

Senario Card

Water Solidarity

The Commission proposes this action plan on water management, The Water Solidarity Directive:

An Action Plan and a Budget Size to save water in the EU including:

#1. - Improving water distribution systems and infrastructure.

#2. - Scientific research into water technology.

#3. - Information campaigns on saving water.

#4. - Raising water prices to reflect its real value.

#5. - A budget of 100 million euros.

Senario Card



Party Policy Card

The European Solidarity Group

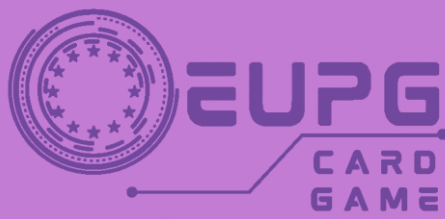
The Solidarity group fights for a fair society, where health, education and employment are guaranteed for all.

We fight for the poorest and for workers' rights.

We believe that EU and member states have an important role in raising social welfare and promoting solidarity among people.

We support the EU and member states as long as their use of authority is fair and does not threaten personal freedom.

Party Policy Card



Party Policy Card

The European Ecology Group

The Ecology group fights to protect the environment and people's health. A clean and safe environment is a fundamental human right.

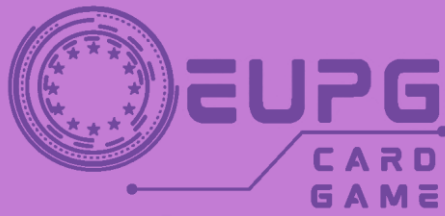
We support scientific research for the environment. This is the only sustainable way to save the planet.

There should be no budget limits when protecting the environment.

Society must reduce consumption.

Personal freedom and solidarity among the people should never be threatened.

Party Policy Card



Party Policy Card

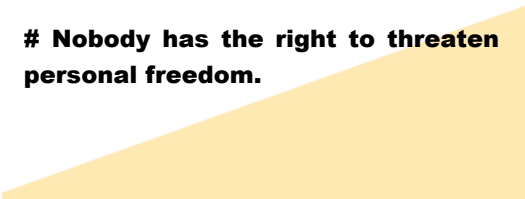
The European Liberty Group

The Liberty group fights for a society and economy based on freedom.

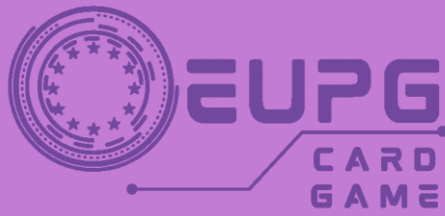
Individuals and businesses should be free to compete and innovate. These are the basic conditions for economic growth in Europe.

We fight for the rights of taxpayers and businesses. Public spending and taxes should remain as low as possible.

Nobody has the right to threaten personal freedom.

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Party Policy Card



Party Policy Card

The European Tradition Group

The Tradition group fights for preserving stability in society, whose foundations should rely on traditional values and the respect for authority.

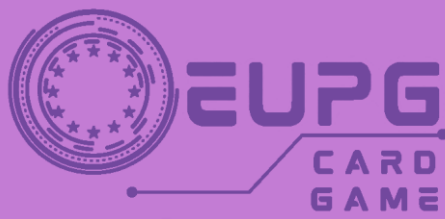
We think farmers and traditions are the pillars of stability.

We believe that modern society threatens farmers and traditional ways of life. That is why it is important we protect them.

We support the EU and member states when guaranteeing social and economic stability.

We want public spending to remain reasonable.

Party Policy Card



Amendment Card

SOL

Refurbishment of the current supply model keeping the societal needs and welfare in mind without threatening the solidarity among EU members.

Spprt - #1.

Amendment Card



Amendment Card

SOL

Launch a campaign across member EU countries to create a unified mission against the scarcity and misuse of water.

Spprt - #3.

Amendment Card



Amendment Card

ECO

**Finance water technology to
address watershed for
fundamental human right.**

Spprt - #2.

Amendment Card



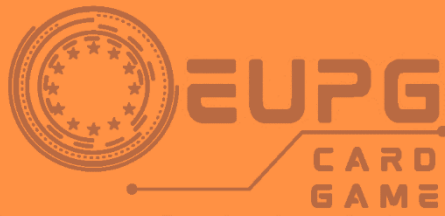
Amendment Card

ECO

Increase the price of water to conserve water and enable sustainability.

Spprt - #4.

Amendment Card



Amendment Card

LIB

Remind citizens to save water consumption by information campaigning.

Spprt - #3.

Amendment Card



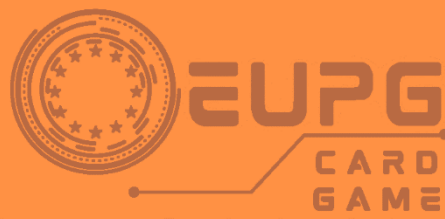
Amendment Card

LIB

The proposed budget is too high and will lead to tax raises in the member states. This is not good for business or taxpayers.

