

# Now

The Climate  
Cannot Wait.

# Now. The Climate Cannot Wait.

We who now share this planet determine the future. Our children will be asking us what we did when facing climate threat and environmental degradation. The Swedish Green Party stands in the election because we want to be able to answer that we changed history together and built a better world for people, as well as for animals and nature.

Climate change is already affecting millions of people all over the world. More and more people are forced to flee because of war and conflict in the trails of resource depletion. Sea beds and coral reefs are dying; our consumption is turned into mountains of electronic waste; forests are being devastated, our common resources are being over-exploited and biological diversity depleted. At the end of the day, our and our children's prospects for a good life are being threatened. There is major work ahead of us and we share a huge responsibility. There is no longer any option – we need to decrease our emissions and change to a society within nature's boundaries.

With Greens in the government, Sweden has adopted its largest environmental budget ever. We invest in public transport and organic food; protect more forests and oceans; build bicycle paths and smart, green city districts. We have cut taxes on repairs and increased them on emissions. We have laid the foundation for a 100 percent renewable energy system, for a Sweden connected by fast trains and for our country to be the world's first fossil fuel-free welfare state.

When other countries have hesitated, Sweden has shown leadership. Many now turn their eyes toward us. Our task as a forerunner and influencer is greater than ever. Sweden will take the responsibility for our global environmental impact. But other parties want to stop, cut or

downsize the policies that the Swedish Green Party has fought for and that now inspire the world.

We are convinced that it is possible to build a better society where we do not waste resources and where plastic continents do not grow in the oceans. A society where wealth is not measured in consumption, but in having time for oneself and each other. A society built by solidarity and where we stand up for equality and justice. This election manifesto consists of 100 points that make our vision possible. We are not afraid of ambitious policies that stick out. In the election manifesto we stipulate that we, during the next term of office want to

- 1 interconnect Sweden with a network of trains on schedule – we want to build tracks for high-speed trains and upgrade and expand the railway in the entire country.
- 2 promote climate-smart and organic food – we want to introduce a tax on imported meats where antibiotics have been over-used in animal husbandry.
- 3 save our oceans and waters – we want to stop the spread of plastic, toxins and harmful substances and protect more marine areas.
- 4 give people more power over their time – we want to introduce reforms that shorten the standard working day and empower people's control over their working hours and their working conditions.
- 5 invest in the mental health of children and young people – we want to step by step phase out the queues in child psychiatry.
- 6 stand up for a humane refugee policy that safeguards the right to asylum – we want to give families the right and opportunity to reunite, introduce permanent resident permits and in particular care for the sick and the young.

It starts now. Will we have a modern climate policy or turn a blind eye and hope that someone else does the job? Will we take care of each other or let each and everyone fend for themselves? Future generations will ask what we did. It is now that we choose what we will be able to answer. The climate cannot wait.

# 1. A Sustainable World

This election decides what Sweden will stand for. In a time when basic values are being challenged, a strong Swedish voice for democracy, human rights and nature conservation is needed. The Swedish Green Party stands for a Sweden that dares to take a stand, also when it's uncomfortable. Our country is needed in the global work for the environment, peace and equality.

## 1.1 An Offensive Global Climate Policy

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There are solutions to meet the climate threat. But to manage the climate, strong leadership is needed. Climate change affects life everywhere on earth. Rising sea levels, drought and dwindling resources today lead to conflicts, war and starvation. The decisions that our generation makes now are decisive for the common future of us all.

In 2015, the world agreed on the Paris agreement for the climate. We are now fulfilling the promises in the agreement with action. With the Swedish Green Party in government, Sweden has obtained one of the world's most ambitious climate laws; we have introduced a tax for aviation to start paying for its climate emissions and we invest more than ever in building a sustainable society. And we have only just begun. We continue to fight for a global and radical climate policy.

### During the next legislative term, we want to

- work to stop the exploitation and new fossil energy projects such as coal, oil and fossil gas, and phase out the subsidies to fossil energy – in Sweden, the EU and globally.
- reform the EU state aid rules, support schemes and entire policy for them to contribute to and not counteract a fossil fuel-free society and the implementation of the Paris agreement – we want a Climate Law at the EU level.

- phase out Swedish pension funds' and public financial investments in fossil fuels and change to sustainable investments that support 100 percent renewable energy production.
- strengthen the protection of the Arctic and other sensitive areas.
- invest more in research, tests and cooperation for sustainable and efficient carbon sequestration.

## 1.2 Feminism and Human Rights

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Feminism is seeing the structure that subordinates women to men and wanting to change it in order for everyone to have the freedom, security and right to choose their own path in life. Today, there are strong global forces that want to go in the opposite direction. We constantly take the fight against those forces. When other countries cut off their support to abortions and sex education, we rallied the world to start making up for what other countries cut away. When the persecution of hbtq-people increases in Russia or when people are condemned to death for their sexuality in Iran, Sweden should always be in the forefront for the demands for justice and freedom.

