



**REAL
DEAL**

RESHAPING CITIZENS'
DELIBERATION FOR THE
EUROPEAN GREEN DEAL

Assessment: Europe's Manifestos for Our Common Future

by the Civil Society Forum for Sustainability



REAL DEAL is a community of people living in Europe who are taking action to build a new model of environmental citizenship for Europe; a model where Europeans are placed at the heart of the decision-making process, making a REAL DEAL for both people and the planet.

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Introduction

As we are at the brink of the European parliamentary elections, the European Union's and its people's future will soon take concrete shape and direction in the hands of the newly elected European Parliament (EP). In order to be elected as members of the EP and to play a role in shaping the future of Europe during the next mandate, European political parties have published their manifestos containing their aspirations, values, policy priorities and ambitious agendas that could shape the direction of the EU in the coming years. These political manifestos play a significant role in shaping public perceptions by presenting a compelling narrative of the future that each party envisions. Through these manifestos, parties aim to harness public perceptions by creating a compelling vision of the future of Europe that resonates with their electorates.

To ensure that these political manifestos are in line with people's and civil society's priorities for a green and just transition, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the 2030 Agenda, we as civil society organisations (CSOs) have developed a political tool that assesses the priorities of the five European political groups: Party of the European Left (**PEL**), European Green Party (**EGP**), Party of European Socialists (**PES**), Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (**ALDE**) and European People's Party (**EPP**). As it is everyone's right to live in green and socially just societies, this tool, combined with a civil society scorecard, aims to provide the people of Europe with an overview of which political parties have genuinely addressed or failed to tackle the above-mentioned priorities in their manifestos through SDG targets and indicators.

Background

The Civil Society Forum for Sustainability: Shaping the European Green Deal is co-organised by SOLIDAR, the European Environmental Bureau (EEB) and SDG Watch Europe in collaboration with project partners within the framework of the REAL DEAL project. The Real Deal is a Horizon 2020 research project focused on reshaping citizens' and stakeholders' participation and deliberative democracy in the framework of the European Green Deal.

Over two half days on 26 and 27 March 2024, 80 civil society organisations (CSOs) from across Europe and beyond came together for the seventh edition of the Civil Society Forum for Sustainability: Shaping the European Green Deal. The forum provided a crucial space for civil society organisations to critically assess the promises in the political manifestos of five European political groups (PES, PEL, EGP, ALDE, EPP). The forum's primary focus was to ensure these political manifestos' alignment with civil society and people's priorities for a green and just transition, the Sustainable Development Goals, and the 2030 Agenda in the framework of upcoming elections. To achieve these objectives, the forum participants assess the manifestos according to the following themes: Social Justice, Good Governance, and Planetary Boundaries.

A key objective of the forum was to assess the manifestos through the SDG targets and indicators and to score them as committed (green), partially committed (orange) and not committed (red). To this end, the Civil Society Forum's scoreboard displays the above-mentioned EU-level political

groups' commitment to a green and just transition, Sustainable Development Goals and the 2030 Agenda based on their manifestos.

Methodology

Civil Society Organisations are instrumental in ensuring people's and civil society's demands and priorities are heard and valued in sustainable and democratic policy-making processes. In order to ensure that the criteria for a just transition and the Sustainable Development Goals leading to the 2030 Agenda are discussed, therefore, it was imperative to bring a broad range of CSO representatives on a platform that assessed and reviewed the pledges of the leading five influential political groups, in their manifestos. For this reason, the 7th edition of the Civil Society Forum provided a space for CSOs to assess and score these manifestos through SDG targets and indicators. The outcomes of the discussions were collectively compiled into this policy tool combined with the civil society scoreboard.

CSOs followed a systematic methodology to assess the political manifestos. The methodology of the analysis was adopted from WECF's "2019 Ecofeminist Scorecard" developed by Hanna Gunnarsson, and included the following stages:

1. Preparatory Work

1.1 Selection of the European Political Parties and SDG Targets:

In the initial preparatory phase, the five main European-level parties were selected for analysis: European People's Party (EPP), Party of European Socialists (PES), Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe Party (ALDE), European Green Party (EGP), and Party of the European Left (PEL). As the SDGs include 169 targets it was important to have a focus for this particular exercise, therefore, one target and an indicator were chosen for each of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The chosen targets were identified based on their relevance to civil society and people's priority for a green and just transition and the 2030 Agenda. This was followed by grouping SDGs under three thematics (learning spaces) namely, Planetary Boundaries (SDG 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 15), Social Justice (SDG 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10), and Good Governance (SDG 2, 9, 11, 16, 17). The specific targets and indicators are explained in section 3 - Assessment of the Manifestos.

1.2 Excerpt Selection

The Real Deal project partners, together with members of the SDG Watch Europe Steering Group, carefully reviewed the manifestos of the above-mentioned political groups and selected excerpts from the parties' manifestos that reflected their positions on the predetermined targets of each SDG. The prepared material was circulated to the registered participants before the Civil Society Forum.

2. Work During the Forum

2.1 Learning Spaces

During the two half days of the Forum, the participants were allocated into three learning spaces: Planetary Boundaries, Social Justice, and Good Governance. Two facilitators were assigned to each learning space to ensure interactive discussion among participants and to assess the manifestos according to the identified SDG targets and indicators. An online collaboration tool, the Mural board was used to ensure that participants had access to selected excerpts from the parties' manifestos and to conduct the collective analysis during the learning space sessions with the help of the facilitators.

