

# 100% SOZIAL

## DIE LINKE.

## Giving Social Justice a Chance – Ten Points for a Policy of Solidarity

### Dear Citizen,

You want to have a say in where the journey is heading? It is of paramount importance that you turn out at the Bundestag elections on September 22. Put pressure with DIE LINKE against social cutbacks and surveillance mania. Opt for a peaceful country in a Europe of solidarity. Everywhere young people need a solid education, pensioners a decent standard of living. Voting for DIE LINKE means to demand an end to people being poor despite working. Some work themselves to the bone while others do not find paid work and are harassed. In spite of the crisis business profits keep exploding and there are 800,000 millionaires in Germany. Yet there is a shortage of day care facilities, renovated school buildings, modern libraries, of general supply and health care networks in villages. Electricity prices are rising. People are crowded out of city boroughs due to soaring house rents. And yet the people have to bear the burden of the crisis while the power of private banks is unbroken.

Nobody needs to resign to injustice. DIE LINKE is not afraid of changing the course and more strongly draw upon the super rich and their wealth for promoting

community welfare. We have no need of a society where the fear of poverty and social decline is reigning and where people are incited against each other. We will not have anybody profiting on war. Everybody should be able to afford decent housing and have time for co-decision on public affairs, for his or her family and friends. A good life for all is no luxury. For social justice getting a chance many things have to change in our country.

### **This is why you can vote for DIE LINKE:**

■ DIE LINKE sides with employees in their plea for respect and good work. This starts with country-wide legal minimum wages of ten Euros per hour. We want to put an end to low pay, temporary agency work, the abuse of service or work contracts, and to mini- or midi-jobs and to change such bad employment relationships into work paid according to the collectively agreed pay scale and subject to social security contributions. Five million people are out of work while at the same time there is a manpower shortage in hospitals, care facilities, schools, child care and the handicrafts. We want to set up a programme to ensure the future. We need public investment for improving supply for everybody. Instead of longer working hours

and more stress we want less working hours and sufficient time for recreation, family and partnership.

■ We say: Hartz IV is legislated poverty. We, therefore, want to abolish this system and present the concept of a minimum income of 1,050 Euros. In the short term Hartz-IV standard rates are to rise to 500 Euros. No sanctions, no 'need-based communities', no one-Euro jobs but a minimum income and good job and qualification offers for everybody.

■ Old-age pensions have to ensure decent living standards in old age. We propose to restore the pension level of 53 per cent. To prevent poverty in old age we intend to introduce a supportive minimum pension of 1,050 Euros. This will benefit many, most of all women who are paid less in their professional life.

■ Even now wages and old-age pensions in Eastern Germany are less than in the western part. We intend to do away with this injustice.

■ High incomes are to be taxed at a rate of 53 per cent as was done at the time of Helmut Kohl. Apart from this a millionaire tax is required. The revenues are needed for better public facilities: for nurseries, schools, subsidized housing. DIE LINKE is the only party which intends to noticeably lower the taxes on low and medium monthly incomes of up to 6,000 Euros.

■ We want a solidarity-based health insurance – one and the same for all. One to which all contribute and which provides equally good services to all. Patients' co-payment and additional contributions shall be abolished. Enterprises again shall contribute half to its financing. In this way employees' contributions can be lowered. Private health insurances shall be restricted to supplemental insurance plans.

■ In the wake of the financial crisis speculation in housing has kept exploding and rents have risen exorbitantly. We want to stop the crowding out of tenants and to put a ceiling on house rents. We need more limited-profit housing.

■ Any turnaround in energy policy will be really sustainable only if electricity and water supply is granted as a basic right and energy remains affordable through the social graduation of rates. Supply must be handled by the public sector under democratic control. Cuts of electricity supply to households must be prohibited.

■ It is high time to make the profiteers of the crisis pay up at long last. Banks and financial markets must be controlled and be placed at the service of society. The introduction of a financial transaction tax is overdue. A one-time levy on properties exceeding one million Euros in all of Europe will be a step out of the debt crisis.

■ Everything is nothing without peace. The Bundeswehr must be called back from all foreign engagements. And a stricter control of arms export will not suffice: Only a total ban will do. Military production should be converted to civilian goods.

We see to words being put into actions and to other parties moving from their positions. It's about more freedom, democratic involvement and social security, about a peaceful country. Vote for social justice, for a good political alternative:

**On September 22 vote for DIE LINKE!**

*DIE LINKE is the only party which leads its election campaign independent of donations by large companies and banks.*

*Support DIE LINKE with your donation.*

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