Every human's basic rights should be respected. In the international work for human rights and equality, safeguarding the rule of law is essential. Men's violence against women, sexual harassment and cultures of honour should be fought in Sweden and globally. Racism, xenophobia and hate crimes are unacceptable no matter where they arise. You should have the same chance to lead a good life regardless of your functional capacity, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, beliefs, place of residence or origin. The rights of national minorities and indigenous people should be protected.

### During the next legislative term, we want

- to defend the right to abortion and the individuals' right to their own bodies.

- to continue pursuing a feminist foreign policy that focuses on women's rights, political participation, economic empowerment, influence on peace work, freedom from violence and the right to reproductive health.
- to strengthen the rights and opportunities of hbtq-people by raising and supporting the human rights of hbtq-people.
- Sweden to set up an independent institution for human rights, in accordance with the appeals of the international community.
- to strengthen the independence and influence of the indigenous people, the Sami. Sweden should sign ILO convention 169 about the rights of indigenous people and shoulder the responsibility for and redress historical abuse.

## 1.3 An Open and Peaceful World

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Our vision is an open, democratic and peaceful world where everyone is allowed to move but no one is forced to flee. People should be able to feed their children, express their opinions, get an education and show their love openly. The work for peace is about solving ongoing conflicts – but also about working for wars never to begin. We want to prevent climate change and resource scarcity, which can cause conflicts. All Swedish policies should push for democracy, human rights and equality. The role of women in peace processes should be strengthened. The Swedish Green Party has been a major force behind the decision to abolish the military cooperation agreement with Saudi Arabia and sharpen the legislative restrictions against the arms trade. Now we want to take further steps.

Sweden should be a non-aligned country and safeguard international law. The Swedish Green Party plays a vital role in the Swedish Defence Commission and sees a value in security policy being anchored and formulated in broad agreements. We prioritize strengthening society's preparedness against diverse kinds of threats and decreasing our

vulnerability. Sweden should safeguard the right of asylum and in the EU work to create legal routes for people to enter the EU to seek asylum. No one should have to risk their lives in inflatable boats on the Mediterranean. If all European countries were to take their humanitarian responsibility, many more human lives could be saved. Climate change will lead to new floods of refugees in the future and Europe needs to be ready to create long-term sustainable ways to accept asylum-seekers as well as climate refugees.

### During the next legislative term, we want

- to pursue peace-promoting cooperations and work for global disarmament, the phase-out of all nuclear weapons and a complete ban on the use of autonomous weapon systems.
- to work to abolish arms exports to wars and dictatorships.
- Sweden to continue to stand free from NATO membership.
- to strengthen Sweden's civil defence and our resistance against different threats and threat scenarios such as cyber threats, terrorism and natural disasters.
- to press for more legal routes into the EU to seek asylum and for more EU countries to shoulder a greater responsibility for refugees.

## 1.4 The World's Animals and Nature

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Life in the oceans knows nothing about national borders. The water we drink and the air that we breathe are affected by what happens in other parts of the world. The environmental work needs to be carried out locally as well as globally. We want to cooperate with other countries to make sure that future generations can continue to enjoy what many of us today take for granted: bathing in the ocean, roaming in the forest and eating non-toxic food. Sweden should be a forerunner with a cutting edge environmental policy and push for international action and agreements.

The EU should be a leading force for the environmental work and we want to make high environmental and social demands in trade and foreign policy. The goal of the chemical policy should be to phase out dangerous substances and chemicals. Biological diversity is decisive for all forms of life on earth and their habitats. We want to work for fair terms for farmers and secure access to food for all.

### During the next legislative term, we want to

- shift to sustainable fishing, within the EU and globally. We want to strengthen control to stop illegal fishing and ban subsidies that lead to overfishing.
- strengthen animal protection nationally, at the EU level and globally. Legislation should guarantee that all animal husbandry permits the natural behaviour of animals. We say no to fur farms and the keeping of battery hens and we want to stop cruel animal testing. We want to set up an animal protection authority.
- protect the last remnants of Europe's old growth forests and work for forestry that promotes biological diversity.
- increase the share of organic farming globally and decrease the use of antibiotics, chemical fertilizers, and spraying with substances that disturb biological diversity, and work for a ban on glyphosate.
- strengthen international law for states as well as companies to be able to be held legally accountable for crimes against the environment and damages to the ecosystem.

## 1.5 Steering Towards Global Sustainability

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Under the aegis of the UN, the world has agreed on global goals for sustainable development, Agenda 2030. For the first time ever, there is a concrete plan for a world where no one will be hungry or excluded from education. The 17 goals are about equality, poverty reduction and the rule of law, but also about how this is dependent on a healthy planet, sustainable policies and climate work. The goals are ambitious



and require countries to pull together. We want to turn Sweden into a leading country in the implementation of Agenda 2030.

