

Joint letter to the Members of the European Council A call to make Future Generations a priority in the next political cycle

As Members of the European Parliament and representatives of different political groups, we recognise that a long-term perspective in EU policymaking is crucial. Our parties explicitly state in their election manifestos that **Future Generations are crucial stakeholders in our democracy.**

The Treaty of Lisbon clearly states that the EU shall work for **Sustainable Development and promote social justice and solidarity between generations** (TEU Art. 3(3)). Additionally, the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights also recognises our duties towards Future Generations. However, these rights are currently not ensured in the institutional structure and decision-making processes.

Future Generations cannot participate in the political process, despite being affected by the decisions taken today. To represent their interest in the political discourse, we need to develop the necessary legal, political and procedural solutions.

1. We need an **interinstitutional declaration on the rights of Future Generations.** The principle of solidarity towards Future Generations should mean that the burden of either the mitigation of any threat or the adaptation to any unavoidable pressures is not to be offloaded unilaterally to generations yet to come.
2. We need a **Commissioner for Future Generations**, acting as a Vice President with a horizontal mandate. The Commissioner represents the interest of Future Generations, building on special powers in convening stakeholders and shaping the political discourse.
3. We need to amend the **Better Regulation Guidelines to implement an impact assessment for Future Generations.** This scrutiny process should ensure that the perspective of citizens, science, foresight and the rights of Future Generations are respected in every policy proposal.

We are calling on the European Council to include Future Generations as a priority in its **Strategic Agenda.** Doing so will ensure that the twin transition delivers a just, science-based and efficient Europe which can serve the greatest interest of its current and future generations.

We call on all the current and future members of the European Parliament to support the **Future Generations Initiative** by joining us in signing this letter and reminding all member state governments and the European Commission to act on the moral obligation in our founding treaties.

“En Europe, il faut le pompier mais aussi l’architecte.” (Jacques Delors)



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Since the publication of this open letter, the following Members of European Parliament expressed their support for the requests in this letter:

Lídia PEREIRA (EPP)

