



IUT Questionnaire to Spitzenkandidaten (Lead Candidates)

European Elections 2024

Responses received from **the Party of European Socialists**

1. Do you support the recognition of housing as a fundamental human right, as outlined in Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights?

" Yes"

2. Are you in favor of establishing a maximum limit of 25% of household disposable income for housing costs (including energy and utilities) by 2030, achieved through effective rent regulation, rent reductions, and housing allowances?

" Neutral"

The PES promotes making at least 30% of new construction affordable housing for the lower-income group, and another 30% affordable for the middle-income group. We need a strong public housing policy. The definition of housing cost overburden should be revised from 40% to 25%/30%."

3. Do you endorse the idea of setting a minimum quota of at least 30% for social and affordable housing in every Member State and municipality in the EU by 2030, supported by a dedicated EU fund and combining national financial measures?

" Neutral"

The PES promotes making at least 30% of new construction affordable housing for the lower-income group, and another 30% affordable for the middle-income group. There should be adequate public investments to achieve so."

4. Are you in favor of regulating access to corporate finance in the housing market to counteract financialization, prevent monopolies, and stop the sale of public and affordable housing stock?

" Yes"

5. **Should short-term rental housing be regulated to prevent the extraction of housing from the regular housing market, protect tenant rights, and mitigate issues such as displacement, touristification, and gentrification?**

" Yes"

6. **Should the EU revise its state aid rules for social housing, particularly concerning Services of General Economic Interest (SGEI), to ensure that a larger portion of the population has access to affordable housing, rather than limiting it to socially disadvantaged groups?**

" Yes"

7. **Do you support a tenure-neutral approach to housing policy, which prioritizes providing a wide range of suitable housing options for everyone, regardless of income, age, or gender, over focusing solely on homeownership?**

" Yes"

8. **Should the European Parliament ensure transparency, intelligibility, and the ability to challenge unfair terms in rental agreements while providing access to cost-free legal dispute resolution for tenants?**

" Neutral"

The PES strongly supports the protection of tenants and fair rents. Rental agreements must be transparent and fair. We advocate for universal and affordable access to justice. We cannot accept that some people cannot afford challenging unfair rental contracts."

9. **Are you in favor of promoting housing cost neutrality in energy efficiency, ensuring that renovation costs are equitably distributed and that rent increases are balanced by energy savings, as a minimum requirement in all energy legislation?**

" Yes"

10. **Do you believe that equal access to energy-efficient housing should be a priority for all citizens, irrespective of their income, and that EU funding should be available where needed to support this goal while respecting subsidiarity?**

" Yes"