2.2 Individual Assessment

During the learning space sessions, participants first individually reviewed the selected manifesto excerpts and following the facilitators' instructions, rated them as committed (green), partially committed (orange), not committed (red) and no data (grey) by using the Mural board:

Committed: This scoring indicates that the party is fully aligned with and compliant with the relevant SDG targets. They actively promote policies and initiatives that contribute positively to achieving the SDGs, demonstrating a strong commitment to sustainable development.

Partially committed: This scoring indicates that the party has positions reflecting an awareness of the SDG targets or related issues. They may have outlined some policies or initiatives aimed at addressing these issues, but there may be areas where their efforts are insufficient or not fully aligned with SDG objectives.

Not committed: This scoring indicates that the party has mentioned the commitment but it is very vague as to how they will achieve it. It might also mean that the party is actively opposed to taking action on the issue or actions that could lead to regression on the SDG targets.

No data: In case there was no data, scoring indicates that the party has not mentioned other essential issues in their manifesto.

2.3 Group Discussion

After individual assessment and scoring, participants engaged in collective discussions within their respective groups, reflecting on the alignment of each party's position with the SDG targets and its potential impact on holistic well-being. Using a three-colour code, participants collectively scored each party's position and provided a brief explanation of why the score was chosen. These brief explanations of the assessment and the scoring can be found at the end of this policy tool. See ['Annex 1 - Manifesto Analysis'](#).

3. The Civil Society Scorecard

A final table was created with the help of facilitators, reflecting the extent to which the parties are oriented towards achieving the SDGs on certain targets, based on collective assessments.

The analysis resulted in a scoreboard illustrating the compliance of each party's manifesto with people and civil society organisations' priorities for a green and just transition, SDGs, and the 2030 Agenda in the framework of upcoming elections. This scorecard provides a general overview of the parties' commitments and policies related to sustainable development and holistic well-being. The Civil Society Scoreboard serves as a valuable tool for people, organisations and other stakeholders interested in understanding the parties' positions on sustainable development and their potential impact on the European Union's overall progress towards the SDGs.

This methodology ensured a systematic and rigorous approach to evaluating the compliance of party manifestos with the SDGs, facilitating informed decision-making by voters, policymakers, and other stakeholders.

Evaluation of the manifestos: Civil Society Scorecard

Rank	Political group	Assessment	SDGs Committed	SDGs Partially Committed
1	European Green Party (EGP)	Majority committed	15	2
2	Party of the European Left (PEL)	Majority partially committed or committed	12	3
3	Party of European Socialists (PES)	Majority partially committed	1	13
4	Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe Party (ALDE)	Majority not committed or partially committed	0	8
5	European People's Party (EPP)	Majority not committed	0	3

A summary of each SDG and its analysis is below.

Sustainable Development Goal 1 on No Poverty aims to eradicate poverty, focusing on Target 1.3 and Indicator 1.3.1. PEL's manifesto emphasises access to decent and affordable housing for all, but lacks a comprehensive approach to poverty alleviation, needing more attention to root causes and

access to social housing and legal identity for marginalised groups. **EGP's** manifesto acknowledges universal basic income but lacks clarity and depth in addressing various social protection measures. **EGP**, together with **PEL**, includes the most comprehensive measures regarding the right to affordable, decent, sustainable, and quality housing in and crisis response plan. **PES's** manifesto prioritises employment-related protections but overlooks broader social protection needs, suggesting a more inclusive approach is necessary. **ALDE's** manifesto mentions fiscal rules but lacks detail on how they will contribute to poverty alleviation, while **EPP's** manifesto lacks substantive detail and concrete proposals for social protection, requiring a more comprehensive approach to demonstrate a stronger commitment to SDG 1.

Sustainable Development Goal 2 on Zero Hunger. Achieving SDG 2 is crucial because it aims to end hunger, improve nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture. The commitment levels of various European political groups towards achieving SDG 2 Zero Hunger differed substantially when focusing on Target 2.1 and Indicator 2.1.1. **PEL** is partially committed, with sustainability emphasised through agro-ecological policies, but lacks consideration for governance mechanisms empowering food systems' actors. **EGP** is fully committed, addressing the target inclusively and emphasising sustainability and a rights-based approach to participation. **PES** is partially committed, focusing solely on production without addressing rights-based approaches. **ALDE** is not committed, mainly mentioning farmers and technology without proposing concrete hunger alleviation strategies. **EPP** also falls under the not committed category, with unclear goals and short-term actions, relying primarily on funding for farmers without considering long-term effects.

For **Sustainable Development Goal 3 on Good Health and Well-Being**, the forum focused on Target 3.8 and Indicator 3.8.1, which aims to ensure access to quality healthcare services for all. **PEL's** manifesto exhibits promise but lacks specificity regarding resource allocation and inclusion of marginalised groups, with potential enhancements suggested for addressing discrimination and mobilising resources effectively. **EGP's** manifesto shows promise in implementing SDG 3, emphasising the importance of addressing discrimination comprehensively to ensure universal access to healthcare in Europe. **PES** demonstrates a strong commitment to healthcare workers and addresses common concerns but shares a narrative with other parties, lacking diversity and focus on certain critical topics such as mental health and universal healthcare access. **ALDE's** manifesto lacks coverage of key topics like discrimination, mental health, and universal healthcare access, indicating potential gaps in their commitment to SDG 3. **EPP's** manifesto lacks plans for addressing discrimination, mental health, universal access to healthcare, bodily rights, and migrant healthcare, highlighting significant shortcomings in their approach to achieving SDG 3.

