



EUROPE'S UNITED FORCES

It takes courage to be optimistic. However, when you look down at your morning paper, you
5 have every reason to feel pessimistic: depressing headlines about the financial crisis,
redundancies and climate threats; and photos of armed conflicts and racism. Reading
between the lines: there is no tomorrow, so you might as well bury your head in the sand!
However, before you do this, why not look up from your newspaper and try to look at things
from a different perspective: start digging instead. You only have to take away the top layer
10 of pessimism and resignation to find the roots of hope.

For example, remember that you are living in part of the world where democracy, academia
and penicillin were invented; a culture that has overcome barbarism, poverty and epidemics;
that has got rid of the ghosts of its past and has united once and for all in a peaceful union.
And if you look around, you will see that you are not alone. There are half a billion EU
15 citizens that have the same hopes and problems as you. 497 million! This is more than the
USA and Russia put together.

Now imagine if all these people decided to do something about the world's critical issues,
instead of just bickering about cucumbers and traffic regulations.

Imagine if we made the researchers and business people in our 27 countries focus on new
20 environmental technology that could stop global warming. This would create jobs and
improve prosperity.

Because, to be honest, who else is going to do this?

Imagine if we used our diplomatic and political power to diffuse conflicts in Africa, the
Middle East and South-East Asia.

25 Who else is going to do this?

Imagine if we decided to take the initiative during this financial crisis and offer the world a
new, sustainable financial system.

Because who else is going to do this?

Finally imagine if this ability was already here:

30 the power, the knowledge and the money; the Parliament, the negotiating forum and the
voting buttons.

And that the only thing that is faltering is the willingness to act.

Now is the time to stop imagining and start to act. On 7 June, you will have your chance - in the European Parliament elections. Voting for the Centre Party is a vote that shows you are
35 willing to act. And a vote for the liberal forces that are slowly but surely transforming our European Union from the Great Bureaucracy to the Great Democracy.

You can then make a stand.

You can vote for Europe's united forces.

You can then show how courageous and essential it is to be optimistic.

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Maud Olofsson

Lena Ek

Party Leader, Deputy Prime Minister Member of the European Parliament

45 and Minister for Energy and Enterprise and the first name on the Centre Party's ballot paper for the European Parliament elections.

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Europe's united forces start with you

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The power in Europe lies with every European citizen. If Europe's 497 million inhabitants worked towards a better climate in their everyday lives or took the initiative to increase the number of jobs, we could meet the future with assurance. If Europeans decided together to uphold peace, encourage openness and fight crime, we could increase prosperity and create a
65 better world. An individual country could not achieve these added values by itself. Through the EU we can use our combined power to solve the major issues of the future. However, the Union will not get involved in issues that could be better solved locally, regionally or nationally, for example social security systems, labour market policy, culture, sport, forestry, hunting and fishing. We need to have a more streamlined, but more focussed EU.

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The EU will show the way to an eco-efficient economy

Many Europeans feel worried about the future. Redundancies, bank crises and the risk of mass unemployment are a reality throughout Europe. Most people also know that the world will no longer be the same in the future. Major industrial nations in the EU recognise the need for more energy-efficient production. In the middle of this crisis, the demand for climate-smart solutions in, for example, the vehicle industry, food production and the housing sector is increasing. There are many opportunities for more companies and new jobs. Green ideas are being transformed into innovations and new products. Investing in environmental technology will lead to export success. Business people and small business owners are starting to see the opportunities as they can sell their wood pellet boilers, ecological curtains and climate-smart logistics solutions. The Centre Party has spearheaded this development both in Sweden, Europe and on the international arena. We want the EU to show the way forwards to an eco-effective economy where sustainable competitiveness is linked to ecological responsibility through a more efficient and sustainable use of energy and raw materials. This eco-efficient economy will play a central role in the Union's new strategy for growth and employment. We can do this by working for a joint, coherent environmental policy, introducing a minimum level for carbon dioxide tax and giving the Union greater powers to fight environmental crimes and promote conformity with environmental regulations.

Safe and healthy food, without antibiotic residues and other unnecessary additives, is an important issue that the Centre Party is promoting in the EU. We want to improve animal protection and tighten the rules for transporting animals. We are also working for competitive European agriculture, characterised by greater environmental consideration, biodiversity, open landscapes and sustainable production. Within the framework of the Baltic Sea Strategy, we want the EU to assume its responsibility and ensure that the Baltic Sea remains a living sea that is rich in resources, and that the water is of good quality.

- The EU will be a forerunner in environmental work and will combine strong environmental commitment with job growth
- Europe will take the lead in developing an eco-efficient economy
- Focus the EU's strategy for growth and employment on having an eco-efficient economy and reform the EU's budget and other resources in a similar way
- Fully implement the EU's climate and energy package for a fossil-free Europe
- The EU will take the global lead with a sustainable energy system

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 - Push through a climate agreement in Copenhagen in December 2009
 - The EU will reduce its emissions of greenhouse gases by 30 percent by the year 2020
 - The EU will tighten its requirements for emissions trading, increase auctioning and expand trade to more countries and markets
 - Increase the work to secure more efficient energy use
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 - Introduce joint minimum levels for carbon dioxide tax and other climate taxes in Europe
 - The EU must take the lead with a sustainable transport system
 - Provide the EU with the ability to issue company fines when they breach environmental legislation
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 - Introduce a European environmental court
 - Make sure agriculture in the EU contributes to energy restructuring
 - Work for healthy and safe food produced in the EU and strengthen animal protection
 - Save the Baltic Sea through clear, joint regulations
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 - Introduce a new common fishing policy for long-term sustainable fishing
 - Reduce the European Parliament's climate impact, for example by stopping people commuting between Brussels and Strasbourg

The EU will show the way to an enterprising and prosperous Europe

125 The Centre Party promotes openness and free movement, and wants to make it easier to study, work, live and have access to healthcare in other EU countries. Free movement over borders is necessary to create more jobs and to ensure that more people can enjoy a better life. Now that we are in the middle of a crisis, it is more important than ever to safeguard competition on the internal market, combat all forms of protectionism and encourage the free

130 movement of the workforce.

