



2024 ELECTION SPECIAL

- ALDE lead candidate Marie-Agnes Strack-Zimmermann
- Join the liberal campaign trail
- Your Europe, Your Freedom: Our 2024 Manifesto

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The Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) Party is the party representing liberal democrat values across Europe. With our member parties throughout Europe, we are translating the principle of freedom into politics, economics and across all other areas of our societies. ALDE Party provides an increasingly vital link between citizens and the EU institutions. ALDE Party is made up of 76 member parties from across Europe.

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Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe Party, EUPP

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EDITORIAL

Dear liberal friends.

2024 has been called a super election year by some, and not without a reason: over half of the world's population will have the opportunity to cast their vote this year. This includes all those entitled to vote in Europe, as the ninth European elections will take place in early June. A testament to our continent's democratic tradition, these elections have the potential to become a major turning point in European politics, for the better or for the worse.

The world is very different from what it was five years ago, and so is our campaign. At the ALDE Party Campaign Headquarters, our team has grown, while we've also wished a warm farewell to **liris André**, our Head of Communication & Press and Editor-in-Chief of the Liberal Bulletin. For the first time in our history, European liberals are running an electoral campaign under the same platform – Renew Europe Now – together with some of our most strategic partners. We believe this will make us an even stronger force to be reckoned with.

Led by our ALDE Party candidate **Marie-Agnes Strack-Zimmermann**, we are ready to show Europe why the liberal voice deserves to be heard, loud and clear, also in the next European Parliament mandate. You can learn more about our lead candidates and campaign in the pages of this Liberal Bulletin.

But no pan-European campaign can be run only from Brussels. Our member parties and partners play a critical role in ensuring that citizens from Helsinki to Rome, from Paris to Bucharest are aware of the liberal mission and goals. Their efforts in the field are what turn into seats in the Hemicycle. We are with our members every step of the way.

A key role can also be played by YOU. Visit our website, share our content on social media, watch the live debates, volunteer for one of our member parties – the list is long, and you can find more inspiration in this publication. But, first and foremost, use your vote in June. While the upcoming elections and the future are full of unknowns, one thing is for sure: only by voting can you ensure that your voice is heard for our shared future.

Didrik de SchaetzenALDE Party Secretary General





CAN LIBERALS DELIVER IN CRISIS?

EUROPEAN VOTERS CALL FOR LEADERSHIP

Today, Europeans feel the pressure of multiple crises—inflation, high cost of living, the war in Ukraine, migration, energy security, climate change. On the heels of the pandemic and the turbulence of Trump and Brexit, people are tired. Although they may think their own economic situations are in decent shape, they feel anxious. They worry about losing what they have, and are looking for strong, decisive leadership to take this all on.

ALDE Party's research project helps us keep our finger on the pulse of our supporters' views across the EU. Our latest EU survey highlights the importance of liberals showing decisive leadership, particularly on so-called "kitchen table" issues that affect our everyday lives. The cost of living is a top concern, with 57% of voters seeing inflation as an extremely important issue. Meanwhile, they don't think governments are delivering: 67% disapprove of the job their government is doing on inflation and cost of living, including 32% who strongly disapprove.

This negative outlook is a deeply held feeling that affects long-term worldview as well. In all but three EU countries, the predominant feeling about the current situation is a "fear of losing what we have and that future generations will be worse off." And in two of those remaining countries, the feeling is that people should be more worried about the situation.

The anxiety is not only about the economy, but also Ukraine. Support for Ukraine is still strong among ALDE Party supporters. Liberals have been champions in this fight both in the European Parliament and in their home

countries, even as extremist parties have sought to undermine the effort.

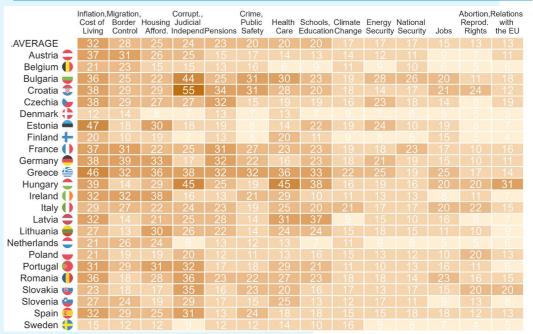
Amidst this anxiety, voters want strong leaders. They want competence. They want action, not talk. In 18 out of the 24 countries we surveyed, electing "competent politicians who can get things done" was a priority for respondents.

