



GREEN IDEOLOGY — SOLIDARITY IN ACTION

A brief summary of the party programme of the Swedish Green Party.

This brochure is a brief summary of the party programme of the Swedish Green Party. When the party programme was written, thousands of persons contributed with ideas, policy suggestions, words and ideological debate. This, in itself, is one of the cornerstones of green ideology. Policy – and society – is something we create together. This is our common green voice.

Your can read the party programme in its entirety on www.mp.se/partiprogram

The Swedish Green Party is part of a global movement striving for a world where all humans can live a good life, without compromising living conditions for future generations. Our politics are based on a holistic view: everything is connected.

Humanity is facing great challenges. Politics are the key to change, and must also show the way towards a sustainable society. The greens are united by the joint task of reshaping our society for a new era.

The Swedish Green Party is a feminist party. Diversity, equality and sex equality are foundations for a fair society. We are convinced that the differences between people enrich the world.

Our politics are based on three solidarities:

- solidarity with animals, nature and the ecology system;
- solidarity with future generations;
- solidarity with all the people in the world.

The human being

Human beings are creative and empathic creatures, able and willing to take responsibility. Human ideas encompass an amazing diversity which drives development forwards. We believe in democracy, with active and participating citizens. This requires easily accessible information, a lively political debate and opportunities for citizens to present their own suggestions to political assemblies.

The green movement's perspective on politics is one of liberty. New ideas flourish where people are free to think and believe as they like, and where thoughts, visions and differences are respected. Everybody should have the same rights and opportunities – irrespective of sex, ethnicity, religion, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression or age.

Children are part of shaping society, and not just passive recipients of the society adults create for them. Environmental politics take a long perspective; investing in children is also an investment in the future.

Schools should give each child the opportunity to develop. Pupils should not be successes or failures, nor should there be good and bad schools. Politics should provide the prerequisites for schools where the curiosity of pupils and the competency of teachers are utilised to the full. We believe in adult education and life-long learning. When everybody has the opportunity to choose their way in life, we can build a strong society together.

Everybody must be given the same opportunity to realise their dreams. All discrimination should be counteracted and nobody should be exposed to racism or hate crime.

The environment

The green ideology is not just about the relationship between human beings, but also about our dependency on everything around us. The responsibility of human beings stretches beyond the own person and further than the own generation. Animals have the right to behave naturally, and should not be exposed to suffering.

The lifestyle in the richer part of the world has consequences even outside the borders of these countries. We must change our society so that we can manage to live a good life in the future without simultaneously damaging the opportunities for ourselves, people in other countries and future generations.

Climate changes are endangering our future. They impact on the lives of individual persons, the global economy and the survival of entire nations. Despite our knowledge about all this, emissions of greenhouse gases continue to increase. We shall be leaders in reducing human impact on climate. Sweden has historically caused, and is still causing considerably higher levels of emissions than is globally sustainable. Sweden has unique prerequisites for leading the transition to a sustainable society, and to demonstrate the opportunities for a different type of development. This requires a brave environmental policy. We in the Swedish Green Party are convinced that a climate-smart society is also a society that is better for people.

The economy

The world needs a new economic policy. Constant economic growth in the traditional sense is not possible on a planet with limited resources. There are a couple of self-evident principles:

- What is good for people and the environment should be cheap.
- What is bad for people and the environment should be expensive.
- Things that are too damaging should be prohibited.

Human inventiveness has made the rapid economic development in recent centuries possible. The development has been positive in many ways, but at the same time consumption of resources and emissions of greenhouse gases have increased. Biological diversity has reduced. With new priorities and new measures of welfare, we can build an economy that is not dependent on constant growth.

We are convinced that a sustainable society requires the courage to make political decisions. This is the case also when the value of the decisions cannot simply be calculated using traditional growth.

The availability of cheap energy in the form of coal and oil has caused large emissions of greenhouse gases. Changing to a long-term sustainable economy is largely about changing the energy system. We must use energy more efficiently and the proportion of renewable energy must be 100 per cent.

We want to see a society free from nuclear power. Nuclear power entails risks that are too great, and generates radioactive waste for future generations.

If we do not change the energy system now, under orderly circumstances, the lack of resources will force a change later on. But it will then be at a considerably higher cost for individual citizens, companies and entire nations.

Welfare

Welfare shall provide people with freedom, quality of life and security. We are the strongest when we know that we take care of each other when we are the most fragile. Therefore society must offer care and attention when we need it. Society must also ensure there is a security system for those who are sick or out of work. It is reasonable that those who are well off contribute more to common purposes.

Healthcare in Sweden shall be based on equality and modernity. In order to promote good health, it is as important to invest in public health as in healthcare.

We want to give regions and municipalities greater powers over political decisions that impact on them. Regardless of where in the country you live, you should have access to important societal functions, such as police, post offices and fixed telephony. Sweden needs to improve its “million programme” housing. There should be no areas in Sweden where the inhabitants feel that they need to move away in order to have a chance.

Our vision is that all who are lacking an income should be guaranteed support that is possible to live on, irrespective of their previous income, and irrespective of why they are lacking an income. We want to see a joint insurance scheme, administered by a single authority. We often say that there should be “one entrance door”, to avoid individuals falling between stools.

Welfare activities must not be handled as any old market. We are not consumers in relation to welfare, we are citizens. Tax funds should be used for the activities they are intended for, and not be paid out as profit.

The world

Many people around the world are in the process of emerging from poverty. Prosperity is spreading, average life spans are increasing and child mortality is falling. At the same time, humanity is facing new challenges in the form of overutilised natural resources and environmental threats. The task of the green movement is to find ways so that more people can be part of the prosperity, at the same time as we are facing climate and environmental challenges.

The Swedish Green Party is strongly in favour of international cooperation. At the same time, we want power to be exercised by those whom it affects. This conviction means that we are sceptical to central governance and decisions that remove power further from the people.

The Swedish Green Party is critical of the EU. We want the EU to develop into a more flexible collaboration, where each member country can choose, within reasonable scope, which parts they want to take part in. Sweden shall remain outside the EMU.

Sweden's interventions for peace and aid are not credible while we simultaneously export weapons to dictatorships and impoverished countries. Fair and sustainable global development must be placed before short-term economic interests.

The Swedish Green Party has a vision of a world without borders, where all people can move, but nobody is forced to flee. We do not believe in the right of countries to choose their inhabitants, we believe in people's right to choose where they want to live. People should be faced with opportunities, not walls. We are proud of being the party that is the most open to migration.

Pathfinders

At the same time as the Swedish Green Party is a political party, we are also pathfinders. We are ahead of our time and in the midst of it. We must not lose contact with those who come after us, but at the same time there is no time to lose. We dare to be a step ahead.

Caring and committed people change the world. Every development starts with the individual's conviction and commitment. You make a difference!

This brochure is a brief summary of the party programme for the Swedish Green Party. Here you can read about our vision and the ideology that forms the basis for our political proposals. If you become interested and want to know more about our politics, you can read more on www.mp.se. There you can also find the party programme in its entirety.