89ERS: WRITING THE NEXT CHAPTER

The European Project is in urgent need of reform. The 1989 Generation Initiative aims to inspire and mobilise ‘89ers’ the generation born in or around the tumultuous year of 1989 - to join it in embracing its responsibility and creating new impetus for the future of Europe.

Policies for People!

We affirm that Europe should have as its core aim the improvement of its citizens’ lives. This should be the driving force behind its broad directions and policies, transcending political ideology, party affiliation, national boundaries, professional discipline and age. Within this, we call for a Europe of connectivity, solidarity, and opportunity where citizens are empowered to achieve their potential and shape their societies.

1. Politics and Institutions

We believe that strengthening the EU’s accountability, transparency and representativeness will substantially improve citizens’ perceptions of the EU as well as its overall image as a democratic entity.

Let’s restore EU integrity

We request ‘better regulation of EU lobbying’ together with the creation of a ‘legislative footprint’ where all records of meetings and written input from lobbyists will be systematically documented.

Electoral reform for a democratic EU!

We propose a ‘reformed selection process of the Commission President’ based on the majority parliamentary group elected to the European Parliament, without any further consultation with the member states.

2. Economic Affairs

We envision a Europe of greater solidarity in times of economic hardship, and one that goes further in providing leadership on global environmental challenges through the utilisation of idle resources.

Let employment be the driver in solving recessions!

We call for the creation of a ‘Common Unemployment Insurance Scheme’ which would create a stockpile of resources, used to address future economic shocks.

Sustainable investment making impact for a generation!

In order to address issues of growth, investment and climate change simultaneously, we propose the establishment of a ‘Green Innovation Fund’, creating millions of ‘green collar jobs’.

3. EU as a Global Actor

In the past twenty years, the world has changed almost beyond recognition: it is faster, more dynamic, full of rapidly emerging challenges and unique opportunities.

We want a pro-active EU that makes use of its opportunities and tackles its challenges head-on.

From the ENP towards a Regional Partnership of Equals!

We urge the abandonment of the Euro-centric ENP in favour of a more tailor-made policy, whilst promoting a more inclusive role for civil society in the conduct of EU foreign affairs.

Building trust in intelligence sharing!

We suggest the establishment of an all-inclusive security database - a ‘European Security and Intelligence System’ which should be an EU initiative with obligatory participation of all EU member states and institutions.

4. European Identity

‘United in diversity’ is the official motto of the EU. Yet the EU has recently been dividing along national lines, threatening the European Project’s survival. To rediscover what makes us European, we must recapture the ‘Erasmus spirit’, and take it to the next level.

Learning without borders!

We resolutely call for the establishment of a ‘European accreditation agency for educators’ to dissolve the borders between national education systems and different forms of teaching across the continent.

Triggering a wave of new European media!

To help foster the emergence of genuine EU-wide media projects we propose to establish a ‘European media incubator’, providing a unique platform for projects in the the media and communications sector.