

EUROPEAN ELECTIONS



**ALTER
SUMMIT**
www.altersummit.eu

In May 2019, European Parliament elections will be held in the countries of the Union. They will be celebrated at a time when social mobilization is on the rise in different countries. Since 2010, years of austerity and anti-social policies put in place by governments and European institutions have created an explosive social and political situation that has benefited the far right.

We are taking advantage of these elections to share the analyses and proposals of our network, Alter Summit. Since 2013 we have been denouncing the abuses of European policies and contributing, at our level, to the construction of alternatives.

To achieve our objectives, our method is the internationalization of struggles and demands. We are working to federate social struggles in different European countries in order to promote the emergence of a European social movement.

Changing course!

Without fundamental changes in its treaties and policies, the European Union has no future. The European institutions and European governments now serve the interests of the financial markets, without respect for popular sovereignty. They must be placed under democratic control, the public interest must prevail and ecological and social needs must be met.

For our part, we aspire to a political, social and democratic Europe, capable of bringing the peoples of Europe together to face the enormous challenges of the 21st century. Our priority is to build Europe on the basis of equality, solidarity and genuine democracy. We base our demands for a democratic, social, ecological, feminist and pacifist Europe on these principles, in solidarity with the peoples of the World.

For a democratic Europe!

Austerity policies (in particular through the European Semester), the signing and full-blown negotiation of free trade agreements, the imposition of liberalization and privatization of public services, are contrary to the social, economic and political rights of the majority and have terrible consequences on the lives of millions of Europeans.

The EU's technocratic and obscure procedures, the lack of democracy and the leading role of financial and industrial lobbies in decision-making processes are not acceptable.

Europeans must be able to decide on the future of the EU. The alternatives exist: we must create the balance of power to impose them and to reinvent a real economic and social democracy in Europe; it is our responsibility.

Rights for workers

For several years now, there has been a continuous destruction of labour and employment rights. The development of new technologies is profoundly changing labour relations and employment prospects. New forms of exploitation remind us of the working conditions of another century.

Maintaining workers' rights and creating new ones is a necessity. The destruction of labour law must stop; collective labour agreements must govern working conditions and protect workers from precariousness, infernal rhythms and wage exploitation. The reduction of working time is becoming urgent as is the investment in jobs for the ecological transition.

Investing for an ecological future!

The EU should develop Europe-wide public investment programs for a social and ecological transition. This transition must be based on an industrial and agricultural policy that addresses the ecological crisis but also the need to create millions of quality jobs. It should be based on ecologically sustainable and socially useful activities in the public interest. These include increased investment in education, energy transition, public transport or food sovereignty. It would also require a reduction in military spending and socially and ecologically harmful spending.

Equality and social justice!

We reaffirm equality between men and women, as well as between local and migrants and therefore equality in access to social, political and cultural rights. It is not widespread access to social rights that threatens public finances as they try to make us believe, but tax evasion, gifts to the richest and the payment of millionaire interests to banks. Access to health, public management of common goods such as water or energy, are not negotiable and must be excluded from trade dynamics

We believe that the best way to maintain, defend and promote our rights is to defend the rights of all those who live in Europe, from the most organized to the most exploited workers, migrants or not, precarious or not, young and old.

Finally, Europe cannot clear its historical debt with the colonized countries. Today's migration is one of the most brutal consequences of this past. A dignified welcome and the abolition of all discrimination is a moral and political obligation. We reject the EU's policy, which, among other things, with Frontex and bilateral agreements, leads to even more deaths at borders and at sea. In addition, we refuse to allow Europe to contribute to militarization and armed conflicts in the World.

Alter Summit?

The Alter Summit is made up of feminist, antiracist and citizens' movements as well as trade unions and campaign groups from over twenty European countries. Together, we oppose austerity policies implemented by EU Institutions. The Alter Summit wants to create a dynamic that bridges European, national and local actions.

Resources

Our basic texts

[Peoples' Manifesto \(June 2013\)](#)

[Rights4All Declaration \(November 2016\)](#)

A little bit of what we do

[Feedback on the European Courier Assembly](#)

[Seminar for a just ecological transition](#)

What we think

[The situation of the railways in Europe](#)

[Public services](#)

[EU-Turkey agreement](#)

Who we support

[The Yellow Vests](#)

[German strikers for the reduction of working time](#)

[The movement against the “Loi Travail”](#)

[The Palestinian people](#)

[Housekeepers from the Greek Ministry of Finance](#)

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