

## **MARIAN COYNE**

Spokesperson, EFGP

### **CV**

I have been active since 1993 in the Scottish Green Party and have worked as European Affairs Speaker, Executive Convener and Principal Speaker.

In 1999 I led SGP into the Scottish and European Parliamentary elections and saw the Scottish Green vote rise to 5.8%, and the election of the first Green Parliamentarian to the new Scottish Parliament

I have been delegate to EFGP since 95

I was a founding delegate to the Green Islands Network and the network of North Sea Greens.

I was a member of EFGP Secretariat at our memorable Congress in Paris in February 1999 and Council Meeting in Bratislava in October 1999

I have been working as an auxiliary in the Green Secretariat of the European Parliament between November 99 and January 2000.

### **Personal:**

I am 47 years old with three grown-up sons; my professional background is as a teacher and social worker. I am presently living in Belgium.

### **My view of the Federation:**

EFGP has proved an invaluable life-line to the Scottish Green Party, especially during the long years when we seemed to have no hope of electoral success, or of ever becoming a force in Scottish politics. Our membership of the Federation connected us to Parties, which were larger and which were already exerting an influence on political decisions in their countries, and we took heart from them, as well as learning some valuable political lessons. In 1999 we emerged as a growing influence at Scottish level, and we value the ongoing connection to the Federation as we continue to press for Green solutions in Scotland. Small Parties today can become large Parties tomorrow, and I believe the Federation must continue to cherish small and emerging Green Parties, avoiding any unhelpful divisions between them and the more established, larger Green Parties.

EFGP has also done a huge amount to build what may soon become a global network of Green Parties.

We have to put the Federation on a more secure resource basis, in cooperation with Green Parties across Europe and within the Green Group in the European Parliament.

Over the coming 3 years, EFGP has a unique role to play both in relation to the ongoing synergy between large and small Green Parties throughout Europe, and to the embryonic global Green network.