Sustainable Development Goal 4 focuses on **quality education**, specifically aimed at Target 4.7 and Indicator 4.7.1. **PEL's** manifesto primarily emphasises higher education but overlooks non-formal and apprenticeship programs, lacking clarity on skills and values education should enhance and neglecting Erasmus+. **EGP's** manifesto addresses quality public education and anti-racism but lacks clarity on poverty alleviation and educator support, with no clear implementation plan for Erasmus+ budget increase. **PES's** manifesto contains minimal education references, emphasising higher education and digital education but lacking clarity on economic framework adaptation and

teacher support, calling for a widened Erasmus+ program. **ALDE** prioritises skills development for labour market needs and mutual recognition of qualifications but lacks commitment to increasing the Erasmus+ budget, proposing minimal digital education levels and focusing on an EU-funded Interrail pass for VET youth. **EPP** commits to expanding Erasmus+ to rural areas but lacks emphasis on skills for the labour market, missing key aspects in education and training and focusing on securitisation and economic prosperity over learners' needs.

Sustainable Development Goal 5 aims for **gender equality**, specifically targeting Target 5.5 and Indicator 5.5.1. **PEL**'s manifesto lacks focus on equity and intersectionality, emphasising equality alone and disregarding overlapping discrimination grounds. **EGP**'s manifesto is the most comprehensive, integrating intersectionality and proposing an EU feminist foreign policy, covering various aspects of the "care economy" comprehensively. **PES** claims to prioritise feminism but lacks explicit and intersectional measures, needing more tailored public services and explicit proposals. **ALDE** mentions Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) but lacks concrete measures and intersectional feminism, requiring more explicit and inclusive proposals and tailored public services. **EPP**'s focus on equal opportunities for women is limiting, lacking intersectionality and neglecting those outside the labour market, with ambiguity regarding education's beneficiaries and purposes, needing more emphasis on equal access to quality education for all with concrete provisions but lacking an intersectional approach.

Sustainable Development Goal 6 focuses on **clean water and sanitation**, targeting Target 6.1. **PEL** is partially committed, overly focusing on the management and ownership of water resources rather than addressing access issues directly. **EGP** demonstrates commitment, prioritising access to water resources prominently. **PES** is partially committed, touching on the issue but not addressing it comprehensively. **ALDE** is not committed, mentioning access to water issues only briefly without providing any concrete action points. **EPP** also falls under the not committed category, mentioning access to water issues briefly, without offering concrete action points.

Sustainable Development Goal 7, targeting affordable and clean energy, specifically focusing on Target 7.1 and Indicator 7.1.1. **PEL** is partially committed, lacking mention of sufficiency, and presenting unconvincing efforts toward green energy. **EGP** demonstrates commitment, adding value by connecting energy consumption to social aspects. **PES** is also partially committed, lacking mention of sufficiency, and presenting unconvincing efforts toward green energy. **ALDE** is not committed, emphasising nuclear energy which is not climate-friendly, lacking mention of energy poverty, and relying excessively on technology as a solution. **EPP** falls between partially committed and not committed, lacking mention of energy poverty and presenting unconvincing efforts toward green energy with vague language.

Sustainable Development Goal 8 focuses on **decent work and economic growth**, and the analysis concentrated on Target 8.5 and Indicator 8.5.1, where the commitments of the political groups vary significantly, on a spectrum between economic system change, workers' rights and relentless pursuit of economic growth. In general, it was challenging to assess, as growth is not so explicitly

mentioned in the manifestos, nor are concepts such as post-growth and degrowth or the wellbeing economy. There is a heavy focus on tech solutions and less emphasis on re-thinking the current system and going beyond GDP as a measure of the state of a society. Despite this, **PEL** demonstrates partial commitment, emphasising the need for economic system change and workers' rights but still uses language promoting sustainable economic growth. **EGP** presents elaborate and explicit commitments in their manifesto. **PES**, while addressing important issues, lacks depth compared to **EGP**, especially regarding decent work and economic growth, necessitating more detailed plans, particularly concerning working conditions, despite prioritising growth and the economy. **ALDE's** manifesto lacks any mention of decent work, which is concerning. **EPP's** manifesto primarily focuses on economic growth and competitiveness, neglecting the wellbeing of people in terms of work opportunities and workplace conditions, which are central to SDG 8.

Sustainable Development Goal 9 focuses on **industry, innovation, and infrastructure**, specifically Target 9.1 and Indicator 9.1.2. **PEL** is partially committed, primarily focusing on AI and digital technology control while supporting marginalised groups in learning new technologies, with limited emphasis on infrastructures and good governance. **EGP** demonstrates commitment by proposing investments in green infrastructure, housing, and sustainable energy, prioritising strengthening connections among European countries but lacking focus on the digital aspect. **PES** is also partially committed, emphasising public services, well-being, and digital aspects but with fewer references to transborder infrastructure and limited good governance mentions. **ALDE** is partially committed, focusing on sustainable infrastructures and digital advancements but lacking references to social measures, while **EPP** is not committed, mentioning decarbonization without concrete solutions regarding clean energy use and primarily referring to social measures without substantial infrastructure focus.

