# 2019 PES Election Congress Madrid
## Decisions taken by the II PES Election Congress

**Decisions taken by the II PES Election Congress, held in Madrid from 22 to 23 February 2019**

1. **Congress organisation**

- Beatriz Corredor, Francisco André and Iratxe García were unanimously elected as **Congress chairs.**

- **Confirmation of voting rights: 319 voting rights** were considered valid out of 337 potential votes because 4 delegations did not attend (SDE Estonia, LSDP Lithuania, SMER-SD Slovakia and SDLP Norther Ireland), and two PES Vice-Presidents excused their presence (see composition of delegations, annex 1). Therefore, the qualified majority was at 160 votes (50% + 1). Quote for vote, 80 votes (25%)

- The Congress unanimously adopted the **Rules of procedures** (annex 2).

- The PES Secretariat was unanimously elected as **Tellers of the Congress**

- The Congress unanimously adopted the **Agenda of the Congress** (annex 3)

2. **Election of the 2019 PES Common Candidate to the Presidency of the European Commission**

Pursuant article 25.1. (a), **Frans Timmermans was unanimously elected** 2019 PES Common Candidate to the European Commission Presidency by the PES Election Congress.

1. **Debate and vote of the PES Manifesto 2019**

Pursuant article 25.1. (b), after the presentation and debate of the draft manifesto, **the PES Election Congress adopted unanimously the PES Manifesto 2019** "A New Social Contract for Europe" (annex 4)

Annex 1

# Delegates to the 2019 PES Election Congress

**On the basis of articles 22 and 26 of the PES Statutes adopted by the PES Election Congress**

There will be 1.071 delegates to PES 2019 Election Congress

- 319 delegates out of 337 potential delegates with voting rights
- 724delegates without voting rights
- 10 ex-officio delegates without voting rights

Please note that according to Articles 22.4 of PES Statutes, **all delegations must be gender-balanced** (i.e. there should not be more than a difference of 1 delegate between the two genders). If a delegation does not respect this rule, its vote to the Election Congress will be proportionally reduced.

**Delegates with voting rights**[1]

| Party / organisation | Number of Congress delegates | Presidency members | **Congress delegates + Presidency members** |
|---|---|---|---|
| Austria SPÖ | 8 | 1 | **9** |
| Belgium PS | 6 | 1 | **7** |
| Belgium sp.a | 3 | 1 | **4** |
| Bulgaria BSP | 9 | 1 | **10** |
| Cyprus EDEK | 1 | 1 | **2** |
| Croatia SDP | 5 | 1 | **6** |
| Czech Republic CSSD | 3 | 1 | **4** |
| Denmark SD | 5 | 1 | **6** |
| Estonia SDE | 2 | 1 | **(3) EXCUSED** |
| Finland SDP | 3 | 1 | **4** |
| France PS | 8 | 1 | **9** |
| Germany SPD | 32 | 1 | **33** |
| Greece PASOK | 2 | 1 | **3** |
| Hungary MSzP | 3 | 1 | **4** |
| Ireland Labour | 1 | 1 | **2** |
| Italy PD | 1 | 1 | **26** |
| Italy PSI | 25 | 1 | **2** |
| Latvia Concord -SDP | 3 | 1 | **4** |

[1] PES Statutes

**Article 26 – Composition of the Election Congress The composition of the Election Congress shall follow the rules laid down in Article 22.**

**Article 22 – Composition of the Congress**

22.1. The PES Congress shall consist of the following delegates with voting rights:

- representatives from full member parties, with the following calculation: 1/45th of weighted votes as defined in article 20.6, rounded upwards;
- a representative from each National delegation of the Group in the European Parliament;
- representatives of the group in the Committee of the Regions, equal to 1/3 of the number of National delegations, rounded upwards;
- two representatives from each other full member organisation;
- the members of the PES Presidency.



