

FLAGSHIP BATTLES

S&D

Affordability of High-quality Food for All Europeans

Europe cannot accept a situation where 8.5% of its population cannot afford a proper meal every second day. There should not be a single empty stomach in Europe. This flagship aims to guarantee affordable and accessible high-quality food for all while strengthening European food sovereignty, reducing external dependencies, and ensuring fair incomes and long-term resilience for farmers, fishers, and aquaculture producers. It promotes sustainable agriculture and fisheries through stronger local value chains, shorter supply chains, healthier food standards, and better public procurement for schools, hospitals, and public canteens. Key actions include adopting an EU Food Sovereignty Act, reinforcing market stability through future CAP reforms, Blue Food Sustainable Label supporting sustainable seafood production, and increasing support for food banks to tackle food poverty. At the same time, it seeks to reduce external dependencies by promoting sustainable production, fleet decarbonisation, and stronger safeguards against unfair imports and illegal fishing.

Affordable Housing

Housing is a fundamental right, not a financial asset; Europe should treat housing as a social necessity not as a market commodity – while giving cities and Member States the legal and financial capacity to tackle the housing crisis at the scale required. This flagship will push for a Short-term rentals legislation ensuring that cities and people are protected from the unchecked growth of short-term rentals and a European Fund of 100bn within the post-2028 Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF), for affordable and sustainable housing to support the construction and renovation of affordable, energy-efficient and social housing, especially for low- and middle-income households, young people and vulnerable groups.

Agenda for Quality Jobs for All

This flagship will translate the urgent need to improve working and living conditions for all into concrete actions and deliverables. For the S&D, Europe's competitiveness is built on a strong Social Europe — skilled workers, fair wages, collective bargaining, secure employment, and safe working conditions. This flagship will push for an ambitious legislation on the right to disconnect, fair teleworking rules, controlled algorithmic management and AI in the workplace, integration of workers into the labour market and in particular women, the Care deal, addressing mental health at work, and the fight against exploitative subcontracting chains.

Clean Energy at Fair Prices

If the EU's dependencies on energy imports are not reduced as speedily as possible, European citizens will continue to be financially overburdened by energy bills. Homegrown energy, provided by renewables, must become the key priority to bring down the cost of living as well as the cost of doing business in Europe. This flagship will push for the acceleration of electrification of heating and transport through a social leasing, a review of electricity market rules so consumers fully benefit from low-cost renewable, an EU-wide windfall profit tax strictly on the oil and gas sector, with revenues directly supporting households, decarbonisation of industry in particular SMEs, public and cooperative investment in renewables, grids and storage, an Industrial Decarbonisation Bank that redistributes a greater share of ETS revenues directly and only for transformative investments in industrial decarbonisation.

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European Defence Union, EU Industrial Sovereignty and Peace

We want Europe to unite on defence to safeguard peace, security, and democratic values. Establishing a genuine European defence market is essential for strengthening European sovereignty, securing resilient supply chains, and improving the efficiency of defence spending. By aligning industrial policy, defence planning, and regulatory frameworks at EU level, this initiative will create a more coherent, competitive, and resilient Union capable of protecting its citizens, preserving peace, supporting quality jobs and technological leadership, and maintaining its social model.

Integrated European defence: Build a genuine European defence market through coordinated planning, shared industrial priorities, and common rules to strengthen sovereignty and readiness including cooperation with Ukraine to integrate valuable defence know-how into Europe's collective security efforts.

Holistic approach: Promote a whole-of-society approach, recognising that defence, social cohesion, and public services are equally essential for security and peace.

European preference in procurement: Prioritise joint European procurement and strengthen the European defence industry while ensuring fair opportunities for companies of all sizes.

Workers at the centre: Invest in defence skills, training, and quality jobs, linking EU defence funding to social standards and balanced regional development.

Rein in Big Tech Power

To deliver on the promise of digital fairness, stronger protection online and regain Europe's digital sovereignty, we need to reign in the power of Big Tech. This flagship will push for four interconnected goals. First, taxing big tech and their billionaire owners. Second, push for meaningful enforcement of our digital rules and a new Digital Fairness Act (DFA) to better tackle addictive design, dark patterns or unfair personalised and dynamic pricing, protecting minors and all our citizens from harmful online practices, creating additional data rights for citizens and workers and putting limits to the use of targeted advertisement. Third, reducing Europe's tech dependency by the creation of trusted European Platforms, sovereign and sustainable cloud, AI and data infrastructures. Fourth, protecting our democracy from polarising algorithms on social media and our elections from foreign interference, disinformation, and hybrid attacks.