

Socialist Party

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Contribution of the merged sections of Haguenau and Wissembourg (Fed 67) presented by Taoufik Kasmi and Ambroise Perrin, section secretaries.

Let's turn the page on this sadness that has become so familiar!

This contribution is structured around three axes:

- Europe, our identity
- Being socialist in Alsace
- Being a Socialist within a United Left

1) Our European identity is built on our socialist convictions

The Europe of Strasbourg is not only the defense of the seat. It is a universal aspiration, sharing values and a common future. In Brussels, administration, economy and finance, in Strasbourg, the unwavering attachment to humanism, the defense of peoples and citizens, democratic vigilance. These values, a socialist argument. May the French Socialist MEPs who sit in the Group of the Progressive and Democratic Alliance exercise their power to propose legislation on the functioning of the institutions in the perspective of an ambitious federal Europe! That our French Socialist Party defend this simple, and far more than symbolic, idea of the installation of the Minister Secretary of State for European Affairs in Strasbourg, this ministry no longer in Paris but at the heart of Europe, in Strasbourg!

The democratic crisis that we are experiencing - the resurgence of populism, the reluctance to accept regimes like Victor Orban's - has been revealed by the European Union's mishandling of the beginnings of the pandemic. Did we hear united, European, socialist voices over the borders, during the war of masks on the tarmacs between Italy and France, during the closing of the borders between Germany and France, during the lack of harmonization of immediate first aid? Jacques Delors came out of his reserve to become alarmed at the danger of death in Europe. Have we understood his message?

Our socialist roots, women's rights, the defense of social achievements, the perpetuation of the notion of public service in health services, examples that have not been defended with the relevance that should be that of the socialists. What was our weight when the Franco-German tandem discreetly woke up during the crisis? French socialist activists want to be informed about the efforts made in Strasbourg and Brussels. We suggest that the French Socialist Party commit itself to reviving the Party of European Socialists by reaffirming the common values of progressive socialists in all European countries. Our credibility depends on reaffirming

of our original identity, by mastering our alliance strategies at both the European and national levels.

Let's be realistic, French socialist activists are discouraged, but still have a will to act "on the left". Let us propose to join directly a harmonized, realistic European socialist party, as some had sketched out the spirit by suggesting the Belgian Paul Magnette at the head of our European list.

To claim to be European Socialists is to allow the French Socialists to go beyond the current sadness of our national horizon.

2) Neither obsolete nor futuristic. socialism in Alsace.

Let us be optimistic: socialism is still alive in Alsatian convictions. Maneuvers have transformed this ideal into offbeat strategies, diverting notions such as Rhineland humanism, left-wing ecology, citizen pragmatism or common sense realism, and accepting electoral compromises.

What conclusions can we draw today? We have lost our commitments in medium-sized cities and also in large conurbations: our achievements are nevertheless positive, with powerful cultural centers, a rich fabric of associations, renewed priorities in education, a proactive policy for social housing and home ownership, strengthened public transportation networks with citizen support for the bicycle travel policy, etc.

Did we clearly promote our socialist ideals when we undertook these achievements? Would we be ashamed to be called "socialists"? There is a custom
It is "realistic" in Alsace to be able to identify with socialism in large cities and to erase oneself behind notions, certainly noble, of progressive citizen lists, or of openness, or of diversity, by pragmatism in small towns.

Our Socialist Party must agree to renew ties with these small communes which, however, offered great personalities at the time of the best socialist days. The spirit of social justice and the struggle for rights and equality is dormant among many citizens and is just waiting to be reactivated. This implies a sincere, healthy, transparent relationship, free of political calculations and games of devices on the part of our Federations. The Federation 67 must become attractive again, show its colors, and especially leave Strasbourg. The decentralized republican workshops had been successful, but remained without a future.

The Strasbourg egos have despaired of the Alsatian socialists and these same Strasbourg egos have despaired of each other. Strasbourg's municipal campaign was a sad example of this, and only Catherine Trautmann gave back some pride and balm to the hearts of citizens who were delighted to be able to identify with a positive socialism and values.

Socialists in the Lower Rhine must return to the values of popularity and sharing, continue the work of Roland Ries and Robert Herrmann, and clearly commit themselves to the very essence of socialism.

This is how we will begin the time of reconquests in Alsace.

3) Searching for the lost Unit (on the 'Left' side)

Who are we? Do those of us who are part of the Greens, the macronists on the march, the communists, the rebels, at Generation S, Public Square, still consider that we are left-wing? Is socialism now only a historical reference? Do the pragmatisms of conquest justify compromises and distancing? Have we, the socialists, become a single supporting force, an electoral march for the ambitious? We have shown responsibility - and therefore discipline - in order to win "a left" in the senatorial elections in the Lower Rhine. When the socialists are in charge, the success of their undertakings is undeniable. But we socialists in 2020, who do we still have as interlocutors? Are we still heard at the national level, and by whom?

Our main strength is our anchoring in the territories. It is our credibility which is thus solicited by our potential partners. Our major elected officials, Lille, Nantes, Rennes, Dijon, Le Mans, Paris, mark the national life by their concrete achievements: defense of the environment, development of culture and education, structuring of active mobility, control of budget management, LGBTQIA+, gender equality, policy "in favor" of the underprivileged ...

The socialists of the local territories will commit themselves to win the Left in its diversity on the condition that not only the values but also the militants are considered by the structures of the Party with a feeling that is called consideration.

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