

Foreign and Security Policy

There was hope of strengthening multilateral co-operation in international policy and of a broad international alliance against terrorism after September 11. The Green Parties welcomed this, although few parties supported the way the intervention in Afghanistan was done. But it was seen as a chance to strengthen the UN and an international legal system.

Unfortunately the development went in another direction: The European Union and NATO were treated as minority partners and the US Administration made clear that in the end it has the last word. US unilateralism was back on the agenda.

The discussion of the further development and the "first use" of nuclear weapons, in particular of miniaturised battlefield nuclear weapons, and the decision to proceed on the "National Missile Shield" added new tensions in international relations and is expected to lead to a new armament race in the world and to the militarisation of space. States without nuclear weapons are especially threatened

Consistent with most of the governments of the European Union the Greens do not support the idea of an "axis of evil" (which includes states as different as Iraq and Iran, North Korea and Somalia) and the announcement for military strikes against these states. Such actions could only harm the international alliance against terrorism and create more tensions in the Arabic world.

The most essential question for peace in the whole Arabic world is the settlement of the Israel/Palestine conflict. The European Greens support the right of the Palestine for an independent state as well as the right of Israel to live in peace, without the danger of suicide attacks. The resolutions of the UN Security Council must be put into practice otherwise we face an incalculable destabilisation of the whole region. At the given moment Israel has to stop its military offensive, to withdraw from the occupied territories and begin to reduce its settlements as a precondition for a peaceful solution.

Supporting a broad international alliance against terrorism and the creation of more common international foreign and security policy we call for:

- Strengthening of the international organisations, by increasing their budgets as the UN or OSCE and for a precise mandate of the UN Security Council for international actions of military and humanitarian intervention.
- Strengthening international justice institutions : we condemn the resign of USA from the international court. This action proves that USA leaders don't aim at the creation of an institution able to judge everybody that commits crimes against humanity but an unreliable tool that can occasionally eliminate some of their political enemies.
- Commitment of the US, not to further develop and first use nuclear weapons in military conflicts.
- The use of depleted uranium on battlefields should be banned and the health consequences of the use of these arms fully investigated.
- The EU and the national governments should use their influence against a military strike in Iraq.
- The US to ratify international treaties such as the International Criminal Court, the ban on land mines and the Kyoto Protocol.
- No general increase of military budgets but an increase in the development aid budget t 0,7% GNP by 2010.

- Strengthening an independent Common Foreign and Security Policy of the EU, under democratic control from the European and national parliaments
- Elaborate on the current evolution in structures and instruments of the European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP): the focus on early warning systems and political intervention in time, conflict prevention and the creation of a Civil Peace Corps.
- Supporting the Rapid Reaction Force of the EU take over the presence of the NATO in Macedonia and supporting EU Police forces for Bosnia.
- Governments to desist from using the fight against terrorism to suppress political, social and human rights of their citizens.