

## **TOWARDS THE PATH OF PROGRESS WITH AND FOR LGBTI+ PEOPLE!**

*Because we are socialists, we know that the long march towards equality and freedom knows no end. That each advance is a step calling for another.*

*Because we do not think that there is an order of things that we could not change, we want to repeat that the construction of a human society is never finished.*

*The struggle for rights and the building of the Republic remain work in progress forever. Our motto continues to be an immense and just promise to be fulfilled.*

*Socialists, we are committed to equality and emancipation!*

In 2016, in our Manifest'HES, we said in our Manifest'HES that progress is not a reflexive movement and that it requires reflection and conviction. It also requires a political will to lead it, the political will to really change life.

This is significantly different from the string of advertising slogans and the excessive personal communication that we have had to endure for nearly 4 years.

## **TO DRAW THE BALANCE SHEET OF MACRONISM, A PERSONAL ADVENTURE DAMAGING THE REPUBLIC**

Self-presented as the embodiment of pragmatism in the face of the old world, macronism wants to disqualify everything that does not rally to it. By defining itself as "pragmatic", it de facto ostracizes other thoughts or parties. Confrontation and debate, necessary for a living democracy, cannot suffer from such a prior excommunication.

We forcefully affirm that, despite disagreements, divergent opinions, despite confrontations, sometimes violent, no one in the partisan spectrum can pose as the sole holder of the truth. Leading the fight for rights and defending equality cannot be a matter of hoped-for consensus, while the reactionary movements continue to ardently defend their political program, assuming their strategy of shock.

Nor is leading the fight for rights and defending equality the only privilege of a (tiny) part of the partisan spectrum, which has been quick to draw the red lines of what it is coherent and intelligent to grant as rights.

Socialists, we say again and again that these battles do not stop at the doors of a legislative chamber. And that the construction of a social project is based solely on the recognition of equals in the discussions led by citizens, elected officials, scholars and activists.

***Refusing insult and insult as arguments in public debate***

Because when some can't change things, they change words. And in this regard, this executive and its majority are making a striking demonstration.

A "France humiliated by marriage for all", unheard of declarations during the "Bernardins speech" as a declaration of love to the French bishops, warm and displayed friendship with reactionary leaders - whether he is a former president of the General Council of Vendée or of the Republic - Emmanuel Macron will have spared no effort to display his lack of support for the struggle for LGBTI+ rights.

If the socialists have sometimes gone down the wrong path, using imprudent statements about future achievements, there have been major votes and historic actions. We need to get back on the road to progress by clearly stating that marriage for all is not a balance of all LGBTI+ demands, nor is there any social achievement that prohibits thinking, carrying, defending and implementing the following.

## **WORKING WITH THE BROAD SOCIAL MOVEMENT**

Reconnecting with the associative world as a working partner is an obligation for socialists. It is this indispensable link that must be regained in order to carry out the expected reforms on all subjects and to carry out the actions and groundwork necessary to bring about the changes that our society demands.

Basing oneself on the expertise of LGBTI+ associations to carry the legislations of protection and legal security is an obvious step for the left in responsibility, at all levels. It is the first stone of a work of legal construction and effective and useful public policies.

Because on prevention, health, the rights of filiation, adoption, on many subjects that affect all French people, LGBTI+ associations have expertise and make demands that apply to all.

Socialists, we have integrated that the only effective and relevant way to change society and move it forward is through coordination between partisan actors, brought to power or brought to assume it and the broad social movement, from the associative fabric to the trade unions. We know that the obvious links between the

LGBTI+  
movement

and the leftist parties are the engine of the progress that our country has experienced and must continue to experience!

## **LEADING THE BATTLE OF IDEAS**

Let's be clear, in order to win at the ballot box, you first have to win in the heads. The cultural battle must not remain the object of theoretical debates by former gramscists, but an integrated political practice, clearly defended and carried to work society and spread our socialist ideals and ideas everywhere.

Let us assume that progress is characterized by clear political choices that involve the conquest of rights, the consolidation of those that exist, which affirms that nothing is set in stone. French society, moving and diverse because it is free, must see each and every one of its members and the families that make it up accepted and protected. As

socialists, we will provide the civil, legal, social, human and economic means to build their existence.

