

The project first

The PS conference is shaping up to be a perplexing schedule and procedure.

A constrained calendar, tight deadlines when the Party needs more than ever to debate, to exchange and needs more than ever common reflections.

Voting by militants - and that's good - is framed, regulated, but it reigns as a perfume of suspicion, while associations and unions can submit thematic contributions. What guarantees are provided by these "participants"? The trade unions, we know, but the associations? (The European elections have shown the "representative" diversity of the latter...) These participants are supposed to be part of the "organized civil society" or, for the citizens, to recognize themselves in the values of the Socialist Party. That's good, but who judges that?

It is obviously essential to involve our fellow citizens in public action. However, the Party is indispensable to the development of militant thought and action. It is to be feared that in the form of organization of the Congress, the effacement of the Party will take place, since the militants are no longer the only ones to debate and decide on the orientations of their Party. This is a matter for debate, to say the least.

Also, we want a better consideration of the voice of the activists, the implementation of a truly decentralized internal functioning. The activists must once again become a source of proposals and must not only apply what comes from above. Let's think, for example, of the modalities of designation of our candidates and the alliances "suggested" by the National Directorate?

It is necessary to be open to the evolutions of society; it is necessary to adapt to today's realities, of course, but in an active and rich militant practice, and one must go beyond, when necessary, the framework of the territorial section, multiply the thematic or transversal sections, better train the militants, and work on welcoming new members.

The organization of Estates General, as we have already known, open to members, sympathizers and elected officials, is going in the same direction.

All this to be both a "Party of tribune" and a Party of government.

Above all, it is necessary to build a true global project, called to be a rallying tool and not only to refer to program elements linked to the temporality, the political situation and the objectives of a campaign.

We want the project to be social, ecological, republican, in a word, social-democratic.

It should enable us to adapt France to the demands of liberal globalization, to resist them and to face three challenges:

- the rise in inequalities (and the health crisis is knocking on the doors of the most deprived, we see it more than ever, alas)

- the predation of nature and the urgency to fight against it is vital,
- the democratic crisis and the galloping force of populism,

The Return of the State is :

- The rehabilitation of collective values,
- The tradition of the Enlightenment, Humanism

Declining production is neither desirable nor possible when there is so much inequality.

The social question must be put forward: it is a condition of the ecological question. Let's not forget that it is growth that has financed schools, public services and hospitals, and we can see the importance of this.

We have understood that the ecological transition should not be done on the backs of the working classes.

Finally, the base, the foundation of all this is secularism, without which the republican edifice will falter. The gathering of the left cannot be done on any other basis.

For this, it is necessary to elaborate left-wing solutions, also ecological, always republican.

The project is therefore indispensable, inevitable, unavoidable, and it must necessarily be built upstream of political agreements. Thus it is on this program that we must build possible agreements. We prioritize the reflection and the elaboration of a project before any discussions with the partners.

The society of degrowth carried by ecologists is not our Project. With it, we lose the capacity to develop and finance a social model that is in line with our values and aspirations, speaking to the humblest, the working classes.

With secure growth, giving enough wealth, we can and must build and finance a social model and ecological transition. Not one or the other, both.

We must rediscover the idea of progress and hope. If citizens are turning away from politics and elections it is first of all because politics has moved away from them. We must offer them hope for a better life for themselves and their children, on solid, well thought-out and concrete foundations.

It is clear that it is not the alliance that carries these requirements, it is the Project.

And the Project is :

- A real balance between human beings, Earth and growth.
- Republican equality through the emancipation of individuals
- The fight against exclusion, the foundation of our Nation
- A National and European Project for Employment and Re-industrialization.

Because today we cannot escape the health issue, which is so important, we need a strong project for Public Health, which must more than ever become a powerful, present and reactive public service.

Many other aspects deserve to be developed: education, housing, culture, salaries, security, child protection, gender equality, inclusion through sport, community life, participatory democracy, the role of local elected officials, the role of cities, immigration, Europe...

Social democracy is this: to obtain reforms and changes through a fairer organization.

In short, to make the republican triptych live fully in secularism:

- Freedom
- Equality
- The fraternity

The Republic always restarted, democracy accomplished.

Signatories

Yvon Deschamps, former 1st federal - Rhône

Arthur Chambon, full member of the National Council

Murielle Laurent, Mayor of Feyzin; Thierry Philip, former mayor of ^{3rd} Lyon, former vice-president of Greater Lyon; Pierre Credo, former mayor of Décines; Claudine Caracco, 1st deputy mayor of Feyzin; Stéphane Gomez, ^{1st} deputy mayor of Vaux-en-Velin, metropolitan councillor, co-president of the Federal Council of the PS Rhône and Metropole de Lyon ; Françoise Bergame, city councilor, metropolitan councilor, co-president of the Rhône Federal Council; Kader Didouche, deputy of Feyzin; Martine Roure, former vice-president of the European Parliament; Dominique Credo, city councilor of Décines, metropolitan councilor ; Antoinette Atto, deputy Feyzin; Philippe Prieto, city councilor; Jules Joassard, deputy member of the National Council; Claire Donzel, deputy member of the National Council; Annie Beauchamp; Florence Perrin; Peggy Zielinski; Claire Boissieu; Mohamed Tabet-Derraz; François Loichet; Samir Khamassi; Raphaël Comby ; Fabienne Atlan ; Zorah Aït Maten ; Dialo Hadyatou ; Shoki Ali Saïd ; Lotfi Benkhelifa, city councillor ; Christine Imbert Souchet, city councillor ; Maria Ferreira, city councillor ; Claudie Feschet ; Marie-jeanne Dufourt ; Lionel Sorret ; Jocelyne Giontarelli ; Odile Jourdan ; Daniel Jourdan

.....