

PES newsletter - 11 June 2010

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Poul Nyrup Rasmussen calls for Eurobonds and a European Debt Agency to be put on political agenda

The major PES event “Our way out of the crisis”, saw PES representatives and progressive experts outline [detailed proposals](#) for a new economic architecture that provides jobs for the young and protection for the old. Poul Nyrup Rasmussen called for the concept of Eurobonds and a European Debt Agency to be put on the agenda. The event was part of a PES push for a progressive way out of the crisis in the run-up to the European Council meeting of European Leaders on 17 June.

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Watch the [PES President's speech!](#)

PES Presidency debates economic crisis strategy ahead of European Council

The Presidency of the Party of European Socialists met on 10 June to debate the PES recommendations for the meeting of European leaders next week (17 June). Poul Nyrup Rasmussen informed Presidency Members that the issuing of Eurobonds and a European Debt Agency needed to be ‘fast-tracked’ on the political agenda. This recommendation represents a significant latest step by the PES in defining the agenda for the response to the Euro-zone crisis. Commentators have already [welcomed Mr. Rasmussen's intentions](#). Also prioritized on the agenda was the need to strengthen the social and environmental elements of the Europe 2020 strategy before agreement is reached next week by the European leaders. The Presidency meeting also discussed the European Stability Mechanism, an idea originally proposed by the PES, and the need for a global Financial Transaction Tax.

PES condemns ‘Outrageous’ Israeli act against civilians and demands immediate inquiry

“The action by Israeli commandos is an outrageous breach of the most basic international standards”, said Poul Nyrup Rasmussen after the 31st of May Israeli attack of the freedom flotilla in international waters. It was a tragic event that highlights the humanitarian necessity for the blockade of Gaza to be lifted [immediately](#).

[Read the article by the PES President](#)

Economic recovery must go hand in hand with labour market recovery and social cohesion

The Employment and Social Affairs Council of June 7th and 8th has ended with two main outcomes: poverty reduction indicators and targets will be left at the will of States, and cross-border healthcare reform has been granted the green-light and will now be worked on by the three institutions to strike a final deal by autumn. During this process, the PES will continue to push for a policy scope that achieves economic recovery through job creation and social cohesion.

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PES General Secretary addresses Finnish Social Democrats' Congress

PES Secretary General Philip Cordery in his plenary speech congratulated Jutta Urpilainen and stated, on behalf of the PES, his confidence that she will guide SDP to victory next year. He said that now, more than ever, social-democratic governments are needed throughout Europe. He highlighted the dreadful social consequences of an economic crisis, which persists because of the conservatives' and liberals' inaction. This underlined the urgent need for the SDP to return to government in Finland.

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PES greets Slovenian YES vote to border arbitration agreement with Croatia

The border issue between Slovenia and Croatia, ongoing since the break-up of Yugoslavia, takes a major step forward after the Slovenian electorate voted for and approved an Arbitration Agreement. The agreement will provide a final binding decision for both countries. Social democrat Prime Minister Borut Pahor decided to organize this referendum, thus showing his vision and his confidence in the progressive orientation of the Slovenian people.

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European Protection Order must be approved to help stop violence against women

The EU must be capable of defending one of its basic human rights: women's rights. Justice Ministers and Commissioner Viviane Reding should approve the Spanish initiative for a European Protection Order. Doing so would allow for EU-level judicial cooperation to be extended to mutual recognition of national protection orders by 2011.

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People first in PES green growth strategy

PES environmental and Climate Change Network members agreed on a Comprehensive Sustainable growth strategy. The PES document contrasts with the European Commission EU2020 which falls short of proposing a true change towards a greener economy. Concrete proposals are presented by the PES to make green growth a reality while ensuring a just transition towards a sustainable economy.

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SOLIDAR and FEPS invite activists to participate in a conference in Austria, 8-10 July

The European NGO network **SOLIDAR** (53 member organizations) and the Foundation for European Progressive Studies (**FEPS**) will jointly organize a conference in Linz (Austria) from 8 to 10 July. PES activists are invited to participate in this event. The run-up to the conference has started. An online platform "**EU4U**" has been launched. PES activists can submit their hot topics on this platform; these topics will be amongst the themes of the debates in Linz.

[Read more](#)

PES PRESIDENT'S BLOG

'Our Way Out of the Crisis' – a dynamic event with dynamic ideas!

There is an alternative to austerity cuts and neo-liberalism in Europe and there is a progressive way out of the crisis. On June 9 we gathered leading EU scholars, politicians and journalists in Brussels to illustrate precisely this point. The PES has the answers to the Euro-zone crisis and most importantly, has the answers to get people back into work.

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