Sustainable Development Goal 10 aims to **reduce inequalities across Europe**. Some of these inequalities include issues related to migration and the mobility of people. During the Civil Society Forum, the participants assessed how each political party's manifestos addressed and proposed policy recommendations or solutions to reducing these inequalities through Target 10.7 and Target 10.7.2 focusing on facilitating safe and responsible migration, mobility and the implementation of European policies. Based on these targets, **PEL** demonstrates a commitment by proposing radical measures such as the proper implementation of legal and safe migration routes, the withdrawal of the Migration Pact and the dissolution of Frontex. Similarly, **EGP** is also committed, focusing on removing the current Pact and proposing concrete policy ideas for a fair asylum system, establishing legal and accessible channels for migration. **PES** is partially committed, aiming to facilitate safe, regular and responsible migration, including fair treatment and integration of migrants, however, the manifesto does not propose radical changes such as the **EGP** and **PEL**. On the other hand, participants indicated that **ALDE** is not committed as its stance on militarisation raises concerns about the continuation of increased inequalities. **EPP** demonstrates no commitment, their inclination towards the militarisation of migration policy has been found concerning by the participants of the Forum. **EPP's** policy recommendations support the "Fortress in Europe" mentality, raising concerns about increasing existing inequalities rather than reducing them.

Sustainable Development Goal 11 targets **sustainable cities and communities**, specifically focusing on Target 11.3 and Indicator 11.3.2. **PEL** has no data available. There is no information tackling the selected target, and its proposal is very light. **EGP** is committed. It is the most committed manifesto, however it should improve support for rural communities. **PES** is partially committed. There is a lack of specificity in the manifesto - they are not straightforward, propose no actions, and use vague terminology and confused information. **ALDE** is not committed. It misses the target of investing in the direct participation of civil society in urban planning. It does not articulate an understanding of major issues that communities are facing (housing, transportation, urban inequalities). They should explain how 'to prevent duplication'. **EPP** is partially committed. Some commitment is shown in involving European regions in the decision-making. However, they are silent on major issues of housing and transport. It was important that they mention the rural and vulnerable areas in the programme.

For **Sustainable Development Goal 12**, the analysis focused particularly on Target 12b, which emphasises responsible **consumption and production**. **PEL** falls between partially committed and not committed, as it lacks consideration for the global ecological footprint of the EU. **EGP** demonstrates commitment with clear ambitions and means, emphasising the importance of inclusive pathways for green transition. **PES** and **ALDE** are also in a partially committed state, with **PES** lacking consideration for global ecological footprints and **ALDE** being vague and exclusionary in their manifesto. However, **EPP** and **ALDE** stand out as not committed, with **EPP** focusing solely on material sources and neglecting socially and ecologically just extraction in the Global South.

For **Sustainable Development Goal 13** on **Climate Action**, the discussion and analysis specifically targeted 13.2 and its indicators 13.2.1 and 13.2.2, with commitments varying significantly. **PEL** are not committed, emphasising that the targets are insufficient without concrete measures. **EGP** shows strong commitment, with ambitious goals that align climate action with social justice and other SDGs. **PES** demonstrates partial commitment with vague goals lacking specific eco-social measures, noting that digitalization alone is not inherently eco-friendly. **ALDE** falls between partial and non-commitment, as they do not actively pursue climate action beyond supporting new technology, which maintains the business-as-usual scenario. Lastly, **EPP** are not committed, treating climate and nature concerns as secondary rather than foundational to economic and societal frameworks.

For **Sustainable Development Goal 14**, the commitment levels of various political groups towards SDG 14 **Life Below Water**, specifically targeting 14.1 and its indicator 14.1.1 have varying degrees of engagement. **PEL** is not committed, addressing the topic in a vague manner without concrete goals or actions. **EGP** demonstrates a strong commitment with a promising overview, offering specific goals and actions to address water-related issues. **PES** fall between partially committed and not committed, mentioning important aspects but in a rather vague manner. **ALDE** is not committed, treating biodiversity as an afterthought and lacking specific measures. Similarly, **EPP** is not committed, omitting mentions of biodiversity or reduction, and focusing on innovations that are insufficient given the urgent crises in maritime ecosystems.

For **Sustainable Development Goal 15 Life on Land**, the analysis focuses on Target 15.1 and Indicator 15.1.1. **PEL** falls between partial commitment and non-commitment, offering ideas but lacking concrete measures. **EGP** demonstrates commitment, providing promising goals and actions. **PES** shows partial commitment, with good ideas but an excessive focus on agriculture at the expense of addressing the broader planetary crisis and restoration efforts. **ALDE's** commitment falls between partial and non-commitment, acknowledging social aspects and biodiversity but raising concerns about agricultural growth for the sake of growth. **EPP** are not committed, suggesting only minor fixes without addressing systemic issues or the planetary crisis at hand.

