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*Sinn Féin*

European Election Manifesto 2009

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# Executive Summary

## Building Support in Europe for Irish Reunification

- The EU, and British and Irish Governments, should allow for an active role for members of the Executive in the Council of EU Ministers.
- Development of a single EU Community Support Framework to ensure that strategic planning can take place on an all-Ireland basis and that the EU can treat Ireland as a single entity for funding purposes.
- Exemption from state aid provisions to allow governments to make strategic investments to deal with the social, economic and structural distortions caused by partition.
- Introduction of the Euro in the North.
- Seek an exemption from these rules to allow for the reunification of Ireland as is currently permitted in the case of German re-unification.
- Step up the campaign for the EU to support Irish reunification.

## For Positive Change in the European Union

- Oppose any Lisbon Treaty re-run as anti-democratic and a bad deal for Ireland.
- Support negotiation of a new treaty for a new time, based on the recommendations made by Sinn Fein, reflecting the concerns of the Irish people.
- Campaign for the people of the north to exercise a vote on any future Treaty.
- Promote a real agenda for greater EU democracy.
- Strengthening the role of regional and national parliaments and local authorities.
- Reducing the power of the unelected and unaccountable Commission.

- Reform of MEP parliamentary allowance system to ensure that all expenses claimed are vouched and full details are published.
- End to the system where sitting MEPs claim oireachtas/ ministerial pensions.

## For Sustainable Prosperity With Equality

- Be the strongest advocates of Irish economic sovereignty and all-Ireland tax harmonisation.
- Oppose market supremacy, deregulation and liberalisation and promote a new approach to economic policy which ensures that sustainable prosperity is underpinned by equality.
- Place the 'green economy' at the heart of economic development and new job opportunities.
- Encourage access to the EU funds to boost affordable, high speed broadband services in rural areas.
- Ensure EU funds part-finance a programme of energy efficiency renovations that would provide support to our construction industry, saving jobs and creating jobs while at the same time playing a part in meeting our climate change obligations and tackling fuel poverty.
- Strengthen SME access to and participation in public procurement specifically by adapting the size of contracts and alleviating the administrative and financial burden in tendering and by using e-procurement.
- Seek to safeguard the economic sectors most at risk from globalisation, and in particular agriculture.
- Promote fair trade rather than unrestricted free trade as the guiding principle of the EU's economic relations with other countries.

## For Protecting Public Services and Workers' Rights

- Oppose the liberalisation and privatisation of key public services (such as education and health) and campaign to ensure that such services remain the exclusive responsibility of Member States.
- Fight against the relocation of businesses and jobs to lower wage economies and ensure that companies cannot relocate to other jurisdictions, within the EU, on this basis.
- Campaign for EU support for retraining of workers affected by company closures.
- Continue to campaign for a "Social Progress Clause" in any future EU Treaty which would guarantee that pay and employment conditions cannot be undermined by rulings of the European Court of Justice.

## For Ending Economic Inequality and Poverty

- The European Economic Recovery Plan contributes to the priority of ending poverty and inequality.
- Comprehensive EU legislation to protect economic and social rights, and to build on progress made with regard to access to goods and services.
- Equal access to good quality social, educational, child care and health services, and housing, transport energy and water services.
- EU targets for ending homelessness.
- A guaranteed minimum income in order to ensure a dignified life for everybody.

## For Protecting Ireland's Rural Economy and Fishing Communities

- Support reforms of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) that make Irish farming and the rural economy more sustainable and prosperous.

- Present an all-Ireland voice for our rural economy especially in practical areas like animal health.
- Oppose all EU plans to allow genetically modified (GM) crops to be grown in Ireland.
- Support the development of a Rural White paper (in the North) and the shaping of policies at EU level to support our rural communities and rural economy.
- Push for a renegotiation of the CFP to get a better deal for Ireland.
- Work with our fishing communities to make sure their voice is heard in Brussels.

## For Robust Environmental Protection

- Prioritise environmental protection by supporting the highest level of environmental standards in EU legislation in Strasbourg, and by holding authorities at home to these standards.
- Call for the revision of EU regulations so that public interest groups can seek judicial reviews of EU decisions in relation to environmental matters.

## For Urgent Action on Climate Change

- Seek to have climate goals incorporated across a range of policy areas.
- Resist attempts to reduce targets for emissions cuts set by Brussels.
- Work to ensure that developing nations are treated fairly and adequately supported by the EU to play their role in coping with the global challenges of reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- Work to make the EU target for a 20% increase in energy efficiency by 2020 mandatory.

## For Safe Renewable Energy and Against Nuclear Power

- Support moves to increase the output of renewable energy across Ireland, including biofuels where these are environmentally and socially sustainable.
- Campaign for an all-Ireland energy network that is self-sufficient and sustainable.
- Unequivocally reject the use and promotion of nuclear energy in Ireland and across Europe and continue to campaign for the closure of Sellafield.
- Work to end EU subsidies from export credit agencies and public investment banks for nuclear projects.

## For Equality, Human Rights and Civil Liberties

- Promote the right to participate to the EU decision-making process and campaign for full and equal accessibility of the EU institutions and its facilities.
- Work to ensure that older people can move freely within the EU without losing their pension rights.
- Support the European Women's Lobby '50/50 Campaign', demanding equal gender representation in all EU institutions.
- Support the equal rights of LGBT citizens, including the rights to freedom of movement and family reunification through partnership recognition, an inclusive definition of the family in EU law and policy, and explicit recognition of transgender people's equal rights.
- Support the right of all persons seeking protection to be treated according to the same highest standards across all Member States.
- Work to end the restriction of asylum seekers' and refugees' access to employment.
- Support EU-level and international cooperation in criminal justice matters where this clearly serves the public interest.

- Not agree to cede national sovereignty over or democratic oversight of, and oppose any moves towards establishing exclusive EU competence over, any area of justice.

## For the Language Rights of Irish Speakers

- Continue to use Irish in our work and push the EU bodies to respect the rights of Irish speakers.
- Pressure the Irish Government to meet its commitments in providing an adequate number of Irish interpreters and translators.
- Encourage the Irish Government to develop Irish-language courses in Gaeltacht areas specifically targeted at interpreters and translators from different language backgrounds.

## For Irish Neutrality and Global Social Justice

- Oppose the drive to integrate foreign and defence policy among EU Member States and to subordinate this policy to NATO, and campaign for the restoration of an independent Irish foreign policy.
- Campaign for an EU Global Social Justice Agenda with an emphasis on the Millennium Development Goals, Trade Justice, and UN reform.
- Support UN-led conflict prevention, dispute mediation, peace negotiation, peace enforcement and peacekeeping operations, elections or other human rights monitoring, and post-conflict capacity building.
- Campaign for legally-binding provisions to ensure that EU companies operating outside the EU do not violate human rights or undermine environmental sustainability.
- Continue to use the European Parliament as a forum to voice opposition to the occupation of the Palestinian Territories by Israel and to call for the suspension of EU preferential trade with Israel until such time as that state fully complies with international law.

# 1 Sinn Féin: A Positive Voice in Europe A Voice for Change in Europe Your Voice in Europe

Sinn Féin wants Ireland to play a central role in shaping the future direction of the European Union. Our two MEPs, Bairbre de Brún and Mary Lou McDonald, since their election in 2004 have been a positive and constructive voice in the European Parliament.

Sinn Féin's approach to the EU is guided by a simple principle. We actively support proposals and measures that are in the interests of Ireland and the EU as a whole and campaign to change those that are not.

## In the European Parliament Sinn Féin has supported measures that:

- protect workers rights and public services
- promote environmental protection and sustainability
- promote balanced regional development
- protect and promote the rural economy
- provide greater democracy and accountability in the EU institutions
- protect Irish neutrality and oppose increased militarisation of the EU
- promote greater human rights protection for all
- promote fair trade and greater equality for the developing world

The record of our MEPs speaks for itself. They have worked with others to advance the interests of Ireland and the European Union and to protect the rights and entitlements of ordinary people in Ireland, across Europe and the wider world.

Sinn Féin has put the interests of Ireland first in Europe – our people, our rural communities, our natural environment and our future prosperity.

Sinn Féin has led the way in developing a new working relationship with the EU that will deliver real results. We have provided real leadership in demanding that Ireland – North and South – is not squeezed out of the decision making process. Sinn Féin is a positive voice in Europe. We are a voice for change in Europe. We are your voice in Europe.

## Sinn Féin's Record in the European Parliament

Since their election to the European Parliament in 2004 Bairbre de Brún and Mary Lou Mac Donald have:

- Brought the case for a United Ireland to MEPs and other decision-makers from all over Europe, and promoted practical measures to strengthen all-Ireland working to benefit all the people of Ireland.
- Worked with our Ministers in the Executive to help secure the €333 million PEACE programme including €225 million from Europe.
- Secured overwhelming backing for the de Brún Report on the PEACE programme, which recognises that peace building and reconciliation is a long-term process requiring ongoing support for grass roots projects and projects targetted at areas of greatest disadvantage.



- Worked with Irish language groups to secure the status of official and working language of the European Union for Irish.
- Raised issues of conflict resolution, and the possible lessons of the Irish peace process for resolving conflicts in other countries inside and outside the EU.
- Facilitated the engagement of trade unionists, community groups, collusion victims and others with the EU institutions.
- Brought the workings of the EU to local people through direct engagement with local businesses, trade unions, community organisations, environmental groups, NGOs and rural communities.
- Initiated and secured overwhelming support for a Declaration calling for action by the EU and member states to end street homelessness by 2015.
- Worked to maximise the potential of the EU Economic Recovery Plan to tackle the economic crisis and supported measures to help our small businesses.
- Secured a visit to the North West of the influential Regional Development Committee to promote fair regional development.
- Secured recognition of the issue of corporate manslaughter in a report on Corporate Social Responsibility.
- Secured overwhelming support for the McDonald Report and subsequent resolution on the ILO Maritime Labour Convention to create an international framework to limit workers' rights abuses in the maritime sector.
- Successfully campaigned against the proposed Port Services Directive which would have cost jobs and driven down pay and conditions in ports across the EU.
- Campaigned for workers' rights and against

- proposals to increase working time and to end opt-outs and abuses of the Working Time Directive.
- Campaigned against the liberalisation of public services, particularly through the Services Directive, the proposed Directive on cross-border health care and the Directive on Postal Services.
- Resisted imports of Brazilian beef over traceability concerns.
- Secured further support for farmers in meeting the requirements of the Nitrates Directive, and pushed for reduced bureaucracy.
- Briefed farmers and rural communities on EU developments and facilitated their engagement with Europe.
- Promoted renewable energy and energy efficiency as a way of boosting the local economy and tackling climate change and fuel poverty.
- Actively promoted progressive solutions to climate change through Bairbre de Brún's membership of the Temporary Committee on Climate Change and amended EU legislation to promote recycling.
- Campaigned for a Directive on equal treatment, irrespective of religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation, to complement existing Directives against discrimination on the grounds of gender or race.
- Helped secure one million signatures across the EU calling for improved rights for people with disabilities.





## 2 ■ Building Support in Europe for Irish Re-unification

The border in Ireland is one of the least open in the EU when it comes to cross-border social and economic development. The Good Friday Agreement provides a road-map for the intensification of cross-border cooperation on a range of issues. Sinn Féin believes that the only way to truly transform the economy in Ireland is through an island-wide strategy for development and regeneration. There are a number of ways in which the EU can support such developments.

Sinn Féin launched a document on EU support for Irish reunification in 2006, outlining how the EU could help overcome the legacy of partition and support the reunification of Ireland. Among the proposals are:

- The EU should encourage the Irish Government to allow for the participation of elected representatives from all over Ireland in the Houses of the Oireachtas.
- The EU, and British and Irish Governments, should allow for an active role for members of the Executive in the Council of EU Ministers.
- Development of a single National Reform Programme on economic and social development, to include all-Ireland harmonisation of taxes and of regulation on employment, social cohesion and the environment.
- Development of a single EU Community Support Framework to ensure that strategic planning can take place on an all-Ireland

basis and that the EU can treat Ireland as a single entity for funding purposes.

- Provision for the Assembly to democratically “opt-in” to EU Directives where the British Government has opted-out in order to ensure that the whole island is operating within the same social and economic framework.
- Exemption from state aid provisions to allow governments to make strategic investments to deal with the social, economic and structural distortions caused by partition.
- Introduction of the Euro in the North.

Sinn Féin MEPs will continue to raise these issues and campaign for the EU to support Irish reunification.

### Using EU Structural Funds to Build National Reconciliation and Regional Equality

The EU’s structural funds have benefited Ireland, North and South. Cohesion policy is a success of the European Union. It is also one of the most visible EU policies for people of the Member States.

Newer Member States deserve the same chances that Ireland got through the structural funds. Sinn Féin in Europe has been vocal in our support for a strong, well-financed EU structural funds programme based on solidarity between regions.

The Sinn Féin team in Europe has prioritised Ireland's regions in our work. The North-West of our country has lost out immeasurably because of partition. Our work in the European Parliament has empowered people from this region and from across Ireland to demand that they and their regions are treated on the basis of equality.

Sinn Féin played an important role in the lobbying that brought about the PEACE III programme. In a report overwhelmingly backed by MEPs in 2008 we highlighted the role of the PEACE programme to aid the process of national reconciliation through funding projects which genuinely redress the injustices of the past and bring communities together.

#### **Sinn Féin MEPs will:**

- Fight for Ireland's regions and for an all-Ireland dynamic to structural fund spending.
- Work with the Task Force set-up by the European Commission to make sure we maximise the efficiency of our structural fund receipts.
- Work to have sustainable development and social inclusion at the heart of EU funding regulations.

## **3 ■ For Positive Change in the European Union**

In 2008 almost one million voters in the South of Ireland voted against the Lisbon Treaty. It was the same decision as that taken by two of the founding members of the European Union, France and the Netherlands, who two years earlier rejected the same package of proposals. In the North citizens were denied the right to vote on the issue by the British Government.

Like the people of France and the Netherlands, voters in Ireland were concerned with issues of democracy, public services, workers rights, environmental protection, militarisation, and trade.

The Irish people who had an opportunity to vote were – like the people of France and the Netherlands – saying yes to a more democratic, a more equitable and a more peaceful European Union.

Sinn Féin believes that the EU needs reform. Immediately after the defeat of the Lisbon Treaty in 2008 we presented detailed proposals to the Irish Government on what we believed would be required for the people of Ireland to support any new Treaty.

