

***European Manifesto 2009***  
***Let's reclaim our economy***



**scottish  
green party**



[www.scottishgreens.org.uk](http://www.scottishgreens.org.uk)

Since the last election the global economy has crashed and the climate crisis has grown ever more urgent. On the 4th of June, the people of Scotland will have their first opportunity to give their verdict on the political parties who have engineered this mess, and their first opportunity to choose a new sort of politics.

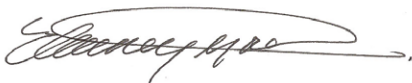
Over the last thirty years our economy has become dependent on financial speculation and global corporations. Despite a record number of financial transactions, there is little evidence that we are any happier. In the process, our communities, local businesses and the planet itself have been put last. Greens in Europe are working right now to turn this trend around.

More people around the world now live in poverty than ever before. In the UK too, the gap between richest and poorest has grown, jobs are being lost every day, and poverty has deepened. Others may regard this as the acceptable price of doing business, but Greens never will.

Across Europe, we must work together and rebuild an economy fit for the 21st century. The European Parliament gives us the means to reclaim the economy from global finance and corporate power. We must learn the lessons of the credit crunch, not just try to refloat the system which has failed us. The new economy will be driven by renewable power, by strong local businesses, and it will be in the hands of communities.

As your Green MEP, I will work for high-skilled, well-paid green jobs to develop the infrastructure of the future. As your Green MEP, I will support communities across Scotland who want to decide their own future, and I will work with Green colleagues across Europe to tackle corporate control over our political system, our economy, and our lives.

Vote Green on 4th June 2009 and we can start to reclaim our economy and reclaim Europe.



Elaine Morrison  
Lead candidate for the Scottish Green Party



# *European Manifesto 2009*

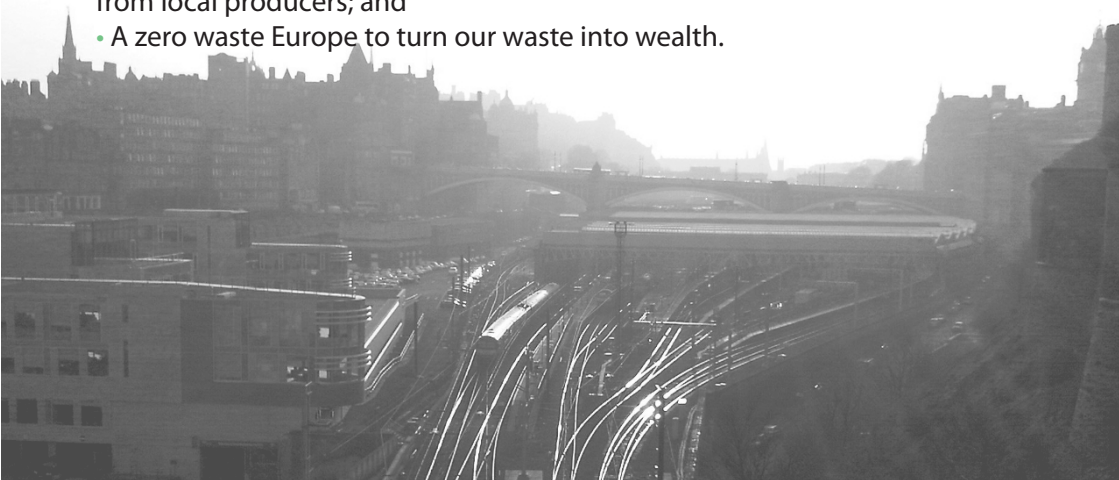
## *A Green New Deal for Europe*

This is not the time to try and refloat the same old economic model which has failed us so spectacularly. This crisis is an opportunity to decide for ourselves what kind of economy we want, and this election will be key to that. Greens believe we need a truly sustainable and socially just economy, built to meet the needs of the people of Europe.

Just as Roosevelt's original New Deal tackled poverty and rebuilt the American economy in the 1930s, so a Green New Deal for Europe can deliver hundreds of thousands of jobs and build the low-carbon successful green Europe we want to see in the 21st century.

A Green MEP for Scotland will push for:

- EU and global regulation of big banks, and support for mutual ownership and community banking;
- Investment in cutting-edge renewables to power a new economy, free from the tyranny of oil price fluctuations and climate changing pollution;
- Free insulation for all, boosting construction jobs, saving you money and beating climate change;
- Support for education and research to leave a better legacy for future generations;
- Investment in public transport to ensure it's cheaper to get the train than to fly, and for the UK to join the European high speed rail network;
- Leadership on procurement to help Scotland's schools and hospitals buy from local producers; and
- A zero waste Europe to turn our waste into wealth.





# *European Manifesto 2009*

## *Reclaim Europe for the people, not profit*

We've seen what happens if you hand the economy to those who put profit ahead of people. Global corporations have run riot, and wealth has been concentrated in the hands of the few. These corporations have immense power in Brussels, and exercise much more say over Europe's laws than citizens do.

Everyone can see that this system has failed to provide stability, but the economic policies of the past failed to make us happy too. As we rebuild our economy we must place the clear priority on health, well-being, knowledge and equality, not simply the accumulation of wealth in the hands of the few. It's time to vote for change and take back our democracy.

