

Rise of the far right: A wake-up call

Considering that:

- Extremist parties have been rising in Europe, winning national, regional and local elections, and are foreseen to increase their representation in the EP in 2024.
- The far right are moving from the political margins to the political mainstream.
- Their preeminent Euro-scepticism can set the European integration process a decade back, in a moment that unity and progress is evermore crucial.

Believing that:

- Recent economic and social crises have exacerbated popular feelings of dissatisfaction, prompting many to seek alternatives in right-wing parties that promise quick and effective solutions.
- There is a perceived disconnection between political elites and day-to-day concerns of citizens, which fuels the appeal of populist messages, which use fears and concerns like security and the migration crisis.
- Right-wing messaging is often simple, fueled on emotions - that connect easily with voters - instead of more complex, realistic solutions.
- Right-wing populists dominate the political discourse on social media platforms in Europe and succeed in attracting attention by systematically abusing their algorithms.
- Liberals need to ensure that their message is heard and seen by voters and do what's needed to change our strategy.

Calls ALDE Party and its members to:

- Reconcile national divisions, to overcome the rise of populism. An important part of this is prioritising transparency and use of clear, understandable language in politics so no-one is left out.
- Respond quickly and factually to disinformation and attacks by right-wing parties.
- Support the 'cordon sanitaire', including at the EP.
- Condemn nationalist and Euro-sceptic solutions as means to address the sense of loss of cultural identity, and promote instead an inclusive patriotism that celebrates diversity within the EU.
- Find new strategies to promote liberal and democratic values, highlighting the benefits of diversity, inclusion and international cooperation, and better communicate complex solutions to complex problems, offering 'bread and butter' answers to populism and exclusionary nationalism.