The global recession has demonstrated the failures of the economic and social policies pursued by the Irish and British Governments, and the European Union. These same economic policies are pushed even further in the Lisbon Treaty. Now more than ever it is time for a new treaty for the new times in which we find ourselves.

We need a new treaty that brings greater democracy to the EU, returning power to people and Member States. We need a treaty that sets out economic and social policies that prioritise prosperity with equality and sustainability. We need a treaty that protects Irish neutrality and that sets its face against the creeping militarisation of the EU and foreign and defence policies decided by NATO.

#### **Sinn Féin MEPs will:**

- Oppose any Lisbon Treaty re-run as anti-democratic.
- Support negotiation of a new treaty for a new time, based on the recommendations made by Sinn Féin, reflecting the concerns of the Irish people.
- Campaign for the people of the North to exercise a vote on any future Treaty.

### **For a More Democratic EU**

Sinn Féin has campaigned for greater democracy and accountability in the EU. Unfortunately, the democratic deficit remains. Decisions are made far from ordinary people, with little scrutiny, and in a way that prevents their active participation.

The gap between ordinary people and the European Commission, Council and Parliament is growing. As a result decisions taken in the EU do not reflect peoples' real concerns or needs.



## Sinn Féin MEPs will continue to promote a more democratic EU by:

- Promoting a real agenda for greater EU democracy.
- Strengthening the role of regional and national parliaments and local authorities.
- Defending the wishes of Member State citizens as democratically expressed in referenda.
- Reducing the power of the unelected and unaccountable Commission.
- Assessing each piece of legislation on its overall impact on Ireland.
- Proposing reform of MEP parliamentary allowance system to ensure that all expenses claimed are vouched and full details are published.
- Calling for an end to the system where sitting MEPs claim Oireachtas/ Ministerial pensions.



# 4 ■ For Sustainable Prosperity With Equality

The scale of the economic challenge facing us in Europe and in Ireland demands a new approach to creating and sustaining jobs, protecting the rights of workers and tackling poverty. Across Europe billions are being pumped into the financial sector yet it is ordinary people who are losing their jobs and their homes.

The current EU economic policy is fundamentally flawed in that it prioritises market competition over more important economic and social goals such as full employment, social justice and environmental sustainability.

We believe the current economic crisis requires the EU to rethink its strategy and place the interests of people at the heart of its decision-making. The ways in which EU economic policy (the Lisbon Strategy 2000 and the Broad Economic Policy Guidelines) restrict government room to manoeuvre in response to the crisis must be addressed as a matter of urgency.

Sinn Féin will continue to work at local, Assembly, Dáil and EU levels to promote viable and effective solutions to the economic crisis that restore a more sustainable prosperity, with greater equality.

### Sinn Féin MEPs will:

- Work to change the existing EU economic policy guidelines to promote sustainable economic growth, full employment, social justice and environmental protection.

- Oppose market supremacy, deregulation and liberalisation and promote a new approach to economic policy which ensures that sustainable prosperity is underpinned by equality.
- Place the 'green economy' at the heart of economic development and new job opportunities.

## For Using EU Funds to Create Jobs

Getting Irish workers back to work is a priority for Sinn Féin. With the global recession and the financial sector implosion creating a cash flow crisis for Irish businesses, any recovery plan must focus on ensuring that we have the infrastructure, skills, services and access to credit and other supports required to save and create jobs.

There are a number of key areas where EU funds and programmes could help make a difference. The European Commission's Economic Recovery Plan includes concrete proposals of particular interest to Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs). And we need to maximise EU assistance to grasp the real opportunities in developing sectors with the greatest potential, including and especially our green economy.

### **Sinn Féin MEPs will:**

- Work to maximise the job creation potential of EU transport and energy programmes such as TENS (Trans European Networks), Concerto, Intelligent Energy, and Civitas.
- Encourage access to the EU funds to boost affordable, high speed broadband services in rural areas.
- Promote involvement in the sustainable development strategy through projects supported financially under Life+.
- Ensure EU funds part-finance a programme of energy efficiency renovations that would provide support to our construction industry, saving jobs and creating jobs while at the same time playing a part in meeting our climate change obligations and tackling fuel poverty.
- Continue to support local small and medium businesses to access EU finance.
- Strengthen SME access to and participation in public procurement specifically by adapting the size of contracts and alleviating the administrative and financial burden in tendering and by using e-procurement.

## **For Protecting Public Services**

Current EU economic policy promotes the opening up of vital public services to private competition ('liberalisation'). It promotes weaker regulation, encouraging the sort of abuses we have seen recently in the banking sector. The result has been greater deregulation and ultimately privatisation of public services. This has increased social inequality even during periods of economic growth. More fundamentally, such policies are at the root of the present economic crisis.

Sinn Féin will take every measure to support and protect public services, and oppose all proposals for liberalisation, deregulation and privatisation. We will campaign to restore the right of the Dáil and Assembly to decide which public services are exempt from EU competition and state aid rules and organise and fund them accordingly.

### **Sinn Féin MEPs will:**

- Oppose the liberalisation and privatisation of key public services (such as education and health) and campaign to ensure that such services remain the exclusive responsibility of Member States.
- Campaign for Member States to retain control of key "economic" services such as transport, communications, housing, water and energy services.
- Oppose moves to subject health services to market rules and regulations.

## **For Protecting Workers' Rights**

Despite its prior track record, in recent years the EU has actually weakened the rights of working people and undermined the ability of trade unions to negotiate better conditions for workers. It has also restricted the ability of governments to legislate for improved pay and conditions.

The EU is now promoting insecure employment and lower wages. It is pitting worker against worker, company against company, and country against country in its drive to increase competitiveness through lower wages and worker 'flexibility'.

Sinn Féin has been to the fore in opposing any move to undermine the pay and conditions of working people in Ireland and across the EU.

### **Sinn Féin MEPs will continue to promote workers rights, and will:**

- Fight against the relocation of businesses and jobs to lower wage economies and ensure that companies cannot relocate to other jurisdictions within the EU on this basis.
- Campaign for EU support for retraining of workers affected by company closures.
- Oppose attacks on workers rights, such as the proposed increase of working hours.
- Continue to campaign for a "Social Progress Clause" in any future EU Treaty which would guarantee that pay and employment conditions cannot be undermined by rulings of the European Court of Justice.
- Combat and reverse the rising trend towards precarious work.
- Support the equal rights of migrant workers and their families, which effectively protects the rights of all workers.
- Support job security and good employment conditions, in opposition to EU proposals to make it easier for employers to fire people and reduce benefits such as holidays and pensions.
- Fight against reductions in unemployment benefits and social welfare payments.

## **For Ending Economic Inequality and Poverty**

Some 78 million people across the EU (16% of the total population) are at risk of poverty. In Ireland the figure is higher than the EU average, at 16.5% in the South and 20% in the North. With rising unemployment and falling incomes this situation is getting worse. Some groups in society experience greater inequality than others: children, lone parents, older people, the unemployed, people with disabilities, members of minority groups and those living in disadvantaged areas. People facing multiple discrimination are more likely to be at risk of poverty.

One of the key ways for people to get out of poverty is through employment, which must be a priority, However poverty is also about access to housing and services, and ultimately about human dignity and respect.

Sinn Féin endorses the demand to make social cohesion and the fight against poverty and economic inequality an EU priority.

Sinn Féin brought together MEPs from different Member States and diverse political backgrounds and achieved overwhelming support for a declaration on street homelessness in the European Parliament calling for action by the EU and Member States.

### **Sinn Féin MEPs will work to ensure:**

- The European Economic Recovery Plan contributes to the priority of ending poverty and inequality.
- Comprehensive EU legislation to protect economic and social rights, and build on progress made with regard to access to goods and services.
- Equal access to good quality social, educational, child care and health services, and housing, transport, energy and water services.
- Greater EU support for the social economy.
- EU targets for ending homelessness.
- A guaranteed minimum income in order to ensure a dignified life for everybody.
- A link between pensions and average earnings.

## **For Protecting Ireland's Rural Economy**

Agriculture remains one of Ireland's most important industries. Its cultural and traditional role in Irish society also makes it critically important for Ireland and for Sinn Féin both here at home and in the EU.

Sinn Féin's MEPs will work with our Agriculture Minister in the north, Michelle Gildernew and our colleagues in the south to ensure that Irish farmers have a strong all-Ireland voice at all levels in the EU.

We know the realities that farmers and in particular small farmers face because of EU regulations and will work with farming organisations to let Europe hear these concerns.

### **Sinn Féin MEPs will:**

- Support reforms of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) that make Irish farming and the rural economy more sustainable and prosperous.
- Continue to work with Irish farmers in dealing with the burden of EU regulations.
- Present an all-Ireland voice for our rural economy especially in practical areas like animal health.
- Oppose all EU plans to allow genetically modified (GM) crops to be grown in Ireland, in keeping with our commitment to a GM crop-free Ireland, and support a strict and full liability regime which places the burden on companies and farmers using/producing GM crops.
- Brief farmers and rural communities on EU developments, and facilitate their engagement with the EU institutions and other actors.
- Support the development of a Rural White Paper (in the North) and the shaping of policies at EU level to support our rural communities and rural economy.

## **For Making Irish Fisheries Viable**

Sinn Féin has been critical of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) since its inception. We have consistently argued that the CFP amounts to a gross violation of Irish territorial waters. Since Ireland joined the EEC in 1973 over €100 billion worth of fish has been mined from our seas, principally by non-Irish fleets.

Sacrificing our coastal fishing rights for other short-term perceived advantages has damaged the sustainability of our fishing communities. We will stand with our fishing communities and fight for a better, fairer deal that will allow Ireland to benefit from the resources in our seas and to revitalise our coastal communities.

### **To protect our natural resources and coastal communities, Sinn Féin MEPs will:**

- Work to ensure a sustainable future for our fishing communities.
- Push for a renegotiation of the CFP to get a better deal for Ireland.
- Work with our fishing communities to make sure their voice is heard in Brussels.
- Assert the primacy of Irish sovereignty in discussions about how our natural resources in our territorial waters are managed.

## **For Challenging the EU Competition Rules**

EU competition regulations (or state aid rules) severely restrict the investments a Member State or regional or local government can make in its own economy. These rules are simply too inflexible to allow for state involvement when it is necessary. Sinn Féin is opposed to this approach, which is based on the EU's flawed economic strategy.

For example, government investment in rural areas through supporting loss-making rural post offices is questionable under EU rules, as would be moves by the Irish Government or the Assembly to protect

essential industry and jobs. The final decision in these cases rests with the European Court of Justice which has a history of prioritising the free market and private profit over balanced and sustainable social, economic, regional and rural development.

The European Commission and European Court of Justice should not have the power to block essential social, economic or environmental investments. Nor should governments use the EU Competition Rules as a convenient excuse for not properly supporting public services.

### **Sinn Féin MEPs will:**

- Oppose the free-market primacy in the EU's state aid rules.
- Seek an exemption from these rules to allow for the reunification of Ireland as is currently permitted in the case of German reunification.
- Challenge any attempt to use these EU rules as an excuse for lack of government action in supporting public services and our essential industries and social infrastructure.

## **For Irish Sovereignty Over Taxation**

Recent years have seen the EU gain more power to set the parameters within which national and regional governments can operate their economies, and in particular exercise control over taxation.

VAT rules are already set at EU level. Moves have been made to bring corporation tax into the remit of the EU through the introduction of a Common Consolidated Corporate Tax Base (CCCTB). This is supported by the European Commission and Parliament, as well as many Member States in the European Council – and even some Irish MEPs.

Sinn Féin believes that essential economic policy should be controlled by democratically elected national or regional governments. Sinn Féin MEPs have an impeccable record of defending Ireland's right to set its own tax base and consequently our own corporate tax rate.

#### **Sinn Féin MEPs will:**

- Be the strongest advocates of Irish economic sovereignty and all-Ireland tax harmonisation.
- Strengthen Ireland's voice in opposing greater EU control over taxation including EU-wide tax harmonisation.

## **For Fair International Trade**

The EU is a major economic force but has been using this strength to impose a free trade agenda which benefits corporations instead of using it to promote sustainable development. Because of EU-imposed free trade agreements developing countries have been unable to pursue a natural course of development which would first and foremost serve the needs of their own peoples.

In addition the power that the EU has to negotiate international trade deals on behalf of all Member States has been damaging to certain economic sectors that the EU feels are better and more cheaply undertaken outside the EU.

#### **Sinn Féin MEPs will:**

- Seek to safeguard the economic sectors most at risk from globalisation, and in particular agriculture.
- Promote fair trade rather than unrestricted free trade as the guiding principle of the EU's economic relations with other countries.
- Campaign for the introduction of a tax on global currency speculation, such as the Tobin Tax.

# 5 ■ **For Robust Environmental Protection**

Biodiversity and a clean environment are vital natural resources. Facing us are both challenges in dealing with our waste and habitat loss, and opportunities in using wind, solar and wave energy.

The environment has been a key issue for us in Brussels and Strasbourg. The EU has brought forward much positive environmental protection legislation which Sinn Féin actively supports. In particular, Sinn Féin has been involved in legislation:

- Limiting the effect of chemicals on our health (the REACH Directive).
- Shaping future waste management policies promoting reduction, reuse and recycling.
- Supporting binding targets on renewable energy sources so that Ireland can fully benefit from our potential domestic resources (in particular wind and wave).

Sinn Féin has raised local environmental issues at an EU level such as residents' groups' concerns around landfills, incinerators, asbestos dumps and the Shell pipeline at Rosport.

Sinn Féin has campaigned against incinerators in Poolbeg, Rathcoole and other communities across Ireland. At EU level we have opposed moves to brand incineration as "recovery" rather than "disposal". This reclassification would ultimately mean more incinerators in our communities.

#### **Sinn Féin MEPs will:**

- Prioritise environmental protection by supporting the highest level of environmental standards in EU legislation in Strasbourg, and by holding authorities at home to these standards.
- Support EU leadership in the promotion of sustainable development at the global, regional and national levels.
- Promote concerted action on ecosystems and the development and better implementation of successful EU biodiversity policies such as the Birds and Habitats Directives and the Natura 2000 network of protected areas.
- Review all electromagnetic field (EMF) regulations in line with the findings of the Bioinitiative report on the health effects caused by increased exposure to wireless devices.
- Call for the revision of EU regulations so that public interest groups can seek judicial reviews of EU decisions in relation to environmental matters.