Agnst - #5.

Amendment Card



Amendment Card

TRA

**The increase in water prices
may have bad consequences
for the farmers.**

Agnst - #4.

Amendment Card



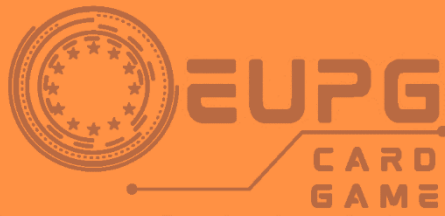
Amendment Card

TRA

The information campaign to save water does not fit to farmers and traditional ways of life.

Agnst - #3.

Amendment Card



People Opinion Card SOL

Jan Hanak, CR, 39 y.o., SME Hairdressing Salon

"I cannot understand the reason that the EU needs to spend millions of euros on a water programme! You should lower taxes."

Agnst - #5.

SOL

People Opinion Card

You're an MEP, aren't you? My name is Jan Hanak. I started my own business two years ago, and I'm really struggling to keep it afloat. It's really hard, you know: taxes, regulations, controls...

I know I'm not an expert, but I cannot understand the reason that the EU needs to spend millions of euros on a water programme! You represent the taxpayers! You should lower taxes. That would really help small and medium-sized enterprises to survive, you know.

Money should be spent as little as possible, otherwise I suspect that states will increase taxes to finance the plan. Of course, saving water is a good thing but there is not much more I can do – but farming and industry! Wow, they use a lot, you know.

People Opinion Card

SOL

Mary McKintosh, England, 31 y.o.

"Information campaigns should be a top priority of the Action Plan and should receive as much EU funding as possible."

Agnst/Sprt - #5., Spprt - #3.

SOL

People Opinion Card

Hi, I'm Mary McKintosh. I work for ICom, a global communications and advertising company. Look at this poll! The poll on Europeans' awareness of water shortage proves that Europeans are not aware of the water shortage. If you want things to change, more money has to be spent on information campaigns! We welcome the Action Plan proposed by the Commission. Information campaigns should be a top priority of the Action Plan and should receive as much EU funding as possible. The more money we spend on raising awareness, the better people are informed and the more water will be saved.

SOL

People Opinion Card

**Kazimir, Director Reforms, Organization
for European Unity**

**"The facilities like private
parks, gymnasiums and clubs,
golf courses should be charged
more as it comes under the
luxury part of life."**

Agnst/Spprt - #4.

SOL

People Opinion Card

To make this change equitable, I would suggest that the pricing of water should be determined based on the facilities, industries and housing societies in EU. The facilities like private parks, gymnasiums and clubs, golf courses should be charged more as it comes under the luxury part of life. On the other hand, the working class should get a relief on the water pricing as they are prone to be affected, if not taken into account.

People Opinion Card SOL

**Dirk Krul, the Netherlands, 40 y.o.,
Chief inspector**

**"Growing populations in cities
need new and efficient water-
delivery systems. And the
budget is clearly not enough to
finance the action plan."**

Agnst - #5., Spprt - #1.

People Opinion Card

My name is Dirk Krul, I work for SafePipe&FreshWater, the biggest water-system maintenance company in Europe. Maintenance is crucial to prevent leaks and breaches. And growing populations in cities need new and efficient water-delivery systems. It is my job to check that these growing needs can be satisfied... every day.

100 million euros is clearly NOT enough!!! This is the money needed per year during... 30 years... for the infrastructure alone! The EU will have to spend several billion euros until 2030 on maintenance of old infrastructure and on new more efficient systems to ensure fresh water supplies.

Improving water infrastructure very expensive. Just as much as it is urgent. The current budget of the Action Plan is just good for one year of investments in water infrastructure. So what you have to do now is pretty clear! Stop questioning, and just do it! Sweep away all unnecessary priorities, and put in enough money to repair old pipes. Less than 500 million euros would be ridiculous.

People Opinion Card

ECO

Mikko Bergius, Finland, 36 y.o.

"We need money to finance scientific research as much as possible. The European Commission's figure is a minimum."

Agnst/Spprt - #5., Spprt - #2.

ECO

People Opinion Card

Hi, I represent CoolPhytoLab International. We are European leaders in research on plants. Our research will mean that crops need less moisture, which would mean less water for irrigation. The problem... eeh... is that... eeh... we need money to finance this research. That is why it is very important that the European Parliament keeps research as a top priority of the Action Plan.

If all of this 100 million goes to research, it would be ok. The money you spend on research will result in innovation, competitiveness, jobs, welfare, happiness... By making agriculture less dependent on water, we will save water, produce cheaper fruits and vegetables – and make farmers happier and wealthier.

