



FEDERATION OF
YOUNG EUROPEAN GREENS

How to End the Crisis

Adopted by FYEG General Assembly at its meeting in June 2015 in Tbilisi

Ever since 2008, the world economy has been shattered by aftershocks of the mortgage crisis in the US. The crisis made its way across the Atlantic and throughout the world taking the form of a banking crisis in the European Union. The Heads of EU States swiftly bailed out the banks with public money turning the banking crisis into a debt crisis. The eurozone, an elliptic system of monetary union lacking a common economic policy was the first to show symptoms of this failed political attempt to avoid an implosion. The crisis has shown how tightly interconnected and interdependent our economies really are, as well as the weak spots of our Union.

The crisis has shown a shift of power towards undemocratic institutions, such as the European Commission, the European Central Bank, and the International Monetary Fund, also referred to as the troika. The troika, serving the interest of the financial power, banks and elites, has sold the package of austerity as the only way to solve the crisis. The result has been quite clear: social rights cuts, impoverishment of the citizens and cracking down on democracy. In other words, the disintegration of the Welfare State. The neoliberal (the XXI Century version of Capitalism) policies put forward by the troika and the Grand Coalition are destroying the very foundations the European Union has been built upon.

The European project cannot allow for dropouts by its very definition. The idea of forcing any member of the European Union out of a common project such as the eurozone will mean the end of it all. Should a GREXIT happen, others will follow and the flow will be irreversible. For the concept of common European interest will have been shattered into national pieces, giving way to a new round of nationalism and mutual mistrust in our continent. We cannot allow for this to happen. In fact, we have a historic duty not to. We need to turn back to what makes us European, the ideals of humanism, democracy, freedom and solidarity. Only then will we be able to overcome the crisis for good, together, as Jean Monnet and Robert Schuman once envisaged.

We ask for solidarity to those who need it and for an escape of the political leaders of Europe from short-sighted national constraints. Vision is what has always moved the European project forward and it is in times of trouble that it is most direly needed. Perhaps, what our leaders need to come to terms with is that great women and men marked European history not because of certainty of success but because of clarity of their vision. We are the birthplace of humanism and solidarity is its beating heart.

It is now that bold political decisions are to be taken, to further the common good of our European Union. We, the young greens of Europe ask for a Green New Deal. A brave European Plan of public investment to the European economy, with an emphasis in engaging our stagnating high-qualified youth into a new economic miracle of a sustainable Europe. Reinforcing the European project means placing equality at the core of the EU, which in turn signifies the end of brutal austerity programs and a relaunch of the economy. Labour, equality, solidarity and ecology are ideals that the EU must strive for, ensuring an economic system which would be compatible with human life. For this, we need an

upgrade of european cooperation to stop tax evasion, a deep financial reform, a reinforcement of the social dialogue, a closer interconnection of our our public systems and most essentially, a fiscal and economic union allowing for a functional monetary union. We stand for a transition from the current technocracy to a true democracy, as the only way to return the control of the integration project back to the citizens, providing the EU with the necessary tools to govern its economy.

We, Federation of Young European Greens, demand for:

- The end of austerity policies impoverishing and disempowering the citizens
- The repositioning of the European Parliament at the core of every decision taken at the EU level through a reinforcement of the co-decision mechanism, widening its use and application to all fields of european politics.
- The reinforcement the community role of the Commission, with less power for Member States and more parliamentary control.
- The safeguard of the welfare system in all Member States
- A Green New Deal. A brave European Plan of public investment to the European economy, that respects ecological and social justice, with an emphasis in tackling youth unemployment.
- Implement a Universal Basic Income (Citizens' Income).