

## LETTER TO ELLY SCHLEIN

Dear Elly,

We're getting very close to the regional elections in Emilia Romagna and we are also experiencing gloomy and contrasting atmospheres on the left side.

The current majority electoral system distorts the popular representation and behind the not very convincing candidate of the League, Lucia Borgonzoni, stands the leghist secretary Matteo Salvini, the real candidate whose will is to "occupy the whole" of Emilia Romagna Region, according to a language more military than political.

We, in the role of italian electoral wing of Diem25 Movement, have listened to the territories of Emilia-Romagna and our spontaneous collectives.

From this dialogue, has convincingly emerged the will of dealing with the list "Courageous" that you Elly launched for Emilia-Romagna, starting from the assumption that distinguishes us as a transnational movement with the head in Europe but the feet in the territory: the confidence for a Green New Deal declined on the territory, in other words that "third space" proposed by Yanis Varoufakis, co-founder of Diem25, from which you too have been inspired.

The civic list Emilia-Romagna Courageous moved from an idea of progressive, ecological and feminist agenda and this is what we share. We remember your two key-words: ecological transition and social cohesion, which, we are sure, will be the key-words to support from below the candidacy of Stefano Bonaccini (PD) as President of the Emilia Romagna region.

In this regard, we feel the political need to express some critical issues in the choices and strategies made by Bonaccini in this electoral campaign, since Emilia Romagna is bound to be an important political laboratory for the next elections in other regions.

### A) Criticism about Prit - Public Transport

1- the extension of the runway at Parma airport which mainly favours the business system without taking into account the environmental impact;

2 - the transformation of the Ferrara - Lidi di Comacchio superhighway into a motorway; the 67 km long Cispadana (a choice that fosters, despite of principles of ecological conversion, road transport instead of rail transport; a motorway for precarious tourism, "bites and runaways", shortsighted and with economic intervention of about 279 million euros in the region);

3- the Sassuolo - Campogalliano link road, which promotes only the ceramic industry, violating the fragility of the territory and of the environment itself.

These are projects that both the PD with Bonaccini and the Lega with Borgonzoni want, but in different ways.

And it is precisely these different methods that make us reflect and talk to Emilia Romagna Coraggiosa in which we trust for proposals at a regional level aimed at restore dignity to workers, pursue free or reduced transport costs for those who work with precarious contracts or for students and the elderly (as was already in force in the 70s in Bologna).

### B) The criticality of health policy

More resources should be used to finance a public health plan, which provides for an increase in investments for new technological equipment and for the inclusion of new health personnel, which is currently lacking, as well as for health care construction in the peripheral areas.

We really need a courageous Emilia Romagna that is present not only in urban areas, but also in the suburbs of the territories and in the mountains that are increasingly suffering the phenomenon of abandonment and depopulation.

C) We need a radical change of direction also in terms of soil consumption, which has been cemented beyond all limits, and in terms of effective contrast of the risk of hydrogeological instability e seismic risk.

D) The female condition

Concerning women and the feminist agenda (women in the region are 51% of the population), we underline that a survey (Orlando Bologna) carried out in 4 provinces of the Region (Bologna, Modena, Ferrara, Forli), with answers collected on the basis of criteria such as age, origin and social class, reveals significant social, cultural and economic problems in the respective cities of reference with gender-specific problems. Women from outside the political environment were interviewed and as a result, it emerged that although few of the interviewees knew the candidates Bonaccini and Borgonzoni and their respective programmes, they all underlined the feeling of a strong polarization of the vote and the need to cast their vote so as not to repeat the record abstention of the previous regional ones.

We emphasize as central an adequate policy in defense of women's rights, the fight against discrimination at work, specifically, pay or career gaps or obstacles to motherhood (white dismissals). Another issue to which we are sensitive is that of nurseries, which are fewer in number than the real needs, without forgetting that it is almost always the woman who has on her shoulders the care of elderly and/or sick people in the family, all this in the difficult conciliation between time, work and care for their loved ones to which she is forced.

Last but not least, there is the issue of women's health, which is protected in our region, but a red flag went up due to the constant emptying of counselling centres and the growing number of conscientious objectors in public hospitals,

We also believe it is necessary to promote a cultural change that fights discrimination and gender-based violence, while implementing investment in regional anti-violence centres.

E) Work

Although Bonaccini's labour policies have opened more tables with all social partners and unemployment has fallen from 9 % to 5 %, work is more precarious and wages lower, resulting in an increase in large holes of undeclared work and exploitation of labour scattered throughout the region. All this is also linked to the dramatic issue of Mafia infiltration into our territory, which is a serious problem.

F) Differentiated regionalism

A serious critical reflection should also be made on the proposal for differentiated regionalism in Emilia-Romagna, almost a taboo in this election campaign and which instead refers to central issues such as social, economic and cultural inequalities that it is likely to generate.

In the awareness of the similarities that we share in the shared aspiration to ecological transition and a more just society, we hope that the instances that we have indicated above - highlighting in particular those that in our view represent the critical points of the policies implemented by Bonaccini- will be included in your programmatic platform.

In the same way, we ask you to include in your programme the Green New Deal for Europe (GNDE) - you will find it attached here - and the fundamental lines of the GND for Emilia-Romagna (GNDXER), which we are developing through a participatory process developed in collaboration with our DSCs

active in the Emilia-Romagna region, and which may also be open to the integration of all citizens of Emilia-Romagna.

As you are well aware, the GND is the pact that we propose to the territories and communities for the ecological reconversion of the economy, for the spread of rights and for the construction of new bases for democratic coexistence.

If you agree with what we are proposing, we ask you to highlight the points made by Diem25, by issuing a public statement on the matter in which you announce the participation of our Movement in the Coraggiosa election campaign.

We are confident that we can be at your side from now on - by campaigning with Courageous on the ground, and helping you to communicate GND issues in the best possible way accurately - in this ambitious battle for a more sustainable region towards zero emissions and the creation of new jobs, through investment in infrastructure, agriculture and industry, without introducing new taxes. And our common commitment to the implementation of GND for Emilia-Romagna will certainly be an added value for the good of the Region and Italy, even once you are elected.

In conclusion, we therefore feel the need, as a movement that wants to democratize Europe starting from individual territories, to make together with you Elly and the Emilia-Romagna Coraggiosa list, an appeal from below to the living and dynamic fabric of Emilia-Romagna, for a climate pact that is authentic and achievable, starting from the Green New Deal and young people, in solidarity with all movements, such as FFF, EXR and Le sardine, in the anti-fascist spirit that characterizes us.

For a civic alliance of change.

**CARPE DIEM !**