



**The Greens | European Free Alliance**  
in the European Parliament



## **Green achievements** in the European Parliament

**Green Party MEP**  
**END OF TERM REPORT**  
**1999 – 2004**





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# Our Green MEPs

This report assesses five years of Green Achievements in the European Parliament. It only touches on the surface of all the issues and events we have covered, but it is a reflection of how our work has developed during this term of office. It clearly shows how Green MEPs make a real difference in the corridors of power in Brussels and Strasbourg.

Throughout these five years, our work has been supported and informed by our friends and colleagues in the NGO world and in the Community Groups in our constituencies and in other organisations. We look forward to deepening existing relationships and developing new ones in the future.

The report demonstrates that actions at the EU level have important implications for many policy areas in the UK and other member states. The Greens in the European Parliament are a significant force which aims to ensure that the EU's emerging social and economic agenda has the environment and social justice at its heart.

We continue to push our work forward into new areas, as well as consolidating our work in established areas such as Peace and Human Rights, Environment, Asylum, Agriculture, Employment, Social Justice, Trade and Development, Transport, and Animal Protection.

In a period of time that has been marred by warfare and the growing threat of climate change, and on the dawn of an enlarged Europe, it has never been more important for the Union to reflect the Green vision of genuine sustainability, security, and social justice.

## Caroline Lucas MEP (South East region)



- ★ Member of the Trade, Industry, Energy and Research Committee where she is the lead Green pressing opposition to further globalisation of trade by the World Trade Organisation.
- ★ Member of the Environment and Public Health Committee where Caroline has worked to combat pollution and to improve animal protection.
- ★ Member and former Vice-President of the ACP (African, Caribbean and Pacific) – EU joint Parliamentary Assembly.
- ★ Former Vice-President of the Temporary Committee of Inquiry into Foot and Mouth.
- ★ Vice-President of the inter-group on the Welfare and Conservation of Animals.
- ★ Member of the Peace and Consumer and Fair Trade inter-groups.
- ★ Caroline works closely with campaign and community groups in her constituency on a number of issues.

## Jean Lambert MEP (London region)



- ★ Vice-President of the Green/EFA Group in the European Parliament.
- ★ Member of the Employment and Social Affairs Committee where she's worked, among other things, on training, migration, social security and social inclusion.
- ★ Member of the Petitions Committee, where she has written reports on access to information and public participation.
- ★ Member of Civil Liberties Committee, where she is the lead Green on asylum and immigration issues.
- ★ Member of the Age, Lesbian and Gay rights, Anti-racism, Social Economy, Disability and Trade Union Inter-Groups.
- ★ Member of the Parliament's delegation to Malta.
- ★ Jean works closely with a number of London's minority ethnic groups and grass roots organisations.



*There are so many organisations without whose support, people and resources our work would not be possible. This is our chance to say thank you to some of them.*