Sustainable Development Goal 16 focuses on **peace, justice, and strong institutions**, specifically targeting Target 16.7 and Indicator 16.7.1. **PEL** is partially committed. There is a commitment to a broad concept of security, advocating for peaceful solutions, ceasefires, and sanctions. However, there is a lack of specificity on how to ensure participatory, inclusive, and representative decision-making. **EGP** is committed. It presents a detailed and systematic approach to strengthening democracy, EU institutions, fundamental rights, and public participation in direct decision-making. The manifesto includes actions to increase the political participation of people with disabilities and access to justice for vulnerable groups. **PES** is partially committed. It includes a pledge to a more efficient and democratic Europe by strengthening the EU's institutional capacity with targeted treaty changes. It specifies the need to empower the European Parliament and the Commission with tools to safeguard democracy. It lacks detailed information on specific actions and strategies for inclusive public participation at all levels. **ALDE** is partially committed. It calls for reforming the EU, specifying the need to encourage citizen engagement by integrating local communities and subnational governments. There is a clear commitment to safeguarding democratic freedoms, protecting the rights of minorities, and strengthening EU institutions. The proposal mainly focuses on developing and strengthening the EU's strategic capacity. **EPP** is not committed. The proposal strongly emphasises amplifying EU support to Ukraine and strengthening the EU-NATO alliance. There are no details on how to reach the targets and ensure responsive and participatory decision-making at all levels. It does not specify a strategy for achieving responsive institutions at different levels that factor in climate change and socio-economic disparity.

Sustainable Development Goal 17 focuses on Target 17.14 and Indicator 17.14.1, which emphasises **partnerships for sustainable development**. Some party manifestos, such as **PEL**, are partially committed, proposing actions to improve social cohesion and welfare indicators while lacking specific mechanisms for policy coherence in international cooperation. Conversely, **EGP** offers a committed approach, with detailed strategies to enhance policy coherence at both EU and international levels, emphasising partnerships with countries and regions, trade reform, and green investment. **PES** expresses general commitments to promoting cooperation based on SDGs but lacks concrete measures and ambitious proposals. However, **ALDE** and **EPP** are not committed, with insufficient information provided on sustainable development partnerships. Their proposals prioritise trade and investment agreements without clear strategies to reach SDG targets.

Concluding thoughts

Looking at the party manifestos, we find evidence to suggest that there remains a commitment to the transformative agenda in broad areas, supporting the SDGs and Agenda 2030. Topping the list of the Civil Society Forum's assessment is the European Green Party (EGP), with an evident commitment to 16 out of 17 SDGs. Following closely is the Party of the European Left (PEL), demonstrating a mix of partial and full commitment to 12 SDGs and partial commitment to 3. The Party of European Socialists (PES) shows a majority partial commitment, with 2 SDGs fully committed and 12 partially committed. In contrast, the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe Party (ALDE) and the European People's Party (EPP) exhibit lower commitment levels, with ALDE being mostly uncommitted or partially committed and EPP showing a majority lack of commitment to the SDGs. Further, beyond this assessment, the Forum members note their concerns that topics they viewed as essential were not featured in any of the manifesto pledges presented by the leading political groups at the European Level. However civil society considers these issues as key concerns which should be reflected in parties' political mandate going forward.

Under the good governance working group, it is clear that there is a lack of proactive measures to ensure effective and inclusive public participation in decision-making at different levels, especially at the local level. In addition, mechanisms that would develop and strengthen the participation of vulnerable groups are limited or absent in the political manifestos. Furthermore, the implementation of the principles of good governance through global partnerships is not sufficiently addressed in the political manifestos. Often, parties reiterate vague commitments and stances to various existing treaties and international standards, without fully committing to programmes, additional policies, or initiatives to fully implement them. For SDG 5 on Gender Equality, the Istanbul Convention is an example of this. From the Social Justice perspective, there is a clear lack of an intersectional approach. Finally, from the Planetary Boundaries perspective, no political group mentions post-growth as a structural approach to economic system change. Despite the outstanding challenges and political uncertainties of the next mandate, the Civil Society Scoreboard can serve as a valuable tool for people, organisations and other stakeholders interested in understanding the parties' positions on sustainable development and can drive potential impact on the European Union's progress towards the SDGs.

Annex 1: Manifesto Analysis

GOOD GOVERNANCE					
	PEL	EGP	PES	ALDE	EPP
SDG2 Zero Hunger Target 2.1 & Indicator 2.1.1	Partially committed There is no mention of ensuring governance mechanisms permitting the political agency of food systems' actors. Sustainability is present, but vulnerable groups are not.	Committed It tackles the specific target, leaving no one behind. Sustainability emerges as a key factor. The right-based approach to participation is one of the foundational principles.	Partially committed The focus is on the production side only, there is no mention of the rights-based approach.	Not Committed The references are mostly to farmers and new agricultural technologies. It does not propose a concrete way to end hunger.	Not Committed Their goal is unclear, and the actions seem to have no long-term effects. The only solution is to provide funding for farmers.
SDG9 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure Target 9.1 & Indicator 9.1.2	Partially committed They mostly focus on AI and controlling the introduction of digital technologies. They reflect on supporting marginalised and vulnerable groups by helping to learn new technologies.	Committed They propose investments in green infrastructure and housing and replacing fossil fuels with sustainable energy. They focus on strengthening connections among European countries by improving railways and	Partially committed Public services and well-being are the main aspects. They target the whole society and refer to quality of life and energy. They also focus on the digital aspect, but there are fewer references to the infrastructure at the	Partially committed More sustainable infrastructures are proposed and digital is one of the main focuses. There is the will to ensure a good economy, but there are no references to social measures.	Not Committed They refer to China as a third party not to imitate when this is not the focus. Even though decarbonisation is mentioned, there is no concrete solution regarding clean energy use. There are references to social measures.