## **For Urgent Action on Climate Change**

Climate Change represents one of the greatest challenges facing Ireland and Europe. Sinn Féin has contributed greatly to shaping EU and Irish

policy on climate change. We have engaged with experts at home and across Europe on different aspects of climate change.

Our approach to climate change is to recognise it as not just a northern or southern or even Irish problem but to place it in its international context. Our membership of the European Parliament's Temporary Committee on Climate Change has allowed us to input our ideas at each point of decision-making – locally, nationally and at EU level.

We support binding legislation committing the government in the South to cut greenhouse gas emissions by at least 3% annually in order to meet international obligations, and have prioritised climate action in our input into the Programme for Government in the North.

#### **Sinn Féin MEPs will:**

- Seek to have climate goals incorporated across a range of policy areas.
- Resist attempts to reduce targets for emissions cuts set by Brussels.
- Push for a progressive mandate to be given to EU, through our role in the European Parliament, in future world climate talks.
- Support the Copenhagen Pledge drawn up by Christian Aid in advance of the UN climate talks in December 2009.
- Work to ensure that developing nations are treated fairly and adequately supported by the EU to play their role in coping with the global challenges of reducing greenhouse gas emissions. This should include new and additional funding over and above Overseas Development Aid.

- Campaign in particular for finance to stop and reverse deforestation.
- Continue to promote opportunities in renewable energy and energy efficiency as a way of boosting the local economy and tackling climate change and fuel poverty.
- Work to make the EU target for a 20% increase in energy efficiency by 2020 mandatory.

### **For Safe Renewable Energy and Against Nuclear Power**

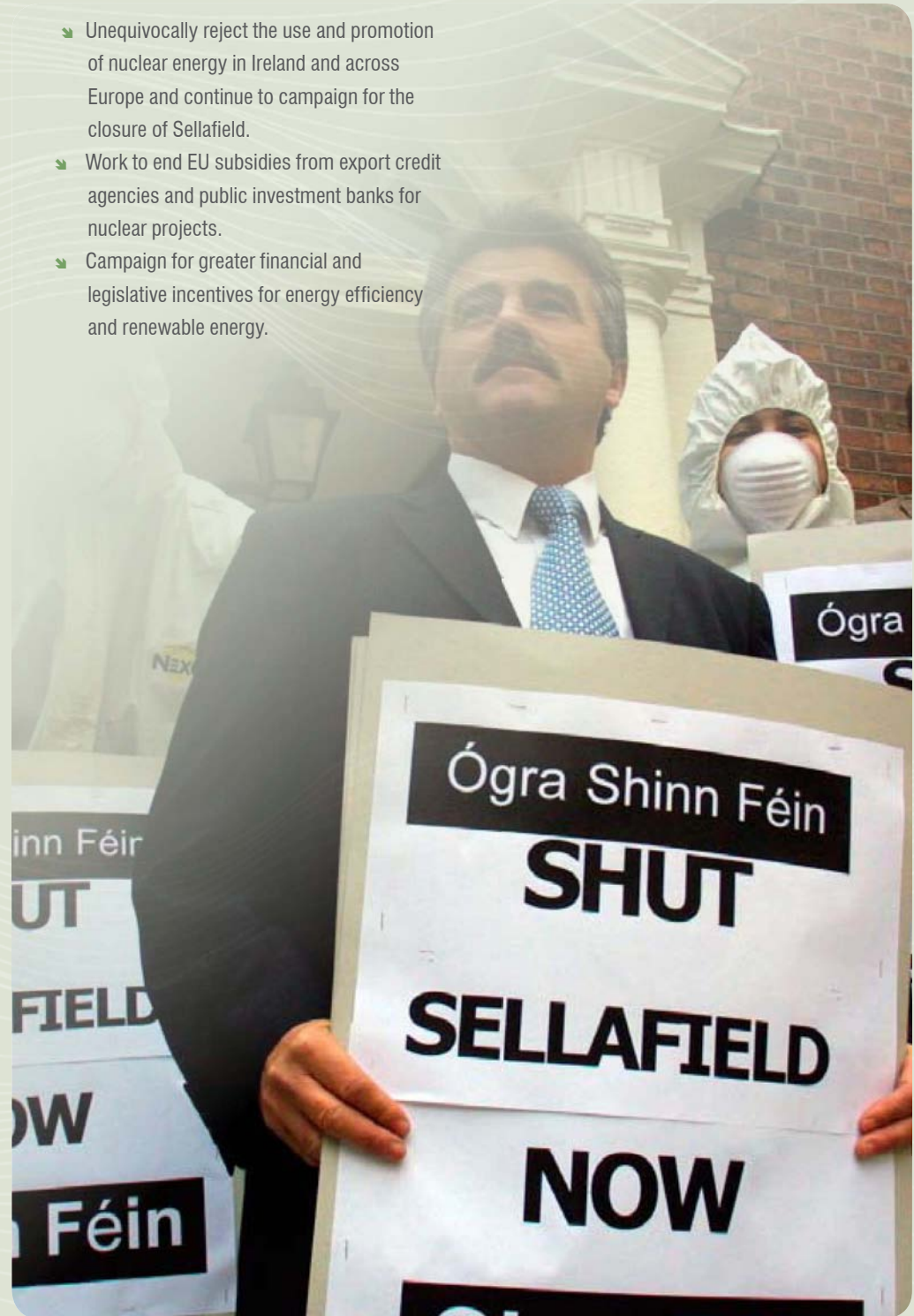
Energy has become a major issue in the EU and at home. Renewable energy must become one of the growth areas for Ireland, North and South in the time ahead. Sinn Féin believes that an all-Ireland energy network powered by a domestic, renewable supply provides the best means of energy security for Ireland. We are endowed with huge potential in renewable energy resources and should invest in these clean technologies as a priority.

We support the mandatory EU target of 20% for renewable energy use by 2020. We reject completely suggestions that nuclear energy has any role to play in reducing Ireland's carbon emissions, as it is not a safe renewable source.

#### **Sinn Féin MEPs will:**

- Support moves to increase the output of renewable energy across Ireland, including biofuels where these are environmentally and socially sustainable.
- Campaign for an all-Ireland energy network that is self-sufficient and sustainable.

- Unequivocally reject the use and promotion of nuclear energy in Ireland and across Europe and continue to campaign for the closure of Sellafield.
- Work to end EU subsidies from export credit agencies and public investment banks for nuclear projects.
- Campaign for greater financial and legislative incentives for energy efficiency and renewable energy.





## 6 ■ For Equality, Human Rights and Civil Liberties

Freedom, justice and human rights should be the cornerstone of EU policy on Justice and Home Affairs. However much of the EU's current policy is fixated on increasing surveillance and restrictions on people's rights – creating instead a Fortress Europe security state.

This is the principal reason we oppose the trend towards EU integration and centralisation of policing and judicial powers. However we also believe that these are primarily matters for sovereign states. To be valid, any EU harmonisation or cooperation measures should require unanimity and also have as their objective the increased protection of human rights.

Sinn Féin supports measures which genuinely combat international crime or assist legitimate freedom of movement. Any EU-wide cooperation systems in policing or migration management must be guided by human rights standards and accompanied by the necessary accountability and oversight mechanisms to ensure they are not abused. We do not support the Schengen system as we believe that it does not meet these criteria.

Sinn Féin supports comprehensive EU legislation to protect and promote equality and diversity, human rights and civil liberties. Our MEPs will oppose any EU measure which is not fully human rights-compliant and consistent with international law.

### Sinn Féin MEPs will:

- Promote the right to participate to the EU decision-making process and campaign for full and equal accessibility of the EU institutions and its facilities.
- Continue to help women, older people, people with disabilities, LGBT people, migrants and asylum seekers to bring their issues directly to EU decision makers and ensure their voices are heard in Europe, through participation in Inter-Group and other mechanisms.
- Build on progress made in relation to the Directive implementing the principle of equal treatment between persons irrespective of religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation.
- Promote EU support for disability mainstreaming, disability-proofing, universal design requirements and the right to live independently.
- Work to ensure that older people can move freely within the EU without losing their pension rights.
- Support the European Women's Lobby '50/50 Campaign', demanding equal gender representation in all EU institutions. (We note with pride that the Sinn Féin EU election slate is more than 50% women.)
- Support the equal rights of LGBT citizens, including the rights to freedom of movement and family reunification through partnership

recognition, an inclusive definition of the family in EU law and policy, and explicit recognition of transgender people's equal rights.

- Support the right of all persons seeking protection to be treated according to the same highest standards across all Member States.
- Oppose detention of asylum seekers.
- Work to end the restriction of asylum seekers' and refugees' access to employment.
- Promote the right to family reunification.
- Support EU-level and international cooperation in criminal justice matters where this clearly serves the public interest.
- Not agree to cede national sovereignty over or democratic oversight of, and oppose any moves towards establishing exclusive EU competence over, any area of justice.
- Ensure robust scrutiny of all EU measures proposed under Justice and Home Affairs at European Parliament, Oireachtas and Assembly level post-devolution, to ensure that these adhere to human rights and international law standards, contain adequate safeguards, and serve the best interests of the Irish people.

## For the Language Rights of Irish Speakers

Since 2007 Irish has been an official working language of the European Union after a successful campaign by STÁDAS and other Irish language rights advocates. Whilst this development was warmly welcomed by Sinn Féin we are not content to accept the derogations and exceptions that came with it to remain in place.

Sinn Féin has pushed consistently for a removal of these derogations which still make conducting business through our first language very difficult in the EU. We will continue to campaign for equality for Irish speakers in the EU institutions and for Irish speakers dealing with these institutions.

We have also used our influence at the EU level to push the case for an Irish language Act in the Six Counties.

### Sinn Féin MEPs will:

- Continue to use Irish in our work and push the EU bodies to respect the rights of Irish speakers.
- Pressure the Irish Government to meet its commitments in providing an adequate number of Irish interpreters and translators.
- Encourage the Irish Government to develop Irish-language courses in Gaeltacht areas specifically targeted at interpreters and translators from different language backgrounds.
- Continue to work with others to ensure the provision of information to schools on careers for Irish speakers in EU institution.
- Empower Irish language activists in their campaigns for an Irish Language Act through facilitating delegations to meet relevant people at the EU level.
- Build alliances with other indigenous and minority language rights activists from across the EU.

# 7 ■ For Irish Neutrality and Global Social Justice

The EU is progressively integrating its military efforts with those of the NATO military alliance. In this process the interests of neutral countries such as Ireland are brushed aside. The Lisbon Treaty accelerates this process.

Sinn Féin believes that international relations and international justice and peace are best served by strengthening the only fully inclusive multilateral forum, the United Nations. While EU member states acting together can have a positive effect on international relations, we do not accept the existing Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) nor do we accept the legitimacy of establishing an EU Common Defence. Indeed such measures actively undermine the development of the United Nations and a more socially just international order.

### Sinn Féin MEPs will:

- Oppose the drive to integrate foreign and defence policy among EU Member States and to subordinate this policy to NATO, and campaign for the restoration of an independent Irish foreign policy.
- Campaign for an EU Global Social Justice Agenda with an emphasis on the Millennium Development Goals, Trade Justice, and UN reform.
- Argue for a progressive and peaceful policy within the EU.
- Campaign for the rights of oppressed peoples and stateless nations.
- Support UN-led conflict prevention, dispute mediation, peace negotiation, peace enforcement and peacekeeping operations, elections or other human rights monitoring, and post-conflict capacity building.
- Campaign for legally binding provisions to ensure that EU companies operating outside the EU do not violate human rights or undermine environmental sustainability.
- Continue to campaign against the imposition of Economic Partnership Agreements that damage developing country economies.
- Continue to use the European Parliament as a forum to voice opposition to the occupation of the Palestinian Territories by Israel and to call for the suspension of EU preferential trade with Israel until such time as that state fully complies with international law.
- To call on the EU to provide reconstruction aid to Occupied Palestine and Gaza in particular on an urgent basis, and call on the EU and its Member States to back immediate and all-inclusive negotiations leading to a durable peace settlement that will provide for two states, including a sovereign Palestinian state that is viable and sustainable.

eoraip  
'09



*Sinn Féin*

Forógra Toghchán AE 2009



## Clár

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Glór d'Athrú san Eoraip  
Do Ghlórsa san Eoraip
2. **Tacaíocht a Thógail san Eoraip d'Athaontacht na hÉireann**
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# Achoimre Feidhmiúcháin

## Tacaíocht san Eoraip d’Athaontacht na hÉireann a Thógáil

- Ba chóir don AE, Rialtas na Breataine agus Rialtas na hÉireann ról gníomhach a cheadú do chomhaltaí Choiste an Fheidhmiúcháin i gComhairle Airí AE.
- Creatlach Shingil Tacaíocht Pobail AE a fhorbairt lena chinntiú gur féidir le planáil straitéiseach tarlú ar bhonn uile-Éireannach agus gur féidir leis an AE déileáil le hÉirinn mar aonad amháin ar mhaithe le maoiniú.
- Díolúine ó fhorálacha cúnta stáit le cead a thabhairt do rialtais infheistíochtaí straitéiseacha a dhéanamh le déileáil leis an saobhadh sóisialta, eacnamaíoch agus struchtúrach a tharla de dheasca críochdheighilte.
- An Euro a thabhairt isteach sa Tuaisceart.
- Díolúine ó na rialacha úd a iarraidh chun athaontacht a cheadú mar atá ceadaithe i gcás athaontacht na Gearmáine.
- An feachtas a bhunú chun thacaíocht a fháil ón AE ar mhaithe le hathaontacht na hÉireann.

## Ar Son Athrú Dearfach san Aontas Eorpach

- Cur in aghaidh athreachtáil Chonradh Liospóin mar fheachtas frithdhaonlathach agus droch-mhargadh d’Éirinn.
- Tacú le hidirbheartaíocht de chonradh nua d’aimsir úr, bunaithe ar mholtaí déanta ag Sinn Féin, a léiríonn imní mhuintir na hÉireann.
- Dul i mbun feachtais le gur féidir le muintir an tuaiscirt vóta a chaitheamh ar Chonradh ar bith amach anseo.
- Fíorchlár do níos mó daonlathas AE a chur chun cinn.
- Ról parlaimintí réigiúnacha agus náisiúnta agus ról údarás áitiúil a dhainiú.
- Cumhacht an Choimisiúin neamhthofa agus neamhfhreagraigh a laghdú.

