



EUROPE IS NOT ONLY THE MAINLAND

ADOPTED AT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF FEDERATION OF YOUNG EUROPEAN GREENS

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Despite the inactivity from governments all over Europe, climate change is imminent. Many of these governments represent insular countries, such as the United Kingdom, Ireland, Iceland, Malta or Cyprus, as well as states with insular territories and outermost regions, such as Spain, Portugal, France, Italy, Croatia or Greece, among others.

The remoteness and insularity conditions constitute a problematic issue regarding the development for both insular regions and outermost regions from the European Union, such as Madeira, Canarias or Reunión. This condition provokes an external dependence and, above all, a mainland dependence, as the most used means of transport of people and goods to connect both points are marine and air, which has consequences in terms of greenhouse gas emissions.

In those regions, fundamental rights such as the access to education, health care and basic services are not always respected, especially among indigenous communities and people of colour.

Moreover, labour and social conditions are worse than the European average due to the fact that the economic system in insular regions are mainly based on agriculture, which is not enough to sustain all the population, and tourism, a sector with a high labour precariousness.

Because of this, social, economic and environmental policies need to have a special vision towards outermost regions, overseas territories and countries. Insularity and dependence conditions are the principal factors to take into account, and the geographic situation's intersectionality has to be a key factor as well when it comes to policymaking.

Lastly, remoteness and insularity conditions combined with the general lack of implementation of measures against climate change produces a situation in which these territories are the first and more affected by climate change. Examples that prove this are migrations of tropical animal species to Canarias, the fires in Madeira or the desertification of Europe's southern islands.

Understanding the importance of insular territories and outermost regions, the Federation of Young European Greens, therefore, call upon the European Union, the European Union Member States, and the other European States to:

Apply the geographical situation perspective to the policies that are directly or indirectly affected by it.

Create a policy for an ecological transition and sustainable development focused on these kinds of territories.

Create policies to reduce dependence and adverse effects of the remoteness and insularity of the population residing in these territories in a social, economic and environmental level.