To defend LGBTI+ rights, we must do nothing else! Saying loud and clear that all families must be made safe, that no child should be put aside, that all people must have their physical integrity defended is still too bold a step today and one that we must take, clearly and proudly.

## **FOR LGBTI+ RIGHTS: MANY IMPORTANT STEPS TO TAKE!**

Socialists, we affirm that the advances expected by so many people will be carried, defended and applied:

- Reiterate that MPS for all can no longer wait, exclude or treat parents differently. Redirect that children born legally by GPA of a French parent abroad do not have to be set aside by France,. They cannot be crossed out with the stroke of a pen because their mode of conception would not be acceptable to some, whereas nearly 40 years ago our legislation gave up blaming the child for the way he or she came into the world, by removing the difference in legal treatment between "natural child" and "legitimate child".
- To affirm that the systematic treatment imposed on intersex children, these surgeries wanted by the medical profession, sometimes the families, without ever being necessary, is a real mutilation that must stop.
- Carry inclusive and egalitarian public policies that integrate the fact that the fight against discrimination is not an extra soul and must be diffused in all strata of public action, in all strata of the State and territorial communities.
- Arguing that the rights of trans people are still not won. The

he 21st Century Justice Modernization Act of 2016 was a milestone, but not an outcome. It is necessary to divert and simplify requests for gender and first name changes. It will also be necessary to rethink the medical paths that may be followed so that they are respectful of the human person, applying the principle of equality of citizens, and preserving the possibility of founding a family.

- To carry the voice of the French Republic internationally, and in the European Union, unfortunately so weak in the defense of LGBTI+ people when they are attacked and made scapegoats, especially in some Central and Eastern European countries. To make our country a reference point for LGBTI+ rights and a clear ally in the struggles of LGBTI+ people around the world through our diplomatic and cultural networks. This also requires a strong support for LGBTI+ issues within the Party of European Socialists (PES) and our support to sister parties for a more inclusive Europe.

Socialists, we will look at the virtuous and demanding good practices for human rights that our EU neighbors have already put in place, without scandal or social collapse.

We share the main demands of the LGBTI+ associations asking for the urgent adjustment of our right to the society it intends to protect.

We affirm that European protections and law are not risks for our nation, but a requirement for the security of people and the harmonization of our texts.

We also reiterate that the vast republican program is constantly being built, and that the triptych displayed on our country's schools and town halls is a course to follow in our achievements, in the long struggle for human emancipation.

Fights for LGBTI+ rights have always been left-wing fights, and, as socialists, we make them our own! Far from being "communitarian" demands, they serve everyone!

From the associations fighting against HIV-AIDS, to the struggles for the visibility of LGBTI+ people and loves in the media and on our streets, none of the struggles led by the LGBTI+ movement has had a "communitarian" vocation. It is precisely the opposite, as the Pacs in particular has proved!

Defending the free and informed choice of the patient for his or her treatment, and ceasing to make him or her a minor in front of the medical institution **is not a communitarian struggle**. Demonstrating that the invisibilisation of people is an obstacle to their recognition and the conquest of their legitimate rights is not a communitarian **struggle. Challenging** the stereotypes and norms that hold

people back, fighting for the recognition of all families and demonstrating the emptiness of a unique family model that has never been is not a communitarian struggle!

All these mobilizations of LGBTI+ activists, of different nature and from different times, have represented progress for the whole society!

## WHAT THE SOCIALIST FAMILY CARRIES

### *Saying what we're going to do and doing everything we've said*

The socialists have disappointed. It is a fact that we have to integrate. This must guide the actions and achievements of the next few years. But the socialists have also achieved a lot, and we can neither forget it nor let it be ignored.

In the field of LGBTI+ rights, from 2012 to 2017, France has made unprecedented progress in international rankings. It is also a fact that reminds us that the choice to integrate LGBTI+ struggles, politically, has led to legal, regulatory and jurisprudential advances that it would be foolish to forget.

But because dominating one's own faults, suffering from them, and not being burdened by them allows one to continue on one's path, then we assume everything, as a whole, the progress and the missed opportunities. And we say that socialists remain determined to advance along the path of equal rights.

