the role recognized by the European Treaties

The treaties make it impossible for the ECB to financially aid a member state. But the crisis made the ECB violate its own rules, buying public debt. Nobody can tell us, therefore, that it is impossible. The ECB can create money in a permanent way and offer loans with low interest, or even without it. But we demand that credit extension is carried out on the basis of social criteria and strict durability. This is the sense behind the creation of this European Fund for Social Development.

At this point, we arrive to the principle of this initiative. From the moment that the rules of this European procedure are decided, we can meet with trade unions, associations and experts to meticulously finalize our proposal.

The style and the Campaign

We propose the publication of a flyer in several languages, with arguments that will allow citizens to engage with the social struggles in Europe.

In a second phase, a meeting in the European Parliament could unite all the forces engaged in the campaign.

The campaign should be decentralized and include phases. Meetings could take place in different European capitals. It should be a long duration campaign, opposing the European



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Commission's plan to monitor budgets before national parliaments can examine them, or the reinforcement of the stability pact and the sanctions foreseen.

We are at the beginning of this process. It is time to arrange all the conditions with all the interests. The decision to start this process is one of the main achievements of the 3rd EL Congress.