

## EFA General Assembly 2022, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria – Recapitulative statement

Discussions and decisions of the EFA GA 2022:

1. The GA was officially opened on 12 May at 9:00am.
2. EFA hosted a conference to raise awareness about the Western Sahara and the Saharawi people's struggle for self-determination, with speeches from the Minister of Cooperation of the Democratic Arab Saharawi Republic, Fatma Mehdi; the Director of the Africa Department in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Alien Kentaoui; a Saharawi activist in the occupied territories, Ghalia Mohamed; the Regional Minister for Institutional Cooperation and International Solidarity of the Canary Government, Carmelo Ramirez; and our MEPs Pernando Barrena and Francois Alfonsi.
3. Andalucía por Sí, until then a candidate member, was unanimously accepted as a full EFA member party.
4. Changes to the EFA Statutes and Rules of Internal Order, proposed by the Bureau, were approved. These include gender equality measures in line with the revision of Regulation 1141 on European party funding; the adoption of an anti-harassment policy; adjustments for clarity; and the modification of the shade of purple used in the EFA logo to be in line with the new visual image. One proposed change, on the procedure for submitting candidacies to the Bureau, is withdrawn following discussion with the GA. Amendments to the text of the anti-harassment policy were voted on individually and approved.
5. Two substitute members to the Conciliation Committee were approved: Alice Weber of PSM-Entesa and Frédéric Goerké of Unser Land.
6. Two new candidate members were welcomed into EFA: Més per Menorca and Union Valdôtaine.
7. An update on new political contacts was given by the President and the Political Advisor. The EFA Secretariat is working on a number of proposals to reach out to new parties in an effort to enlarge EFA. The Political Advisor indicates that he will schedule bilateral meetings with existing member parties to discuss background information and existing political contacts. The President briefs the GA on the recent meeting in Copenhagen with the Nordic Council and forthcoming missions to the Faeroe Islands and Åland Islands.
8. The Political Advisor presents a short explanation to the GA of which measures have been taken in response to the motions passed at the October 2021 GA in Brussels, including a number of letters to the European Commission, parliamentary activity, and other campaigns. Further actions are scheduled for the coming months. The Political Advisor also provides a briefing on the launch of the dedicated website to present EFA's 10 proposals for the Conference on the Future of Europe.

9. Regarding finances, the accounts for the financial year 2021 were closed and approved, the former Bureau members were discharged from this responsibility, and the budget for the financial year 2023 was adopted.
10. Members were updated on the Call for Proposals 2022 and were invited to send more project proposals to EFA.
11. Delegates participated in a workshop to discuss policy topics relating to migration. Following an informative input from a migration expert, they split into working groups to identify priorities and principles that could potentially underline some common positions. The workshop concluded with a statement from host party Nueva Canarias on the migration situation in the Canary Islands. The outcome of the discussions were collected and will inform EFA's work preparing for the 2023 Congress and the manifesto for the 2024 European elections.
12. A general overview of the political situation of member parties was shared, as was an update to the General Assembly by the EFA European Parliamentary Group. The Group outlined its activities and priorities, including the launch of a new campaign on self-determination. The first video from this campaign was unveiled. The Group now consists of four MEPs, following the resignation of Tatjana Ždanoka from the Group. The European Parliament has approved a proposal to have transnational lists in the next European elections: if this is approved by the European Council, it will be the first opportunity for EFA to campaign across Europe as a European-level party. A video update from the European Alliance Group in the Committee of the Regions was also presented.
13. The following motions were adopted by the General Assembly:
  - i. EFA supports the FUEN proposals on the future of Europe regarding the rights of minorities in the EU (SSW and SP)
  - ii. EFA demands an EU report on the consequences of the COVID pandemic (SSW and SP)
  - iii. EFA rejects the recognition and promotion of nuclear energy as a sustainable form of energy (SSW and SP)
  - iv. Supporting the development of green hydrogen energy (Yorkshire Party)
  - v. The human rights struggle of the Western Thrace (Muslim) Turkish Minority (DEB-Partisi)
  - vi. Financial autonomy and local democracy (FNP)
  - vii. Landscape protection in the EU (FNP)
  - viii. Maritime safety: prevention of container loss (FNP)
  - ix. Serious pollution situation in Tuscany (CLT)
  - x. Biomass power plants (CLT)
  - xi. The EU should acknowledge its responsibility to protect the people of Artsakh from mass crimes (DPA)
  - xii. EFA calls for electricity price regulation and real energy transition to renewables (ERC)
  - xiii. Support for Western Sahara's right to self-determination in accordance with UN resolutions (ERC et al.)

- xiv. Defence of the Donana National Park Biosphere Reserve [AxSi]
  - xv. Ukraine [Plaid Cymru]
  - xvi. Creation of a Mediterranean macro-regional strategy in order to fight pollution more effectively [Femu]
  - xvii. Democratic European Mechanism of Clarity [DEMOC] [Femu and ERC]
  - xviii. Justice and truth for Yvan Colonna and a political solution for Corsica [Femu]
  - xix. Towards a recognised and active role for regional and special regional authorities in the European Union legal order [Alliance Valdotaïne]
  - xx. Living the mountain [Alliance Valdotaïne]
  - xxi. The EU should not finance the LGV high-speed rail lines [Partit Occitan]
  - xxii. Migrants, borders and human rights [Eusko Alkartasuna]
  - xxiii. Maritime accidents in European coasts: lessons of the Prestige in Galiza [BNG]
  - xxiv. Motion in defence of linguistic justice in the Valencian Country [Més-Compromís]
  - xxv. Motion for a new funding system for the regions in the Spanish State [Més-Compromís]
14. The EFA Women's Forum held a meeting to share expertise and promote the work of women throughout EFA. The Forum selected three coordinators to represent them before the rest of the EFA Family: Alice Weber, Katharina Kley and Joanie Willett.
  15. The EFA Islands Forum was officially launched. Delegates of the Islands Forum member parties signed the 'Las Palmas Declaration' setting out the goals and priorities of the Forum. The Forum held its inaugural debate on the subject of sustainable transport.
  16. The General Assembly agreed to expand the number of members of the Bureau to 15 and cast its ballots to elect the new Bureau. The Bureau held its first meeting and elected the President, Secretary General and Treasurer by acclamation.
  17. A joint session was held including EFA, EFAY and Coppieters Foundation, with each organisation giving an update on its recent work.
  18. The Recapitulative Political Statement was adopted by the party and the GA 2022 was officially closed.