



BECOME A EUROPEAN YEAR FOR DEVELOPMENT **AMBASS&DOR**

**10** PLEDGES FOR  
**SOLIDARITY**  
& **DEVELOPMENT**



Group of the Progressive Alliance of  
**Socialists & Democrats**  
in the European Parliament





The European Year for Development 2015 is a great opportunity to talk about **Solidarity & Development**.

This important year coincides with the expiry date of the Millennium Development Goals 2000-2015 and the formulation of the new UN global development agenda, the Sustainable Development Goals 2015-2030.

The EU and its member states are the world's largest development and humanitarian aid donor, delivering over 50% of all global aid.

Contrary to popular myths, a large majority of European citizens are in favour of supporting people in developing countries, while over half of the European population are in favour of further increasing EU development aid.





# **ERADICATING EXTREME POVERTY** IS POVERTY INEVITABLE?

- › The definition of extreme poverty is based on the threshold of people living on less than 1.25 USD per day.





## *Eradicating global poverty through effective and sustainable policies*

The world has managed to reduce the share of extreme poverty by more than half since 1990. Today there are 700 million fewer people living in conditions of extreme poverty than there were in 1990. Yet extreme poverty remains a reality in many countries of the world.

### **Our call:**

**S&D will push for greater efforts to be made to eradicate poverty and actively promote the extreme poverty threshold being increased to 2 USD per day.**







## **FEEDING THE WORLD**

# HOW TO END HUNGER AND IMPROVE ACCESS TO WATER

- › **More than 800 million people, the vast majority of them in developing countries, suffer from chronic malnutrition.**





## ***Putting an end to world hunger and malnutrition through sustainable and development-friendly agriculture and fisheries policies and fairer distribution of global resources***

It is generally thought that enough food is produced worldwide to feed all the people on our planet, which must however be confirmed as one in nine people suffer from chronic malnutrition, in particular in Asia and in Sub-Saharan Africa, while almost 800 million people do not have access to safe and clean water. The principal causes of hunger and thirst are the fact that subsistence farming has been widely abandoned to the profit of market agriculture of both legal and illegal produce; poverty due to the unequal distribution of available resources, conflicts, climate change and pollution; as well as food and agricultural policies lacking benefits for poor farmers.

### **Our call:**

**S&D promote sustainable and development-friendly agriculture and fisheries policies to fight hunger and malnutrition but also other challenges such as poverty, universal access to safe and clean drinking water, responsible energy use, climate change, and unsustainable production and consumption.**





# **EQUALITY AND SOCIAL PROTECTION**

## HOW TO FIGHT INEQUALITIES?

- › Growing global inequalities leave the young and the poor further behind.





## ***Strong social protection for the most vulnerable worldwide***

The reduction of inequalities must be a key priority in the new global post-2015 development agenda. 20% of the EU's main development cooperation financial instrument is now allocated to basic education and healthcare, which was an important S&D policy achievement. We do not want to continue living in a world in which the richest 10% of the population earn 30-40% of the world's total income.

### **Our call:**

**S&D want stronger development policies to build effective social protection systems and to provide universal access to all levels of education and health for the most vulnerable, creating more inclusive societies.**





## **FAIR TAXATION**

# IS BIG MONEY UNSTOPPABLE?

- › **An estimated 1 trillion USD is leaving developing countries each year through tax evasion, tax avoidance and corruption.**





## ***Abolishing tax havens and illicit financial flows***

S&D have played a leading role in the European Parliament and beyond in fighting tax havens and illicit financial flows. Tax evasion and tax avoidance are both a cause and a symptom of global inequality, on which S&D have taken a zero tolerance approach. The world can no longer turn a blind eye to global economic injustices and criminal tax practices.

### **Our call:**

**S&D want to see a clearly pronounced global commitment to block illicit financial flows and to shut down tax havens.**





# **CONSTRUCTIVE MIGRATION POLICIES** IS MIGRATION THE REAL PROBLEM?

› In today's world, one out of every seven people is a migrant.





## ***Dispelling common migration myths and fighting forced migration***

S&D are fighting forced migration while promoting regular migration in the interest of both the countries of origin and of destination.