Money is needed as much as possible for such a plan. The European Commission's figure is a minimum. Research is not only about finding solutions to immediate problems, it is also about providing long-term solutions to our water problems, new opportunities to our companies, creating jobs, building prosperity, and improving quality of life for the future. EU financed research programmes can deliver results that member states cannot achieve on their own.

People Opinion Card **ECO**

Andrej Javorski, Slovakia, 45 y.o.

"EU institutions and governments have to build new infrastructure to save this precious resource, and invest in research & development to find new solutions and to create new jobs for future generations."

Spprt - #1./#2.

ECO

People Opinion Card

Good morning, I'm Dr. Andrej Javorski, and as a Professor at the European University of Science and Technology I can only tell you this:

First, policymakers like you need to figure out how to supply water without ruining the nature which provides it. Saving water is a good start.

Second, existing technology can help prevent shortages. Water desalination, for example, can boost supply by converting salt water into fresh water.

And that brings me to my third point, EU institutions and governments have to build new infrastructure to save this precious resource, and invest in research & development to find new solutions and to create new jobs for future generations.

People Opinion Card

ECO

Email

**"By raising the price of water,
consumers would be forced to
save it."**

Spprt - #4.

ECO

People Opinion Card

Hi,

a report from the Ecologist Business Association proves that pricing water to its real market value would be the most efficient way to save water. By raising the price of water, consumers would be forced to save it. But, pricing water is very unpopular among our voters and our colleagues. So the key is to try to get secretly closer to the Liberty group during the Committee meeting...

See you later,

Ali

ECO

People Opinion Card

**Bodil Agaschwester, Germany, 37 y.o.,
Consultant**

"Improving water infrastructure is the key. And sustainable solution can only come from scientific research. You can always inform the people of many cheap and efficient ways to save water, but I believe that drastic changes in our consumption habits can only come from new scientific discoveries. And that is only possible with a lot of money."

Agnst/Sprt - #5., Spprt - #1./#2./#3.

ECO

People Opinion Card

Hi, I'm Bodil Agaschwester. I advise our clients on compliance with environmental regulations. Fresh water resources are threatened by rising demand and intensive farming. Europeans need ever more water for drinking, washing and producing. Every European uses the equivalent of half of an Olympic-size swimming pool per year. Meanwhile, climate change is expected to bring us more droughts. So, do you understand the problem?

In order to solve this problem, first, you have to invest in infrastructure. Enormous amounts of water are lost because of leaks. There are leaks in sinks, pipes, toilets; there are leaks in cities and in the countryside; there are leaks everywhere! Imagine a minute that this water would be kept, and we would have enough water to cover all the demand, particularly from farming. Improving water infrastructure to stop the leaks is the key.

A sustainable solution to water shortage can only come from scientific research. Of course, you can always inform the people of many cheap and efficient ways to save water, but I believe that drastic changes in our consumption habits can only come from new scientific discoveries. And that is only possible with money... a lot of money.

People Opinion Card

LIB

Juri Laas, Estonia, 50 y.o.

"We are in favour of raising water prices to reflect its real value. The MEPs to lower the budget as much as possible."

Agnst - #5., Spprt - #4.



People Opinion Card

Good morning, my name is Juri Laas, I'm the President of European Business Friends, which is an original structure that gathers European employers organisations and pro-business associations.

Well... as responsible people, employers and business people are well aware of the water problem, and we acknowledge the efforts put in place by the EU to find solutions to the problem. For instance, we are in favour of raising water prices to reflect its real value. This measure will support the water industry and economic growth, but...

Actually, our main worries concern the amount of money that the European Commission is willing to put into the Action Plan. That is not reasonable at all. You know that this money will come from corporate and income taxes. That's not good for business.

Our organisation would like the MEPs to lower the budget as much as possible. 100 million euros is too much money to spend on a plan like this. Failure risks are too high to allow such massive spending. This is not good for business, and don't forget it's taxpayers' money!

People Opinion Card

LIB

Bruno Martini, Italy, 60 y.o

"We have been asking for years that water be considered as a product like any other, and its price be raised to reflect its real market. That way people will realize that it is not an unlimited resource."

Spprt - #4.

LIB

People Opinion Card

Hi, I'm a representative of Mineral Water for Europe, the European association of mineral water producers. We are extremely happy that the European authorities have realized fresh water has to be saved. We have been asking for years that water be considered as a product like any other, and its price be raised to reflect its real market.

That way people will realize that it is not an unlimited resource.

People Opinion Card

LIB

Jūlija Ostrovska, 30 y.o.

"The raising water prices cannot be part of the Action Plan. On the other hand, improving in existing and new water systems and infrastructure is absolutely necessary."

