



Rainbow Rose Manifesto

Our pledges for the EU election 2024

“As a European party, and as a family of national political parties, the PES and its member organisations have a duty to work for the elimination of all breaches of LGBTI people’s human rights. As social-democrats, we have a moral obligation to lead by example, as the leaders of the progressive in Europe.” – PES LGBTI Roadmap

#1: Come out ... for a Union of Equality!

Under socialist leadership, the European Union launched its first strategy for the rights of the LGBTIQ+ community in 2019. Despite many successes gay, lesbian and bisexual Europeans still face many challenges in every area of life – at the same time trans, intersex and non-binary people are especially targeted as scapegoats by the far right in recent years. That is why after the upcoming European Election we commit to creating a renewed “EU LGBTIQ+ Strategy”, together with civil society activists from all over Europe, focusing the resources and capacities of the EU on tackling the rise of hate speech and hate crime in Europe, eliminating discrimination, and furthering the full equality of all Europeans regardless of their sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, and sex characteristics. **We fight for a true Union of Equality that guarantees fairness and security for all LGBTIQ+ people in Europe!**

#2: Come out ... for the #LGBTIQFreedomZone!

Over the last decade we have seen the rise of anti-LGBTIQ+ sentiments all over Europe. Conservative and right-wing forces have shamelessly advanced a societal backlash that threatens the well-being of LGBTIQ+ people in many EU member states. We have experienced in many countries how the rise of illiberal and authoritarian regimes threaten the rights of the LGBTIQ+ community; and how important a strong European Union is to safeguard our future. That is why a strong #LGBTIQFreedomZone Europe is needed now more than ever: We commit to supporting European measures intervening in member states that attack LGBTIQ+ rights and more broadly the principles of democracy, diversity, and rule of law within our Union. The EU must be a champion for diversity and democracy by supporting the civil society all over Europe through stable funding and political advocacy. We furthermore aim to advance Europe’s role in advancing LGBTIQ+ equality all over the world by supporting civil society activism and through means of diplomacy. **We fight for a strong #LGBTIQFreedomZone Europe to tackle the rise of illiberalism, authoritarianism and the right-wing backlash in every European country!**





#3: Come out ... for the trans, non-binary and intersex community!

As the LGBTIQ+ community, we still experience forms of discrimination on a daily basis – but particularly our trans, non-binary and intersex siblings have come under massive pressure in many European countries over the last years. That is why the upcoming European election is also an important occasion to strengthen their rights all over Europe. To stand against the right-wing backlash for us means guaranteeing the bodily and mental integrity of intersex people in every EU country, ensuring full access to all forms of health care, and fighting for the full self-determination of all trans, non-binary and intersex people regarding their civil status and gender recognition. **We fight for a European Union that shows unconditional solidarity with every single trans, non-binary and intersex European!**

#4: Come out ... for a Europe without discrimination and hate!

For many LGBTIQ+ people across Europe, existing EU legislation remains the strongest safeguard of their rights against discrimination. We commit to further expand these measures by pushing for a comprehensive European Anti-Discrimination Directive, fulfilling the goals of the 2008 proposal for an Equal Treatment Directive, and prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity and expression as well as sex characteristics, regarding the access to goods and services, health care, education, and social benefits. We fight for a European ban on all forms of conversion therapy, including based on gender identity. To further fulfil the European promise of self-determination regardless of sexual orientation and gender identity we aim for a European strategy against hate crime and hate speech within the framework of 'EU crimes' (Article 83 TFEU). **We fight for a European Union that seeks a better future without discrimination and hate for all LGBTIQ+ people as a central part of its mission!**

#5: Come out ... for an inclusive Union!

While discrimination in the field of employment is banned by European legislation, the reality looks different for many LGBTIQ+ individuals all over Europe. To tackle still existing discrimination in all fields of life, the European Union has to step up and support civil society players as well as public entities in sharing best practices, creating resources and expanding existing support systems against discrimination in areas such as employment, education, or health care. Furthermore we commit to further build on recent successes for rainbow families and work to guarantee the full recognition of their rights in every EU country. As socialists and social democrats our goal is full equality – we stand in solidarity with feminist, anti-racist and anti-xenophobic movements and base our policies on the fight for full intersectional solidarity. **We fight for an inclusive, open and feminist European Union that tackles inequality in every area of life!**

