

**Young politicians discussing about youth and climate in the context of the
extraordinary PES Group meeting
3-4 November, Florence, Italy**

Today, we are overwhelmed by an increasing sense of bewilderment due to the epochal transformations we are going through: the post-pandemic, war, migration, up to the great youth unemployment and climate change. All this is creating in many of us a strong uncertainty for the future.

This is why, as young politicians and also as citizens, we need institutions and politics to return to a direct link with us, concretely affirming the duty to represent and defend us with the courage of new ideas and new tools.

Talking about young people today often seems to have become empty rhetoric, which is why we ask institutions to be places of greater transparency, innovation and above all proximity. We have demonstrated that we have the strength to relaunch a political vision that the European parties need. Indeed, it was the young activists in the streets of Europe who seriously represented the environmental emergency, bringing climate change and its enormous risks, now evident to all, to the centre of public debate. Voices are rising from those squares calling for the political concreteness and courage needed to face the challenges of change.

Other young people, progressive and socialist politicians in the various European states, have fought against inequalities between genders and generations in the world of work, trying to reaffirm an economic model that is both socially and environmentally sustainable.

With this commitment we demand economic rules that combine collective growth, social affirmation and respect for the environment.

It is the new generation that, living it on their skin, shows how the issue of sustainability is transversal and a priority as it represents a strong link between the environment, society and the environment. Growing prosperity can be affirmed with the prospect of ensuring that the needs of the present generation are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. For this reason, the policy of each Member State must strengthen the cohesion process between our territories and the European Union in order to provide each country with adequate tools to relaunch sustainable investments, fight poverty - which too often characterises the youngest segment of the population - and give prospects to young people.

This is crucial precisely now that it emerges more strongly that not everyone deserves the same opportunities. That is why we will once again take to the field as politicians, activists, young progressives and European socialists, and fight for ever greater gender equality and an ever greater role for women at the top of politics, the economy and the social sphere.

We will continue to work for the social rights of every individual, so that everyone can assert their abilities, regardless of gender, sexual orientation and culture. And when we finally all have the same rights, we will deserve the same opportunities.

It is with these ideas and values that we demand political representation, listening and concrete confrontation with the ruling class.

It is with this passion that we are willing to commit ourselves with determination and perseverance. We do this so that the youth of tomorrow may be guaranteed a renewed and adequate education, a job that is dignity and not exploitation, to have fairness and opportunities, and above all to be able to give back to the girls and boys of tomorrow the possibility of dreaming of a different, better future.