

To: [Political Party]

Date: ...

To whom it may concern,

Dear Sir/Madam,

According to the [National Election Committee], the [Political Party] has been registered as a party running candidates for the [number] seats that are available for [country]. The elected representatives will be Members of the European Parliament, and as such, will make decisions in the next 5 years in key European matters.

Association Justice and Environment, z.s. (J&E) being a non-governmental non-profit organization is a network of environmental legal NGOs who work in [13 European Union Member States](#) and monitor the transposition and implementation of EU environmental law in our respective home countries. We promote the participation of the public in environmental decision-making, the proper assessment of environmental impacts of large-scale projects and the use of effective legal tools to combat climate change.

We believe that the European legislators should tackle global challenges that surround us [\[https://elections.europa.eu/en/why-vote/\]](https://elections.europa.eu/en/why-vote/) and that you as a Member of the European Parliament, in case elected, will have a chance to decide the future of the Union.

There are three key areas where we want to formulate expectations towards the European legislators, and you as an elected representative of [country] will be able to ensure with your future votes that these matters are decided for the public good.

The first one is access to justice in environmental matters.

A large number of commercial enterprises receive some kind of subsidy from national governments in the form of [state aid](#). Many times, this state aid serves a good purpose, but there are occasions when such an aid distorts free market or results in a negative consequence for the environment. One specific example is state aid provided for the promotion of carbon intense energy generation. These state aid measures are given by national governments but only in case the European Commission allows them to do so. But the decision of the Commission cannot be challenged by the members of the public even if they are affected by the aid measure. However, we believe that such Commission decisions should be eligible for taking them to the European Court.

J&E wants to achieve that there is a legal remedy to the EU Court against state aid decisions of the European Commission.

J&E proposes that if this matter emerges within the European Union legislative processes, you and the [Political Party] should vote for more access to justice.

The second is the assessment of environmental impacts.

More than 80% of the European habitats for animals and plants are currently in poor condition. The Nature Restoration Law would be a valuable tool strengthening the biodiversity in the EU. The Council's

postponement of the approval of the Nature Restoration Law for "economic reasons", among others, was not only a great disappointment for nature conservationists but also contradicted the arguments put forward. For economic reasons in particular, the protection of biodiversity is key to ensuring food security and sufficient adaptation to climate change. If this fails, the effects of climate change will have a far worse impact on the European economy and security.

J&E wants to achieve that the EU's nature and biodiversity is protected on a higher level.

J&E proposes that if this matter emerges within the European Union legislative processes, you and the [Political Party] should vote for the adoption of the [Nature Restoration Law](#).

The third is the fight against climate change.

To effectively combat or adapt to climate change, climate-relevant aspects must be taken into account in existing policy and legal instruments. This enables more effective planning of plans and projects and damage to the climate can be constructively averted, minimized or compensated for. We ask you and the [Political Party] to consider these issues detailed in the foregoing and integrate them into the agenda of your party.

J&E wants to achieve that the EU's climate targets to reduce CO₂ emissions are formulated more ambitiously.

J&E calls on for the revision of the Governance Regulation (EU) 2018/1999. In line with the Aarhus Convention's principles and provisions, a clear mention of procedural public participation guarantees in Article 10 should be introduced, as well as an access to justice provision.

J&E proposes that if this matter emerges within the European Union legislative processes, you and the [Political Party] should vote for a stronger climate protection legislation at EU level.

In case elected, we suggest you following our suggestions in these issues and making sure that the viewpoints of environmental protection are guaranteed a priority in the European Union's legislative processes.

Should you have further questions or need clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us at

[name, address, email and phone number of sender].

Sincerely Yours,

[signature]

[name]

[title]

[name of organization]

J&E [country]