- Córas líntas parlaiminteach FPEanna a leasú lena chinntiú go mbíonn gach speansas a éilíodh tacaíthe agus go bhfuil na mionsonraí iomlána foilsithe.
- Deireadh a chur leis an gcóras nuair a éilíonn FPEanna reatha pinsin oireachtais/aireachta.

## Ar Son Rathúnais Inbhuanaithe Le Comhionannas

- Bheith ar na tacadóirí is láidre maidir le ceannas eacnamaíoch na hÉireann agus comhchuíbhiú cánach uile-Éireannach.
- Cur in aghaidh ardcheannas margaidh, díralú agus léirscaoileadh agus cur chuige nua a chur chun cinn do bheartas eacnamaíoch a chinntíonn rathúnas inbhuanaithe tacaíthe ag comhionannas.
- An ‘geilleagar glas’ a chur ag croílár fhorbartha eacnamaíche agus deiseanna nua post.
- Rochtain ar chistí AE a spreagadh chun seirbhísí leathanbhanda inacmhainneacha ar ardluas i gceantair tuaithe a mhéadú.
- A chinntiú go bpáirtmhaoiníonn cistí AE clár athchóirithe um éifeachtacht fuinnimh a thabharfadh tacaíocht dár dtionscal tógála, ag sábháil post agus ag cruthú post agus san am céanna ag glacadh páirte chun ár ndualgais athraithe aeráide a chomhlíonadh agus ag dul i ngleic le bochtaineacht breosa.
- Rochtain agus rannphairtíocht FBM a neartú maidir le soláthar poiblí trí mhéid na gconarthaí a chur in oiriúint agus an t-ualach riaracháin agus airgeadais a mhaolú trí ríomh-sholáthar.
- Iarracht a dhéanamh earnálacha eacnamaíocha a chosaint ón mbaol is mó toisc domhandú, agus an talmhaíocht go háirithe.
- Trádáil chóir a chur chun cinn in áit saorthrádála neamhsrianta mar threoirphrionsabal de chaidrimh eacnamaíocha AE le tíortha eile.

## Ar Son Seirbhísí Poiblí agus Cearta Oibríthe a Chosaint

- Cur in aghaidh eochairsheirbhísí poiblí (amhail oideachas agus sláinte) a léirscaoileadh agus a phríobháidiú agus dul i mbun feachtais lena chinntiú go bhfanann a leithéid de sheirbhísí mar fhreagracht eisiach na mBallstát.
- Troid in aghaidh athlonnú gnóthaí agus post chuige geilleagair le pá níos ísle agus lena chinntiú nach féidir le comhlachtaí athlonnú i ndlinsí, laistigh den AE, ar an mbonn seo.
- Dul i mbun feachtais do thacaíocht AE d’athoiliúint oibríthe faoi thionchar clabhúsar comhlachtaí.
- Leanúint ar aghaidh ag dul i mbun feachtais do “Alt um Dhul Chun Cinn Sóisialta” mar chuid d’aon Chonradh AE amach anseo a thabharfadh ráthaíocht nach féidir le rialuithe Chúirt Bheithiúnais na hEorpa an bonn a bhaint de phá agus coinníollacha fostaíochta.

## Ar Son Neamhionannas Eacnamaíoch agus Bochtaineacht a Dhibirt

- Cuidíonn an Plean Téarnaimh den Gheilleagar Eorpach leis an tosaíocht chun bochtaineacht agus neamhionannas a dhibirt.
- Reachtaíocht chuimsitheach AE chun cearta eacnamaíocha agus sóisialta a chosaint, agus chun tógáil ar dhul chun cinn déanta maidir le rochtain ar earraí agus ar sheirbhísí.
- Rochtain chothrom ar chaighdeán maith seirbhísí oideachasúla, sóisialta, cúram leanaí agus seirbhísí sláinte, agus seirbhísí tithíochta, iompair, fuinnimh agus seirbhísí uisce.
- Spriocanna AE chun deireadh a chur le heaspas dídine.
- Íosioncam ráthaithe chun saol díniteach do chách a chinntiú.

## Ar Son Geilleagar Tuaithe agus Pobail lascaireachta na hÉireann a Chosaint

- Tacú le leasaithe An Chomhbheartais Talmhaíochta (CBT) a dhéanann feirmeoireacht na hÉireann agus an geilleagar tuaithe níos inbhuanaithe agus níos rathúla.
- Glór uile-Éireannach a chur i láthair dár ngeilleagar tuaithe go háirithe i réimsí praiticiúla amhail sláinte ainmhithe.

- Cur in aghaidh gach plean AE chun barra géinathraithe (GA) a fhás in Éirinn a cheadú.
- Tacú le forbairt Páipéar Bán Tuaithe (sa Tuaisceart) agus beartais ag leibhéal AE a mhúnlú chun tacú lenár bpobail tuaithe agus geilleagar tuaithe.
- Athchaibidlíocht Chomhbheartas Iascaireachta (CBI) a iarraidh chun margadh níos fearr a fháil d’Éirinn.
- Obair lenár bpobail iascaireachta lena chinntiú go gcluintear a nglór sa Bhruiséil.

## Ar Son Comhshaoil a Chosaint go Láidir

- Tosaíocht a dhéanamh de cosaint an chomhshaoil trí thacú leis na leibhéil is airde de chaighdeán comhshaoil i reachtaíocht AE in Strasbourg, agus trí údarás sa bhaile a cheangal de na caighdeán úd.
- Athbheithiú a iarraidh ar rialacháin AE sa dóigh gur féidir le grúpaí leasmhara pobail athbheithiú breithiúnach a lorg i dtaca le cinní AE maidir le cúrsaí comhshaoil.

## Ar Son Gníomhaíochta Práinní ar Athrú Aeráide

- Spriocanna aeráide a iarraidh le bheith curtha isteach trasna raon réimsí beartais.
- Seasamh in éadan iarrachtaí chun spriocanna astuithe a leag an Bhruiséil síos a laghdú.
- Obair lena chinntiú go mbíonn cothrom na Féinne ag náisiúin i mbéal forbartha agus go dtacaíonn an tAE leo mar is cuí chun a ról a imirt le déileáil le dúshláin dhomhanda ar astuithe gáis cheaptha teasa a laghdú.
- Obair chun sprioc AE maidir le méadú 20% ar éifeachtacht fuinnimh faoi 2020 a dhéanamh éigeantach.

## Ar Son Fuinnimh Inathnuaite Shábháilte agus In Aghaidh Cumhachta Núicléiche

- Tacú le gluaiseacht chun aschur fuinneamh inathnuaite trasna na hÉireann a mhéadú, bithbhreoslaí san áireamh nuair atá siad inbhuanaithe ó thaobh comshaoil de agus ar bhonn sóisialta.

- Dul i mbun feachtais do líonra fuinnimh uile-Éireannach atá féindóthaineach agus inbhuanaithe.
- Úsáid agus cur chun cinn fuinnimh núicléach in Éirinn agus fud fad na hEorpa a dhiúltú go soiléir agus leanúint ar aghaidh leis an bhfeachtas chun Sellafield a dhúnadh.
- Obair chun deireadh a chur le fomhaoinithe ó ghníomhaireachtaí creidmheasa easpórtála agus ó bhainc infheistíochta poiblí do thionscadail núicléacha.

## Ar Son Comhionannais, Chearta an Duine agus Saoirsí Sibhialta

- An ceart chun bheith páirteach i bpróiseas cinnteoireachta AE a chur chun cinn agus dul i mbun feachtais maidir le inrochtaineacht iomlán agus chothrom ar institiúidí AE agus ar a áiseanna.
- Obair lena chinntiú gur féidir le daoine breacaosta gluaiseacht laistigh den AE gan a gcearta pinsin a chailliúint.
- Tacú le Feachtas Stocaireachta '50/50' Eorpach na Ban atá ag éileamh ionadaíocht chothrom inscne i ngach institiúidí AE.
- Tacú le cearta comhionanna do shaoránaigh don lucht Leispiach, Aerach, Déghnéasach agus Trasinsneach (LADT), lena áirítear an ceart chun saor-ghluaiseachta agus athaontacht teaghlach athaontú trí aithint céile san áireamh, sainmhíniú cuimsitheach ar an teaghlach i ndlí agus i mbeartas AE, agus aithint fhollasach de chearta comhionanna na dtrasinsneach.
- Tacú le ceart gach duine ar lorg cosanta go gcaithfear mar is cuí leo de réir na gcaighdeán is airde fud fad na mBallstát.
- Obair chun deireadh a chur le srianadh rochtana de lucht iarrtha tearmainn agus de theifigh ar fhostaíocht.
- Tacú le comhoibriú i gcúrsaí ceartais choiriúil, ar leibhéal AE agus idirnáisiúnta, nuair is léir gur le leas an phobail é.
- Gan ardcheannas náisiúnta ná maoirseacht daonlathais a ghéilleadh, agus cur in éadan iarracht ar bith i dtreo freagracht iomlán AE a bhunú ar réimse ar bith ceartais.

## Ar Son Cearta Teanga Gaeilgeoirí

- Leanúint ar aghaidh chun Gaeilge a úsáid inár gcuid oibre agus na comhlachtaí AE a bhrú chun meas bheith acu ar chearta Gaeilgeoirí.
- Brú a chur ar Rialtas na hÉireann a ghealltanais chun líon cuí teangairí agus aistritheoirí Gaeilge a sholáthar a chomhlíonadh.
- Rialtas na hÉireann a spreagadh chun cúrsaí Gaeilge a fhorbairt i gceantair Ghaeltachta dírithe ach go háirithe ar theangairí agus aistritheoirí ó chúirí teanga difriúla.

## Ar Son Neodracht na hÉireann agus Ceartais Shóisialta Dhomhanda

- Cur in aghaidh an bhrú chun beartas eachtrach agus cosanta i measc Bhallstáit an AE a imeascadh agus chun beartas seo a dhéanamh ina fho-bheartas ag Eagraíocht Chonradh an Atlantaigh Thuaidh (ECAT), agus dul i mbun feachtais chun beartas eachtrach neamhspleách na hÉireann a athbhunú.
- Dul i mbun feachtais do Chlár Ceartas Sóisialta Dhomhanda AE le béim ar Spriocanna Forbartha Mílaoise, Ceartas Trádála, agus leasú AE.
- Tacú le cosc ar choimhlínt, le hidirghabháil díospóide, le hidirbheartaíocht síochána, le cur i bhfeidhm síochána agus le feachtais síochánaíochta, le toghcháin nó monatóireacht chearta eile an duine, agus le tógáil acmhainne iar-choimhlínte faoi threoir NA.
- Dul i mbun feachtais le haghaidh forálacha atá ina gceangal dlí lena chinntiú nach sáraíonn comhlachtaí AE ag feidhmiú lasmuigh den AE cearta daonna nó nach mbaineann sé an bonn d'inbhuanaitheacht comhshaoil.
- Leanúint ar aghaidh chun Parlaimint na hEorpa a úsáid mar fhóram chun glór freasúra a léiriú faoi fhorghabháil Chríocha na Palaistíne ag Iosrael agus chun trádáil fhabhrach AE le hIosrael a chur ar fionraí go dtí go gcomhlíonann an stát sin an dlí idirnáisiúnta.

# 1 Sinn Féin: Glór Dearfach san Eoraip Glór d'Athrú san Eoraip Do Ghlórsa san Eoraip

Ba mhaith le Sinn Féin go nglacfaidh Éire ról lárnach chun treoir an Aontais Eorpaigh amach anseo a mhúnlú. Ó toghadh ár mbeirt FPE, Bairbre de Brún agus Mary Lou McDonald, i 2004 ba ghlór dearfach cuiditheach iad beirt i bParlaimint na hEorpa.

Treoraíonn prionsabal simplí cur chuige Shinn Féin maidir leis an AE. Tacaímid le moltaí agus le bearta go gníomhach atá le leas na hÉireann agus an AE ina iomláine agus téimid i mbun feachtais chun iad siúd nach le leas na Éireann iad a athrú.

## I bParlaimint na hEorpa thacaigh Sinn Féin leis na bearta:

- a chosnaíonn cearta oibríthe agus seirbhísí poiblí
- a chuireann chun cinn cosaint chomhshaoil agus inbhuanaitheacht chomhshaoil
- a chuireann forbairt chothromaithe réigiúnach chun cinn
- a chosnaíonn agus a chuireann an geilleagar tuaithe chun cinn
- a sholáthraíonn níos mó daonlathais agus freagrachta sna hinstiúidí AE
- a chosnaíonn neodracht na hÉireann agus atá in éadan mhíleatú an AE
- a chuireann cosaint níos fearr chearta an duine chun cinn do chách
- a chuireann trádáil chóir níos fearr agus comhionannas don domhan i mbéal forbartha

Tá clú amuigh ar ár bhFPEanna maidir leis sin. D'oibrigh siad le daoine eile chun leasa na hÉireann agus an Aontais Eorpaigh a chur chun cinn agus cearta agus teidlíocht an ghnáthdhuine in Éirinn, fud fad na hEorpa agus an domhain a chosaint.

Rinne Sinn Féin tús áite de leasa na hÉireann san Eoraip – ár ndaoine, ár bpobail tuaithe, ár gcomhshaoil nádúrtha agus ár rathúnas amach anseo.

Threabh Sinn Féin an bealach chun caidrimh oibríthe nua leis an AE a chur chun cinn, ina mbeidh fíor-thorthaí le sonrú. Sholáthraíomar fíor-cheannaireacht agus sinn ag éileamh nach mbeidh Éire – Thuaidh agus Theas – brúite as an bpróiseas cinnteoireachta. Is glór dearfach é Sinn Féin san Eoraip. Is glór don athrú san Eoraip sinn. Is sinne do ghlór san Eoraip.

## Taifead Shinn Féin i bParlaimint na hEorpa

### Ó toghadh Bairbre de Brún agus Mary Lou McDonald chuig Parlaimint na hEorpa i 2004:

- Thug siad an cás ar son Éireann Aontaithe chuig FPEanna agus lucht déanta cinnidh ó gach áit san Eoraip, agus chuir siad bearta praiticiúla chun cinn chun oibriú uile-Éireannach a neartú le leas mhuintir na hÉireann uile.



