

**BUILDING ALTERNATIVES:
VYTVÁŘÍME ALTERNATIVY:**
2ND CONGRESS OF THE  **EuropeanLEFT**
PRAGUE, NOVEMBER 23-25, 2007

ADOPTED MOTION

For joint activities, a coordinated approach and a common position for the Left in the parliamentary structures of supranational organizations at the European level

The European Left (EL) calls on all radical left-wing and communist parties to be active and to employ a coordinated approach, and as much as effective and constructive performance as possible, both in European Union's and in other Pan-European parliamentary structures within supranational organizations. For strengthening left-wing ideas, proposals and the concrete action of Left forces, indeed for the incoming left-wing orientation to influence and change social development in Europe, it is necessary for the political Left – together with social initiatives and trade Unions and other democratic forces of civil society. To act as an active, self-confident force. The political Left has to re-assess and to strengthen its own programmatic and strategic positions, to be able to become day by day recognized as a persuasive and convincing alternative to neoconservative, right-wing liberalism and the anti-popular and anti-democratic tendencies.

The experience of the groups of various Left representatives already working in the parliamentary caucuses of some supranational organizations shows they can be a platform for cooperation if based on such an approach. The European Left calls for strengthening the already existent forms of cooperation, as well as supporting the creation of such groups wherever they do not exist. A good basis for this is the already existent EL network of parliamentarians and deputies of various and different levels – from the municipalities to the European Level. They can give a lot of support to the increasing joint activities to influence concrete parliamentary work. We see also a lot of reserves – therefore the Congress calls on all parties and interested forces to develop a more direct exchange of views and experiences between the deputies of the relevant levels.

The EL supports the cooperation between the deputies belonging to the confederal group of the United European Left /Nordic Green Left in the European Parliament with other MEPs belonging to parties which are not members or observer parties of the EL. In particular the Congress appreciates the support of 28 MPs of its member parties, and beyond from other MEPs belonging to this now 41 MEP-strong group in the EP. With their signing of the annual newly fixed EP's European political parties' recognition – which is also necessary for the financial subsidisation of the EL from the EU budget, they support the political activities of all the EL member and observer parties. The EL is fully aware that the GUE/NGL as a confederal group

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actively pursues the programmatic principles of the parties of which the elected MEPs are members. The European Left will try its utmost to strengthen the cooperation in the parliamentarian as well as in the non-parliamentarian work, with all forces interested, to change the currently governing neo-liberal logic of the internal market, and to increase the democratic participation of all people living in the European Union, in favour of a social and ecologically sustainable Europe. The cooperation within the GUE/NGL should go along with this line.

Similarly the United European Left group, which by its appearance as an equal partner with other political forces operates in the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, which is institutionally in particular responsible for observing the field of human rights and cultural co-existence of all European countries. The EL welcomes follow-up contacts between the United European Left group and the Confederation group in the European Parliament, intended to deepen mutual access to information, and closer cooperation. The European Left is worried about the growing tendency of politically conservative or right-populist circles to misuse the PACE as the basis for their attacks on fundamental political rights, and to increase the anticommunist hysteria in particular. We reject such attempts as tools of the Cold War era, unsuitable for solving today's challenges of democratization and establishing social justice, granting each individual a life in dignity and on a solid economic basis.

The EL welcomes the established cooperation of this group with the NGLA group of deputies in the Nordic Council too. We stress our willingness to increase the exchange of views, in particular the follow up of the "red green" character of our political answers (the climate change demonstrates this clearly: also the Left is today challenged to promote concrete ways of combining both the social and ecological criteria of social development)

The United European Left group operates in the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, which is the most universal political organization comprising in addition to all European states the Commonwealth of Independent States, the USA and Canada.

The political Left has also some kind of representation or at least interest in the parliamentary assemblies of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, the Assembly of the Western European Union, the Nordic Council, the Central European Initiative, the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, the Baltic Assembly, the Barents Euro Arctic Council, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean, Benelux, the Russia-Belorussia Union, the Visegrad Group and in other European organisations which European states participate in.

The EL sees many more opportunities to cooperate within these structures – and often even cooperation in these organizations represented is not being fully used. Most of them pursue the aim of strengthening democracy, the government of laws, cooperation between states and nations, higher security, and the solution of basic humanitarian, social, economic and ecological problems. Even though words often part company with deeds, the ability to act

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does not correspond to the accepted tasks of the organizations; a large part can not only be supported by the Left but above all the Left can make a significant contribution to the formulation of conclusions, to their pursuit, to the checking of fulfilment and to informing the public. At the same time, it is necessary to fully make use of the opportunity to reject proposals and practices which the Left's program rejects.

For the time being, the EL has not been able yet to appear in all the constituted groups with a united approach. It calls therefore on member and observer parties to coordinate their approaches more, to, wherever it is possible, come out with a joint or coordinated position and to raise the level of their activity in pan-European, sub regional and other organizations in which they are represented. At the same time, this is a call for its national level to actively contribute to the realization of positive results of the work of these organizations.

The EL calls for activity in the spirit of its programmatic principles and within the framework of various forms of cross-border cooperation, friendship and regional partnerships, towns and other regional associations. This approach should also be used by Left-wing representatives at lower levels of public management, in regional and local bodies of executive power, in parliaments, assemblies and councils.

For the left-wing path toward a democratic, social and ecologically socialist Europe!