**Party of European Socialists**
10-12 Rue Guimard
B-1040 Brussels
Belgium

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Lithuania LSDP | 3 | 1 | **(4) EXCUSED** |
| Luxemburg LSAP | 2 | 1 | **3** |
| Malta PL | 4 | 1 | **5** |
| Netherlands PvdA | 3 | 1 | **4** |
| Norway DNA | 6 | 1 | **7** |
| Poland SLD | 2 | 1 | **3** |
| Poland UP | 1 | 1 | **2** |
| Portugal PS | 13 | 1 | **14** |
| Romania PSD | 19 | 1 | **20** |
| Slovakia SMER | 6 | 1 | **(7) EXCUSED** |
| Slovenia SD | 2 | 1 | **3** |
| Spain PSOE | 23 | 1 | **24** |
| Sweden SAP | 8 | 1 | **9** |
| UK Labour | 38 | 1 | **39** |
| Northern Ireland SDLP | 0 | 1 | **(1) EXCUSED** |
| S&D Group in the EP | 28 | 1 | **29** |
| PES Group in the CoR | 9 | 1 | **10** |
| YES | 2 | 1 | **3** |
| PES Women | 2 | 1 | **3** |
| FEPS | 2 | 1 | **3** |
| PES President | | | **1** |
| PES Vice-Presidents | | | **(4) 2 EXCUSED** |
| PES Secretary General | | | **1** |
| **TOTAL** | | | **319 out of 337** |

**Delegates without voting rights**[2]

| **Party / organisation** | **Election Congress delegates without voting rights** |
|---|---|
| S&D Group in the EP | 159 |
| PES Group in the CoR | 340 |
| FEPS | 14 |
| PES Women | 15 |
| YES | 64 |
| PS (Albania) | 5 |
| SDP (Bosnia & Herzegovina) | 5 |
| pBS (Bulgaria) | 5 |

[2] PES Statutes
22.2. The PES Congress shall also consist of the following delegates without voting rights:
- all members of its political groups in the European Parliament and the Committee of the Regions not covered by art. 22.1.;
- bureau members of other full member organisations;
- 5 delegates from each associate member;
- 2 from each observer member.

| | |
|---|---|
| SDSM (Rep. Of North Macedonia) | 5 |
| Samfylkingin (Iceland) | 5 |
| DP (Moldova) | 5 |
| DPS (Montenegro) | 5 |
| SDP (Montenegro) | 5 |
| DS (Serbia) | 5 |
| PS (Switzerland) | 5 |
| CHP (Turkey) | 5 |
| HDP (Turkey) | 5 |
| Rainbow Rose, the LGBT network in the PES | 5 |
| Progressive Alliance | 5 |
| Socialist Group in the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe | 5 |
| Socialist Group in the Parliamentary Assembly of the OSCE | 5 |
| Socialist International | 5 |
| Rainbow Rose, the LGBT network in the PES | 5 |
| ARF (Armenia) | 2 |
| PSD (Andorra) | 2 |
| *CTP (Cyprus)* | 2 |
| *ESDP (Egypt)* | 2 |
| *Georgian Dream (Georgia)* | 2 |
| *Israel Labor Party (Israel)* | 2 |
| *Meretz (Israel)* | 2 |
| *LSDSP (Latvia)* | 2 |
| *Fatah (Palestine)* | 2 |
| *PSD (San Marino)* | 2 |
| *FDTL-Ettakatol – FDTL (Tunisia)* | 2 |
| *USFP (Morocco)* | 2 |
| *CEE Network for Gender Issues* | 2 |
| *European Forum for Democracy and Solidarity (EFDS)* | 2 |
| *European Senior Organisation (ESO)* | 2 |
| *International Falcon Movement – Socialist Educational International (IFM-SEI)* | 2 |
| *International Social Democratic Union for Education (ISDUE)* | 2 |
| *International Union of Socialist Youth (IUSY)* | 2 |
| *Joint Committee of the Nordic Social Democratic Labour Movement (SAMAK)* | 2 |
| *Socialist International Women (SIW)* | 2 |
| PES Local – Socialist Local Representatives in Europe | 2 |
| **Total** | **724** |

**Ex-officio delegates without voting rights**[3]

| | |
|---|---|
| European Commissioners | 8 |
| President of the Committee of the Regions | 1 |
| President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe | 1 |
| **Total** | **10** |

[3] PES Statutes
22.5. The following are also ex-officio delegates, without the right to vote:

- the President of the European Parliament if he/she is a PES member;
- PES members of the European Commission;
- the President of the European Council, if he/she is a PES member;
- the President or 1st Vice-President of the Committee of the Regions, if he/she is a PES member;
- the President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe if he/she is a PES member;
- the President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the OSCE, if he/she is a PES Member;
- the President of the European Security and Defence Assembly, if he/she is a PES member;
- the President of NATO Parliamentary Assembly, if he/she is a PES member

# Rules of procedure

**adopted by the PES Election Congress 2019, Madrid, on 22 February 2019**

## Introduction

These rules are based on the PES Statutes currently in force, adopted at the 11th PES Congress in Lisbon on 7 thDecember 2018.