- D'oibrigh siad lenár nAire sa Choiste Feidhmiúcháin chun €333 milliún a chinntiú don chlár PEACE, €225 milliún ón Eoraip san áireamh.
- Dhaingnigh siad tacaíocht shuntasach do thuarascáil de Brún ar an gclár PEACE, a aithníonn gur próiseas fadtéarmach é tógáil síochána agus athmhuintearais a éilíonn tacaíocht leanúnach maidir le tionscadail ag leibhéal an phobail agus le tionscadail dírithe ar na réimsí is mó faoi mhíbhuntáiste.
- D'oibrigh siad le Grúpaí Gaeilge chun stádas teanga oibre agus oifigiúil an Aontais Eorpaigh a chinntiú don Ghaeilge.
- Thóg siad ceisteanna faoi réiteach coimhlinte, agus na ceachtanna féideartha a bhain le próiseas síochána na hÉireann i dtaca le coimhlintí a réiteach i dtíortha eile laistigh agus lasmuigh den AE.
- D'éascaigh siad idirbheartaíocht ceardchumannannaithe, grúpaí pobail, íobartaigh chlaonpháirtíochta agus grúpaí eile le hinstitiúidí AE.
- Thug siad feidhmithe an AE chuig daoine áitiúla trí theagmháil dhíreach le gnóthaí áitiúla, ceardchumann, eagraíochtaí pobail, grúpaí comhshaoil, ENRanna agus pobail tuaithe.
- Thionscain siad agus dhaingnigh siad tacaíocht shuntasach do Dhearbhú ag iarraidh gnímh ag an AE agus Ballstáit chun deireadh a chur le heaspa dídean sráide faoi 2015.
- D'oibrigh siad chun acmhainneacht Phlean Téarnaimh Eacnamaíoch AE a uasmhéadú le dul i ngleic leis an ngéarchéim eacnamaíoch agus thacaigh siad le bearta chun cabhrú lenár ngnóthaí beaga.
- Dhaingnigh siad cuairt an Choiste Forbartha

- Réigiúnaí ar an Iarthuaisceart, coiste a bhfuil tionchar aige, chun forbairt réigiúnach chóir a chur chun cinn.
- Dhaingnigh siad aitheantas ar cheist dúnbhásaí chorparáidigh i dtuarascáil ar Fhreagracht Shóisialta Chorparáideach.
- Dhaingnigh siad tacaíocht thábhachtach do thuarascáil McDonald agus don réiteach ina dhiaidh sin ar Choinbhinsiún Saothair Muirí EIS (Eagraíocht Idirnáisiúnta Saothair) chun creatlach idirnáisiúnta ar mhí-úsáid cearta oibríthe a threorannú san earnáil mhuirí.
- Reáchtáil siad feachtas rathúil in aghaidh Treoir Seirbhísí Calafoirt a bhí molta ina mbeadh cailliúint post mar thoradh air agus a d'ísleodh pá agus coinníollacha i gcalafoirt fud fad an AE.
- Chuaigh siad i mbun feachtais do chearta oibríthe agus in éadan am oibríthe méadaithe agus chun deireadh a chur le tarraing-as agus mí-úsáidí na Treorach um Am Oibre
- Chuaigh siad i mbun feachtais in aghaidh léirscaoileadh seirbhísí poiblí, go háirithe tríd an Treoir Seirbhísí, an Treoir a bhí molta ar chúram sláinte trasteorann, an Treoir ar Sheirbhísí Poist.
- Chuir siad in éadan allmhairí mairteola Brasaíle de thairbhe imní faoi inrianaitheacht.
- Dhaingnigh siad tacaíocht bhreise d'fheirmeoirí chun a riachtanais Treoir um Níotráití a chomhlíonadh, agus bhrúigh siad do mhaorlathas laghdaithe.
- Chuir siad feirmeoirí agus pobail tuaithe ar an eolas faoi fhorbairtí AE agus d'éascaigh siad a dteagmháil leis an Eoraip.
- Chuir siad fuinneamh in-athnuaite agus éifeachtacht fuinnimh chun cinn mar bhealach chun an geilleagar áitiúil a mhéadú

agus chun dul i ngleic le hathrú aeráide agus bochtaineacht breosla.

- Chuir siad réitigh fhorásacha ar athrú aeráide chun cinn go gníomhach trí bhallaíocht Bhairbre de Brún ar Choiste Sealadach ar Athrú Aeráide agus leasaigh siad reachtaíocht AE chun athchúrsáil a chur chun cinn.
- Chuaigh siad i mbun feachtais do Threoir ar chaitheamh go cothrom le cách, beag beann

ar reiligiún nó creideamh, ar mhíchumas, ar aois nó ar chlaonadh gnéasach, le go mbeidh sí comhlántach le Treoracha in aghaidh leithcheala bunaithe ar inscne nó ar chine.

- Chabhraigh siad le milliún síniú a chinntiú fud fad AE ag iarraidh cearta feabhsaithe do dhaoine faoi míchumas.





## 2 Tacaíocht san Eoraip d'Ataontacht na hÉireann a Thógáil

Tá an teorainn in Éirinn ar cheann de na teorainneacha is lú oscailte san AE nuair a amharctar ar fhorbairt shóisialta agus eacnamaíoch trasteorann. Soláthraíonn Comhaontú Aoine an Chéasta treoir maidir le chomhoibriú trasteorann ar réimse ceisteanna a dhiansaothrú. Creideann Sinn Féin gurb é an t-aon bhealach amháin chun geilleagar in Éirinn a athrú go fírinneach ná trí straitéis ar bhonn uile-Éireannach d'fhorbairt agus d'athbheochan. Tá roinnt bealaí ann inar féidir leis an AE tacú leis na forbairtí úd.

Lainseáil Sinn Féin doiciméad ar thacaíocht AE d'athaontacht na hÉireann i 2006, ag breacadh síos conas is féidir leis an AE cabhrú chun oidhreacht na críochdheighilte a shárú agus conas is féidir tacú le hathaontacht na hÉireann. I measc na moltaí bhí:

- Ba chóir don AE Rialtas na hÉireann a spreagadh chun rannpháirtíocht ionadaithe tofa ó gach cearn d'Éirinn i dTithe an Oireachtais a cheadú.
- Ba chóir don AE, Rialtas na Breataine agus Rialtas na hÉireann ról gníomhach a cheadú do chomhaltáí Choiste an Fheidhmiúcháin i gComhairle Airí an AE.
- Clár Leasaithe Náisiúnta amháin a fhorbairt, ar fhorbairt eacnamaíoch agus shóisialta, chomhchuibhiú cánacha agus rialú ar fhostaíocht, comhtháthú sóisialta agus an comhshaol san áireamh.

- Creatlach amháin Tacaíochta Pobail AE a fhorbairt lena chinntiú gur féidir le planáil straitéiseach tarlú ar bhonn uile-Éireannach agus gur féidir leis an AE déileáil le hÉirinn mar aonad amháin ar mhaithe le maoiniú.
- Foráil don Tionól chun “glacadh le” Treoracha AE, go daonlathach, nuair a roghnaíonn Rialtas na Breataine le tarraing-as lena chinntiú go mbíonn an tír iomlán ag feidhmiú laistigh den chreatlach sóisialta agus eacnamaíoch céanna.
- Diolúine ó fhorálacha cúnata stáit chun cead a thabhairt do rialtais infheistíochtaí straitéiseacha a dhéanamh le déileáil leis an saobhadh sóisialta, eacnamaíoch agus struchtúrach a tharla de dheasca críochdheighilte.
- Tabhairt isteach an Euro sa Tuaisceart.

Leanfaidh FPEanna Shinn Féin le ceisteanna a thógáil agus le tabhairt faoi fheachtais le go dtabharfaidh AE tacaíocht d'athaontacht na hÉireann.

### Cistí Struchtúracha a Úsáid chun Athmhuintearas Náisiúnta agus Comhionannas Réigiúnach a Thógáil

Bhain Éire, idir Thuaidh agus Theas, tairbhe as Cistí Struchtúracha AE. Is ábhar ratha é beartas comhtháthaithe an Aontias Eorpigh. Tá sé ar cheann de na beartais AE is infheicthe do mhuintir na mBallstát.

Tá na seansanna céanna, a fuair Éire trí na cistí struchtúracha, tuillte ag na Ballstáit is úire. Bhí Sinn Féin san Eoraip ardghlórach lenár dtacaíocht do chlár láidir cistí struchtúracha AE maoinithe go maith bunaithe ar dhlúthpháirtíocht idir réigiúin.

Rinne foireann Shinn Féin san Eoraip tosaíocht de réigiúin na hÉireann inár gcuid oibre. Is mór a chaill Iarthuaisceart ár dtíre amach de dheasca críochdheighilte. Chumhachtaigh ár n-obair i bParlaimint na hEorpa daoine ón réigiún seo agus fud fad na hÉireann éileamh a dhéanamh le go gcaithfear leo agus lena réigiúin ar bhonn comhionannais.

D'imir Sinn Féin ról tábhachtach sa stocaireacht chun an clár PEACE III a thabhairt ar an saol. I dtuarascáil a fuair tacaíocht shuntasach ó FPEanna i 2008 nuair a thugamar chun suntais tábhacht an chlár PEACE mar chúnamh leis an bpróiseas d'athmhuintearas náisiúnta trí thograí cistithe a théann i ngleic go fírinneach le héagóracha san am a chuaigh thart agus chun pobail a thabhairt le chéile.

### Is é a dhéanfaidh FPEanna Shinn Féin:

- Troidfidimid ar son réigiúin na hÉireann agus ar son dinimice Uile-Éireannaí le haghaidh caiteachas cistí struchtúracha.
- Oibreoidimid leis an Tascfhórsa a bhunaigh An Coimisiún Eorpach lena chinntiú go ndéanaimid éifeachtacht ár bhfáltais cistí struchtúracha a uasmhéadú.
- Oibreoidimid chun forbairt inbhuanaithe agus cuimsiú sóisialta a chur ag croílár rialacháin cistithe AE.

## 3 ■ Ar Son Athrú Dearfach san Aontas Eorpach

I 2008 vótáil beagnach milliún vótálaí i nDeisceart na hÉireann in aghaidh Chonradh Liospóin. B'ionann an cinneadh sin agus an cinneadh a ghlac dhá bhall-bhunaitheoir den Aontas Eorpach, An Fhrainc agus an An Ísiltír, agus dhá bhliain roimhe sin dhiúltaigh siad an pacáiste moltaí céanna. Sa Tuaisceart shéan Rialtas na Breataine an ceart chun vótála ar an cheist seo do shaoránaigh.

Amhail muintir na Fraince agus na hÍsiltíre, bhí imní ar vótálaithe in Éirinn i dtaca le ceisteanna faoi dhaonlathas, faoi sheirbhísí poiblí, faoi chearta oibrithe, faoi chosaint an chomhshaoil, faoi mhíleatú agus faoi thrádáil.

Bhí muintir na hÉireann, a raibh deis acu vóta a chaitheamh – amhail mhuintir na Fraince agus na hÍsiltíre – ag aontú le tuilleadh daonlathais, agus le hAontas Eorpach níos cothromasaí agus níos síochánta.

Creideann Sinn Féin gur gá an tAE a léasú. Láithreach i ndiaidh teip Chonradh Liospóin i 2008 chuireamar moltaí mionsonraithe faoi bhráid Rialtas na hÉireann ar an méid a chreideamar a teastaíodh le tacaíocht mhuintir na hÉireann a fháil do Chonradh nua ar bith.

Léirigh an cúlú domhanda teipeanna na mbeartas eacnamaíoch agus sóisialta a lean Rialtais na hÉireann agus na Breataine, agus an Aontais Eorpaigh. Tá na beartais eacnamaíocha chéanna á mbrú níos faide i gConradh Liospóin. Anois, níos mó ná am ar bith eile, seo an t-am do chonradh don aimsir nua ina bhfuilimid.

Tá conradh nua de dhíth orainn a thugann níos mó daonlathais don AE, ag tabhairt cumhachta ar ais do dhaoine agus do na Ballstáit. Tá conradh nua de dhíth a leagann amach beartais eacnamaíocha agus shóisialta a dhéanann tosaíocht de rathúnas i gcomhar le comhionannas agus inbhuaíne. Tá conradh nua de dhíth orainn a chosnaíonn neodracht na hÉireann agus a thugann aghaidh in éadan mhíleatú reatha an AE agus in éadan beartas coimhthíoch agus cosanta arna gcinneadh ag ECAT.

### Is é a dhéanfaidh FPEanna Shinn Féin ná:

- Cur in aghaidh athreachtáil Chonradh Liospóin mar chinneadh frith-dhaonlathach.
- Tacú le le hidirbheartaíocht chonradh nua d'am nua, bunaithe ar mholtaí déanta ag Sinn Féin, a léiríonn imní mhuintir na hÉireann.
- Dul i mbun feachtais do mhuintir an tuaiscirt chun a vóta a úsáid ar Chonradh ar bith amach anseo.

### Ar Son AE Níos Daonlathaí

Chuaigh Sinn Féin i mbun feachtais do níos mó daonlathais agus freagrachta san AE. Ar an drochuair, is ann don easnamh daonlathais go fóill. Déantar cinntí i bhfad ón ngnáthdhuine, gan mórán scrúdain, agus ar bhealach a choscann a rannpháirtíocht ghníomhach.

Tá an bhearna idir an gnáthduine agus an Coimisiún Eorpach, Comhairle agus an Pharlaimint ag fás. Mar thoradh air ní léiríonn cinntí glactha san AE fíor-ímnithe nó riachtanais daoine.

### Leanfaidh FPEanna Shinn Féin leo AE níos daonlathaí a chur chun cinn trí:

- Fíorchlár oibre ar son níos mó daonlathais a chur chun cinn.
- Ról parlaimintí agus údarás áitiúil réigiúnach agus náisiúnta a dhaingniú.

- Mianta saoránaigh Ballstát a chosaint mar a léirítear go daonlathach sa reifreann.
- Cumhacht an Choimisiún neamhthofa agus neamhfhreagrach a laghdú.
- Measúnú a dhéanamh ar gach píosa reachtaíochta agus an tionchar a bheidh leis ar Éirinn.
- Córas liúntais parlaimintigh do FPEanna a leasú lena chinntiú go mbíonn gach speansas a éilítear tacaíthe agus go bhfoilseofar na mionsonraí iomlána uile.
- Deireadh a chur leis an gcóras ina n-éilíonn FPEanna reatha pinsean oireachtais/aireachta.



## 4 ■ Ar Son Rathúnais Inbhuanaithe Le Comhionannas

Éilíonn scála an dúshláin eacnamaíoch amach romhainn sna Eoraip agus in Éirinn cur chuige nua chun poist a chruthú agus a choinneáil, cearta oibríthe a chosaint agus chun dul i ngleic le bochtaineacht. Fud fad na hEorpa tá na billiúin á bpumpáil isteach san earnáil airgeadais ach is iad na gnáthdhaoine atá ag cailliúint a bpost agus a dtithe.

