



MEPs for SDGs chapter

SDG Watch Europe invites you to join the MEPs for SDGs group.

Why should you do this?

Because the MEPs for SDGs group will help the European Parliament, and overall the EU, to develop an informed, robust, and coordinated approach towards the implementation of the SDGs in Europe. The former European Parliament didn't embrace its essential watchdog role in the SDGs implementation entirely. According to SDG WE, representing millions of European citizens, this is a missed opportunity. **SDG WE encourages you to embrace this critical mission to ensure that the SDGs become relevant for all policy areas to achieve the Sustainable Europe we all want by 2030.**

What are the things we ask the MEPS to do?

MEPs joining the "MEPs for SDG" group commit to becoming [Sustainability Heroes](#) and use their political influence to:

- 1 Put Europe in the hands of people.
- 2 Ensure equality and Human Rights.
- 3 Make a strong social Europe.
- 4 Put in place ambitious climate actions.
- 5 Manage natural resources sustainably.
- 6 Promote sustainable and healthy food systems.
- 7 Ensure fair taxation.
- 8 Pursue a fair-trade Agenda.
- 9 Achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- 10 Ensure a people-centred response to migration.
- 11 Promote needs-driven and responsible research.
- 12 Contribute to a people-centred EU budget.

These 12 demands are the core of the [Manifesto for a Sustainable Europe and its Citizens](#), which was agreed and signed by more than 200 organizations representing different sectors to put Sustainable Development at the centre of the EU political agenda.

SDG WE encourages MEPs to **set up an SDG coordination structure in the European Parliament**. This structure could take the form of an SDG committee, or an SDG oversight

intergroup, or any other relevant structure. It should ensure all committees support the SDGs implementation coordinately.

Role of the SDG coordination structure:

1. Raise awareness of SDGs within the European Parliament and ensure that there is buy-in for the SDGs among MEPs.
2. Ensure that the work of all committees and relevant inter-groups supports SDGs implementation. This requires that the committees are familiar with the SDG goals and the targets relevant to each committee, and that each committee is also familiar with the SDGs and targets pertinent to it.
3. Follow the progress of the SDGs implementation in Europe and ensure all committees get in turn updated information on the Goals and Targets relevant to their work.
4. Compile and share information on what the parliament is doing on the SDGs with relevant stakeholders and the general public.
5. Reach out and engage with relevant stakeholders to collaborate with the European Parliament in the implementation of the SDGs. Advised key stakeholders include Civil Society, the European Commission, the European Council, the Committee of the Regions, and the EESC, among others. Civil Society is a key partner for parliamentarians in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, both in terms of helping to connect with citizens as well as providing technical expertise covering all aspects of the agenda. We recommend that the EP's SDG coordination structure encourages each EP committee to discuss with their respective EC Commissioners about the SDG implementation progress in their area at least once a year.
6. Evaluate the impact of the implementation of the SDGs on the life of the citizens to improve accountability. Review the SDG reports of the European Commission as well as other independent monitoring reports of Civil Society and Academia.
7. Organise a yearly strategic report, SDG plenary debate or event on the annual implementation and delivery of the SDGs by the EU. This yearly update could take into account the Eurostat report on SDGs, communications from other EU bodies, etc.

SDG WE encourages MEPs to **continuously engage with the citizenry** in a way that proves useful to citizens. Active public participation is key for success in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. MEPs can enhance public participation by creating or helping to develop a conducive and enabling environment for the involvement of Civil Society, which includes political space for freedom of speech and expression, and access to information and resources.

Most Governments have SDG-related structures in place (national entities serving as SDG implementation focal points and or various committees responsible for coordinating SDG implementation). MEPs should identify these national-level SDG structures or SDG working groups and ensure that they are linked to the SDG coordination structure at the EP and bring the voices of the national level.

Last but not least, MEPs can also link Europe to the global level by building strong links with global fora, such as the HLPF and the Regional Forums for Sustainable Development.