Our liberal leaders have shown they are up to the task. During this mandate alone, ALDE Party leaders have achieved multiple milestones on key European issues, including:

- European Commissioner for Energy Kadri Simson implemented measures to cap energy costs to protect companies and citizens from price shocks. She has championed the campaign to end reliance on Russian energy and accelerate the drive towards clean alternatives.
- European Commission Executive Vice-President Margrethe Vestager modernised the European digital market by regulating big tech companies on their data use and advancing initiatives such as the common charger.
- President of the European Council Charles
 Michel coordinated the European Union's
 response to Putin's illegal invasion of
 Ukraine, including plans for joint weapons
 procurement to bolster defense today and
 in the decades to come.

Connecting liberals with these actions, on these issues, is the key to liberal success in the upcoming European elections and beyond.

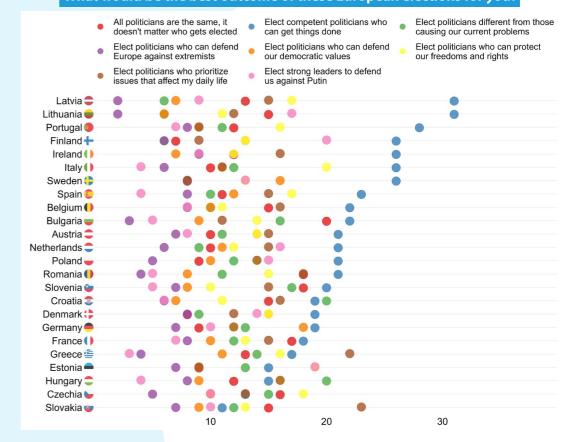
What do you think of the job done by your government in the following fields?



Can liberals deliver in criris?

*Table shows % of respondents who "strongly disapprove"

What would be the best outcome of these European elections for you?



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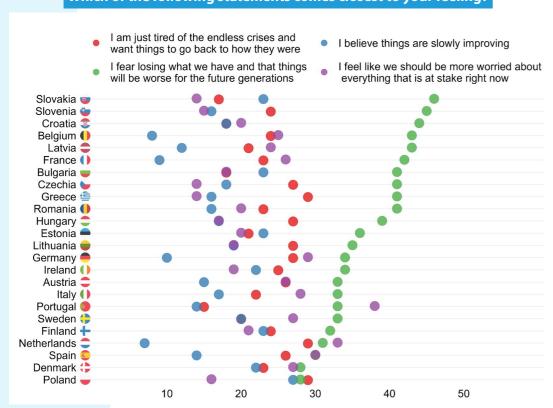
ALDE lead candidate

How important are the following issues to you personally?

	Health Care	Inflation, Cost of Living	Pensions		National Security	Schools, Education	Jobs	Corrupt., Judicial Independ		Housing	Migration Border Control		Reprod.	Relations with the EU
.AVERAGE	60	57	49	47	46	45	42	40	40	38	38	34	25	23
Austria 🔷	59	59	49	45	42	40	35	37	46	43	39	29		
Belgium ()	51	48	44	40	27	35	31	32	33	33	31		22	
Bulgaria 🥌	71	65	56	61	59	63	54	57	50	37	41	34	20	29
Croatia 🍩	73	76	66	62	58	55	55	65	47	49	47	37	36	29
Czechia 🍗	64	61	50	53	54	45	36	46	47	41	46	23		22
Denmark 🛟	53	38	34	35	39	36	23	32	30	20	26	29		17
Estonia 👄	61	58	44	47	54	47	44	41	46	43	32		20	22
Finland +	57	51	40	46	55	41	40	39	36	47	35	30	27	20
France ()	53	54	42	41	41	41	32	31	28	28	34	33	29	17
Germany 🛑	56	57	53	44	47	41	35	33	49	41	40	31	15	
Greece 篫	71	70	51	60	57	65	56	57	43	50	44	36		27
Hungary 🔷	75	74	56	61	52	63	59	61	58	61	48	44	31	40
Ireland ()	59	65	40	51	34	39	35	32	30	49	36		24	21
Italy ()	59	53	44	44	41	43	52	37	33	27	36	40	31	24
Latvia 🔷	65	58	51	44	47	43	41	34	38	32	26			24
Lithuania 🛑	76	66	58	53	58	48	24	47	44	42	35	26		36
Netherlands =	43	38	35	34	19	26	21	23	30	35	30	20		12
Poland —	62	65	52	51	61	39	43	46	51	38	45	34	33	36
Portugal 🧶	70	64	45	53	51	57	56	52	30	55	38	40	27	30
Romania ()	74	70	61	60	62	65	61	57	54	50	36	39	27	37
Slovakia 🌚	62	55	49	49	43	43	39	47	39	35	36	26	24	27
Slovenia 🍅	69	66	58	51	48	47	47	48	49	37	42	37	35	27
Spain 📀	67	61	55	50	46	53	56	48	35	47	39	39	30	27
Sweden 🐤	57	44	44	48	44	40	33	35	33	34	33	34	33	18