Tá an beartas eacnamaíoch AE faoi láthair fabhtach go bunúsach sa mhéid is go ndéanann sé tosaíocht d'iomáíocht margaidh thar spriocanna tábhachtacha sóisialta agus eacnamaíocha amhail fostaíocht iomlán, ceartas sóisialta agus inbhuanaitheacht chomhshaoil.

Creidimid gur gá don AE athsmaoineamh a dhéanamh ar a straitéis toisc an ghéarchéim eacnamaíoch reatha agus leasa a dhaoine a chur ag croílár a chinnteoireachta. Is gá dul i bhfeidhm, mar ábhar práinneach, ar an dóigh a gcuireann beartas eacnamaíoch AE (Straitéis Liospóin 2000 agus Treoirínte Leathana Beartais Eacnamaíoch) srian ar an rialtas chun gníomhú mar gheall ar an ngéarchéim.

Leanfaidh Sinn Féin leis ag obair ar leibhéal áitiúil, leibhéal na Dála agus an AE chun réitigh inmharthana agus éifeachtach ar an ngéarchéim eacnamaíoch a chur chun cinn a athbhunaíonn rathúnas níos inbhuanaithe, le níos mó comhionannais.

### Is é a dhéanfaidh FTEanna Shinn Féin ná:

- Obair chun treoirínte beartas eacnamaíoch AE faoi láthair a athrú chun fás inbhuanaithe eacnamaíoch, fostaíocht iomlán, ceartas sóisialta agus cosaint an chomhshaoil a chur chun cinn.
- Cur in aghaidh ardcheannas margaidh, dírialú agus léirscaoileadh agus cur chuige nua do bheartas a chur chun cinn a chinntíonn rathúnas inbhuanaithe tacaíthe ag comhionannas.
- An 'geilleagar glas' agus deiseanna nua post a chur ag croílár na forbartha eacnamaíche.

### Ar Son Cistí AE a úsáid le Poist a Chruthú

Is tosaíocht é do Shinn Féin oibríthe Éireannacha a chur chun oibre arís. Toisc an cúlú domhanda agus inphléascadh na hearnála airgeadais a chruthaíonn géarchéim sreafa airgid thirim do ghnóthaí Éireannacha, is gá do phlean téarnaimh ar bith díriú ar a chinntiú go mbeidh an bonneagar, scileanna, seirbhísí agus rochtain ar chreidiúint agus ar tacaíochtaí eile a theastaíonn uainn chun poist a shábháil agus a chruthú.

Tá roinnt eochair-réimsí ann a dtiocfadh le cistí agus cláir AE bheith ina gcuidiú chun difear a dhéanamh. Clúdaíonn Plean Téarnaimh Eacnamaíoch an Choimisiúin Eorpaigh moltaí



coincréiteacha a mbeadh spéis ar leith ag Fiontair Bheaga agus Mheánmhéide (FBM) iontu. Agus is gá dúinn cúnamh AE a uasmhéadú chun greim a fháil ar fhíor-dheiseanna le hearnálacha leis an acmhainneacht is fearr a fhorbairt, ár ngeilleagar glas go háirithe san áireamh.

### Is é a dhéanfaidh FPEanna Shinn Féin ná:

- Obair chun acmhainneacht cruthaithe post leis na cláir iompair agus fuinnimh AE amhail TLE (Lionraí Tras-Eorpacha), Concerto, Intelligent Energy, agus Civitas a uasmhéadú.
- Rochtain ar chistí AE chun seirbhísí leathanbhanda ar phraghas réasúnta ar ardluas i gceantair tuaithe a spreagadh.
- Rannpháirteachas sa straitéis forbartha inbhuanaithe trí thograí le tacaíocht airgeadais faoi Life+ a chur chun cinn.
- A chinntiú go bpáirtmhaoinoidh cistí AE clár athchóirithe éifeachtacht fuinnimh a thabharfadh tacaíocht dár dtionscal tógála, ag sábháil post agus ag cruthú post agus ag an am céanna ag cuidiú lenár ndualgais athraithe aeráide a chomhlíonadh agus ag dul i ngleic le bochtaineacht breosla.
- Leanúint chun tacú le meán-ghnóthaí agus gnóthaí beaga áitiúla le teacht ar mhaoiniú AE.
- Rochtain FBM ar sholáthar poiblí agus rannpháirtíocht ann a neartú trí mhéid na gconarthaí a chur in oiriúint agus an t-ualach riaracháin agus airgeadais a mhaolú trí r-sholáthar.

## Ar Son Seirbhísí Poiblí a Chosaint

Spreagann beartas eacnamaíoch reatha an AE go n-osclófar amach seirbhísí poiblí ríthábhachtacha d'íomaíocht phríobháideach ('léirscaoileadh'). Spreagann sé rialú níos laige, ag spreagadh an cineál sin mí-úsáide a chonaiceamar ar ball san earnáil baincéireachta. Is é an toradh a bhí air ná níos mó dírialaithe agus, faoi dheireadh thiar, príobháidiú seirbhísí poiblí. Mhéadaigh seo neamhionannas sóisialta le linn tréimhsí fáis eacnamaíoch go fiú. Níos bunúsaí ná sin, is iad na beartais is bunchúis le géarchéim eacnamaíoch faoi láthair.

Déanfaidh Sinn Féin a dtig leo a dhéanamh chun tacú le seirbhísí poiblí agus iad a chosaint, agus cuirfidh sé in aghaidh gach moladh do dhírialú agus príobháidiú. Rachaimid i mbun feachtais chun an ceart a thabhairt don Dáil agus don Tionól an cinneadh a dhéanamh ar cé acu na seirbhísí poiblí a bheith díolmhaithe ó íomaíocht AE agus ó rialaithe cunta stáit agus socróidh siad agus maoineoidh siad iad dá réir sin.

### Is é a dhéanfaidh FTEanna Shinn Féin ná:

- Cur in aghaidh léirscaoileadh agus príobháidiú eochairsheirbhísí poiblí (amhail oideachas agus sláinte) agus dul i mbun feachtais lena chinntiú go bhfanann a leithéid de sheirbhísí mar fhreagracht eisiach Ballstáit.
- Dul i mbun feachtais chun gur féidir le Ballstáit smacht a choinneáil ar eochairsheirbhísí “eacnamaíocha ” amhail iompar, cumarsáid, tithíocht, uisce agus seirbhísí fuinnimh.
- Cur in aghaidh iarrachtaí chun seirbhísí sláinte a chur faoi réir rialacha agus rialacháin margaidh.

## Ar Son Cearta Oibrithe a Chosaint

In ainneoin a bhfuil déanta go dtí seo, le blianta beaga anuas rinne an tAE cearta oibrithe daoine níos laige go firinneach agus bhain sé an bonn de chumas ceardchumann chun idirbheartú ar son coinníollacha níos fearr d'oibrithe. Chuir sé srian ar chumas an rialtais reachtaíocht a rith maidir le pá agus coinníollacha feabhsaithe.

Tá an tAE ag cur fostaíocht neamhdhaingean agus tuarastal níos ísle chun cinn. Tá sé ag cur oibrí in éadan oibrí eile, comhlacht in éadan comhlachta, agus tír in éadan tíre ar agus é treabhadh leis chuig íomaíochas méadaithe trí thuarastal níos ísle agus 'solúbthacht' oibrí.

Bhí Sinn Féin ar an líne tosaigh ag cur in aghaidh bogadh ar bith chun an bonn a bhaint de thuarastal agus choinníollacha oibrithe ag obair in Éirinn agus fud fad AE.

### Leanfaidh Sinn Féin le cearta oibrithe a chur chun cinn agus is é a dhéanfaimid ná:

- Troid in aghaidh athlonnú gnóthaí agus poist chuig tíortha ar thuarastal níos ísle agus a chinntiú nach féidir le comhlachtaí athlonnú chuig dlínsí laistigh den AE ar a bhonn seo.
- Dul i mbun feachtais ar son tacaíocht AE d'athoiliúint oibrithe ar imir chlabhsúr comhlachtaí tionchar orthu.
- Cur in aghaidh ionsaithe ar chearta oibrithe, amhail an méadú in uaireanta oibre atá molta.
- Leanúint ar aghaidh i mbun feachtais do “Alt

um Dhul Chun Cinn Sóisialta” mar chuid de Chonradh AE amach anseo a thabharfadh rátháíocht nach féidir le rialuithe Chúirt Bhreithiúnais na hEorpa an bonn a bhaint de phá agus de choinníollacha fostaíochta.

- Troid in éadan na treochta atá ag méadú chun obair neamhbhuan a chúlú.
- Tacú le cearta comhionanna oibrithe imirceacha agus a dteaghligh, a chosnaíonn, go firinneach, cearta gach oibrí.
- Tacú le slándáil poist agus coinníollacha maithe fostaíochta in aghaidh moltaí AE chun é a dhéanamh níos éascaí daoine a bhriseadh as post agus sochair, amhail laethanta saoire agus pinsin, a laghdú;
- Troid in aghaidh laghdú sochair dífhostaíochta agus íocaíochtaí leasa shóisialaigh.

## Ar Son Neamhionannas Eacnamaíoch agus Bochtaineacht a Dhíbirt

Tá thart ar 78 milliún duine fud fad AE (16% den daonra iomlán) i mbaol bochtaineachta. Tá an líon in Éirinn níos airde ná an méanlíon sa AE, 16.5% sa Deisceart agus 20% sa Tuaisceart. Agus dífhostaíocht ag méadú agus ioncam ag titim tá an scéal seo ag dul in olcas. Bíonn taithí neamhionannais níos láidre ag grúpaí áirithe thar ghrúpaí eile: páistí, tuismitheoirí aonaracha, daoine breacaosta, daoine dífhostaithe, daoine faoi mhíchumas, daoine i ngrúpaí mionlaigh agus iad siúd ina gcónaí i gceantair faoi mhíbhuntáiste. Is mó is cosúil go mbeidh daoine atá faoi thionchar il-leithcheala i mbaol bochtaineachta.

Is é fostaíocht bealach amháin do dhaoine chun éirí amach as bochtaineacht agus gá di a bheith ina tosaíocht, agus sin ráite, is é atá i gceist le bochtaineacht ná rochtain ar thithíocht agus sheirbhísí, agus faoi dheireadh, dínit agus meas ar an duine daonna.

Formhuiníonn Sinn Féin an t-éileamh chun tosaíocht a dhéanamh de chomhtháthú sóisialta agus an troid in aghaidh bochtaineachta agus neamhionannas eacnamaíoch AE.

Thug Sinn Féin FPEanna ó Bhallstáit agus ó chúdraí polaitiúla difriúla le chéile agus bhain siad tacaíocht iontach amach do dhearbhuí i bParlaimint na hEorpa ar easpa dídean sráide ag iarraidh ar an AE agus ar Bhallstáit gníomhú ar a shon.

### Oibreoidh Sinn Féin lena chinntiú:

- Go gcuidíonn Plean Téarnaimh Eacnamaíoch Eorpach leis an tosaíocht chun deireadh a chur le bochtaineacht agus neamhionannas.
- Go mbíonn reachtaíocht uileghabhálach AE ann le cearta eacnamaíocha agus sóisialta a chosaint, agus tógáil ar dhul chun cinn déanta maidir le rochtain ar earraí agus seirbhísí.
- Go mbíonn rochtain chothrom ar chaighdeán maith seirbhísí oideachasúla sóisialta cúram leanáí agus seirbhísí sláinte, agus seirbhísí tithíochta, iompair, fuinnimh agus seirbhísí uisce.
- Go mbíonn tacaíocht níos fearr AE ann don gheilleagar sóisialta.
- Go mbíonn spriocanna AE ann chun deireadh a chur le heaspa dídine.
- Go mbíonn íosioncam ráthaithe ann chun saol díniteach do chách a chinntiú.
- Go mbíonn nasc idir pinsin agus meántuilleamh.

## Ar Son Geilleagar Tuaithe na hÉireann a Chosaint

Tá an talmhaíocht ar cheann de na tionscaddail is tábhachtaí ag Éirinn. Tá ról cultúrtha agus traidisiúnta aici i sochaí na hÉireann a fhágann go bhfuil sí ríthábhachtach d'Éirinn agus do Shinn Féin araon sa bhaile agus san AE.

Oibreoidh FPEanna Shinn Féin lenár nAire Talmhaíochta ó thuaidh, Michelle Gildernew agus lenár gcomhghleacaithe ó dheas lena chinntiú go bhfuil glór láidir daonlathach uile-Éireannach acu ag gach leibhéal san AE.

Tá a fhios againn an ní atá os comhair feirmeoirí agus feirmeoirí beaga go háirithe toisc rialúcháin AE agus oibreoidh le heagraíochtaí feirmeoireachta le go gcuirfead an imní seo in iúl don Eoraip.

### Is é a dhéanfaidh Sinn Féin ná:

- Tacú le leasuithe ar an gComhbheartas Talmhaíochta (CBT) a fhágann go bhfuil feirmeoireacht Éireannach agus an geilleagar tuaithe níos inbhuanaithe agus níos rathúla.
- Leanúint le hobair le feirmeoirí Éireannacha chun tabhairt faoi ualach rialúcháin AE.
- Glór uile-Éireann a chur i láthair dár ngeilleagar tuaithe go háirithe i réimsí praiticiúla amhail sláinte ainmhithe.
- Cur in éadan gach plean AE a cheadaíonn barra géinathraithe (GM) le fás in Éirinn, ag cloí lenár ngealltanas ar son Éireann atá saor ó bharrá géinathraithe agus tacú le réimeas dlíteanais atá ríghin agus iomlán

a chuireann an t-ualach ar chuideachtaí agus ar fheirmeoirí a úsáideann agus sholáthraíonn barra géinathraithe.

- Feirmeoirí agus pobail tuaithe a chur ar an eolas faoi fhorbairtí AE, agus a n-idirphlé le forais AE agus le rannpháirtithe eile a éascú.
- Tacú le forbairt Páipéar Bán Tuaithe (ó Thuaidh) agus beartais ag leibhéal AE a mhúnlú ag leibhéal an AE le tacú lenár bpobail tuaithe agus lenár ngeilleagar tuaithe.