	Infrastructures are left out. Limited good governance references.	infrastructure. Social infrastructure and well-being measures are mentioned too, but the digital aspect is left out.	transborder level. Limited good governance references.		
SDG 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities Target 11.3 & Indicator 11.3.2	No data There is no information tackling the selected target, and the proposal is very light.	Committed It is the most committed manifesto, however it should support more rural communities.	Partially committed Lack of specificity: they are not straightforward, propose no actions, and use vague terminology and confused information.	Not Committed It misses the target of investing in the direct participation of civil society in urban planning. It does not articulate an understanding of major issues that communities are facing (housing, transportation, urban inequalities). They should explain how 'to prevent duplication'.	Partially committed Some commitment is shown in involving European regions in the decision-making. However, they are silent on major issues of housing and transport. It was important that they mention the rural and vulnerable areas in the programme.
SDG16 Peace Justice and Strong Institutions Target 16.7 & Indicator 16.7.1	Partially committed There is a commitment to a broad concept of security, advocating for peaceful solutions, ceasefires, and sanctions. It recognises multilateralism, focusing on international agreements on disarmament and the prohibition of nuclear weapons. However, there is	Committed It presents a detailed and systematic approach to strengthening democracy, EU institutions, fundamental rights, and public participation in direct decision-making. The manifesto includes actions to increase the political participation of people with	Partially committed It includes a pledge to a more efficient and democratic Europe by strengthening the EU's institutional capacity with targeted treaty changes. It specifies the need to empower the European Parliament and the Commission with tools to safeguard democracy. It lacks detailed information on	Partially committed It calls for reforming the EU, specifying the need to encourage citizen engagement by integrating local communities and subnational governments. There is a clear commitment to safeguarding democratic freedoms, protecting the rights of minorities, and strengthening	Not Committed The proposal strongly emphasises amplifying EU support to Ukraine. The measures propose strengthening the EU-NATO alliance. There are no details on how to reach the targets and ensure responsive and participatory decision-making at all levels. It does not specify

	a lack of specificity on how to ensure participatory, inclusive, and representative decision-making.	disabilities and access to justice for vulnerable groups, such as people on low incomes and from marginalised communities.	specific actions and strategies for inclusive public participation at all levels.	EU institutions. The proposal mainly focuses on developing and strengthening the EU's strategic capacity.	a strategy for achieving responsive institutions at different levels that factor in climate change and socio-economic disparity.
SDG17 Partnerships for the Goals Target 17.14 & Indicator 17.14.1	Partially committed It proposes some actions aimed at improving social cohesion and welfare indicators of the population. The strategy towards the Global South focuses on new international agreements, trade control, and investment treaties. However, there are no specific mechanisms to enhance policy coherence in international cooperation.	Committed The manifesto is detailed and suggests mechanisms that could enhance policy coherence at the EU and international levels. It emphasises the importance of the EU's enlargement as the best prospect for lasting peace and security in Europe. The proposals include partnerships with countries and regions, trade reform on equal terms, and green investment, facilitating access to technology and expertise.	Partially committed It includes very general commitments to promoting close cooperation based on SDGs. It lacks concrete measures for enhancing policy coherence. The scale of the proposed measures of international partnership is very limited and not ambitious enough to reach the targets.	Not Committed No sufficient information is provided on partnerships for sustainable development. The proposed measures prioritise reviving the push for EU trade and investment agreements with selected countries and regions, focusing on the countries with open and market-based economies.	Not Committed The proposed mechanisms lack specificity and details. The main focus is on fostering special cooperation with like-minded democratic partners. The approach is skewed towards partnerships based on fair trade agreements. It doesn't propose clear strategies to reach the targets within this SDG.