^{*}Table shows % of respondents considering the issue "extremely important"

Which of the following statements comes closest to your feeling?





At the Extraordinary Congress on 20 March, delegates approved the nomination of **Marie-Agnes Strack-Zimmermann** as ALDE Party's lead candidate for the European elections.

A Member of the German Bundestag since 2017 and current Chair of its Defence Committee, Strack-Zimmermann is one of the most prominent and outspoken voices on Russia's war, tirelessly calling for stronger support for Ukraine.

How did you get into politics and become a liberal?

My parents were very political and quite conservative. I could not identify with the conservative image of women, though. Growing up in the 1960s and 1970s in West Germany, there only were three options: conservative, liberal or social democratic. The liberal values resonated most with me.

What is your vision for the next European term?

Promoting greater European independence and resilience in the face of increasing foreign and security policy challenges, and unlocking the full potential of the European economy by freeing it from overly complex bureaucracy that has become a barrier to growth and innovation.

Why do we need liberals in positions of power?

In times of crisis, people tend to gravitate towards strong leaders that often consolidate their power by suspending basic human rights. Liberalism places a strong emphasis on protecting the rights and freedoms of individuals to ensure that people are not subjected to arbitrary government actions.

What's the wildest thing you would be willing to do to see liberals win the elections?

I would challenge Ursula von der Leyen to a motorcycle race.



ALDE Party has formed the Renew Europe Now electoral platform for the 2024 European elections alongside partners Renaissance and European Democratic Party (EDP). Find out their lead candidates below!





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LIBERAL LEAD **ALDE PARTY MEMBERS READY**

FOR EUROPEAN ELECTIONS









































Anna-Maja HENRIKSSON



Eva BIAUDET

@sfprkp







@PartiRadical







Members' lead candidates



YOUR EUROPE, YOUR FREEDOM

OUR 2024 MANIFESTO TACKLES THE ISSUES THAT MATTER MOST

From the COVID-19 pandemic and cost-of-living crisis to war in Ukraine, Europe has faced immense challenges over the past several years. But, through unity and resilience, we've come together to find solutions. As we look to the future, liberals are ready to keep fighting for a safer, more prosperous future. We want to make Europe safe and free, a thriving place where everyone can choose their path. Our 2024 ALDE Party Manifesto focuses on three key priorities:

- Keep Europe free, safe and democratic: Help Ukraine win the war, enhance our defence capabilities and economic security for Europe's increased independence.
- **Boost economic growth for your freedom:** Invest in your skills and digital and sustainable technologies to create jobs, reduce our dependencies and decouple growth from the use of natural resources, rising negative climate and health impacts.
- **Earn your trust through action and reform:** Give you a say in how your country and Europe are run and create efficient and transparent institutions, holding accountable those that breach the law.





JOIN OUR LIBERAL CAMPAIGN TRAIL TO #EP2024

ALDE PARTY'S JOURNEY TO THE EUROPEAN ELECTIONS IN JUNE

On 20 March, we officially launched the **Renew Europe Now** platform campaign in Brussels with our partners **Renaissance** and **European Democratic Party (EDP)**. Liberals, centrists and democrats came together to present Team Europe: **Marie-Agnes Strack-Zimmermann** (ALDE Party), **Valérie Hayer** (Renaissance) and **Sandro Gozi** (EDP). Our trio of pro-European lead candidates will represent the platform in all campaign debates, events and activities in the weeks to come.

Stay updated with all the latest news on our campaign with our dedicated campaign digital hub, where you can find out about the candidates from all our member parties, read our electoral Manifesto and much more. In the meantime, make sure you subscribe to our weekly Campaign Insider newsletter and check our social media channels to never miss a beat along the way to voting day!