The new jobs that will be created will be in Europe's small and medium-sized companies. The Centre Party therefore wants to improve their conditions. We want to add the finishing touch to the EU's internal market and implement reforms that will create growth. These

135 companies' administrative compliance costs need to be reduced, particularly in the agriculture and food sectors. We also want to improve surveillance and transparency on the European finance markets. A new global free trade agreement will have to be introduced as soon as possible.

- 140 • Work towards free trade and open borders as a way of creating financial prosperity for more people
- Defend free movement in the EU in the service sector as well
- Make it easier to work, live and study in Europe
- Emphasise the importance of these companies for new innovations, new environmental technology and new jobs
- 145 • Improve the conditions for small businesses to ensure that they can create new jobs in Europe
- Have more women as business leaders
- Allow patients to choose healthcare within the EU
- Make the free movement in the labour market easier
- 150 • Reduce the regulatory burden for companies by 40 percent by the year 2020 in the EU
- Defend state aid regulations and open trade to improve competition
- Defend the cohesion policy to minimise any differences and increase cooperation in the EU

155 **The EU will show the way to an open and safe Europe**

The Centre Party's open Europe is based on free and independent individuals. We firmly believe that the EU is there for its citizens - not the other way around - and that the people should always be put before the systems. We want to safeguard and strengthen the private sphere and promote empowerment for individuals by, for example, increasing privacy. We

160 have a strong belief in a Europe where human freedoms and rights are at the centre of policy, including the equality of citizens, irrespective of gender, skin colour, religion, age and sexual preference.

Cooperation in the EU is important to combat different forms of transnational crime that

165 constitute a threat to the safety of our citizens. The Centre Party therefore wants to see an increase in cooperation in order to combat people trafficking and strengthen legal certainty. All EU citizens should be able to trust the legal systems in other member states. Our Europe welcomes asylum seekers, job seekers, students and business people who want to come here to make a better life for themselves.

- 170 • Defend the EU's fundamental and common values of openness, democracy and human rights
- Link the EU to the European Convention on Human Rights

- Defend the freedoms and rights of the individual in Europe
- Strengthen the privacy of the individual in all decisions, carry out consequence analyses and introduce a privacy ombudsman in the EU
- Introduce joint minimum punishments for people trafficking and other serious organised crime
- Strengthen the cooperation between crime prevention authorities and between police authorities within the EU in order to combat criminality
- Strengthen legal certainty for the individual through joint regulations for, for example, detention times, travel bans, translation and interpretation, and the right to a defence lawyer
- Work to decriminalise abortion in all EU member states
- Strengthen women's rights and increase equality in Europe
- Strengthen LGBT rights and safety in Europe
- The EU will have a common, generous and humane migration and asylum policy
- Increase labour migration and openness to Europe

The EU will be a global leader to be reckoned with

- 190 The Centre Party wants the EU to represent strong political and economic leadership on the international arena. Our EU is a global leader that dares to take a stand when human rights are being violated, when international law is broken, and when basic freedoms and rights are not respected. For this to happen, the Union has to talk with a united voice in foreign and security policy. We think that it is particularly urgent that the EU takes the lead in
- 195 promoting peace and freedom, strengthening international security and working for free world trade and open borders. The expansion of the EU has been a central tool in creating stability, prosperity and democracy in Europe. The Centre Party believes that continued expansion is a natural part of the Union's development.
- Strengthen the EU as a guarantee for peace in Europe
 - Strengthen the EU's crisis management ability and dare to act when human rights are being violated
 - The EU will speak with one voice in foreign and security policy - and will scrap the right to veto
 - Welcome new member states into the EU
 - Strengthen the development assistance policy and make this area more efficient with better coordination between the countries

- Develop and strengthen the transatlantic link
- Increase cooperation with our surrounding areas

210 **The Centre Party leads Sweden and Europe**

The climate, the environment, energy, transport, work, growth, competitiveness and the Baltic Sea Strategy will be important issues during the Swedish Presidency in the EU in the second half of 2009. The Centre Party is currently responsible for these strategic issues in the coalition government. This will allow the Centre Party to play a key role during the
215 presidency; to lead the Union and create joint ideas with our European neighbours.

One of the most urgent tasks that we need to address is the adoption of a far-reaching climate agreement, a successor to the Kyoto Protocol, when all the countries in the world meet in Copenhagen in December. The Centre Party believes that the EU should show leadership
220 and lead the way. During the Swedish Presidency, we also want the EU to make a concerted effort to transform its activities into an eco-efficient economy, uniting a high level of competitiveness with ecological responsibility. This will help to create a high number of green jobs throughout Europe and the climate crisis will be the impetus we need to take us out of the financial crisis.

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Vote for Europe's united forces on 7 June!

230 On 7 June, you will have the chance to affect the future of Europe. The Centre Party has a strong belief in the EU's abilities to use its powerful and clear political leadership to influence the critical issues in the world – the climate and financial crises, jobs, peace, openness and security. We can work together to make sure that Europe can achieve so much more – as long as we really want to. Because to be honest, who else is going to do this?

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Voting for the Centre Party on 7 June is to vote for this willingness to act; for a green, enterprising, open and safe Europe. And a vote for the liberal forces that are slowly but surely transforming our European Union from the Great Bureaucracy to the Great Democracy.

240 By doing this, you are voting for Europe's united forces.