



EFA General Assembly, Brussels 14-16 October 2021

Recapitulative Political Statement

#EFAGA21 #MoveForward

The European Free Alliance (EFA) promotes the right to self-determination and supports people's aspirations to choose their own political future, including independence, greater autonomy or linguistic justice and cultural recognition for minorities.

EFA, as a group of 48 political parties across Europe, believes that all peoples have the right to choose their own destiny and the best institutional framework in which to achieve their empowerment.

The EFA General Assembly October 2021 was held in Brussels, the same city where 40 years earlier 9 political parties came together to sign the 1981 Declaration of Brussels: the founding act of the European Free Alliance.

Following an intense period of flux, political change, and reflection, this was the first physical EFA General Assembly to be held since the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic. Throughout the period of strict lockdowns and restrictions, the work of EFA and its members continued, but the chance to reconnect in-person as a European family was long awaited.

Discussions and decisions of the EFA GA October 2021:

1. The evening before the General Assembly was officially opened, EFA hosted a reception to celebrate the 40th anniversary of EFA, with speeches from a number of

speakers including Former President Nelly Maes, EFAY President Valentina Servera and Felekna Uca of HDP. There was also a ceremony to commemorate the many years of hard work of José Luis Linazasoro, outgoing Secretary General of the EFA European Parliamentary Group.

2. The GA was officially opened on the morning of the 15th October.
3. A new member was welcomed into EFA, Siciliani Liberi (SL), who were unanimously accepted as Candidate Members.
4. An update on new political contacts was given by the President. The President briefed the GA on the latest developments including recent meetings with the Nordic Council.
5. Motions were adopted by the General Assembly on: The Muslim Turkish Minority of Western Thrace claims its rights; Open the closed border crossings; Adequate and Affordable Housing in the EU; EFA supports the resumption of the negotiating table between the Catalan and Spanish governments; A fair and humanitarian asylum system for the EU; Austrian authorities should fulfil the school act of 1990 for the Slovenian minority; Azerbaijan shall release all Armenian servicemen and civilians fallen under its control; For a public immersive teaching; Mediterranean Sea: Europe must act on the climate emergency; Impact of wind energy macro-projects in Galiza; Infringement of European Law by the Galician and Spanish Government; Speculation with electricity prices in Spain; A just ecological transition. Stop and review the large renewable energy plants model; For a just policy toward Bulgaria and Greece's indigenous Macedonians.
6. 2 urgency motions were also approved by the General Assembly on the application of Law in favor of Petru Alessandri, Alain Ferrandi, Yvan Colonna and all Corsican political prisoners, and on Urgent measures for La Palma. Both motions were adopted.
7. Members were updated on the launch of the Call for Proposals 2022 with an explanation given of the eligibility criteria and application forms, as well as on the services to members that EFA offers and how to access EFA's materials and templates to members via the Cloud.
8. A general overview of the political situation of member parties was shared, as well as an update to the General Assembly by the EFA European Parliamentary Group. The EP Group outlined its activities and priorities, in particular on Conference on the Future of Europe and the European Parliament Caucus on Self-determination. The EFA EP Group's new promotional video was unveiled.
9. The President presented a study carried out by Eusko Ikaskuntza and Institut d'Estudis Catalans on the resolution of territorial sovereignty conflicts within the European Framework. The document is shared with EFA member parties as an initial proposal which could contribute to find solutions when facing territorial disputes with their respective states or governments.
10. The Bureau presented its proposal to hold the EFA General Assembly 2022 in the Canary Islands.
11. A joint session was held including EFA, EFAY, and Coppieters Foundation. The President of EFAY gave an update on their activities during 2020, their priorities for

- the year ahead, and unveiled their new corporate image. Coppieters Foundation also provided an overview of the organization's activities over the previous year, the Work Plan for 2021 and the main priorities for 2021. Additionally, a presentation was given by researcher Javier González Abeytua and _____ of Andaira consultancy on the Gender Action Plan for EFA, who have been observing the GA and the Bureau. The plan, initiated by the Bureau, will diagnose the needs of the organisation and suggest a roadmap to address potential gender gaps and suggest good practices for the future.
12. A second joint session was held on the Conference on the Future of Europe. The GA worked in working groups to discuss issues such as youth empowerment, internal and external enlargement of the EU and increasing international solidarity. The groups' contributions were collected, which will inform EFA's ongoing work on the Conference on the Future of Europe.
 13. The Recapitulative Political Statement was adopted by party and the GA 2021 was officially closed.

Brussels 16th October 2021