

MANIFESTO IN SUPPORT OF A PROGRESSIVE GOVERNMENT IN SPAIN

On 23 July, Spanish citizens have a date with the ballot box to choose the destiny of the country, to decide which government will take on the responsibility of leading Spain in the coming years.

The importance of these elections is undeniable. The world, and Europe in particular, is undergoing an unprecedented wave of conservatism and far right-wing extremism. Deeply reactionary forces are fuelling a rhetoric of tension and delegitimization of institutions that could have serious consequences for a just, sustainable world order.

Economic proposals designed to suit the interests of the elites and in favour of job insecurity, the degradation in the functioning of the institutions of the rule of law, denialist narratives on climate change, hostility and discrimination towards sexual diversity and threats to the progress of the feminist movement, driven by the reactionary impulse, endanger rights and freedoms that have been consolidated in many societies. They can also hinder and block their expansion to other parts of the world, where they are so necessary to build fairer societies and reduce intolerable levels of poverty.

In the face of proposals that disregard and deny the very existence of collective values, we support those governments and political parties that promote societies that progress, advance and conceive themselves based on justice, respect for human rights and social inclusion. Governments that do not abandon the most vulnerable people and sectors to their fate, and that assume that progress is only possible if it means prosperity for the many and not for the few.

In these turbulent years, progressive coalition governments, led by Pedro Sánchez in Spain, have responded to serious challenges with policies based on social justice. They have also shown that through social dialogue it is possible to boost economic growth and job creation, strengthening the welfare state, increasing the rights of the working class, and protecting the environment.

With these policies, Spain has not only set itself up as a benchmark of progressive management in the face of serious crises. It has also committed itself to a fairer world order of peace and progress, to fight against global inequality.

Spain's current government has been able to embody the capacity and commitment to govern with courage to turn this time of great transformations into opportunities for the future, not only thinking about the needs of today's society, but also laying the economic, educational, social, and environmental foundations for the well-being of future generations.

Its leadership has been key in the European response to the health, social and economic crises generated by the COVID-19 pandemic crises. The Next Generation funds and the unprecedented mobilisation of resources to respond with solidarity and unity reinforce the foundations on which the ideal of a united Europe is based, with the Spanish government being one of the major drivers of this inclusive response to the multiple crises mentioned above.

For all these reasons, we express our concern about the real risk of regression that conservative policies constitute for workers, for equality between women and men, for the rights of the LGTBI community, for children, for the necessary policies of inclusive responses to the effects of climate change and ecological transition, for education, for universal and quality public health, for the sustainability of the pension system or for decent employment.

We, the undersigned, being committed to social progress, justice in the world, equality, democracy, and rights, endorse this route that Spain has taken and ask for a vote for the political parties that will allow a progressive government to be re-elected in Spain.