

# THE MAGNIFICENT 7

NEWS FROM THE UK GREEN MEPS



## RIDING THE #GREENWAVE

### Seven Greens were elected to the European Parliament in May.

This more than doubles the UK Green MEPS, who join the Greens / European Free Alliance group of 75 members from 16 different countries. The gender-balanced group is made up of mostly Greens, with representatives from the SNP, Plaid Cymru and independents. As they are now the fourth largest group in the European Parliament, the Greens/EFA have increased their influence and are working hard to change Europe for the better.

Photo above: **The Magnificent 7** from left: **Catherine Rowett** East, **Magid Magid** Yorks and Humber, **Molly Scott Cato** South West, **Gina Dowding** North West, **Ellie Chowns** West Midlands, **Scott Ainslie** London, **Alexandra Phillips** South East.

## WORKING TOGETHER TO STOP A DISASTROUS BREXIT



**Green MEPs have been pressing for an extension to block a dangerous No Deal crash out from the EU and provide the space for the UK to have a People's Vote.** The UK seven welcomed a recent European Parliament resolution which backed such an extension. In a joint statement in response they said the resolution was evidence that 'democracy in Europe is alive and well' and that 'this parliament has shown it cares more about UK citizens than our own

government does.'

The UK seven also joined around 30 other MEPs in signing a cross-party Declaration which condemned the shutdown of parliament, committed to working together to fight Brexit and urged continental colleagues to support their efforts. "We are working together. We call upon our European friends and colleagues to assist domestic efforts in keeping the door open to us," the statement declared.

## CHAMPIONING A GREEN NEW DEAL IN RESPONSE TO THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY



**From Brighton to Preston and Stroud to Cambridge, Green MEPs have taken part in Climate Strikes and supported youth campaigns demanding action on the Climate Emergency.**

With the world still on course to warm by at least three degrees, bold and decisive action is needed. We need a plan. We have a plan: a Europe-wide Green New Deal. Long championed by Greens, this will bring about dramatic reductions in carbon emissions by investing in clean energy, warm homes and public transport and shifting towards sustainable farming while restoring nature.

*Continued overleaf.*

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As well as creating thousands of new jobs, such a plan will also combat poverty and inequality and improve health and wellbeing.

The influence of Greens in the new parliament and pressure from Extinction Rebellion, youth campaigns and others has led to the new EU Commission president, Ursula von der Leyen, establishing a 'European Green Deal' which bears some of the hallmarks of a Green New Deal. She has even appointed an Executive Vice-President to oversee this! We are still a long way from achieving the Green goal of a carbon-neutral Europe by 2030, but a combination of determined campaigning and a clear plan offered by the New Green Deal are moving us in the right direction.

**BLOCK TRADE AGREEMENT WITH BRAZIL TO HELP SAVE THE AMAZON**

As thousands of devastating fires rage in the Amazon, Greens are demanding other MEPs join them in blocking the Mercosur trade deal between the EU and Latin American countries, where Brazil is the major player. The EU has already agreed to this deal in principle.

Greens argue this agreement has encouraged the Brazilian president, Jair Bolsonaro, to turn a blind eye to the torching of the forest so he can appease his agricultural and industrial paymasters who want to open up the land to beef cattle, soya and mining.

But the deal still needs ratifying by MEPs. The Green group has launched a petition demanding the EU Parliament put an end to this dangerous trade deal with Bolsonaro and help save the Amazon: [https://www.tilt.green/save\\_the\\_amazon\\_forest](https://www.tilt.green/save_the_amazon_forest)

The UK's Green MEPs also signed a letter to leading supermarkets asking them to carry out an audit of their supply chains to identify products on their shelves that have come from the Brazilian Amazon. Encouraging responses have been received from Marks & Spencer and Sainsbury's so far.

**CLIMATE JUSTICE MEANS AN END TO WAR**

During September, Green Party MEPs joined protests at DSEI, the world's largest arms fair in London, to speak about the need to end war to achieve climate justice. They highlighted how war contributes massively to the destruction of our planet and demanded that the billions of pounds spent on the military must instead be invested in the transition to a zero-carbon economy.

The MEPs paid tribute to the activists who bravely blocked the setting up of the arms fair and called out the UK for claiming to defend human rights while selling weapons to Saudi Arabia and other countries with terrible human rights records. All the MEPs signed a letter to International Trade Secretary Liz Truss, to express deep concerns about how Brexit could 'uncouple the UK from common (EU) standards'. Greens will continue to campaign for the UK to maintain an arms embargo on Saudi Arabia and uphold European standards restricting arms deals.



**KNOW YOUR MEP ...**



REGION	MEP	PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES
<b>London</b> <a href="http://scottainsliemep.org.uk">scottainsliemep.org.uk</a>	<b>Scott Ainslie</b> f ScottMEPLondon_	<b>Transport, Constitutional Affairs</b> t @ScottMEPLondon
<b>West Midlands</b> <a href="http://elliechowmsmep.org.uk/">elliechowmsmep.org.uk/</a>	<b>Ellie Chowns</b> f EllieChownsMEP	<b>International Development, Trade</b> t @ElieChownsMEP
<b>North West</b> <a href="http://ginadowding.org.uk/">ginadowding.org.uk/</a>	<b>Gina Dowding</b> f CllrGinaDowding	<b>Foreign Affairs, Transport, Industry, Research &amp; Energy</b> t @GinaDowdingMEP
<b>Yorks &amp; Humber</b> <a href="http://europarl.europa.eu/meps/en/197812/MAGID_MAGID/home">europarl.europa.eu/meps/en/197812/MAGID_MAGID/home</a>	<b>Magid Magid</b> f Magic-Magid	<b>Civil Liberties, Justice &amp; Home Affairs, Culture &amp; Education</b> t @MagicMagid
<b>South East</b> <a href="http://alexandraphillipsmep.com/">alexandraphillipsmep.com/</a>	<b>Alexandra Phillips</b> f alexforeurope	<b>Employment, Women's Rights, Environment</b> t @alexforeurope
<b>East</b> <a href="http://catherinerowett.org">catherinerowett.org</a>	<b>Catherine Rowett</b> f Catherine.J.Rowett	<b>Foreign Affairs, Transport, Human Rights</b> t @catherinerowett
<b>South West</b> <a href="http://mollymep.org.uk/">mollymep.org.uk/</a>	<b>Molly Scott Cato</b> f MollyMEP	<b>Economics, Tax, Agriculture</b> t @MollyMEP