Sweden should work for the sustainability goals at all levels. The goals should be the starting point for international trade and development cooperation. Trade and investment agreements should not make it harder for people to protect the environment and people's welfare. Municipalities and authorities need to work together with companies, schools and organisations. The respect for democracy and the rule of law are decisive for the goals to become a reality. When societies are struck by draught, crop failure and downpour, or by instability, war and injustice, the children are the ones being the most exposed. We want to fight for all children to obtain schooling and a childhood free from violence, abuse or poverty.

### During the next legislative term, we want to

- use the UN targets for sustainable development as a starting point in public procurement and planning. Swedish municipalities, regions and authorities should lead the way and show good examples for the road ahead.
- safeguard one percent of Gross National Income (GNI) for international development assistance and act against international tax evasion that withdraws substantial amounts from developing countries each year. Development assistance should be governed by principles on efficiency and poverty reduction, not conditioned towards Swedish domestic policy interests.
- make tougher demands and terms in Sweden's and the EU's foreign and trade policy to push global climate work, preserve biological diversity, promote democracy and human rights, strengthen animal protection and decrease the global gaps.
- use the tools at hand in the EU to secure effective rule of law, freedom of the press and other basic democratic principles in all member states.
- strengthen the work against antiziganism, antisemitism, islamophobia and all other forms of racism in the world.

# 2. A Fair Sweden

A society that gives up on being good for everyone will soon no longer be good for anyone. If we are to dare to believe in the force to influence and manage to take on the major challenges we share as humanity, we need to feel safe in our own lives. The Swedish Green Party wants to build a Sweden where we take care of each other. A strong common welfare gives people freedom and everyone the strength to grow. The size of your wallet must never determine your access to school and health care. We want to decrease the economic gaps in Sweden. Justice is about Sweden being a good country in which to build one's future for everyone who lives here – regardless of who your parents are, where you live, if you are healthy or ill, if you were born here or came here yesterday.

## 2.1 A Humane and Welcoming Country

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When people flee for their lives they should not be met by walls. The right to asylum should be defended and give protection and the opportunity to build a new life for those who need it. Europe should take responsibility and Sweden should be a country that stands for openness and humanity. Historically, Sweden has managed to achieve a positive growth. Sweden has shown itself from its strongest side when welfare officers, civil society, teachers and companies have pulled together to give those who have come here the opportunity to create a new life with jobs, education and security.

Those who come here should be met by skilled and committed language teachers – not by several years of queuing at the Swedish Migration Board, idleness or by high thresholds into society. We want to create a refugee system that is an integral part of society, as opposed to what too often is the case today, where those newly arrived live segregated lives and end up outside mainstream society.

Families should be able to reunite and those who need protection here should obtain a permanent residence permit. Those who are severely ill or particularly exposed, for example hbtq-refugees or women fleeing from honour-based violence, should be allowed to stay in Sweden. The right to asylum must be safeguarded. Successful integration that increases the exchange between new and established groups creates the preconditions for people to become successfully established in society and decreases the breeding ground for racism. The work of the Swedish Green Party has led to Sweden more than doubling its reception of quota refugees and we have worked hard to give many unaccompanied minors a new chance to stay. We work for the capacity in the Swedish refugee system and mutual integration to be further improved and Sweden to be a role model for other countries. We fight for a humane refugee policy in good times and bad, and we want to continue to develop an open rule set for labour migration.

### During the next legislative term, we want to

- work for humanism when the temporary limitations from 2015 end. We want to give families the right and opportunity to reunite and safeguard the grounds for asylum that makes it possible for those who are severely ill or particularly exposed to stay in Sweden. Especially, young people who have become established in Sweden need to a larger extent, the opportunity to stay.
- improve the situation for unaccompanied minors through shorter waiting periods, an asylum assessment that meets the standards of the rule of law, efforts against mental ill health and safer housing conditions.
- improve the housing situation for asylum seekers and safeguard the right to one's own housing while introducing incentives to counteract extreme overcrowding in exposed areas.
- shorten the processing of work permits and asylum decisions to make it faster to enter society.

- increase the number of places in vocational training, municipal adult education and people high schools, with a particular focus on newly arrived women, and make education accessible during the asylum process.

## 2.2 Living Cities and Vibrant Rural Areas

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Societies and communities that are good for children are good for everyone. Children should be able to walk and cycle safely to school, to school transport or to leisure activities. The car will still be needed in the countryside, but in the city, car traffic needs to strongly decrease. Everyone must be able to breathe fresh air. We work for living communities with green areas that give life, with dense and reliable public transport and with modern bicycle lanes. We want to plan in an environmentally smart manner by taking ecosystem services into account in the municipal planning to use greenery to clean water and air, decrease noise pollution and create climate-adapted and pleasant residential environments. We also want more housing to be energy-efficient and climate-smart and make demands for more wood being used in construction work.