SOCIAL JUSTICE

	PEL	EGP	PES	ALDE	EPP
<p>SDG1 No Poverty Target 1.3: & Indicator 1.3.1:</p>	<p>Partially committed</p> <p>PEL's manifesto focuses heavily on housing, but poverty encompasses broader dimensions. It lacks emphasis on tackling root causes and ensuring access to social housing and legal identity, crucial for marginalized groups. While rent caps and investment plans are commendable, a more holistic approach addressing multifaceted poverty is needed for stronger commitment to SDG on no poverty.</p>	<p>Committed</p> <p>EGP's manifesto demonstrates commitment by acknowledging universal basic income's potential to alleviate poverty, supported by existing evidence. However, while mentioning various social protection measures like minimum income and homelessness initiatives, clarity and depth are lacking. Despite this, the inclusion of an integrated anti-poverty strategy signals a commendable effort towards addressing SDGs on no poverty.</p>	<p>Committed</p> <p>PES's manifesto is robust, particularly in its focus on employment-related protections, reflecting a commitment to uplift workers. However, the emphasis solely on workers overlooks broader social protection needs. While commendable for its precision, a more inclusive approach addressing the welfare of all EU citizens, not just those in the workforce, would strengthen alignment with the SDG.</p>	<p>Not Committed</p> <p>ALDE's manifesto acknowledges the importance of fiscal rules in poverty alleviation, although lacking detail. Mentioning future generations is commendable, yet the approach to fiscal rules appears somewhat unclear. Clarity on how fiscal policies will contribute to social protection would enhance the manifesto's alignment with SDGs.</p>	<p>Not Committed</p> <p>EPP's manifesto lacks substantive detail on their plan for social protection. While the initial mention is promising, the lack of concrete proposals and depth leaves it unclear how they intend to address critical issues. A more comprehensive and actionable approach is needed to demonstrate a stronger commitment.</p>
<p>SDG3 Good Health and Well Being Target 3.8 & Indicator 3.8.1</p>	<p>Partially committed</p> <p>PEL shows promise but lacks specificity on resource allocation and inclusion of marginalized groups. While the proposal for care structures is commendable, addressing discrimination</p>	<p>Committed</p> <p>EGP's manifesto shows promise for SDG 3. Elaborate on implementation and address discrimination comprehensively to ensure access to health for all in Europe.</p>	<p>Partially committed</p> <p>The PES manifesto shows a strong commitment to prioritizing healthcare workers and addresses common concerns. However, it adopts a narrative shared with other parties, which is somewhat</p>	<p>Not Committed</p> <p>ALDE's manifesto lacks key topics: discrimination, mental health, universal healthcare access, etc.</p>	<p>Not Committed</p> <p>EPP: No plans for discrimination, mental health, universal access, bodily rights, or migrants.</p>

	against marginalized communities, such as undocumented migrants and those in poverty, could strengthen it. A clearer plan on resource mobilization would enhance credibility and commitment to achieving Good Health and Well-Being.		worrying. It's commendable for highlighting mental health and feminism, but lacks diversity and seems overly focused on work.		
SDG4 Quality Education Target 4.7 & Indicator 4.7.1	Not Committed The PEL manifesto is mainly focused on higher education and overlooks non-formal and apprenticeship programs. It solely addresses formal education, neglecting non-formal and informal learning. While it mentions abolishing admission tests, it fails to outline the skills, competences, and values education should enhance in society, such as active and global citizenship and gender equality. There's no discussion about Erasmus+, and the manifesto lacks	Partially committed The EGP manifesto presents interesting topics such as quality public education and anti-racism. Positive steps but lacks poverty & educator support plan. No clear implementation for Erasmus+ budget increase. Commits to universal access to ECEC but lacks teacher support clarity.	Partially committed The PES Manifesto contains minimal education references. Calls for free quality education focus mainly on higher education, lacking clarity on other sectors. Emphasizes digital education and ECEC. Ambiguous on economic framework adaptation. Calls for a widened Erasmus+ program.	Partially committed ALDE prioritizes skills development for labor market needs. Supports mutual recognition of qualifications. Endorses the EU Blue Card for matching EU's skills needs. No commitment to increase Erasmus+ budget but demands its expansion. Proposes minimal digital education levels. Incentivizes youth with an EU-funded Interrail pass for VET.	Not Committed EPP commits to expanding Erasmus+ to reach rural areas, promoting cultures. Learning mobility is discussed but limited. References to skills for the labor market are nearly absent. The manifesto misses many aspects in education and training. The focus on securitization and economic prosperity neglects learners' needs.

	focus on important aspects such as skills and competencies.				
SDG5 Gender Equality Target 5.5 & Indicator 5.5.1	<p>Partially committed</p> <p>While PEL covers important areas, their manifesto lacks a focus on equity, with an emphasis on equality alone. There is no intersectional lens, with the focus solely on women, disregarding overlapping discrimination grounds. In ensuring guaranteed decent work, equity should be taken into consideration alongside equality.</p>	<p>Committed</p> <p>The most comprehensive manifesto, EGP mentions intersectionality and pledging to push for an EU feminist foreign policy. Intersectionality is well integrated. It seems to be the most holistic and comprehensive, covering more aspects of the "care economy" than others.</p>	<p>Not committed</p> <p>PES: Claiming to be the party of feminism, but proposals are vague and weak. Measures should be explicit, lacking an intersectional approach. Accessibility: public services tailored according to different gender requirements are needed.</p>	<p>Partially committed</p> <p>It's commendable that ALDE mentions Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), but more concrete measures are needed. Although they claim to be the party of feminism, their proposals are rather vague and weak. They should be more explicit, incorporating an intersectional approach to feminism. Moreover, there is a need for accessibility, with public services tailored according to different gender requirements.</p>	<p>Partially committed</p> <p>While some issues are more elaborated, EPP's focus on equal opportunities for women is limiting, neglecting those outside the labour market. There's a lack of intersectionality in their approach. Education is highlighted, but there's ambiguity regarding whom it benefits and for what purpose. More emphasis is needed on equal access to quality education for everyone. Although EPP provides concrete provisions, its sole focus on women without an intersectional approach is concerning.</p>