For the next few months, in whatever form the left is represented in the coming electoral battles, a clear, readable program of action on the part of the socialists on the issues of LGBTI+ rights and the fight against discrimination will be established, as a basis for the next common platform of the left and the ecologists.

### *To be the standard-bearer in the fight for freedom and equality.*

Socialists, we have been able to find broad left-wing and environmentalist majorities to vote every time, the human progress carried by laws of emancipation and freedom like the Pacs and marriage for all.

Tomorrow, we will work again so that the demands for equality are met by new majorities where the entire humanist and progressive spectrum will be able to find itself.

### ***Continue to work for and in the union of the left and environmentalists***

The victorious work that has been carried out in many communes of France, by the left, ecologists, and citizen movements are milestones on which to build.

By building broad majorities with sometimes diverse perimeters, socialists from all over France have demonstrated that union is neither uniformity nor dissolution. They have demonstrated that the common intelligence of the left and of the ecologists together, that reaching out to citizens is a precondition for success.

In their approach, they proved that substance and defended ideas take precedence over feuding egos.

Since its creation in 1983, HES LGBTI+ has worked continuously at the edge of civil society and the political world. It has, almost in its DNA, this imperative of coming together, of working together, which does not erase differences or differences, but allows the shared elaboration of a project for real change, to change lives.

We know that the obvious basis for such a project, which has a broad consensus on the left and among environmentalists, is an agenda for equality and for LGBTI+ rights!

Let's carry it and affirm it, we will be all the more convincing when we defend it in front of the voters

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Reaffirming the supreme value of the human individual is not a decree of universal selfishness.

Personal liberties are not attacks on the "collective republican body", precisely the opposite!

Giving all people the means to accomplish their lives as they wish is to increase everyone's capacity to carry out personal projects, develop human dynamics in all senses and contribute to society.

The Republic is not a finite horizon, closed and delimited by a deadly order that one would like to impose on us. On the contrary, it is the recognition of the vast extent of human possibilities. It is the recognition that the only possible arrangement of human lives is through respect for all, by all, by all, by the protection and recognition that each person has life projects, which, however dissimilar they may be, remain similar in every way: to live freely.

For this congress in Villeurbanne in 2020, HES LGBTI, its activists and elected representatives remain present alongside the socialists, as it has done since 1983.

A demanding and constructive partner, proud to be at the heart of a political family that chooses to put people back at the center of its concerns. Happy to participate in the shaping of a future diverse and united majority, which will implement an authentically progressive project that it is up to us to write together.

## **FIRST SIGNATORIES**

**Olivier Faure, First Secretary of the Socialist Party, Member of Parliament for Seine-et-Marne**

**Emmanuel Grégoire**, member of Paris 12e, First Deputy Mayor of Paris.

**Sophie Roques**, member in Marseille, CF of Bouches-du-Rhône, Deputy Mayor of Marseille

**Corinne Narassiguin**, National Secretary for Coordination and Party Means, number 2 of the Socialist Party, former deputy

**Myriam Elyassa**, CF du Doubs, National Secretary for the Fight against Discrimination

**Hélène Conway-Mouret**, Senator, former Minister

**Rémi Féraud**, First Secretary of the Paris Federation, Senator

**Hussein Bourgi**, member in Montpellier, First Secretary of the Hérault Federation, National Council, Senator

**Christophe Rouillon**, member of Coulaines, Sarthe, President of the PES Group at the European Committee of the Regions, Mayor of Coulaines

**Cédric Van Styvendael**, member of Villeurbanne, Rhône, Mayor of Villeurbanne, Vice President of the Lyon Metropolis

**Gérard Bapt**, member of Saint-Jean, Haute-Garonne, Honorary Member of Parliament

**Gauthier Caron-Thibault**, member of Paris Centre, BF, Deputy Mayor of Paris Centre, Paris Councillor

**Marie Le Vern**, CF of Seine- Maritime, VP of the National Council, Departmental Councillor, former MP

**Tony Ben Lahoucine**, member of Issoudun, Indre, National Council, First Secretary of the Indre Federation, Deputy Mayor of Issoudun

**Christophe Clergeau**, National Secretary for Europe, Member of the European Committee of the Regions, Regional Councillor of Pays de la Loire