Regardless whether you live in the countryside, in the middle of a big city or a suburb, there should be access to services, education, jobs and the opportunity to make a good life. Companies should have good conditions to work in the entire country. All of Sweden should be interconnected and digitalisation should be used to develop vibrant rural communities and a smart, green society.

### During the next legislative term, we want to

- increase the basic deduction, decrease employers' social security contributions in economically vulnerable rural areas and investigate a rural bonus for eco-friendly vehicles in areas with poor access to public transport.

- secure child-friendly community planning. Children should be able to cycle safely to school or to the school transport and be close to nature and opportunities to play.
- build out fibre and fast mobile networks in the whole of Sweden. The state should take an increased responsibility for the financing of the expansion.
- increase access to higher education in the entire country and the opportunities to distance education.
- build in a climate-smart manner by making minimum requirements from a life cycle perspective and set the target that at least half of all housing should be built with a wooden frame at the latest by 2025.

## 2.3 A Society that Keeps Together

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All human beings are entitled to control over their lives. Regardless of your background or where you live, you should be able to make your dreams come true, get an education and do whatever you want to with your spare time. Growing inequalities and increased segregation affect everyone. When social exclusion and poverty take root in a society, distrust grows – between people and against the future. We will crack inequality and segregation. Those who grow up in Sweden should grow up in secure surroundings.

In Sweden, people should live together and not in parallel realities in different city districts. People with diverse backgrounds, income and education levels should live side by side and trust each other. Security and cohesion are built from the ground – at the child care centre, in school and in the leisure time. Housing is a human right, and no one should have to be homeless. Homelessness should be counteracted, and no children evicted. No young person should be surrounded by crime. We need to stop the access to illegal weapons and increase people's confidence in the police and the judicial system. We want to invest in sports, culture and other parts of civil society and create a meaningful leisure time for young people.

## During the next legislative term, we want to

- build mixed residential areas. We want to build more cheap rentals in areas in high-income areas and more condominiums and single-family houses in low-income areas.
- increase early efforts from maternity and child care centres, social services and school. Vulnerable families should always have access to special support and preventive efforts.
- prevent young people from being recruited to crime. We want more field workers from the social welfare services in exposed areas, strengthened work with defectors from crime, more neighbourhood policemen that are rooted in the area and tougher penalties for those who recruit young people to criminality.
- counteract child poverty. We want to continue to increase the maintenance allowance for single parents.
- make public transport safe for all. We want there to be better lighting, have more flexible stops and develop the work with safety hosts.

## 2.4 Welfare and Health Care for All

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Regardless of where you live, you should have access to good care without long queues. Primary care with health centres and home nursing should be extended and accessibility improved. Education and training should be increased to meet the needs in health care. Health and social care should start from the individual and her choices and opportunities. Good dental care should also be self-evident for all, regardless of the preconditions. In government, we have strengthened the manning within care for the elderly. The elderly's control over their housing situation should increase and they should be empowered to decide more over their daily activities. Those who need support the most also need to be able to live a good life and the right to assistance and other measures within the Act Concerning Support and Service for Persons with Certain Functional Impairments (LSS) should be safeguarded. Addicts constitute one of the most vulnerable groups

in society and drugs-related mortality in Sweden is huge. We want to save lives by pursuing a harm-reducing drugs policy and among other things carry out attempts with injection rooms.

When we fall ill or lose our jobs or need social support, there should be security and a safety net. People should not be tossed around between authorities. Therefore, we want to strengthen the security systems by merging the medical and unemployment insurances. Students should have the same opportunities as everyone else in case of illness. The remuneration and measures should have the individual as the starting point. The Swedish Green Party wants to invest in the groups that are the most economically vulnerable. We refuse to stand on the side-lines and see yet another generation of women becoming poor as pensioners, despite having worked all their lives. During our time in government, we have employed more people in the welfare sector and we will continue to do so. Welfare activities such as school and care should be run with professionalism and commitment for the mission, not for profit. Our tax money should be used for the purpose for which it was intended, and any possible profits should be reinvested in the business.

### **During the next legislative term, we want**

- to develop primary care and increase access to digital care visits.
- to increase the guarantee pensions and abolish the tax for retired people.
- to strengthen welfare by increased general government grants to local and regional authorities.
- to merge the social security systems – people should not be tossed between authorities.
- the Act Concerning Support and Service for Persons with Certain Functional Impairments (LSS) to be clarified for people to obtain the support they are entitled to.

## 2.5 An Equal Society

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We strive to give men and women equal influence in society and the opportunities to equally share the responsibility for home and family. We want to increase the opportunities to share parental leave. In preschool, school and university, each child and student should have the same opportunities to test and develop their abilities, regardless of their gender or gender identity. We have increased the support for women's shelters and want to continue to strengthen the efforts against domestic violence, both the urgent support for those exposed to violence and their children, the preventive work and measures to make domestic violence offenders stop. We have introduced a consent rule in the Sexual Offences Act – now we continue the work to implement a consent culture.