Migration is a transnational issue and should be treated as such. Coordination of migration policies on all levels, as well as a strong commitment to full respect for human rights and human dignity, are essential to avoid new tragedies.

Migration should therefore be framed by strong development policies which focus on building the resilience of local communities, support inclusive and democratic institutions and build return-friendly conditions in post-conflict regions, as the return of skilled workers and qualified nationals can make an indispensable contribution to recovery.

### **Our call:**

**S&D are seeking to promote a new global approach combining the fight against forced migration and the promotion of regular migration as a development engine, both for the countries of origin and of destination.**





# **WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION**

## WHAT ABOUT WOMEN?

- › **Women are agents of change in their families, communities and countries.**





## ***Putting the voices of women at the heart of the design, adoption and implementation of development policies***

Women's rights need to be at the centre of the EU's development policy because they are central to the fight for poverty eradication. S&D established the Women's Forum in the framework of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly, which has become a leading forum to discuss common challenges women have to face in Africa and in Europe – a regular event we are proud of.

### **Our call:**

**S&D want to eliminate all forms of violence and discrimination against women, guaranteeing sexual health and reproductive rights for all, and ensuring that equal access to health and education will be at the forefront of our efforts.**





# **PEACE THROUGH EDUCATION**

## HOW TO SAVE CHILDREN IN CONFLICT?

- › **Half of the world's 58 million out-of-primary-school children are living in conflict areas, yet only 1% of global humanitarian assistance is allocated to education.**





## ***Saving generations at risk of being lost in conflicts and humanitarian emergencies, through increased EU and international investment***

S&D have launched an international campaign to mobilise political decision-makers and donors across the world with the aim of saving generations at risk of losing their access to education in areas of conflict and other humanitarian emergencies. Various international actors– including the EU Children of Peace initiative – are making serious efforts in the field of emergency education. Nevertheless, without further political engagement, these efforts remain a drop in the ocean.

### **Our call:**

**S&D are demanding EU and international action to provide proper education for our younger generations at risk of being lost in violent crises and in humanitarian emergencies by providing increased EU and international funding to deal with the issue.**







# **FIGHTING CLIMATE CHANGE**

## CAN WE SAVE OUR PLANET?

- › **The greatest burden of climate change is falling on the least developed countries and most vulnerable communities.**





## ***Credible international cooperation on climate change and environment protection***

S&D is at the forefront in the fight against climate change in the European Parliament and beyond - the world must take responsibility and genuine action against climate change. This issue will affect individuals and countries differently, but the heaviest burden will be carried by low-income populations in developing countries. We cannot allow this to happen.

### **Our call:**

**S&D are fighting for more international environmental cooperation, technological innovations and to provide incentives for governments implementing progressive environmental policies.**





# **EFFECTIVE DEVELOPMENT AID**

## ARE WE SERIOUS?

- › The EU is the world's largest aid donor providing more than half of official development aid (€56.1 billion in 2014).





## ***Fulfilling the EU's promise to spend 0.7% of EU area GDP on development aid***

The EU is the biggest aid donor in the world and it should be at the forefront when defining the future development framework. However, only four EU member states are fulfilling their promise to spend 0.7% of GDP on development aid: Denmark, Luxembourg, Sweden and the UK. While it is crucial that aid dependency is reduced over time and replaced with more sustainable financing, it is imperative that current aid levels and aid effectiveness commitments are met and better coordinated with other development actors and donors to spur results.

### **Our call:**

**S&D urge EU member states to fulfil their promise to spend 0.7% of EU area GDP on development aid, but also spend this aid in a more coordinated and efficient way.**







# **RESPONSIBLE BUSINESSES** IS EUROPE INNOCENT?

- › **Corporate social responsibility still requires the goodwill of companies.**





## ***Tighter regulation on big business to respect human rights and local communities all over the world***

S&D reject double standards for European companies in their actions in EU member states and in developing countries, and seeks reinforced corporate social responsibility regulation. We want European and international companies to be made more accountable and to live up to their responsibilities both in the EU and overseas.

### **Our call:**

**S&D will fight for tighter regulation on multi-national businesses in order to ensure respect for human rights and for local communities.**





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