## Composition of the Election Congress

### Article 1

The number of Election Congress delegates, nominated in accordance with both articles 22 and 26 of the PES Statutes, are listed in Annex 1 (delegates with voting rights) and in Annex 2 (other delegates) of the Rules of Procedure.

The list of other parties, organisations and individuals invited to the Congress is available at the Election Congress Secretariat.

Registered PES Activists are invited to the Election Congress, in their own capacity. In this quality, they may attend plenary sessions without the right to vote or the right to speak (except on their presented policy proposals, if any) according to article 25.3.

### Article 2

In accordance with article 45.4, member of the PES are not entitled to vote or take part in the Election Congress if they have not paid their annual membership fees.

In accordance with articles 22.4 and 26 of PES Statutes, PES members' delegation should be gender-balanced, i.e. there should not be more than a difference of 1 delegate between the two genders. If a delegation does not respect this rule, its vote to the Election Congress will be reduced proportionally.

## Powers of the Election Congress

### Article 3

In accordance with article 25 of the PES Statutes, the Election Congress shall:

- elect the PES common Candidate to the European Commission Presidency, through an open, transparent and democratic competitive process.
- adopt the PES Manifesto for the European elections.

### Article 4

In accordance with article 12 of the PES Statutes, full member delegates have the right of expression, the right of initiative and the right to vote. Associate member delegates have the right of expression and the right of initiative. Observer member delegates have the right of expression.

In accordance with article 25.2, full and associate members may present proposals to, and speak of these before the Election Congress

### Article 5

Given the nature of the Election Congress, speaking time will be strictly limited.

**Conduct of the Congress**

**Article 6**
The President, the Secretary General or the Election Congress Chair announces the start and the end of the Congress.

**Article 7**

Following a Presidency proposal, the Election Congress elects the Election Congress Chair.

The Election Congress debates are managed by the Election Congress Chair. The Election Congress Chair makes recommendations to the Election Congress on the procedure for decision-making debates and votes. These recommendations require simple majority.

Following a Presidency proposal, the Election Congress elects at least 4 tellers. The Election Congress tellers are responsible for counting the votes.

**Decisions and votes by the Election Congress**

**Article 8**
In accordance with article 20.5 of the PES Statutes, the quorum for votes requires two thirds of full member parties to be present.

Any request for a quorum must be made by 25 percent of full member parties. In the event that a quorum is requested and not met, the Election Congress Chair shall declare that the vote cannot take place.

**Article 9**
In accordance with article 20.3 of the PES Statutes, political decisions shall, whenever possible, be taken on the basis of consensus. If a consensus cannot be reached, they shall be taken on the basis of qualified majority.

According to article 20.5, qualified majority requires 50% of weighted votes cast.
The allocation of votes for a qualified majority per party and per organisation is equal to that party and organisation's number of delegates to the PES Election Congress.

**Article 10**
In accordance with article 20.7 of the PES Statutes, a full member party may declare that it is not bound by a political decision taken by qualified majority, provided it expresses the intent before the vote is taken.

**Article 11**

In accordance with article 27. 4 of the PES Statutes, the Presidency shall decide on a timetable for the presentation, discussion and adoption of the Manifesto. Therefore, and as agreed by the PES Presidency, new amendments tabled in the PES Election Congress to the PES 2019 Manifesto are not foreseen.

**Article 12**
In accordance with article 20.5 of the PES Statutes, votes are cast per member party and organisation.

The Congress Chair shall call for a show of hands. If the result is unclear the Chair shall make a roll call per party.

**Article 14**
Rules concerning voting procedures:

(1) Election of the PES Common Candidate: by simple majority;

(2) Adoption of the PES Manifesto for the European Elections: by simple majority;

**Article 15**
The vote for the PES Manifesto shall be taken by a show of hands. The Congress Chair calling the vote should clearly state the vote, ask for votes in favour, votes against, abstentions, and then state the result so it can be recorded in the Congress minutes.

When the result is unclear, the Chair should request a roll call count by the Tellers.

**Procedural Motions**

**Article 16**
Any delegate may be allowed to speak to draw the attention to any failure to respect the Election Congress Rules of Procedure (Point of order). The delegate shall first specify to which rule s/he is referring.

A request to raise a point of order shall take precedence over all other requests to speak. Speaking time shall be one minute. An immediate decision on a point of order shall be taken, in accordance with the Rules of Procedure, and shall be announced that decision once a point of order has been raised.