A modern labour market is an equal labour market. Equal pay for equal work has been a motto for generations, but still has not become reality. Your gender, the colour of your skin or your name should not decide what job you get. We work to make health-care more equal. We want to ensure good obstetric care in the entire country and want there to be a comprehensive approach and continuity during pregnancy, childbirth and after-care.

### During the next legislative term, we want

- to introduce a tripartite parental allowance where one part is reserved for either parent and one can be transferred between the parents, or other adults close to the children, and introduce a gender-neutral parental code with strengthened rights for non-nuclear families.
- to counteract and prevent honour-related violence, raise awareness, challenge honour standards and tighten the penalties for honour-motivated crimes.



- all pupils to have equal sex and relationship education with a focus on consent. The education should neither be gender stereotyped nor hetero-normative.
- to work for equal pay and career opportunities and legislate on women's quotas on corporative boards.
- to tighten the legislation for advertising in public environments to be curtailed, in particular as regards sexist advertising that contributes to maintaining gender stereotypes.

# 3. A Modern Sweden

Real wealth cannot be measured in constantly increased consumption, but in our empowerment over our lives and our time. The Swedish Green Party works for a Sweden where we can manage our life puzzles, have the time to enjoy everyday life and meet each other. With a school that gives every child support and challenges at the right pace and a cultural life that is available, living and relevant. We want more people to be able to contribute with their knowledge and experience in working life and we want to give people new opportunities to develop during the entire working life.

## 3.1 A School Where Everyone Gets to Grow

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Because of the hard labour of teachers and pupils, the learning outcome in Sweden is increasing. The children are learning more. At the same time, we see that inequality continues to grow. We must never accept that. All pupils should get an honest chance, have the right to grow and be challenged, succeed and develop their talents in school.

All schools must be good schools. Children from diverse backgrounds, preconditions and different experiences should meet in the same classroom and the school should be equal and safe. All children in Sweden should be entitled to go to school, regardless of the legal status of their parents. We have reversed the trend with cutbacks in schools and instead, more people are now being hired. This is just the beginning. All pupils should get the time they need with their teachers. One of the most important investments is about the pupils' well-being. Pupils who are getting hurt or are not feeling well should get help on time and mobbing should be fought. We oppose grades at an early age. We want to increase the opportunities for teachers and principals to develop through their profession. Teachers at universities and adult education should also be strengthened and develop in their pedagogic mission.

## During the next legislative term, we want to

- build an equal school. We want to follow the plan drawn up by the School Commission, where the academic community and profession gathered for increased government liability for the financing of schools and decreased school segregation.
- implement the "reading, writing and math-guarantee". When a teacher sees that a pupil needs extra support, he or she should get it, already in preschool and at the primary level.
- strengthen the promoting and preventive work of school health programmes. Pupils who are getting hurt or are not feeling well should obtain support.
- invest in good learning environments and small groups for children in preschool and after-school centres.
- stimulate the desire to read already in preschool and invest in school libraries with trained staff.

## 3.2 Quality of Life and Health

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There should be ample opportunities to a balance between work and everything else that is important in life. The working hours need to be more flexible for people's diverse needs and life phases, and step by step we want to lower the standard working hours. The right to part-time should be as self-evident as the right to full-time. Many people suffer from stress and burnout. We want mental ill health to be prevented and treated at an early stage. The treatment guarantee for child psychiatry should be strengthened for more young people to get help on time. At the same time, the responsibility for the rehabilitation of students must be clarified. School, social services and health care should work more together when it comes to helping the young, and increased resources are needed both for the social welfare services, school health programmes and child psychiatry. Children and the elderly should be able to easily and safely move about outside, exercise, spend time together, practice sports and outdoor recreation. We want

to strengthen civil society with its associations and idea-based activities, which contribute to new contacts between individuals and meaningful leisure time.

We need new ways to measure welfare to steer the development of society towards long-term sustainability and quality of life. Therefore, the Swedish Green Party has in government lead the work to develop new and better measures for welfare and development beyond Gross National Product, GDP, which is the measurement traditionally used. What's good for people's health, quality of life and our common environment should get to govern the social development and the economy.

### During the next legislative term, we want

- people to obtain more power over their time. We want to carry out reforms that reduce the standard working hours and increase people's opportunities to influence their working time and working conditions.
- to reverse the trend towards increased health issues among children and young people. Step by step we want to achieve a situation where there are no queues to child psychiatry.
- to strengthen suicide prevention through increased resources to national awareness campaigns and economic support to organisations that work with prevention.
- to invest in health-promoting environments by facilitating social activities, outdoor activities and everyday physical activities where people live, work, study or play.
- to push for alternative welfare measures to govern the budgetary work and economic policy.

