

2008 Statement of Principles by Alternattiva Demokratika (The Green Party)

Our Principles

A stable, transparent and responsible Government

Alternattiva Demokratika will give a breath of fresh air to Maltese parliament and will decrease destructive partisan politics. We firmly believe that rights and opportunities should not be the exclusive domain of a chosen few, but should be universally available to everyone.

Sustainability

We are in favour of development that protects our present and future economy. Alternattiva Demokratika is in favour of sustainable development that safeguards our quality of life, our local communities and our environment.

Against arrogance and blackmail

Everyone has the same rights. We work to ensure that no Government gives in to the blackmail and arrogance of hunters, certain contractors and other people who believe they are above the law.

In favour of Malta as truly European country

Alternattiva Demokratika was firmly in favour of Malta joining the European Union. We believe that we have to work together to strengthen our role within the European Union in order to recognise and make use of the opportunities Europe provides. Malta should actively use its neutrality to promote peaceful resolution of conflicts and to work to strengthen international law in areas such as crimes against humanity. Neutrality should not mean sitting on the fence, it should mean taking the side of the weakest.

Greater participation of civil society

Alternattiva Demokratika insists that organisations such as environmental NGOs, consumer NGOs and local councils should be represented within public entities such as the Malta Environment and Planning Authority (MEPA) and the Malta Council for Economic and Social Development (MCESD).

Social inclusion and equal opportunities

Alternattiva Demokratika is against all forms of discrimination against any group of people including women, part-timers, gays or people with disability. We believe in an inclusive society that thrives on the participation of everyone.

Fair taxation

Alternattiva Demokratika believes that there should be less income tax and more taxes on products or activities that harm the environment or the community. Decreasing tax evasion is a priority.

Against Hunting

Hunting in spring should stop immediately. Alternattiva Demokratika works so that Malta adheres fully to the Bern Convention and European Union directive so as to end the barbaric bird killings and so that the Maltese and Gozitan people can finally enjoy the countryside.

Sustainable tourism

We believe that serious planning is needed to improve our tourism sector and the jobs it creates. Proper planning would safeguard the environment, protect the rights of residents, and help us create a tourism industry that we can rely upon.

Improving public transport

Alternattiva Demokratika insists that the state offers a better public transport service. We are also in favour of the liberalisation of this sector in order to offer consumer choice and improve service through the creation of a competitive market.

Rent Law Reform

We are in favour of a just and functional rent market. There should be incentives for people who rent property and the government should assist those who cannot afford basic accommodation.

A better quality of life for everyone

Alternattiva Demokratika is in favour of responsible politics that improve our quality of life. We believe in serious monitoring and enforcement so as to improve the quality of our air, water and food and thereby protecting people's health.