## Ar Son Iascach Éireannach a dhéanamh Inmharthana

Cháin Sinn Féin an Comhbheartas Iascaigh (CBI) ó céadtugadh isteach é. Chuir muid ina luí go seasta gurb é atá sa CBI ná mórshárú ar uiscí críche na hÉireann. Ó ghlac Éire ballraíocht leis an CEA (EEC) sa bhliain 1973 maraíodh breis agus 100 billiún d'éisc inár gcuid uiscí, ó chabhlaigh nach Éireannaigh iad den chuid is mó.

Rinneadh dochar do inbhuanaitheacht ár bpobail iascaireachta toisc gur íobraíomar cearta iascaireacht cósta ar mhaithe le buntáistí gearrthéarmacha eile a síleadh a bheadh ann. Seasfaimid lenár bpobail iascaireachta agus troidimid ar son margadh níos fearr, níos cothroime a ligfidh d'Éirinn tairbhe a bhaint as acmhainní inár gcuid farraigí agus inár bpobail tuaithe a athbheochan.

## Is é a dhéanfaidh FPEanna Shinn Féin lenár n-acmhainní nádúrtha agus lenár bpobail chósta a chosaint ná:

- Obair lena chinntiú go bhfuil todhchaí inbhuanaithe dár bpobail tuaithe.
- Brú chun an CBI a idirbheartú arís chun margadh níos fearr a fháil d'Éirinn.
- Obair lenár bpobail iascaireachta lena chinntiú go gcluintear ár nglór sa Bhruiséil.
- Príomhacht cheannasacht na hÉireann a dhearbhuí i bplé faoin dóigh a mbainistítear ár n-acmhainní inár n-uiscí críche.

## Ar son Dúshlán a thabhairt do Rialacha Iomaíochta AE

Teorannaíonn rialúcháin iomaíochta AE (nó rialacha cunta stáit) ar bhealach dian na hinfheistíochtaí is féidir le Ballstát nó le rialtas réigiúnach nó áitiúil a dhéanamh ina gheilleagar féin. I mbeagán focal tá na rialacha rórighin chun bainteach stáit a cheadú nuair is gá. Tá Sinn Féin in éadan an chur chuige seo, atá bunaithe ar straitéis lochtach eacnamaíoch an AE.

Níor chóir go mbeadh an chumhacht ag an gCoimisiún Eorpach agus ag an gCúirt Bhreithiúnais Eorpach chun bac a chur le hinfheistíochtaí riachtanacha sóisialta, eacnamaíochta agus comhshaoil. Ná níos chóir do rialtais Rialacha Iomaíochta an AE a úsáid mar leithscéal éasca gan tacú le seirbhísí poiblí mar is cuí.

## Is é a dhéanfaidh FPEanna Shinn Féin ná:

- Cur in éadan loighic an tsaormhargaidh i rialacha um chúnamh stáit an AE.
- Díolúine ó na rialacha seo a iarraidh chun athaontacht na hÉireann a chur san áireamh mar atá ceadaithe i gcás athaontacht na Gearmáine.
- Dúshlán a thabhairt d'iarraicht ar bith chun na rialacha seo AE a úsáid mar leithscéal ar easpa gníomhaíocht rialtais chun tacú le seirbhísí poiblí agus lenár dtionscadail riachtanacha agus bonneagar sóisialta.

## Ar Son Ceannasachta Éireannaí Thar Chánachas

Le blianta beaga anuas bhailigh an tAE níos mó cumhachta chun na paraiméadair a leagan inar féidir le rialtais náisiúnta agus réigiúnacha a ngeilleagair féin a oibriú, agus go háirithe, smacht a chur ar chánachas.

Tá rialacha CBL leagtha ag leibhéal an AE. Rinneadh iarrachtaí chun cáin chorparáideach a thabhairt faoi théarmaí tagartha an AE trí Chomhbhonn Comhdhlúithe Cánach Corparáidí (CBCCC). Tá seo tacaithe ag an gCoimisiún Eorpach agus ag Parlaimint na hEorpa, mar aon le Ballstáit sa Chomhairle Eorpach – agus ag roinnt FPEanna Éireannacha go fiú.

Creideann Sinn Féin gur chóir beartas riachtanach eacnamaíoch a rialú ag rialtais náisiúnta nó réigiúnacha atá tofa go daonlathach. Tá clú gan cháim ar FPEanna Shinn Féin maidir le ceart na hÉireann a chosaint chun a bonn féin cánach a leagan agus mar sin de ár ráta cánach corparáidí.

## Is é a dhéanfaidh FPEanna Shinn Féin ná:

- Bheith ina dtacadóirí is láidre do cheannasacht eacnamaíoch Éireannach agus do chomhchuíbhiú cánach uile-Éireann.
- Glór na hÉireann a dhaingniú chun cur in éadan smacht níos mó AE ar cháin, comhchuíbhiú cánach ar fud an AE san áireamh.

## Ar Son Trádála Idirnáisiúnta Cothroime

Is mórfhórsa eacnamaíoch an tAE ach bhain sé úsáid as an neart seo chun clár saorthrádála a fhorchur a théann chun tairbhe corparáidí in ionad an neart a úsáid chun forbairt inmharthana a chur chun cinn. Toisc comhaontuithe saorthrádála a d'fhorchuir an tAE ní raibh tíortha i mbéal forbartha in ann cúrsa nádúrtha forbartha a leanúint a d'fhreastalódh ar an gcéad dul síos ar riachtanais a muintire.

Ar a bharr, bhí an chumhacht a bhí ag an AE chun margai trádála idirnáisiúnta a idirbheartú thar ceann gach Ballstát ag déanamh dochair d'earnálacha áirithe eacnamaíochta a mheasann an tAE a bheith níos fearr agus níos saoire má thugtar fúthu lasmuigh den AE.

## Is é a dhéanfaidh FPEanna Shinn Féin ná:

- Iarracht a thabhairt chun na hearnálacha eacnamaíochta is mó atá i mbaol mar gheall ar dhomhandú a chosaint, agus an talmhaíocht go háirithe.
- Trádáil chothrom a chur chun cinn seachas saorthrádail gan srianta mar threoirphrionsabal chaidrimh eacnamaíochta an AE le tíortha eile.
- Dul i mbun feachtais le haghaidh tabhairt isteach cánach ar amhantraíocht airgeadra dhomhanda, amhail Cáin Tobin.

# 5 ■ Ar Son Cosaint Dhaingean Comhshaoil

Is acmhainní ríthábhachtacha iad an bhithéagsúlacht agus comhshaoil glan. Tá an dá dúshlán sin romhainn agus sinn ag plé lenár ndramhail agus le cailliúint gnáthóige, agus le deiseanna chun fuinneamh gaoithe, gréine agus tonnta a úsáid.

Is eochaircheist an comhshaoil dúinn sa Bhrúiséil agus in Strasbourg. Thug an tAE mórán de reachtaíocht dhearfach ar chosaint comhshaoil isteach a dtacaíonn Sinn Féin go gníomhach léi. Bhí baint ag Sinn Féin go háirithe leis an reachtaíocht a leanas:

- Tionchar na gceimiceán ar ár sláinte a theorannú (an Treoir REACH).
- Beartais bainistíocht dramhaíola amach anseo a mhúnlú a chuireann laghdú, athúsáid agus athchúrsáil chun cinn.
- Ag tacú le spriocanna ceangailteacha ar fhoinsí fuinnimh inathnuaite le gur féidir le hÉirinn tairbhe iomlán a bhaint as ár n-acmhainní baile féideartha (an ghaoth agus na tonnta go háirithe).

Thóg Sinn Féin saincheisteanna áitiúla comhshaoil ag leibhéal an AE amhail imní grúpaí cónaitheoirí faoi láithreáin líonta talún, loisceoirí, dumpaí aispeiste agus píblíne Shell i Ros Dumhach.

Chuaigh Sinn Féin i mbun feachtais in éadan loisceoirí ar an bPoll Beag, i Ráth Cúil agus i bpobail eile ar fud na hÉireann. Ag leibhéal an AE

chuireamar in éadan iarrachtaí chun “athshlánú” seachas “diúscairt” a thabhairt ar loisceadh. Dá ndéanfaí an t-athrangú sin bheadh níos mó loisceoirí inár bpobail sa deireadh thiar.

## Is é a dhéanfaidh FPEanna Shinn Féin ná:

- Tús áite a thabhairt do chosaint an comhshaoil trí thacú leis na leibhéil is airde caighdeáin chomhshaoil i reachtaíocht AE in Strasbourg, agus trína chinntiú go gcloíonn údaráis sa bhaile leis na caighdeáin seo.
- Tacú le ceannairí AE chun forbairt inbhuanaithe a chur chun cinn ag an leibhéal domhanda, réigiúnach agus náisiúnta.
- Gníomhaíocht chomhbheartaithe a chur chun cinn ar éiceachórais agus ar fhorbairt agus ar dhea-chur i bhfeidhm beartais rathúla bithéagsúlachta an AE amhail Treoracha um Éin agus Ghnáthóga agus líonra Natura 2000 de cheantair faoi chosaint.
- Gach rialúchán réimse leictreamaighnéadaigh (RLM) a athbhreithniú ag cloí le torthaí na Tuarascála Bith-thionscnaimh ar iarmhairtí sláinte mar gheall ar nochtadh méadaithe d'fhearais gan sreang.
- Glao chun rialúcháin AE a athbhreithniú le gur féidir le grúpaí leasmhara athbhreithnithe breithiúnacha ar chinntí AE a iarraidh maidir le cúrsaí comhshaoil.

## Ar Son Gnímh Phráinnigh ar Athrú Aeráide

Is é atá san Athrú Aeráide ná ceann de na dúshláin is mó roimh Éirinn agus roimh an Eoraip. Chuidigh Sinn Féin go mór le beartas AE agus le beartas Éireannach a mhúnlú. Bhíomar ag plé le saíneolaithe sa bhaile agus ar fud na hEorpa ar ghnéithe difriúla d'athrú aeráide.

Is é an cur chuige atá againn maidir le hathrú aeráide nach fadhb ó thuaidh ná ó dheas é ná fadhb Éireannach go fiú ach é a chur ina chomhthéacs idirnáisiúnta. Thug ár mballraíocht ar Choiste Sealadach um Athrú Aeráide de Pharlaimint na hEorpa faill dúinn ár smaointe a chur chun tosaigh ar gach céim den chinnteoireacht – ar leibhéal áitiúil, náisiúnta agus ar leibhéal an AE.

Tacaímid le reachtaíocht cheangailteach a iarrann ar an rialtas ó dheas astuithe ceaptha teasa a ghearradh ar 3% ar a laghad go bliantúil le gur féidir oibleagáid idirnáisiúnta a chomhlíonadh, agus thugamar tús áite don athrú aeráide inár n-ionchur sa Chlár um Rialtas ó thuaidh.

### Is é a dhéanfaidh FPEanna Shinn Féin ná:

- Spriocanna aeráide le bheith curtha isteach i raon réimsí beartais a iarradh.
- Cur in éadan iarrachtaí chun spriocanna a laghdú do ciorruithe astuithe déanta ag Buiséil.
- Sainordú forásach le bheith tugtha don AE a iarradh trínár ról i bParlaimint na hEorpa, i gcaibidlí aeráide domhanda amach anseo.

- Tacú le Geall Chobánhavan a dhear Cúnamh Críostaí roimh chaibidlí aeráide na NA i mí na Nollag 2009.
- Obair lena chinntiú go gcaitear go cothrom le náisiúin i mbéal forbartha agus go dtugann an tAE go leor tacaíochta dóibh le bheith páirteach le dul i ngleic leis na dúshláin dhomhanda chun astuithe ceaptha teasa a laghdú. Ba chóir a chur san áireamh maoiniú nua breise atá níos mó ná Cúnamh Forbartha Thar Sáile.
- Dul i mbun feachtais go háirithe ar mhaithe le hairgeadas chun dífhoraíú a stopadh agus a fhreaschur.
- Leanúint ar aghaidh chun deiseanna fuinnimh inathnuaite agus éifeachtacht fuinnimh a chur chun cinn mar shlí chun an geilleagar áitiúil a mhéadú agus dul i ngleic le hathrú aeráide agus le bochtaineacht breosla.
- Obair chun an sprioc AE i dtaca le éifeachtacht fuinnimh a mhéadú ar 20% faoi 2020 a dhéanamh sainordaitheach.