**Election Congress decisions**

**Article 17**
In accordance with article 28 of the PES Statutes, the decisions and the Manifesto adopted by the Election Congress shall be communicated to members of the PES and shall be published on the PES Website.

**Friday 22nd February** **Venue: *Museo Reina Sofia***

10.00 – 13.00 PES Campaign Camp

**17.15 – 19.45 PES Election Congress**

17.15 - 17.30 **Congress opening**
Achim Post, PES Secretary General
José Luis Ábalos, PSOE Secretary of Organisation

*17.30-20.00* ***A new Social Contract***
***Congress debate on:***

*A contract for fairness*
**Beatriz Corredor** (PSOE, Spain)
**Udo Bullmann** (S&D Group in the EP)
**Luca Visentini** (ETUC)
**Brendan Howlin** (Labour, Ireland)
**Pedro Marques** (PS, Portugal)
**Nicolas Schmit** (LSAP, Luxembourg)
**John Crombez** (sp.a Belgium)
**Liviu Dragnea** (PSD, Romania)
**Catiuscia Marini** (PES Group in the CoR)
**Lodewijk Asscher** (PvdA, Netherlands)

*A contract for freedom*
**Francisco André** (PES Vice President and PS National Secretary for international relations)
**Maria Joao Rodrigues** (FEPS)
**Juan Fernando López Aguilar** (PSOE, Spain)
**Karl-Heinz Lambertz** (Committee of the Regions)
**Zita Gurmai** (PES Women)
**Camila Garfias** (Rainbow Rose)
**João Albuquerque** (YES)

*Key note intervention by* **Josep Borrell** (Foreign Affairs Minister, Spain)

*A contract for sustainability*
**Iratxe García Pérez** (PES 1st Vice-President and PSOE Executive Secretary for the EU)
**Andreas Schieder** (SPÖ, Austria)
**Olivier Faure** (PS, France)
**Javi López (**PSC-PSOE, Spain)
**Fofi Genimata** (PASOK, Greece)
**Tanja Fajon** (SD Slovenia)
**Jytte Guteland** (SAP Sweden)

**Closing remarks by Frans Timmermans**

**Saturday 23rd February** **Venue: *Teatro Coliseum***

**10.00 – 14.00** **PES Election Congress**

*Opening by*
**Sergei Stanishev**, PES President
**Iratxe García Pérez,** PES 1st Vice-President and PSOE Executive Secretary for the EU
**Udo Bullmann**, S&D President

*Panels:*
*Europe at your doorstep: the local dimension of integration*
**Corina Cretu** (European Commission)
**Katrin Stjernfeldt Jammeh** (Malmo)
**Giorgos Kaminis** (Athens)
**Jaume Collboni** (Barcelona)
**Robert Biedron** (Spring movement)

*From # to action: fighting for feminist, green and social Europe*
**Zua Méndez**, Towanda rebels
**Merijn Tinga**, Plastic Soup surfer
**Andrés Conde**, Save the Children - Spain

*Leading change: It's time for the new social contract*
**António Costa**, Prime Minister of Portugal
**Andrea Nahles**, SPD Leader, Germany
**Stefan Löfven**, Prime Minister of Sweden
**Pamela Rendi-Wagner**, SPÖ Leader, Austria