## 3.3 New Green Jobs and Life-long Learning

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We boldly invest in the green transition, and that gives results.

A market is now being created where new companies are helping put Sweden in the vanguard again, new technology is being developed at

record speed and research, innovations and entrepreneurship contribute to modern solutions and new export opportunities. Entire sectors – from the steel industry to the tourism industry – are now transitioning. We want to strengthen that development by investing in infrastructure, education and better terms for business. Government jobs in the entire country and more people employed in the welfare sector are also important to obtain a modern and sustainable labour market. When society is changing at an ever-increasing rate, the demands for life-long learning increase. We want to raise the age for obtaining study assistance and introduce a system where educations and their quality can be compared with each other. We want to strengthen the quality in, and the information about, higher education, adult education and popular education and more collaboration between the academic world and trade and industry. We want to give more people the opportunity to work, also people who today are far away from the labour market. We want to increase the access to labour training, rehabilitation and a working environment where everyone can have a place. Ability to work according to one's capability could be the difference between social exclusion and inclusion.

### During the next legislative term, we want

- to make it easier to start and run a company. We want to cut taxes for the smallest companies and simplify the administration through further digitalisation.
- to secure the availability of means for innovation and development for new companies and entrepreneurs and to promote a green transition of industries and entire sectors.
- to make clearer social demands in public purchasing. We want to create new opportunities for people who are far away from the labour market, among other things by creating better conditions for placement enterprises.
- to take government responsibility for promoting jobs, locate government jobs and secure strong government presence in the entire country.

- to introduce the opportunities for sabbaticals for up to one year to give people the chance for extra training, to start companies or to choose a new road in life through education.

## 3.4 More Culture for More People in a Living Democracy

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The most important starting point in green cultural policy is to protect and develop the independence of culture and artistic freedom. Culture provides experiences and cultivation, it deepens thinking and makes new ideas grow. The Swedish Green Party wants to give people the preconditions to develop their creative and creating strengths. Culture should be accessible in the entire country – physically as well as digitally. People should be able to attend a concert, an exhibition or learn to dance at the culture school regardless of where they live. Museums, libraries, concert halls, exhibition halls and other institutions for cultural experiences, education, meetings and conversations should be open and accessible – physically as well as digitally.

Artistic expressions such as music, games, design and literature build a successful export industry that puts Sweden on the map as a creative forerunner. It shows the way to new products within cultural and creative businesses that can create jobs for young creators. Artists and cultural creators should afford to be parents and manage economically in case of illness.

A strong democracy with committed citizens is of significant importance to create and care for a dynamic society. Democracy is however challenged from several directions, also here in Sweden. The trust in the democratic system needs to be strengthened, and more people need to feel able to shape our common society. The voluntary sector and the popular education movement play a significant role in this and we want to involve more young people in democracy by lowering the voting age to 16 years.

A democratic society also needs its critics. There needs to be qualified journalism and artistic diversity all over the country.

### During the next legislative term, we want to

- increase the opportunities for people of all ages to take part of art and culture. The economic support to organisations and adult educational associations should increase.
- strengthen the economic security for artists and cultural creators. Grants and remunerations should be pensionable and qualify to social insurances.
- give aesthetic knowledge more room in education, from preschool to popular adult education. All children and young people should be able to get a place in a cultural after-school classes in subjects such as music, art, theatre, dance, film/video, and aesthetic subjects should be mandatory at all national upper secondary school programmes.
- further strengthen the conditions for independent, critical journalism and a diversity of media perspectives all over the country.
- defend and look after our cultural heritage while welcoming new cultural expressions such as gaming culture.

## 3.5 Sustainable Consumption and Circular Economy

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We want to build a society where it is easy to share things with each other, cheaper to repair than to buy new things and where we can be sure that what we buy does not contain toxic chemicals. Our ecological footprint must quickly be reduced to a globally sustainable level. We want to introduce intermediate targets per legislative term to decrease the climate-impact of consumption.

We want to make demands on design to make things easier to repair and reuse. Nothing should be thrown away – an old phone could be remade into a new one. Manufacturers should not be allowed to plan

for products to break quickly or after a certain amount of time, to increase the sale of new things. It should be easier for people to make environmentally friendly choices. Through so called nudging, we can in a positive way affect people's behaviour in a more sustainable direction. Our life choices should not be limited by commercial messages about what we should buy or how we should look. We want to increase and broaden taxes on limited resources and what destroys the environment, such as dangerous chemicals or fossil fuels, and cut taxes on what is good for people and the environment, such as labour, repair, reuse or rental.