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renew europe

2024 campaign

alde







THE FIRST TIME IN COLLABORATION WITH LYMEC

These European elections will be particularly special for first-time voters. Together with LYMEC, our European liberal youth organisation, we reached out to numerous active young liberals to find out what motivates them to live and breathe politics at such a young age.

Discover why they are choosing to vote liberal, and what their hopes are for 2024 and beyond!





I am very excited to have the opportunity to participate in such an important election. It feels empowering to have a say in shaping the future of the European Union, it is a chance to be part of something bigger. I am thankful to live and vote in the EU and to defend the values it stands for.



Under Orbán's regime, our hopes to become a modern, developed European country were dashed, alongside our ideas and political views. We must turn out in large numbers and show our compatriots across the continent that not all of us are like Orbán and that our aspiration of a fully-fledged return to Europe remains.

BALAZS REKETTYE



EDVIN MÅRTENSSON

These European elections are crucial not only for our continent, but for the future of liberal democracy. Europe needs to take responsibility for our own future and step up its support for the Ukrainian fight for freedom. This means it's more important than ever for me to strengthen the liberal voices in the European Parliament.



BIANCA ELIZABETH KRUUP

Estonia's political landscape is very divided and hostile: there is a lot of hatred between parties, even if they have the same views. I believe that being liberal is the only way to be for the people. Equality and justice are my leading factors for voting liberal.

NIKLAS PEDERSEN

I believe this election is important for the future of Europe, which I currently see as stagnating. The European growth levels are simply way too low compared to the United States - that is the main issue I hope will be addressed by the new Parliament.



PADRAIG CAWLEY



I write this sitting on a train that wouldn't be here if it wasn't for the European Union. In Ireland today, populist parties which promise everything to everyone are on the rise. I joined Fianna Fáil as the party that helps ordinary people, and I'm proud that it was my party that brought Ireland into the EU.





MUSTAFA ALI



The European elections are my chance to shape the future of my country and the broader European community. My vote is a voice for my values, beliefs, and hopes for a more inclusive society, for freedom and peace, for more liberal and progressive Europe, and for a better future for my generation.

VANA HABESHIAN



As a young woman, I'm extremely excited and can't wait to vote! It serves as a strong reminder of how far we've come since women were denied the vote in the past. These elections represent a chance for equal participation and empowerment, acknowledging the struggles for equality that came before us.

LYMEC 2024 MANIFESTO PRIORITIES

- **GLOBALISE** democracy and freedom: Ukraine must win!
- **CREATE** economic growth through free and fair trade worldwide
- **SAVE** our future by fighting the climate and energy crises
- **SOLVE** the migration crisis through solidarity, reliability and fairness
- **INCREASE** security and defence capabilities through close cooperation
- **PROMOTE** upward social mobility by tackling youth unemployment
- **EXPAND** the potential of the single market through harmonised competition
- **DEFEND** our democracy, rule of law and human rights
- **CREATE** innovation and defend civil liberties in the digital age
- **FIX** EUr future: Institutional reform and enlargement of the Union

READ LYMEC'S FULL **MANIFESTO**

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RENEW EUROPE GROUP ACHIEVEMENTS 2019-2024

In 2019, citizens chose the kind of Europe they want to live in. They voted for a strong Europe, led by liberal, democratic and pro-European forces, because it is our future, and it is worth fighting for.

Since then, Renew Europe MEPs led the fight to unite Europe and protect our rights and freedoms. From supporting the joint purchase of COVID-19 vaccines, leading the European response to climate change and advocating tirelessly for concrete support to Ukraine, liberals in the European Parliament have delivered for citizens. Find out the Group's Top 10 achievements of this mandate below!



