



**Our Europe – our Strength  
For Security,  
Peace and Prosperity.**

**Short Manifesto for the European Elections**

### Short Manifesto for the European Elections

The European Union is our safeguard for peace and freedom, prosperity, respect for human rights, security and stability. We Christian Democrats want to defend the European idea against attacks both from within and without. That is why we are prepared to challenge those who want to build a Europe that patronizes its citizens or redistributes their income and those who want to destroy the idea of Europe. We are fighting for a democratic, efficient, secure Europe that is in touch with the people. We want Europe to be a strong confederation of states, a successful economic region and a global anchor of stability in the world. We want to make Europe fit for the future so that we, our children and grandchildren can live in freedom and security.

## Our Europe guarantees prosperity

Our economic and social system, the Social Market Economy, is competing with the systems of other regions in the world. Europe will only prevail in this competition, if it develops a clear position and its own success model.

Free trade and globalization open up additional markets for our businesses and contribute to safeguarding jobs and creating new employment. Free trade is based on open markets and fair rules. We strongly reject protectionism and setting up new barriers. We want effective and rules-based partnerships.

We are committed to a union of stability. It is key that stability starts at home. Therefore, member states must be granted as much autonomy and independence as possible – especially in fiscal and financial policy. Each member state is liable for its own debt. That is why we reject both the installation of a European minister of finance as well as the mutualisation of debt or risks (e.g. through issuing Eurobonds or introducing a joint unemployment insurance). The rules of the Stability and Growth Pact and of the Fiscal Compact must be strictly observed and enforced. Violations of the stability criteria must have consequences.

We want to keep developing the banking union and capital market union while focusing on stability aspects. In order to do so, it is imperative that existing risks in the banking system be reduced first. And there can be no doubt: cash is about freedom. Therefore, we reject the abolition of cash.

Our Europe is a union of innovation. With an innovation strategy and an innovation budget, we are putting our faith in future-oriented projects that benefit all of us. Our Europe empowers individuals as well as businesses for the digital future and invests, for this purpose, in the key technologies of the future, in artificial intelligence, the responsible use of Big Data, the mobility of tomorrow, the fight against cancer and Alzheimer's and the competition for quantum computers.

We want to strengthen the internal market and competition and, by providing a favourable environment, make it responsive to the needs of people and businesses that operate in it. To this end, we want to gradually eliminate existing obstacles as well as expand infrastructure,

education and research for more prosperity and jobs in Europe. We want to relieve the burden on individuals and businesses and eliminate unnecessary bureaucracy. In key economic sectors, we need to make it easier for European companies to cooperate better so that they can emerge as global champions. We also need fair taxation of digital businesses.

We are reconciling economic growth and the environment in order to safeguard a healthy environment and a good quality of life for future generations. We are translating the results of the UN Climate Change Conferences in Paris and Katowice into practical action that we are implementing step by step.

Our Europe that guarantees social security knows: you can only distribute what you earn. And money is not always the best solution. We want to achieve the adoption of basic labor standards as well as health, environmental and consumer protection standards. Freedom of movement in Europe must not lead to the abuse of the social welfare system of individual member states.

## Our Europe provides security

People expect government to ensure that they can live in security and freedom – in Germany and in Europe. Protecting people from crime and terrorism is a key political responsibility both at the national and at the European level.

We want a Europe that is a real security union. This means completing the Schengen process. In the fight against terrorists and organised crime, our Europe needs much better cooperation of law enforcement agencies and security authorities (a “European FBI”), judicial systems and customs, but also much more effective sharing of data. We want an EU-wide sharing of data without a misguided notion of data privacy, uniform data systems and partnership programs of security authorities. The already adopted European Travel Information and Authorization System (ETIAS) must finally be activated.

Part of a completed Schengen area is an effective protection of external borders. We want to develop the European Border Guard Agency FRONTEX as quickly as possible into an operational border police along Europe’s external borders. FRONTEX needs to grow to a strength of at least 10.000 border guards having direct powers to intervene.

Our Europe is committed to its legal and humanitarian obligations. At the same time, we want the number of refugees coming to us to stay permanently low. Fighting illegal migration is a joint European task. All European states must live up to their responsibility.

## Our Europe creates peace

Our Europe speaks with one voice and brings its political weight to bear in the world. Along with our partners, we are working for the preservation of a rules-based order, security and stability in partnership. We support the creation of an additional joint permanent EU seat in the Security Council of the United Nations. In the EU, we need to come to joint positions much faster than before. That is why we want majority decisions in foreign and security policy and abandon the principle of unanimity. We support the establishment of a European Security Council that includes the United Kingdom.

Our Europe must be able to defend itself. We will remain transatlantic and are becoming more European at the same time. Therefore, our Europe will have joint European armed forces by 2030. We want to considerably improve and better coordinate the military cooperation of national armed forces and promote joint armament projects and arms procurement.

## Our Europe stands together

We Europeans put people first. We are proud of the European pillars of democracy, human rights, solidarity, freedom and the rule of law. In order to safeguard our Europe-wide freedom and rule of law in all EU member countries, we want an independent council of experts to monitor them in each member country in the future.

The European Parliament is the heart of our European democracy. Therefore, in order to strengthen European democracy, we are in favour of giving the European Parliament the right of legislative initiative. We strongly support the candidacy of Manfred Weber, the joint top candidate of CDU, CSU and the European People's Party (EPP), to become the next President of the European Commission.

Our Europe belongs to the people. The question as to what should come under EU regulation and what should be regulated at national level, will be decided, as it has been, by EU member countries. Our Europe strengthens the role of national parliaments. When the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality are violated, the EU needs to have broader powers to issue reprimands.

We regret the planned withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union. Our Europe will keep the door open for the UK to rejoin the EU. We believe in the principle that deepening should come before enlargement. Accession candidates can only join the EU when they are able to meet the political and economic accession criteria fully and permanently.

**We are fighting for our Europe!**



**Herausgeber:**

CDU-Bundesgeschäftsstelle  
Kampagne und Marketing  
Klingelhöferstraße 8  
10785 Berlin  
Telefon 030 22070-0  
Telefax 030 22070-111  
[cdu.de/kontakt](http://cdu.de/kontakt)