<p>SDG8 Decent Work & Economic Growth Target 8.5 & Indicator 8.5.1</p>	<p>Partially committed PEL is partially Committed, emphasising economic system change and workers rights, but continuing to use the language of sustainable economic growth in the manifesto</p>	<p>Committed EGP: They are quite elaborate and explicit in their commitments</p>	<p>Partially committed While touching upon important issues, the manifesto lacks depth compared to EGP, particularly regarding decent work and economic growth. More detailed plans are needed to address these critical areas, especially regarding working conditions, despite their prioritization of growth and the economy.</p>	<p>Not Committed The manifesto lacks any mention of decent work, which is concerning.</p>	<p>Not Committed The EPP manifesto mainly focuses on growing the economy and competitiveness, neglecting the wellbeing of people in terms of work opportunities and workplace conditions, which are central to SDG8.</p>
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<p style="text-align: center;">PLANETARY BOUNDARIES</p>					
	<p style="text-align: center;">PEL</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">EGP</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PES</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ALDE</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">EPP</p>
<p>SDG6 Clean Water & Sanitation Target & Indicator 6.1</p>	<p>Partially committed Too focused on the management aspect and ownership of water as a resource.</p>	<p>Committed A lot of will and promise putting access to water at the centre.</p>	<p>Partially committed This manifesto just skims around the issue but does not tackle it in any depth.</p>	<p>Not committed Just mentions access to water issues as a side note but no concrete action points.</p>	<p>Not committed Just mentions access to water issues as a side note but no concrete action points.</p>

<p>SDG7 Affordable & Clean Energy</p> <p>Target 7.1 & Indicator 7.1.1</p>	<p>Partially committed</p> <p>No mention of sufficiency and the efforts for green energy are not convincing.</p>	<p>Committed</p> <p>It is an added value they make connection between the consumption of energy and social aspects.</p>	<p>Partially committed</p> <p>No mention of sufficiency and the efforts for green energy are not convincing.</p>	<p>Not committed</p> <p>Nuclear energy, for which the manifesto actively advocates for, is not climate friendly. There is no mention of energy poverty and there is too much reliance on technology as a solution.</p>	<p>Between partially committed and not committed</p> <p>No mention of energy poverty and the efforts for green energy are not convincing with loose wording.</p>
<p>SDG12 Responsible Consumption & Production</p> <p>Target 12b</p>	<p>Between partially committed and not committed</p> <p>It does not take into account the global ecological footprint of the EU.</p>	<p>Committed</p> <p>EGP are committed, with well-defined ambition and means. The pathway for the green transition should take into account the inclusion of citizens.</p>	<p>Between partially committed and not committed</p> <p>The manifesto does not take into account the global ecological footprint of the EU.</p>	<p>Not committed</p> <p>ALDE are not committed. The manifesto excludes global justice aspects and due diligence. It is moreover quite vague on concrete solutions and employs a narrow 'quick fix' approach</p>	<p>Not committed</p> <p>EPP's approach focuses on sources for materials, no mention of socially and ecologically just extraction of resources in the Global South.</p>
<p>SDG13 Climate Action</p> <p>Target 13.2 & Indicators 13.2.1 -13.2.2</p>	<p>Not committed</p> <p>The targets alone are not enough; There is no particular measure on how to achieve them.</p>	<p>Committed</p> <p>EGP have ambitious goals, aligning climate and social justice. In line with other commitments under other SDGs.</p>	<p>Partially committed</p> <p>The commitments are quite vague, and there are no concrete eco-social measures. Digitalisation alone is not automatically eco-friendly and can also lead to jobs.</p>	<p>Between partially committed and not committed</p> <p>No mention of active climate action to steer us away from current emission paths; Business as usual scenario supported by new technology.</p>	<p>Not committed</p> <p>Climate and nature sound like an afterthought rather than the foundation of our economy and society.</p>

<p>SDG14 Life Below Water</p> <p>Target 14.1 & Indicator 14.1.1</p>	<p>Not committed</p> <p>The topic is covered in a vague manner without any concrete goals or actions.</p>	<p>Committed</p> <p>Promising overview and provides concrete goals and actions to address water.</p>	<p>Between partially committed and not committed</p> <p>Quite vague but important aspects are mentioned.</p>	<p>Not committed</p> <p>Biodiversity is an after-thought. No particular measures are mentioned.</p>	<p>Not committed</p> <p>Biodiversity or reduction are not mentioned. Focus on innovations is short-sighted given the acute crises in maritime ecosystems.</p>
<p>SDG15 Life on Land</p> <p>Target 15.1 & Indicator 15.1.1</p>	<p>Between partially committed and not committed</p> <p>There are some good ideas but no concrete measures.</p>	<p>Committed</p> <p>Promising and provides concrete goals and actions.</p>	<p>Partially committed</p> <p>Good ideas, but too much focus on agriculture, while not much is mentioned on the planetary crisis and restorations.</p>	<p>Between partially committed and not committed</p> <p>Social aspects and biodiversity are mentioned which is good. However, a red flag in the agricultural section as growth for the sake of growth is advocated.</p>	<p>Not committed</p> <p>It suggests only minor easy fixes, not addressing systemic level and planetary crisis.</p>
<p>SDG8 Decent Work & Economic Growth</p> <p>Target 8.5 & Indicator 8.5.1</p>	<p>In general, it was challenging to make the scoring here as growth is not so explicitly mentioned in the manifestos, nor are concepts as post growth /de-growth. There is too much focus on tech solutions and not on re-thinking the current system which sees GDP as a measure of the state of a society.</p>				

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