STRENGTHENING our industry by investing more than €800 billion in the green and digital transitions, supporting jobs and businesses



REINFORCING, COMPLETING and **MODERNISING** the Single Market as an employment machine, putting SMEs at the forefront



TACKLING high energy prices, including a cap to protect households and businesses from energy price surges



CREATING new opportunities for digital businesses, faster internet for all, safer online platforms for children and better protection for workers and the self-employed



PUSHING for reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55% by 2030, to maintain climate neutrality, build a strong EU green industry and transform the economy



DELIVERING a healthier environment, by improving air quality, access to medications and vaccines, and coordination on health and natural emergencies



FIGHTING to advance freedoms, human rights and civil liberties, free Europe from corruption and defend the rule of law, diversity and gender equality



ADVOCATING to manage our borders firmly and responsibly, based on solidarity and respect for international law



KEEPING Europeans safe by taking decisive steps towards stronger EU military cooperation and supporting the Ukrainian people in their fight against Russia's illegal invasion



SUPPORTING greater citizen participation in EU politics and promoting strong EU reforms, efficiency and transparency







LIBERALS DELIVER

During the 2019-2024 mandate, the President of the European Council and liberal and centrist European Commissioners led the way on liberal solutions for a brighter future. They have tackled crises such as COVID-19 and the war in Ukraine, and pushed forward Europe's green and digital transitions. Below, you can learn how some of their most notable policy achievements have made Europe safer, more competitive and more sustainable.



President of the European Council

- Led the EU COVID-19 response, coordinating efforts to mitigate the pandemic's impact
- **Guided** EU support for Ukraine following the Russian invasion. emphasising solidarity and assistance
- **Drove** EU enlargement policy, granting candidate status to Bosnia and Herzegovina and Georgia, and initiating negotiations with Ukraine and Moldova



European Commissioner for Internal Market

- **Coordinated** joint procurement of COVID-19 vaccines, ensuring equitable access across the EU
- **Spearheaded** the Al Act and the Chips Act, preparing Europe for technological advancement



JANEZ LENARČIČ

European Commissioner for Crisis Management

- **Established** RescEU to enhance joint EU capabilities in responding to emergencies and disasters
- **Promoted** the EU as a global leader in



MARGRETHE VESTAGER

Executive Vice President of the European Commission for A Europe Fit for the Digital Age

- **Regulated** digital giants under the Digital Services Act, Digital Markets Act and the Data Act
- **Reinforced** the EU Single Market against corporate abuse and the Foreign Subsidies Regulation to maintain fair competition
- Advanced the common charger initiative to streamline consumer



Vice President of the European Commission for Values and Transparency

> **Led** efforts on the EU's first law to combat violence against women and ratification of the Istanbul Convention

VĚRA JOUROVÁ

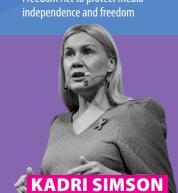
- **Developed** the European Democracy Action Plan and Defence of Democracy package, enhancing democratic integrity and transparency across the EU
- Formulated the European Media Freedom Act to protect media



DIDIER REYNDERS

European Commissioner for Justice

- Implemented the Rule of Law mechanism and issued annual rule of law reports to uphold EU values
- **Launched** operations of the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) in June 2021 to enhance cross-border judicial cooperation
- **Enforced** the General Product Safety regulation and New Consumer Agenda toensure consumer safety



European Commissioner for Energy

- **Implemented** energy emergency measures to ensure safe winters amidst high prices
- **Led** the initiative to become independent from Russian gas, focusing on diversification and the REPowerEU
- **Positioned** renewable energy as the foundation of the EU's energy policy

ADVANCING A LIBERAL EUROPE

ALDE PARTY'S JOURNEY 2019-2024

Over the past five years, ALDE Party and our members across Europe marked key milestones and mobilised on the issues that matter most. Together, liberals promoted democratic values, responded to global crises, championed LGBTQIA+ rights and much more. As we look ahead to the future, we'll keep fighting for your rights and freedoms!

2019

renew europe.

Renew Europe Group established and MEPs start work



New mandate kicks off at Congress in Athens



German government established



Liberal EU Commissioners and **Council President** take office



2020

New government in Ireland with Taoiseach Micheál Martin







Support surges for democracy in Belarus





The Alliance Of **Her** re-launches for more women in politics



ALDE Party eCongress convenes on **COVID-19** response

ALDE Party President Hans van Baalen's liberal legacy remembered

Liberal election victory in the Netherlands

2021



2022

Swift response to Ukraine war with visits and resolutions



Engaged with citizens on the Conference on the Future of Europe



ALDE Party Policy Advisory Groups founded



Democratic forces gain in Slovakia and Poland



2023 Kaja Kallas achieves landslide victory in Estonia





EU is proclaimed

LGBTQIA+ freedom zone

Liberals gather at Stockholm Congress

becomes ALDE Party Secretary General





Renew Europe Now 2024 campaign launched

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Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe Party

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