

1 **EFGP 3rd Congress, Berlin – Draft Resolution**

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3 *Introduced by Bündnis 90/Die Grünen (Germany)*

4 **BIO-FUELS**

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7 The Green Congress is called upon to adopt the following motion:

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9 The European Green Parties will work for the introduction of renewable energies in the fuel market.
10 They will make proposals to their national governments concerning appropriate measures, e.g. tax
11 exemptions, assistance for the introduction of products onto the market and increased funding for
12 research, and support the implementation of these measures.

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14 Grounds:

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16 The European fuel market is almost completely dependent on petroleum. The ecological pressure on
17 the global climate and other kinds of environmental damage have taken on massive dimensions. Our
18 dependence on the OPEC states is becoming politically worrying again as a result of reductions in
19 production by the non-OPEC producer countries. The increasing scarcity of resources and our
20 dependence on OPEC also constitute threats to world peace.

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22 It is therefore necessary to replace petroleum very rapidly in the fuel sector. Apart from a clear
23 reduction in consumption, e.g. by using low-consumption cars and public transport systems, we must
24 seek to convert to fuels from renewable sources.

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26 These replacement fuels must satisfy ecological criteria.

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28 Zero-emissions drives, e.g. using electricity from renewable sources, fuel cell drives using hydrogen
29 from renewable sources and biofuels therefore need to be promoted more strongly.

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31 Biofuels provide options that could be implemented particularly quickly. At the same time, they offer
32 new perspectives to agriculture. However, the use of biofuels must be linked with conditions relating to
33 organic cultivation methods. The exploitation of genetically modified plants and intensive farming
34 methods to produce biofuels should be avoided.

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36 Biofuels can be used in various forms: biogas from the fermentation of agricultural waste; plant oils,
37 particularly in their natural, non-esterified state; biomethanol; bioethanol; and synthetic petrol, diesel or
38 kerosene from solid biomass (sunfuels).

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40 Tax exemptions for fuels from renewable sources can bring about rapid market penetration, as in
41 many cases they constitute a sufficient incentive for customers to buy these products.

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43 It is necessary for biofuels that are not mixed with fossil fuels, but used on their own in suitable drives,
44 to be fully exempted from taxes. Over the medium term, we should seek to establish a tax regime that
45 is adequate to ensure competitiveness.
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