### During the next legislative term, we want to

- carry out a broad tax reform based on a green tax shift. We want tax negotiations across the political spectrum and reach agreements that promote a circular and sharing economy, decrease the households' indebtedness, equalize today's growing economic gaps and secure welfare in the long term.
- decrease the environmental impact of clothes and textiles. We want to increase the reuse of clothes and decrease the use of chemicals in the production.
- draft stricter requirements on sustainability for products, in Sweden and at the EU-level. We want all products to have a product passport with information about what the product contains, where it comes from and how it can be recycled or taken care of.
- increase the mineral levies and make sure that the mining industry pays for the restoration of land.
- introduce a discount that gives households decreased taxes when they repair things or rent products instead of buying, or when they buy services to sell used things.



# 4. An Environmentally Friendly Sweden

Sweden should be the world's first fossil-free welfare country. The environmental objectives should be met and strengthened with new intermediate targets after 2020. The choice that is better for the environment should be simpler, cheaper and more fun than the one that is worse for the environment. We want those who inherit the world from us to have the security and freedom to build their lives and communities. Therefore, countries are needed that dare to show that a long-term sustainable world is not only possible – but also something people long for.

## 4.1 Fossil-Free Transports

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It should be easy and attractive to travel sustainably. Rural and urban areas need in part different transport solutions. The bike is a quick, cheap and versatile means of transport where distances are not too long. With more and better bike lanes and more electric bikes, it could be even easier to choose the bike over the car. Where the car is needed, it must be possible to charge it with electricity or fill it with renewable fuels. Public transport should be accessible and those who cross county borders should not need to change between different ticketing schemes. Deductions for travel expenses should be based on distances and be independent of means of transport to facilitate for those who live in the countryside. The railroad should be upgraded and expanded in the entire country in order for the trains to depart frequently and arrive swiftly and timely. This must have priority over new highways. We have introduced an aviation tax and the work to decrease aviation's carbon footprint continues. Many flights could be replaced by night trains or faster trains and many business trips could be replaced by modern video conferences.

Freight transport should, to the greatest possible extent, be transferred to trains and maritime transport instead of lorries. We want to make further investments to decrease emissions from road traffic through a bonus to those who buy a car or truck with less environmental impact and a penalty for those who buy a thirsty vehicle (bonus-malus) and through requirements for a renewable fuels obligatory reductions of carbon dioxide emissions from petrol and diesel fuel through a biofuels mandate. Our goal is for fossil fuels to stop being sold at the latest in 2030.

### During the next legislative term, we want to

- upgrade the existing railway system substantially in the entire country, to build new main railroads for high-speed trains and to introduce a national ticketing scheme for all public transport in all of Sweden.
- decrease the environmental impact of aviation. Airlines and shipping lines should account for their emissions when tickets are being bought and airports should introduce congestion charges that could increase the price of commuter and business trips by air.
- introduce a differentiated distance-based tax on lorry traffic, a so-called “road wear tax” that levels out the differences between Swedish and foreign haulers. The tax should be lower where there are no alternatives and steer towards more eco-friendly lorries.
- build more charging stations for electronic vehicles and invest in the production and distribution of biogas and other biofuels in the entire country and introduce production support to biogas.
- increase the opportunities for cycling. We want to build rapid bicycle lanes and unite the regional bike net to a national core network of bicycle lanes and trails.

## 4.2 100 Percent Renewable

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Sweden has excellent preconditions to continue to build out renewable energy. Led by the Swedish Green Party, Sweden has now set the target for 100 per cent of our electricity production to be renewable. The Swedish Green Party is needed for this to become reality as quickly as possible. The goal gives room for innovation, research and new jobs that benefit all of Sweden. It will give us a head start when other countries transform their systems and will need technology and know-how.

The only thing that is for certain when it comes to fossil energy and nuclear power is that they need to be phased out immediately. Sweden has among the best preconditions in the world to build an energy system that is not dependent on oil, coal, fossil gas or uranium. At the same time, the Swedish electric system needs to be improved in order for the entire country to have a smart, flexible and robust energy system. We want the transition to benefit those who are immediately affected, for example by transferring the revenues from the tax on property for wind power plants to the municipalities where the wind power plants are. We also want to investigate whether it is possible to let the property tax on hydro power accrue to the regions where these are located. In the EU, we have pushed a new emissions trading system that increases the costs for emissions and that has made fossil fuel energy less profitable. We now want to strengthen the system through further national measures.

### During the next legislative term, we want

- to invest more in renewable energy. It should be easier and more profitable to invest in renewable energy, for example in solar cells and solar thermal energy, or in wind power at sea or on land.
- more energy efficiency measures both in households and other sectors, and increase the export of both electricity and energy technology, in order for Sweden to be able to contribute to decreased emissions from fossil energy in other countries.

- to carry out the energy transition together. Those living nearby should be offered the opportunity to buy shares of the ownership when wind power is being built and municipalities that have wind power plants should receive the proceedings from the property tax.
- to contribute to tightening the EU Emission Trading Scheme, ETS, by introducing a minimum price on CO<sub>2</sub>.
- to introduce an instrument for energy gas that steers toward 100 percent renewables.