***Closing speeches* by Frans Timmermans and Pedro Sánchez**

# A New Social Contract for Europe
## PES Manifesto 2019

The European Union must better serve its people. The May 2019 European elections are our opportunity to change the EU and build a fairer Europe. Our societies are still bearing the social costs of the 2008 economic crisis, and we have urgent challenges to face. Europe needs to overcome inequality, fight for tax justice, tackle the threat of climate change, harness the digital revolution, ensure a fair agricultural transformation, manage migration better, and guarantee security for all Europeans. Europe needs a change of leadership and policy direction, leaving behind the neoliberal and conservative models of the past, and focusing on quality jobs for its people, a healthy environment, social security and an economic model which addresses inequality and the cost of living. The status quo is not an option. Radical change is required to build a project for the future which all Europeans can believe in. Nostalgic nationalists are selling nothing but dangerous illusions, putting past progress and European values at risk. We – Socialists and Democrats – must guarantee citizens' wellbeing and ensure social and ecological progress, leaving no person and no territory behind in the green and digital transitions. Europe must move to a circular model of production and consumption that respects our planet's limits. We want to strengthen Europe's unity while respecting its diversity. As Socialists and Democrats, we propose a new Social Contract for Europe. A EUROPE OF EQUALITY AND FAIRNESS. Inequality must be dramatically reduced and the concentration of wealth and property in the hands of a privileged few must stop. A Europe of welfare with strong welfare states, social safety nets, and quality public services is crucial to preventing poverty and protecting those in need, including youth, elderly people, vulnerable workers and the unemployed. We have a duty to protect people if they fall sick, lose their job, suffer disabilities or fall on hard times. The right to quality healthcare, education and decent pensions is universal and must be defended. People of all ages have a right to work and to live in dignity. Unemployment and social exclusion must be tackled collectively, not dismissed as individual failings. The principle of equal pay for equal work at the same place must be respected. All workers must have the same rights: no job without a contract, no job without a fair salary, and a ban on zero-hours contracts and fake self-employment. We will fight for decent minimum wages across Europe. In-work poverty is morally and economically unjustifiable. We want a European complementary unemployment insurance mechanism, to support Member States in the event of a strong increase in unemployment. Effective social dialogue and trade union membership are the best way to guarantee the protection of working people and increased wages. We want a strong European Labour Authority empowered to combat social dumping and ensure fair labour mobility throughout the EU. A Social Action Plan is needed to turn the EU Pillar of Social Rights into binding rules that strengthen welfare systems, respect labour market models and improve living standards. A EUROPE OF SOLIDARITY FOR THE MANY, NOT THE FEW. We will not bow to uncontrolled market forces and we will finally put an end to austerity policies. Europe must create economic opportunity for all, and ensure that prosperity is sustainable and shared fairly by all Europeans. We need a long-term Investment Plan to prepare our industries and workers so they benefit from the green transition, the digital revolution and the growth of artificial intelligence. Europe's industrial strategy must channel investment into research and innovation, support training and life-long learning, and ensure that jobs are created and protected in the EU. The Eurozone also needs substantial reform and its own budget. European fiscal rules must be reviewed to make sure that they foster sustainable growth and employment. Social rights for citizens must take priority over economic freedoms for big corporations. We want tax justice and will continue to lead the fight against tax evasion, tax avoidance and aggressive tax planning. We will promote a common European approach to ensure a proper level of effective taxation and stop downward corporate tax competition. Every citizen and every company must make a fair contribution to society by respecting their tax obligations. Profits must be taxed where they are generated. We will strengthen the rules of the financial and banking

sectors because citizens should not bear the cost of mistakes made by banks or see their deposits at risk. Europe needs a stronger budget to ensure cohesion and solidarity between citizens, regions and countries, improving living standards throughout Europe and reducing inequalities. A SUSTAINABLE EUROPE THAT PROTECTS OUR PLANET. Europe must be a leader in fighting for the environment and tackling climate change, particularly as some of our international partners are falling behind. Europe must protect biodiversity on our continent and globally and stop pollution. Our vision combines the protection of our planet with the interest of all our citizens; clean air, clean water, clean energy and quality food must be accessible to all. The EU must adopt a Sustainable Development Pact with social and ecological targets to ensure that economic interests do not trump the environment. A Just Transition Fund will help to implement the UN's Sustainable Development Agenda and Goals by 2030 in a socially fair way. We will raise the EU's climate ambition in line with the Paris Agreement and the latest science on climate change. Protecting the environment requires the renewal of European industry to make us a leader in renewable energies and become climate-neutral by 2050, at the latest. CO2 emissions should be taxed EU-wide in a socially fair way, making polluters pay and supporting investment in affordable clean energy. By improving mobility and air quality and providing affordable and energy-efficient housing we can improve citizens' quality of life. To deliver this, we will promote a Plan for Affordable Housing and Clean Public Transport in Europe. We will fight energy and water poverty, and guarantee accessible, healthy and good quality food, safe products and an end to damaging exposure to toxic chemicals. A reform of the EU's agricultural policy should help meet new societal demands, including sustainable production methods, better nutrition, reduced food waste, better animal welfare, climate protection and the preservation of biodiversity. A FREE AND DEMOCRATIC EUROPE. Democracy is a founding value of the EU. It must be respected in Europe and promoted abroad. We pledge to defend and improve our democracy, empowering citizen participation from the local to the European level. Civic engagement, public accountability, and fair and transparent decision-making processes must be enhanced at all levels. We want open and vibrant societies, where individuals have equal rights and can live free from discrimination, prejudice and sexism, and with full respect of their privacy and safety. Cultural diversity enriches Europe and its people. Diversity is part of Europe's identity and strength; the rights of all minorities must be protected. We propose that Europe Day on 9 May become a public holiday in all Member States to celebrate peace and unity in Europe. We will fight those who preach hatred, intolerance and discrimination against others. We will defend the rule of law and human rights in all Member States and ensure that the EU has all the necessary tools to do this. We want strong measures to prevent any misuse of EU or public funds, whether this happens for private profit or to reinforce political power. We will ensure that organisations protecting citizens do not face undue pressures on their funding and their right to operate. We stand against those who put our democracy under pressure through spreading 'fake news', manipulating public debate, or deliberately disrupting democratic exchange. Free and independent media and civil society must be supported and allowed to play their role in democracy, and whistle-blowers must be protected. Strengthening police and judicial cooperation will boost the fight against cross-border organised crime and terrorism. A FEMINIST EUROPE WITH EQUAL RIGHTS FOR ALL. Any form of discrimination is unacceptable in our modern European societies. We want a binding EU Gender Equality Strategy, through which we will continue to lead the fight to end the pay and pension gaps, combat sexual harassment and gender-based violence, and ensure that every individual has access to their full sexual and reproductive rights. Every person has the right to decide over their own body. We believe in a society where women and men enjoy the same work-life balance and equal political participation; every woman has the right to a career, just as every man has the right to raise his children and care for his family. We will be relentless in our fight to end all forms of discrimination. Europe should remove legal and societal obstacles for LGBTI people to live freely, equally and with respect. A PROGRESSIVE EUROPE WITH A YOUTH PLAN. Our societies will face the future with more optimism once our youth have better prospects and our elderly no longer fear insecurity in later life. Young Europeans must be empowered and given the skills to shape their future and become active citizens. The development of future generations must be built upon