**Laurent Bégon-Margeridon**, member of Mond'Arverne, National Council and First Secretary of the Puy-de-Dôme federation, Deputy Mayor of Vic-le-Comte

**Caroline Vauchère**, member of Colomiers, BF de Haute-Garonne, Deputy Mayor of Colomiers

**Boris Jamet-Fournier**, Section Secretary of Paris Centre, CF, Deputy Mayor of Paris Centre, Paris Councillor

**Jérôme Meyer**, Secretary of the Paris 11th section Léon Blum, CF, Deputy Mayor of Paris 11th

**Philippe Briançon**, member of Colomiers, Haute Garonne, BF, Regional Councillor Occitanie, Deputy Mayor of Colomiers

**Laurence Casalis**, member of Colomiers, CF of Haute-Garonne, Deputy Mayor of Colomiers

**Kevin Havet**, Paris 18e Suzanne- Buisson, Federal Office, Deputy Mayor of Paris 18e

**Philippe Bies**, member in Strasbourg, CF of Bas-Rhin, former deputy

**Lyes Bouhdida-Lasserre**, Member of Paris 20, Federal Office, Deputy Mayor of Paris 20e

**Emma Rafowicz**, member of Paris 11e, MJS Paris, SF à la Jeunesse, Deputy Mayor of Paris 11e

**Mathieu Delmestre**, member of Paris 12e, Deputy Mayor of Paris 12e.

**Guillaume De Almeida Chaves**, member of Pechbonnieu, BF of Haute-Garonne, Animator MJS 31, town councillor in Saint Loup Cammas

**Dominique Raimbourg**, First Secretary of the Loire-Atlantique federation, former Member of Parliament

**Thibault Delinotte**, member of Métropole Sud, Ille-et-Vilaine, Deputy City Councillor of Noyal-Chatillon-Sur-Seiche

**Joël Deumier**, member of Paris 18e

**Lennie Nicollet**, member in Montreuil, president of HES LGBTI+, Romainville city councilor delegate

**Arnaud Hadrys**, CF de Seine- Maritime, National Office, General Secretary of HES LGBTI+.

**Aurélien Mazuy**, member in Brussels, Federation of French Nationals Abroad

**François Dagnaud**, Mayor of Paris in the 19th century

**Hervé Hirigoyen**, CF of Haute Garonne

**Océane Montagnac**, member of Paris 19e

**Jean-Bernard Senon**, member of Paris, SG of the "Paris En Commun" group on the Paris Council

**Philippe Lasnier**, member in Paris, CF

**Vanessa Thomas**, member in Nantes, BF de Loire-Atlantique, National Membership Office

**Éric Prost**, member in Lyon, Rhône

**Michel Gelly-Perbellini**, Section Secretary Paris 12e, Federal Council, BF de Paris

**Jean-Baptiste Marchioni**, member of Paris Centre, CF.

**Fabienne Stochement**, Treasurer of the Paris 12e section, CF

**Arnaud Riehl**, member of Saint-Cloud

**Gabriel Derais**, member in Strasbourg, CF du Bas-Rhin

**Cédric Andrieu**, member of Toulouse 1, CF de Haute-Garonne

**Andrée Arseguet**, member of Pechbonnieu, Haute-Garonne, National Conflict Commission

**Stéphane Ruffat**, member of Toulouse 3

**Nizar Belghith**, member of Paris 12e, Deputy District Councillor of Paris 12e

**Jean-Luc Fontalirand**, CA of the Saint-Jean, Haute Garonne Chapter

**Matthieu Brasse**, Secretary of the Le Havre section, BF

**Bernard Rault**, Secretary of the Toulouse Chapter 2

**Cécile Étoile**, member of Montastruc-la-Conseillère, Haute-Garonne

**Matthieu Hornung**, Belgium, Federation of French Abroad

**Yacine El laoui**, member in Brussels, Fédération des Français de l'étranger

**Nicolas Lete**, member in Brussels, Federation of French Nationals Abroad

**Michel Raphael Comby**, member at Lyon 3rd, BF du Rhône

**Denis Psaltopoulos**, member of Lyon 8e

**Thomas Chaumeil**, member in Toulouse

**Suzy Candido**, member of Toulouse 2, CF de Haute-Garonne