Green MEPs will:

- Stop employers forcing people to work more than 42 hours a week;
- Create a European living wage unit to ensure everyone gets a decent minimum wage;
- Secure better parental leave both for fathers and mothers, and mandatory paid days off for parents of sick children;
- Enforce equal pay for equal work, irrespective of gender, age, race, disability, religion, or sexuality;
- Protect women's rights at work, and extend them to EU companies operating around the world;
- Push for every EU country to implement equality laws;
- Ensure enforcement of minimum EU standards for disabled people;
- Push for votes at 16 in EU elections;
- Encourage the free movement of students and academics, and increase grant funding for students on exchange programs;
- Support the creation of a European Higher Education area to make it easier for students to spend a year or semester abroad; and
- Support the addition of minority Scots languages including Doric and Lallans to the list of recognised languages in Europe.

# *European Manifesto 2009*

## *Reclaim our communities*

We now know what the effects of deregulated markets and irresponsible governments look like, and we have the chance to start again and rebuild resilient communities. A Greener Europe can make this happen.

Green MEPs will:

- Keep public services public, and end EU pressure to privatise the NHS, Royal Mail and ferry services;
- Create a more democratic Europe, ensuring that communities make local decisions about things that affect them, and that the Parliament has power over the Commission;
- End EU rules limiting the use of community enterprise in public procurement;
- Push for changes to EU regulations to support the transfer of public assets back to community groups;
- Cut the red tape on state aid for community bodies;
- Break up the supermarket monopolies and protect farmers;
- Introduce corporate transparency requirements similar to Freedom of Information laws;
- Hold directors legally accountable for the actions of their companies;
- Champion trades union rights; and
- Ensure that no goods sold in Europe or produced by European companies are made by workers paid less than a basic living wage or forced into labour.



# *European Manifesto 2009*

## *A responsible European Union*

The economic crisis isn't just hitting UK pockets. Around the world, the poorest are getting poorer. So-called free trade agreements, many of them put in place with UK Government support, have actually made developing countries poorer than ever.

But it doesn't have to be this way. As the global economy recovers from recession, we have to make sure it emerges fairer. As we rebuild the economy, it must be an economy based not on the deregulated buccaneer capitalism that got us into this mess, but on fair trade rules, grounded in community, stability, and justice.

Green MEPs will push for:

- Fair trade deals with developing countries, not enforced liberalisation which will crush emerging economies;
- A stronger voice for developing countries in global trade deals, with a fairer World Trade Organisation;
- An end to dumping EU products which price local businesses out of the market in developing countries;
- Cancellation of illegitimate developing world debt;
- Practical and emotional support for the victims of trafficking;
- An end to the militarisation of the EU, and a ban on EU governments subsidising the sale of weapons;
- A strong global arms treaty, reining in an industry that fuels war around the world;
- A "Tobin Tax" on money exchanges to slow down the currency speculations which can crush whole economies;
- A tough global treaty for the textile and clothing industry incorporating respect for basic workers rights;
- Free and open source software, and an end to the abuse of copyright and patent law;
- The right of Palestinians to an independent state; and
- Fairer global governance, including a stronger voice for developing countries in the UN, the World Trade Organisation, the World Bank, and the International Monetary Fund.

# *European Manifesto 2009*

## ***Reclaim the environment***

After decades of exploitation by governments determined to chase the dream of everlasting economic growth, the planet faces a crisis like nothing human beings have ever experienced before. Precious natural resources have been plundered and squandered, with the result that our life support system is close to breaking point. Climate change is the most urgent aspect, but only one of many. We still have time to act, but only just.

Green MEPs will take urgent action for:

- The strongest possible global climate change deal at the Copenhagen summit, with early cuts in emissions as well as long term targets, limits to carbon credits, and an emphasis on the needs of developing countries;
- Laws that require EU companies to account for all of their carbon pollution wherever it is emitted;
- Protection for local fisheries, reining in massive multinational trawling corporations;
- A ban on genetically modified crops, and an end to corporations taking control of seeds away from farmers;
- Better regulation of exports to end shipments of toxic waste to developing countries;
- The use of EU powers to enhance biodiversity across Europe, including pushing for the EU habitats directive to be enforced and promoted; and
- New funding for alternatives to animal testing, and an end to drug testing on animals.





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# Membership and Donation Form

## Contact Details

Title:  Name:

Address:

Postcode:  Date of birth (if under 18):

Phone:  Email:

## Join the Scottish Green Party | I wish to join at the following annual rate:

	(rates based on gross annual income):	£36	£20,001 – £30,000
£5	Under 18 and full-time students	£48	£30,001 – £40,000
£12	Under £10,000 income	£60	£40,001 – £50,000
£24	£10,001 – £20,000	£72	Over £50,000

- ☐ I enclose cash/cheque (delete as appropriate) for the relevant amount.
- ☐ I have completed the standing order form below.

Declaration: I accept and will further the aims of the Scottish Green Party, and am not a member of any other party except a Green Party abroad.

Signed:

## Donate to the Scottish Green Party

I wish to pay by cheque and enclose a cheque for:

☐ £10 ☐ £25 ☐ £50 ☐ £100 ☐ £250 ☐ £500 ☐ Other £

☐ I wish to pay a monthly donation by standing order of £ .

☐ Please keep me updated with news of campaigns and events.

All donations above £200 a year must be from registered UK voters, so we need the contact details of all donors and will return any donations that do not meet our legal obligations.

## Standing Order

To (bank name):  Sort Code:

Address:

Set up a standing order to:  Postcode:

The Scottish Green Party, Co-operative Bank, a/c 65341377, sort code 08-92-99

Starting on 01/  /20 , please pay every month/year (delete as appropriate): £

My account number is

Signed:

Please complete and return to: Scottish Green Party, Thorn House, 5 Rose Street, Edinburgh, EH2 2PR.