Agnst - #4., Spprt - #1.



People Opinion Card

Good morning, I'm Jūlija Ostrovska, Secretary General of the Confederation of European Workers. We believe that access to water is a fundamental right. So, guaranteeing everybody fair access to water is essential. That is why raising water prices cannot be part of the Action Plan. That would be unfair to the poorest consumers. On the other hand, improving in existing and new water systems and infrastructure is absolutely necessary to give people equal access to water, to save water, to ensure high water quality, and to create jobs in the EU. This is what the workers ask for.

People Opinion Card

LIB

**Sten Mikkelsen, Denmark, 28 y.o.,
Activist**

**"Spending our tax money on
huge plans! People will save
water if you inform them. And
Don't you know that making
fresh water from salt water is
possible?"**

Agnst - #5., Spprt - #2./#3.

People Opinion Card

Petition! Petition! Sign the protest against fiscal oppression!

We want MEPs to defend taxpayers' rights, and to stop pouring our money on plans like water on plants. Water, precisely. That's the new reason they found to spend millions of euros... water! And they dare talk about solidarity!

We've almost reached one million signatures! Come on, sign as well! MEPs have to know that enough is enough! They talk about spending millions of euros on a new plan. Plan! Plan! That is the only thing they can think of! Spending our tax money on huge plans!

Of course, I realize the water shortage issues but people will save water if you inform them. That doesn't cost 100 million euros. Please, come to your senses! You say you want to save the world – but you kill our business. We cannot afford this.

Old pipes leak water? Don't get smart with me. Don't you know that making fresh water from salt water is possible? There are unlimited reserves in the sea – and it will create jobs too.

People Opinion Card

TRA

**Magdalena Santo, 50 y.o., Portugal,
Secretary General at European
Traditional Families Association**

**"We raise our children by
teaching them to be reasonable,
and you spend millions of euros
on a revolutionary plan. You
have to lower that budget. "**

Agnst - #5.

TRA

People Opinion Card

Reasonable actions should be taken, with a reasonable amount of money attached to them. Look at the current budget proposed by the European Commission: 100 million euros! Do you think that sets a good example? We raise our children by teaching them to be reasonable, and you spend millions of euros on a revolutionary plan. You have to lower that budget.

People Opinion Card

TRA

Email

"Our cousin Ugo, was doing research on desalination technology. They are very close to a breakthrough. But the problem is that they still need some money to improve the technology. "

Spprt - #2.

TRA

People Opinion Card

Desalination can save our grandfather's farmland!

Hi,

you remember when I told you that our cousin Ugo, was doing research on desalination technology? They are very close to a breakthrough, and that would mean almost endless water resource for our farm!!! The problem is that they still need some money to improve the technology. Do your best to convince your colleagues at the European Parliament to finance R&D. I count on you.

Cheers,

Pedro

People Opinion Card

TRA

**David Navarro, 50 y.o., from Spain,
the representative of the European**

"If water was priced to its real market value, several resorts would have to close and it impacts local economy. Also I don't trust these information campaigns... Who will fund them? Who will make them? Who will support them?"

Agnst - #3./#4.

TRA

People Opinion Card

We are extremely worried about the Action Plan proposed by the European Commission. Golf courses contribute to tourism in a lot of places in Europe, and we rely on water to keep the grass green.

We use less water than farmers. And the water we use attracts tourists... upper-class tourists. We create economic growth and wealth even in very dry regions where you would otherwise have nothing. If water was priced to its real market value, several resorts would have to close; wealthy tourists would go on holiday outside Europe; some regions would suffer from this terrible economic loss. But it is not only us. What do you think will happen to the swimming pools? How will the kids react to that?

I'm going to tell you something that is not politically correct. I am not convinced at all that water is becoming scarce - some scientists even say that it might rain more in Europe -, that the entire thing is ecologist propaganda.

I don't trust these information campaigns... Who will fund them? Who will make them? Who will support them? It's always the same story.

You will blame us for supposedly using too much water. You will say that golf is bad, that swimming pools are bad and, sooner or later, that washing is bad. No, thanks.

People Opinion Card TRA

**Stefan Kolanowski, 50 y.o., Poland,
farmer**

**"I do not understand why
money should be spend for the
research and development. I
don't need any information
campaigns on saving water. To
make water even more
expensive! Are you crazy?!"**

Agnst - #2./#3./#4.

TRA

People Opinion Card

I haven't heard about the Action Plan but I suspect it's no good to me. The only thing I have to tell you is that the less Brussels people get into our job, the better for everyone. I tell to an inspection all information about my water consumption. I do not understand why money should be spend for the research and development. I don't need any information campaigns on saving water as I'm very well informed on the water I consume. To make water even more expensive! Are you crazy?! That would kill European agriculture! What are we going to grow our food with? Oil?