

The new Schuman Declaration of the 21st century

DECLARATION FOR A NEW ENVIRONMENTAL IDEAL

The situation lasts enough. We cannot continue to pretend as if nothing happened, as increasingly alarming reports on climate change are being shared. It is not too late to try to make things better.



With the European Union, we have built a solid institution, which has enabled us to avoid the pitfall of fratricidal wars for more than seventy years. Of course, it is not without faults, but it can unite countries around universal values and, above all, common struggles.

Safeguarding our environment must be the next goal.

It will not be easy, and it will not be done quickly. It will require the hard work and solidarity of States, which will have to put their differences behind them, to work in order to safeguard the human species. It will require citizens capable of changing their way of life, sometimes radically. It will take courageous policies, both for governments and for businesses. It will not be easy, but it is not impossible either.

If the European Union wants to reaffirm its importance on the international stage and stop the erosion that threatens it a little more each day, it must become the spearhead of the ecological struggle.

We propose the creation of a new institution within the European Union that is fully sovereign in ecological and energy matters: the **'Community of the European Ecological and Energy Union' (CU3E)**. This new stage of progress will broaden the competences

of the EU as the Economic and Monetary Union in 1992. As the first community dedicated to ecology on a continental scale, it will work for the fusion of the energy production methods of the States.

It will be financed by a contribution equivalent to 1% of the GDP of each Member State, which will have to transfer its sovereignty to the institution, in terms of management and production of electricity.

We call for the European Union to become more united around the climate issue. Since a joint effort is the only way to succeed, it must include all countries of the Union as a whole. Let there be no mistake, we are also the enemy. We will only defeat it overcoming our personal and national interests.

The institution will have to centralise European climate action in order to move forward efficiently. However, this will be done with respect for State sovereignty and in a logic of participatory democracy, by including citizens in the decision-making process.

On the climate issue, we must neither deceive ourselves about the implementation of certain actions nor be resistant to any radical change. The CU3E will represent the perfect balance, ensuring continuity and consistency in the fight against climate change. It will allow nations to cooperate, strengthened by the support of the citizens, which will give the word "Union" back its letters of nobility.

Being one of the main achievements of the European Union, the common internal market must be further reinforced. The free movement of energy will now go along with the free movement of goods and people.

We advocate merging the electricity production of the countries of the European Union, as well as its trade. The energy is continuing to be at the core of the European economic policies, even after the expiration of the ECSC Treaty in 2002.

To support agriculture and the European industry, the Council will introduce a carbon tax. The amount of this tax will be indexed to the carbon footprint of each product imported from outside the Union.

Research into more environmentally friendly energy production, and carbon-free energy production, must be speeding up. A new European research institute will enable more effective collaboration between European researchers.

Europe has distinguished itself by its social and cultural model based on a desire for peace, which is now threatened by climate change. It is necessary for Europe to commit itself from an ecological and humanist perspective, so that its vision of peace can survive and prevail over other nations.

Thus, the objectives of the CU3E will be in line with those of the Paris agreement and those quantified by the European Commission. We are aware that having higher ambitions would be both disadvantageous for European companies and not very credible. The European Union must become a global environmental model.

The community will be composed of fifteen members of different nationalities with a rotating presidency. It will be renewed by a third every two years. The national parliaments of the countries mandated to the CU3E will appoint their Member of the council.

The power of the CU3E will be regulated by a college of twenty-seven European citizens drawn by lot, one for each Member State. The college will also be renewed by thirds every two years. Participatory democracy will strengthen the democratic legitimacy of the European Union.

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