



of
**the Alliance of Liberals
and Democrats for Europe**



Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for **Europe**
Alliance des Démocrates et des Libéraux pour l'**Europe**

Our political programme can be summarised in 10 points:

01.

By promoting peace, through a Union of peoples that respects our diverse cultural, local and linguistic identities, and is open to all European States which comply with the criteria for membership.

We support a Union that can make effective decisions in order to fully exercise the values and objectives it has agreed in common. The ratification and entry into force of a clear text on a division of powers and on institutional reform is in this respect essential.



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By making the EU a global player bridging the gap between its economic and political dimension: Europe must speak with one voice in world affairs.

We fully support a Common Foreign and Security Policy which aims to promote a new era of peace, democracy and security, notably in the Mediterranean area but also on a wider level through trade and cooperation agreements with Third countries. The perspective of a fully accountable European defence capability should also be supported within an effective multilateral framework to reinforce EU peace-keeping missions abroad.



By opening up, democratising and strengthening the accountability of the institutions of the European Union and by better explaining and justifying the relevance of their work to the European public.

We defend the right of public access to documents and maximum transparency of EU decision-making in the Commission, the Parliament and the Council of Ministers. National parliaments have an important role to play too in holding their ministers to account for decisions they take in Brussels. Together, Europe must strive for better and less bureaucratic regulation and a more professional and objective communication strategy. Furthermore, to foster common European experiences and the sense of belonging to a single continent-wide community, language training and exchange among students, trainees and volunteers should be stimulated.

Since Europe is a union of minorities, by guaranteeing the fundamental rights of all European citizens and removing all forms of discrimination.

In our common fight against international crime and terrorism, we will always remain vigilant against any erosion of personal freedom. A Europe of security and justice for all is also a Europe that extends these rights to those who justly seek asylum or a new life here. To that effect, the Union needs to strengthen protection of the common external borders, to agree a common asylum policy and a joint strategy to manage legal immigration. At the same time the EU can play a role in coordinating action against illegal immigration, and firmly combating any form of racism and xenophobia within Europe.

Believing that the aim of society must be the self-fulfilment of each individual, by promoting education at all levels.

Support for scientists and researchers, technology transfer, investments in information, eco-friendly technologies and R&D networks on a European basis are essential.



By strengthening economic governance after the introduction of the Euro.

A common economic policy must aim to create prosperity, competitiveness and jobs, and keep the European social model viable, by modernising the European economy and fostering an innovative society. In this framework, we must reform Europe's economy to secure a stable and competitive climate for businesses to invest in innovation and create jobs, to facilitate labour mobility, and to achieve a fully functioning Single Market in goods, services, capital and people.



By ensuring value for money for taxpayers, rooting out fraud wherever it is found, tackling unnecessary bureaucracy and reforming the system of own resources to make it more transparent, progressive and fair.

The EU budgetary resources must be realistic yet sufficient to match the political ambitions agreed in common. We believe however in greater transparency of decision-making and maximising efficient added value of EU budgetary resources in promoting joint research, tackling environmental pollution, opposing racism and discrimination and ensuring economic and social cohesion amongst the Member States.





By making Europe the world leader in environmental protection.

This means seeking joint solutions to our common environmental, public health problems, consumers protection and food safety. Europe must commit to cleaner, safer forms of energy and embrace renewable energy. The Union should work for the achievement of the targets set out in the Kyoto Protocol for reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and for the launch of a follow-up to Kyoto.



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By making globalisation work for everyone.

We recognise that globalisation has both positive effects and negative ones. To overcome the negative effects, Europe must promote sustainable development through a more generous and targeted aid policy, and must open up access to our markets (particularly in agricultural goods) to the world's poorest nations to enable them to escape poverty and become self-supporting in the longer term. At the same time we must be tough on bad governance and governmental corruption in countries receiving EU overseas aid.



By ensuring full recognition and enhancement of the role of Europe's regions, particularly those with legislative powers, and by building a structural policy which develops the potential of Europe's most needy regions.

Europe's regions should be involved more in EU decision making when it affects their competences directly. EU resources should be used to mobilise additional investments and combined with cohesion funds to boost opportunities for growth in the poorest parts of the Union. Europe must retain but rethink its common agricultural policy to provide long-term sustainable support to its poorest farmers and those rural communities who cannot survive alone in the global market place.



List of ALDE Parties

Austria	Independent member
Belgium	Mouvement Réformateur
Belgium	Open Vlaamse Liberalen en Democraten
Bulgaria	Движение за Права и Свободи
Bulgaria	Национално движение за стабилност и възход
Cyprus	Independent member
Denmark	Venstre, Danmarks Liberale Parti
Denmark	Radikale Venstre
Estonia	Eesti Keskerakond
Estonia	Eesti Reformierakond
Finland	Suomen Keskusta
Finland	Svenska Folkpartiet
France	Mouvement Démocrate
France	Avenir Démocrate
Germany	Freie Demokratische Partei
Hungary	Szabad Demokraták Szövetsége
Ireland	Independent member
Italy	Partito Democratico



Italy	Radicali Italiani
Italy	Italia dei Valori
Latvia	Latvijas Ceļš / LPP
Lithuania	Darbo Partija
Lithuania	Liberalų ir centro sąjunga
Lithuania	Lietuvos Respublikos Liberalų Sąjūdis
Luxembourg	Parti Démocratique
Netherlands	Volkspartij voor Vrijheid en Democratie
Netherlands	Democraten 66
Poland	Partia Demokratyczna
Romania	Partidul National Liberal
Slovenia	Liberalna Demokracija Slovenije
Spain	Convergència Democràtica de Catalunya
Spain	Euzko Alderdi Jeltzalea Partit Nacionalista Basc
Sweden	Centerpartiet
Sweden	Folkpartiet Liberalerna
Sweden	Feministiskt Liberalerna
United Kingdom	Liberal Democrats



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Freeing Europe's potential is the ambition of European Liberals and Democrats. Europe is changing quickly. It must if it is to adapt to the modern world of globalisation, democratic revolution, climate change and threats from international terrorism. The European Economic Community of the 1950s is now a Union of 27 Member States with new countries wishing to join our success, democratic stability and economic prosperity. We are committed to unlocking the full potential of our Union and the people of Europe by building on the fundamental principles of freedom, democracy, the rule of law, respect for human rights, free enterprise and equal opportunity.

If you would like to find out more about the ALDE,
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