## 4.3 Clean Water and Living Oceans

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Our children should be able to bathe in the sea without having to risk falling ill from algal bloom. When you buy fish in the grocery store, you should not need to wonder what species are threatened by extinction or that contain contaminants. We know that if we do not reverse the trend now, there will be more plastic than fish in the oceans by 2050. There is no time to wait. The overfishing, the pollution and the eutrophication of our oceans must be counteracted.

During the last summers, the groundwater levels have been menacingly low and led to a shortage of drinking water in large parts of Sweden. We increasingly need to take a changed climate into consideration when we plan and build. We want to develop better circular solutions and better water management. We want to protect and recreate more wetlands that contribute to purifying water in a natural way.

### During the next legislative term, we want to

- protect more coastal and ocean areas and ban bottom trawling.
- preserve red-listed and critically endangered species such as the eel.
- decrease the environmental impact on all our waters. We want to decrease eutrophication, phase out the use of toxins and decrease the emissions of pharmaceutical residues to the water.
- prevent the spread of microplastics and less disposable plastic to be used.

- secure access to drinking water. We want to invest more in preventing water from being polluted, create more wetlands and build out circular sewer and purification systems.

## 4.4 Preserving Biological Diversity

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We want to protect valuable nature, safeguard our green infrastructure and preserve biological diversity; species as well as their different habitats. Agriculture and forestry are decisive for a green transition. They provide us with food, fodder, energy, fibres and timber. The raw material from the forest should be used where it's the most useful for the climate. Methods are however still being used that threaten species and impoverish the soil. The decrease of pollinating insects is a threat to our future food supply. We want to promote crop rotation and ecological or "close-to-nature" forestry, for example by improving the governance of how the government manages the forests that we own together. Agricultural land and meadows and pastures should be preserved. We want to recreate more habitats for endangered species. The rainforests are the lungs of the world and home to at least half of the world's species. We want to increase the opportunities to take responsibility for how Swedish consumption affects forests in other parts of the world.

Nature that is available for recreation is an important part of the health-promoting work and provides increased quality of life and better public health. Our green areas and beaches are needed for recreation, but also for climate adaptation, air and water cleaning and noise reduction. We want to create regional programmes in all counties with an active planning for nature that is close to urban areas and we want to continue to safeguard protected shorelines. Our predator populations must be long-term viable. At the same time, we want to make sure that society contributes economically to measures that prevent attacks from predators on domestic animals and compensate when attacks have occurred.

## During the next legislative term, we want to

- increase the resources to protect valuable nature and nature conservation management with the aim of increasing biological diversity.
- promote sustainable use of the forest and non-logging methods, among other things by steering how the state manages the forests that we own together.
- tighten the requirements in public procurement, for Swedish purchasing not to contribute to the deforestation of rainforests.
- promote the transition to organic farming in order for us to reach the goal of 30 percent of agricultural land being organically farmed as soon as possible.
- set a target for the area of natural pastures and increase the environmental compensation for pastures and meadows.

## 4.5 Good Food

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Food is more than just the nourishment on the plate. Food is culture and a meal can provide both community and pleasure. Food processing and the craft food sector provide jobs, entrepreneurship and development for the countryside and regions. Local food production provides security and robustness in case a crisis occurs. Good food and good eating habits are also a central foundation for good health and can contribute to decreasing lifestyle diseases and lower healthcare costs. Food is politics and our choices in terms of cultivation, livestock farming and consumption are of foremost importance.

We want the food that we eat to be good and nutritious, ecological, non-toxic and preferably locally produced. When preschools and other parts of the public sector procure food, climate-smart and organic food should be the norm. Food from animals that have been treated in a way that would be prohibited in Sweden should not be served in schools or hospitals. With more vegetarian food and less food waste,

there is also more room to buy Swedish meat with higher environmental and animal ethical standards. We want to increase the food production in Sweden. We want good ethical livestock farming and to decrease the food's environmental and climate impact. Swedish livestock farming should continue to develop and be a model when it comes to animal protection and low use of antibiotics.

## During the next legislative term, we want to

- make tougher demands on both environment and animal protection when the public sector procures food. Hospitals, schools and other tax-funded institutions should be forerunners within good, organic food and serve climate-smart food as the norm. All food being served should at least meet the requirements in the Swedish animal protection law.
- introduce origin marking of meat and fish in restaurants and in industrial kitchens.
- decrease food waste. Wholesalers, large restaurants, food stores and others that handle substantial amounts of food should be prohibited to discard edible food.
- support the development of new climate-smart vegetarian foods and increased cultivation of Swedish protein crops.
- introduce a tax on antibiotics in the meat production that promotes or exempts animal husbandry with low use of antibiotics. The tax should apply to all food being served in Sweden, also meat produced in other countries.



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de gröna**

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**Now**

**The Climate  
Cannot Wait.**