## Ar Son Fuinnimh atá Slán agus Inathnuaite agus in éadan Cumhachta Núicléiche

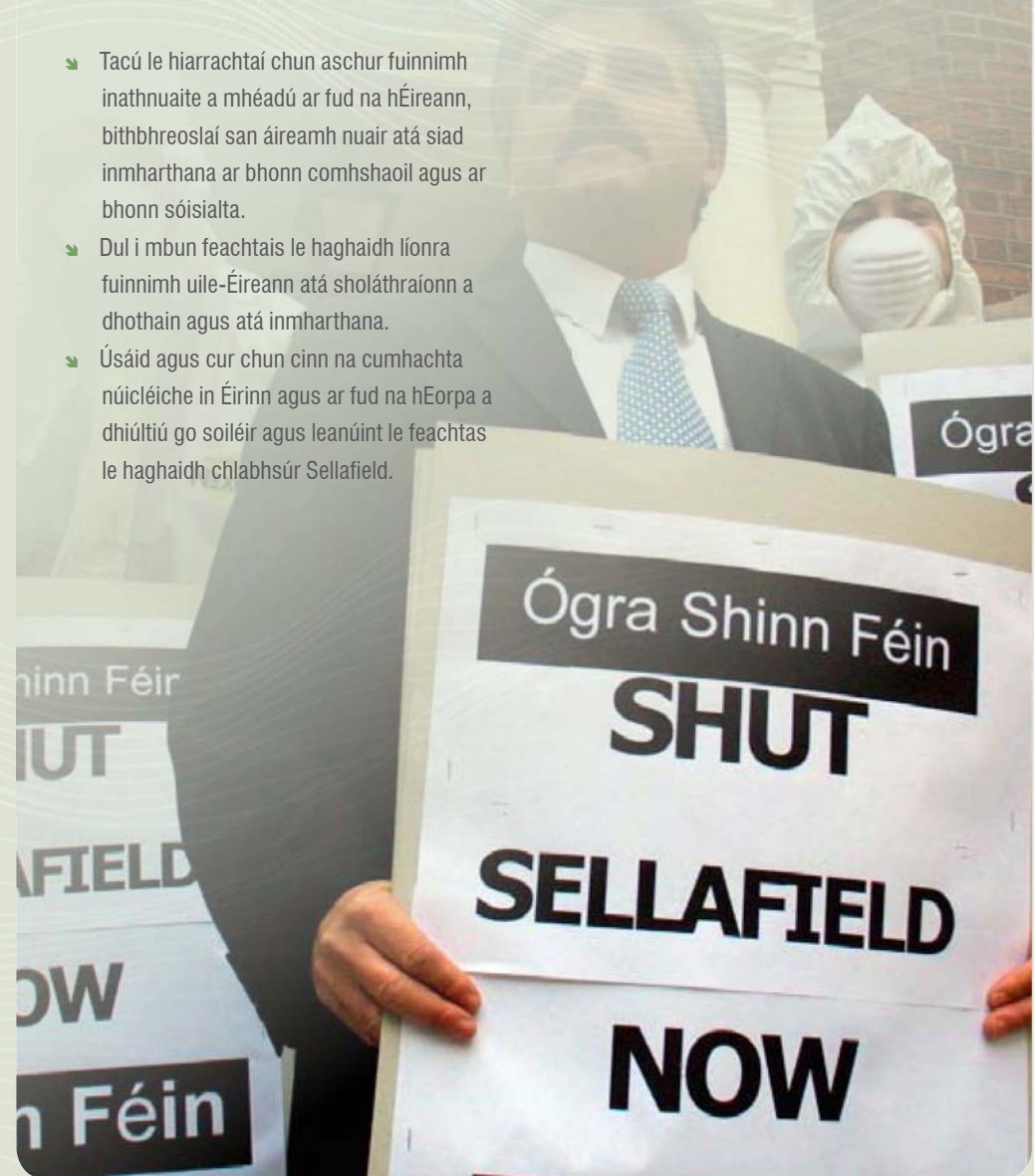
Is saincheist mhór an fuinneamh san AE agus sa bhaile. Ní mór d'fhuinneamh inathnuaite bheith ina réimse fáis d'Éirinn, ó thuaidh agus ó dheas, san am atá romhainn. Creideann Sinn Féin gurb é an modh is fearr chun slándáil fuinnimh a fháil d'Éirinn ná líonra fuinnimh uile-Éireann a thagann ó sholáthar baile atá inathnuaite. Is againn atá an mhóracmhainn maidir le fuinneamh inathnuaite agus ba chóir dúinn infheistíocht a dhéanamh sna teicneolaíochtaí glana seo mar ábhar tosaíochta.

Tacaímid le sprioc shainordaitheach an AE de 20% maidir le húsáid fuinnimh inathnuaite faoi 2020. Diúltaímid go hiomlán do na moltaí go bhfuil ról ar bith ag fuinneamh núicléach chun astuithe carbóin na hÉireann a laghdú, toisc nach foinsé sábháilte inathnuaite é.

### Is é a dhéanfaidh FPEanna Shinn Féin ná:

- Tacú le hiarrachtaí chun aschur fuinnimh inathnuaite a mhéadú ar fud na hÉireann, bithbhreoslaí san áireamh nuair atá siad inmharthana ar bhonn comhshaoil agus ar bhonn sóisialta.
- Dul i mbun feachtais le haghaidh líonra fuinnimh uile-Éireann atá sholáthraíonn a dhothain agus atá inmharthana.
- Úsáid agus cur chun cinn na cumhachta núicléiche in Éirinn agus ar fud na hEorpa a dhiúltaí go soiléir agus leanúint le feachtas le haghaidh chlabhsúr Sellafield.

- Obair chun deireadh a chur le fóirdheontais AE ó ghníomhaireachtaí creidmheasa easpórtála agus ó bhainc infheistíochta poiblí le haghaidh cumhachta núicléiche.
- Dul i mbun feachtais chun dreasachtaí níos mó airgeadais agus reachtaíochta le haghaidh éifeachtacht fuinnimh agus fuinnimh inathnuaite.





## 6 ■ Ar son Comhionannais, Chearta an Duine agus Saoirsí Sibhialta

Ba chóir gurb í an chloch choirnéil atá ag gach beartas AE ar Cheartas agus ar Ghnóthaí Baile ná an tsaoirse, an ceartas agus cearta an duine. Bíonn cuid mhór de bheartas reatha an AE dírithe ar fhaireachas agus ar theorainneacha ar chearta daoine- bíonn an Eoraip mar sin ina daingean nó ina stát slándála.

Is é seo an príomhfháth a chuirimid in éadan na treochoi i dtreo imeasctha Eorpaigh agus cumhachtaí póilíneachta agus breithiúnacha a lárú. Creidimid, leis, áfach gur ábhair iad do stáit cheannasacha go príomha. Le bheith bailí, ba chóir go mbeadh sé riachtanach do bhearta a bhaineann le comhchuibhiú nó comhoibriú AE go mbeadh aontóilíocht ann agus ba chóir go mbeadh sé de chuspóir acu cosaint chearta an duine a mhéadú.

Tacaíonn Sinn Féin le bearta a théann i ngleic go fírinneach le cóiriúlacht idirnáisiúnta nó a chabhraíonn le saorghluaiseacht dhlísteanaigh. Ní mór do chórais ar bith a bhaineann le comhoibriú ar fud na hEorpa maidir le póilíneacht nó bainistiú imirce bheith faoi threoir caighdeán chearta an duine agus ina dtéann cuntasaíocht riachtanach agus meicníochtaí maoirseachta leis lena chinntiú nach mí-úsáidtear iad. Ní thacaímid le córas Schengen mar chreidimid nach gcomhlíonann sé na critéir seo.

Tacaíonn Sinn Féin le reachtaíocht chuimsitheach AE chun comhionannas agus iolrachas, cearta an duine agus saoirsí sibhialta a chosaint agus a chur chun cinn. Cuirfidh ár FPEanna in eadan beart ar bith AE nach gcloíonn go hiomlán le cearta an duine agus nach gcomhlíonann dlí idirnáisiúnta.

### Is é a dhéanfaidh FPEanna Shin Féin ná:

- An ceart chun a bheith rannpháirteach i bpróiseas cinnteoireachta an AE a chur chun cinn agus dul i mbun feachtais ar mhaithe le hinrochtaineacht iomlán agus chothrom ar na hinstitiúidí AE agus ar a áiseanna.
- Leanúint ar aghaidh ag cuidiú le mná, le daoine breacaosta, le daoine faoi mhíchumas, lucht LADT, imircigh agus iarrthóirí tearmainn lena saincheisteanna a chur os comhair lucht déanta cinntí AE agus lena chinntiú go n-éistear lena nglór san Eoraip, trí rannpháirteachas i meicníochtaí Idir-Ghrúpa agus i meicníochtaí eile.
- Tógáil ar dhul chun cinn déanta maidir leis an Treoir a chuireann i bhfeidhm an prionsabal go gcaitear go cothrom le daoine beag beann ar chreideamh, ar mhíchumas, ar aois nó ar chlaonadh gnéasach.
- Tacaíocht AE do phríomhshruthú míchumais, do phromhadh míchumais, do riachtanais uile-dheartha agus don cheart chun cónaí go neamhspleách a chur chun cinn.
- Obair lena chinntiú gur féidir le daoine breacaosta gluaiseacht le saoirse laistigh den AE gan a gcearta pinsin a chailliúint.
- Tacú le 'Feachtas 50/50' de Stocaireacht na mBan Eorpach a éilíonn comhionadaíocht inscne i ngach institiúid AE. (Is ábhar bróid é go dtugaimid faoi deara go bhfuil breis agus 50% d'iarrthóirí Shinn Féin ina mná.)

- Tacú le cearta cothroma shaoránaigh LADT, le cearta chun saoirse ghluaiseachta agus sa deireadh athaontacht teaghlach trí aitheantas rannpháirtíochta, le sainmhíniú cuimsitheach an teaghlaigh i ndlí agus i mbeartas an AE, agus le haitheantas soiléir cearta cothroma daoine tras-insneacha.
- Tacú le ceart gach duine a iarrann cosaint go gcaithfear leo de réir na gcaighdeán ard céanna ar fud gach Ballstát.
- Cur in éadan coinneáil iarrthóirí tearmainn.
- Obair chun deireadh a chur le teorannú iarrthóirí tearmainn agus teifigh maidir le rochtain ar fhostaíocht.
- An ceart chun athaontacht teaghlaigh a chur chun cinn.
- Tacú le comhoibriú AE agus le comhoibriú idirnáisiúnta maidir le cúrsaí ceartais chóiriúil nuair is léir gur le leas poiblí é.
- Gan aontú chun ceannasacht náisiúnta nó maoirseacht dhaonlathach maidir le réimse ar bith ceartais a ghéilleadh agus cur in éadan iarrachtaí chun inniúlacht eisiach AE a bhunú i dtaca leis sin.
- Iniúchadh daingean a chinntiú ar gach beart AE atá molta faoi Cheartas agus Gnóthaí Baile ag leibhéal Pharlaimint na hEorpa, an Oireachtais agus an Tionóil tar éis déabhlóide, lena chinntiú go gcloíonn siad le caighdeán chearta an duine agus an dlí idirnáisiúnta, go bhfuil comhaí leordhóthanacha ann, agus gur le leas mhuintir na hÉireann iad.

## Ar Son Cearta Teanga Gaeilgeoirí

Ó bhí 2007 ann bhí an Ghaeilge mar theanga oifigiúil an Aontais Eorpaigh tar éis feachtas rathúil STÁDAS agus tacadóirí eile cearta Gaeilge. Cé gur chuir Sinn Féin fearadh na fáilte roimh an scéal seo

nílimid sásta glacadh leis na maoluithe agus leis na heisceachtaí a tháinig leis agus atá i bhfeidhm fós.

Cuireann Sinn Féin chun tosaigh go seasmhach gur chóir na maoluithe seo a chuireann crua orainn go fóill gnó a dhéanamh san AE trínár gcéad teanga a bhaint. Leanfaimid linn dul i mbun feachtais ar son comhionannais do Ghaeilgeoirí sna hinstiúidí AE agus ar son Gaeilgeoirí ag plé leis na hinstiúidí seo.

Úsáidimid ár dtionchar ag leibhéal an AE chun an cás a chur ar son Acht na Gaeilge sna Sé Chontae.

### Is é a dhéanfaidh FPEanna Shinn Féin ná:

- Leanúint linn an Ghaeilge a úsáid inár gcuid oibre agus dul i bhfeidhm ar chomhlachtaí an AE chun meas a thabhairt do chearta Gaeilgeoirí.
- Brú a chur ar an Rialtas Éireannach a ghealltanais a chomhlíonadh chun go leor de líon teangairí agus aistriheoirí Gaeilge a chur ar fáil.
- An Rialtas Éireannach a spreagadh chun cúrsaí Gaeilge a fhorbairt sa Ghaeltacht atá dírithe ar theangairí agus ar aistriheoirí ó chúlraí teanga difriúla.
- Leanúint le hobair le daoine eile lena chinntiú go dtugtar eolas do scoileanna ar shlite beatha do Ghaeilgeoirí in instiúidí AE.
- Gníomhairí Gaeilge a chumhachtú ina gcuid feachtas ar son Acht na Gaeilge trí dhealagáidí a éascú le bualadh le daoine iomchuí ag leibhéal an AE.
- Comhghuaillíochtaí a thógail le gníomhairí cearta teanga dúchasáí agus mionlach ar fud an AE.

# 7

## Ar Son Neodrachta Éireannaí agus Ceartais Shóisialta Dhomhanda

Tá an tAE ag imeascadh a n-iarrachtaí míleata leo siúd de chuid chomhghuaillíocht mhíleata ECAT. Sa phróiseas seo caitear ar leataobh leasa tíortha neodracha amháil Éire. Cuireann Conradh Liospóin luas faoin bpróiseas seo.

Creideann Sinn Féin gur fearr a fhreastalaítear ar chaidrimh idirnáisiúnta agus ar cheartas agus ar shíocháin idirnáisiúnta tríd an aon fhóram iolrach cuimsitheach, na Náisiúin Aontaithe, a dhaingniú. Cé gur féidir le Ballstáit AE agus iad ag gníomhú le chéile tionchar dearfach a imirt ar chaidrimh idirnáisiúnta, ní ghlacaimid leis an gComhbheartas Iasachta agus Slándála (CBIS) atá ann faoi láthair, ná ní ghlacaimid le dlísteacht chun Comhchosaint AE a bhunú. Leoga, baineann na bearta sin an bonn d'fhorbairt na Náisiún Aontaithe agus d'ord idirnáisiúnta atá níos cirte ar bhonn sóisialta.

### Is é a dhéanfaidh FPEanna Shinn Féin ná:

- Cur in éadan an bhrú chun beartas iasachta agus cosanta i measc Bhallstáit an AE a imeascadh agus chun an Beartas seo a fho-ordú chuig ECAT, agus dul i mbun feachtais ar mhaithe le beartas iasachta neamhspleách Éireannach a athsholáthar.
- Dul i mbun feachtais maidir le Clár Ceartais Shóisialta Dhomhanda AE le béim ar Spriocanna Forbartha Mílaoise, Ceartas Trádála agus athchóiriú NA.

- Argóint a dheanamh ar son beartais fhorásaigh agus shíochánta laistigh den AE.
- Dul i mbun feachtais ar son chearta daoine faoi chois agus náisiúin gan stáit.
- Tacú le cosc ar choimhlint, faoi threoir an AE, idirghabháil díospóide, idirbheartaíocht síochána, forfheidhmiúchán síochána agus oibríochtaí coinneála síochána, toghcháin nó monatóireacht chearta an duine, agus tógáil acmhainneachta tar éis coimhlinte.
- Dul i mbun feachtais ar son forálacha a bhfuil ceangal dlí leo lena chinntiú nach sáraíonn cuideachtaí a oibríonn lasmuigh den AE cearta an duine ná nach mbaineann siad an bonn d'inbhuanaitheacht comhshaoil.
- Leanúint leis an bhfeachtas in éadan Comhaontuithe Rannpháirtíochta Eacnamaíochta, a dhéanann dochar do gheilleagair na dtíortha i mbéal forbartha, a fhorchur.
- Leanúint ar aghaidh ag úsáid Pharlaimint na hEorpa mar fhóram chun cur in éadan fhorghabháil na gCríoch Palaistíneach ag Iosrael agus chun trádáil fhabhrach AE le hIosrael a chur ar fionraí a iarraidh go dtí gcomhlíonann an stát sin go hiomlán le dlí idirnáisiúnta.