the principle of intergenerational solidarity. It is unacceptable that close to one in four children is at risk of poverty. Every child must have access to quality healthcare, childcare, education, housing and nutrition. We will implement a European Child Guarantee to make sure this becomes a reality. To reach our goals of full youth employment and reducing social exclusion, we will also extend the Youth Guarantee – which already helps millions of young Europeans to get a quality job, traineeship, or further education. Education is a right that must be accessible to all. We will continue to support and reinforce Erasmus+ and ensure that it can benefit people from all social backgrounds. Finally, we want European Culture Cheques to support young people's access to culture. A STRONG AND UNITED EUROPE THAT PROMOTES A BETTER WORLD. In an increasingly unstable world, Europe must be a beacon of democracy, peace and stability, as well as a benchmark for social justice, dialogue, multilateralism, human rights, decent work, the rule of law, sustainable development and gender equality. We must be united in the face of unpredictable and isolationist partners, and promote a different form of globalisation. At the same time, the EU should push for reform of the United Nations. We will make sure the EU includes binding social and environmental standards, human rights, consumer protection and workers' rights in all future trade agreements. These agreements should be subject to democratic oversight, ensuring the due participation of civil society. We oppose the oldfashioned private arbitration system. We will stick to the promise of investing 0.7% of our GNI in official development assistance, and strengthen our partnerships with developing countries. We will further develop our common European defence, pooling and sharing our resources to ensure peace and security, in cooperation with NATO and other international organisations. Europe needs a fair common asylum and migration policy, based on shared responsibility and solidarity among Member States, and cooperation with countries of origin and transit. We could all benefit from a well-managed, regular and fair migration system; it can help strengthen the economy, generate new jobs and maintain our welfare system. Europe must manage migration in a more dignified, just and orderly way, maintaining effective control of its borders while fighting human trafficking and the criminal exploitation of people, and enhancing the protection of those in need of asylum. To do this, we must open safe and legal channels, support protection capacities in adjacent regions and tackle the root causes of migration, including climate change. This will require a new partnership with Africa and a comprehensive European Investment Plan for Africa. We will promote better funding of integration policies and support host cities and communities. The European elections in May 2019 are the moment to sign a new Social Contract for a Europe which protects citizens' rights and promotes solidarity and a Europe that guarantees a better life for the many, not the few. We are in a fight for the soul of Europe, and for our common future. The Party of European Socialists will bring progress and will improve citizens' lives in villages, towns, cities and regions throughout Europe. By supporting PES member parties, you will be supporting and building this Europe.