- 1990 Trust
- Action Aid
- Action Centre for Europe Limited
- Action for Refugee Women
- Action on Smoking and Health (ASH)
- Action with Communities in Rural England (ACRE)
- Advice on Individual Rights in Europe (AIRE) Centre
- Afghan Association of London
- Africa Now
- Age Concern
- Amnesty International
- Animal Aid
- Animal Defenders
- Anti-Slavery International
- Article 19
- AVID
- Asylum Aid
- Aviation Environment Federation (AEF)
- Baby Milk Action (BMAC)
- Bail For Immigration Detainees (BID)
- BedZed
- Bioregional Development Group
- Black Environmental Network
- Black Women Europe Network
- Born Free Foundation
- British Cycling Federation (BCF)
- British Red Cross
- British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection (BUAV)
- CAFOD
- Campaign Against Arms Trade (CAAT)
- Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA)
- Campaign to Free Mordechai Vanunu
- Cancer Research UK
- Capacity Global
- CARE International UK
- Charter 88
- Charter 99
- Child Poverty Action Group (CPAG)
- Children's Society
- Christian Aid
- Climate Action Network, UK
- CND
- Compassion in World Farming
- Computer Aid
- Conscience: The Peace Tax Campaign
- Council for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE)
- Countryside Agency
- Crisis
- Crystal Palace Campaign
- Cyclists Touring Club (CTC)
- Dibden Bay Campaigning Group
- English Nature
- Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA)
- Environmental Law Foundation (ELF)
- Euro Citizen Action Service (ECAS)
- Eurolink Age
- Europe Roma
- European Anti Poverty Network (EAPN)
- European Dialogue
- European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia
- European Policy Forum (EPF)
- European Union Migrants Forum (EMU)
- Fair Trials Abroad
- FARM
- Farm Animal Welfare Council (FAWC)
- Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG)
- Fawcett Society
- Federal Trust
- Find Your Feet
- Finsbury Park Homeless Project
- Five Year Freeze
- Food Commission
- Food Standards Agency
- Forum for the Future
- Friends of Cyprus
- Friends of the Earth
- Gatwick Area Conservation Campaign
- GHWEG
- Global Action Plan (GAP-UK)
- Global Commons Institute
- Global to Local
- Global Witness
- Greater London Action on Disability (GLAD)
- Greater London Forum for the Elderly (GLFE)
- Green Alliance
- Green Bottle Unit
- Greenpeace UK
- HACAN Clearskies
- Halkevi Kurdish and Turkish Community Centre
- Help the Aged
- Human Right International Alliance (HRIA)
- Ilisu Dam Campaign
- INQUEST
- Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR)
- Institute for Citizenship
- Institute of Race Relations (IRR)
- International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW)
- International Labour Organisation
- International Society for Ecology and Culture (ISEC)
- Jews for Justice for Palestinians
- Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants (JCWI)
- Justice
- Kurdish National Congress (KNK)
- League Against Cruel Sports
- League of British Muslims
- Lesbian and Gay Christians
- Liberty
- Lifework
- London 21 Sustainability Network
- London Cycling Campaign
- London Metropolitan University
- London Rebuilding Society
- London Remade
- London South Bank University
- London Sustainability Exchange
- London Thames Gateway Forum
- London Voluntary Sector Training Consortium
- London Wildlife Trust
- London Women and Planning Forum (LWPF)
- Make Votes Count
- Maylands Green Belt Action Group
- Muslim Association of Britain
- National Alliance of Women's Organisations (NAWO)
- National Anti-Vivisection Society
- National Assembly Against Racism (NAAR)
- National Farmers Union
- National Federation of Women's Institutes
- National Pensioners Convention
- National Trust
- National Coalition of Anti-Deportation Campaigns
- New Economics Foundation (NEF)
- New Politics Network
- No Airport at Cliffe Action Group
- NSPCC
- Nuclear Free Local Authorities (NFLA)
- Operation Black Vote (OBV)
- Organic Farmers and Growers Ltd (OF&G)
- Oxfam
- Palestinian Solidarity Campaign
- PBI UK (Peace Brigades International)
- People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA)
- Pesticide Action Network UK (PAN UK)
- Quaker Social Action
- Ramblers Association
- Referendum for Kurdistan
- Refugee Council
- Resurgence
- RICS Foundation
- RSPCA
- RSPB
- Save the Children
- Schumacher Society
- Shaftesbury Resources Centre
- Small and Family Farms Association
- Social Enterprises London (SEL)
- Soil Association
- Solar Century
- Solar City London
- South East England Development Agency (SEEDA)
- South East England Regional Assembly (SEERA)
- South East Forum for Sustainability (SEFS)
- Southern and Eastern Region TUC (SERTUC)
- Spitalfields Market Under Threat (SMUT)
- Statewatch
- Stop the War Coalition
- Surfers Against Sewage
- Sustain: The alliance for better food and farming
- Sustainable Energy Action (SEA)
- TAPOL
- Thames Gateway London Partnership
- The Bahá'í Association
- The Cornerhouse
- The East London Communities Organisation (TELCO)
- The Federal Trust
- The Henry George Foundation
- Toynbee Hall
- Trades Union Congress (TUC)
- TRAID (Clothes from recycling)
- Transport 2000
- Transport and General Workers' Union (TGWU)
- Transport for London
- Trident Ploughshares
- UK Social Investment Forum
- UNHCR
- UNISON
- United Nations Environment & Development UK
- Vera Productions Ltd
- Voices in the wilderness uk
- Waltham Forest Racial Equality Council
- War on Want
- Waste Watch
- Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society
- Women's Education in Building (WEB)
- Women's Environment Network (WEN)
- Working Lives Research Institute
- World Development Movement (WDM)
- WWF-UK

# Alternatives to Globalisation

Despite Tony Blair claiming that economic globalisation is 'inevitable', Green Party MEPs have shown this is not actually the case and have worked for radical reform of the rules governing world trade.

Caroline Lucas represented the European Parliament at the World Trade Organisation (WTO) meetings in Seattle, Doha and Cancun. She condemned the hypocrisy of rich countries forcing open the markets of developing countries and called for the WTO to be replaced with a new organisation prioritising trade justice.

The Greens join other organisations such as Oxfam and the World Development Movement (WDM) in promoting genuinely fair trade, for workers and consumers. We oppose the so-called 'free trade agenda' of global big business, banks and bureaucrats, which takes power away from ordinary people.

Jean Lambert has called for a Framework Directive on the ethical and environmental conduct of businesses and corporations and challenged the effectiveness of voluntary Corporate Social Responsibility in the Employment and Social Affairs Committee. She continues to campaign against the exploitation of the developing world's resources as part of the Baku-Ceyhan oil pipeline campaign (see also Peace and Human Rights).

Both MEPs continue to campaign against the General Agreement on Trade in Services, warning that it will lead to greater privatisation of public services, and make it more difficult for developing countries to raise the standards of its services for the most vulnerable (see Public Services).

Caroline Lucas has proposed Green alternatives to globalisation, and highlighted the importance of local, democratic control of the economy. She co-authored a report setting out measures to 'relocalise our



economies' reducing unnecessary trade in goods and services that can be produced domestically, creating vibrant and diverse local economies. Caroline has also called for a global Alliance for Self-Reliance, in agriculture, to relocalise food supply and make the spread of diseases like avian flu and Foot and Mouth less likely. She has co-authored a number of reports on Local Food, demonstrating the benefits to consumers, farmers, the environment and the local economy of initiatives such as organic box schemes and farmers' markets. Having toured farmers' markets in the South East, Caroline has continued to support small farmers in their stand against powerful supermarkets (see also Food and Farming).

Jean Lambert, as a member of the European Tax Justice Network, is challenging the future of tax havens in the European Parliament, while Caroline has taken part in mass lobbies of Parliament with the Trade Justice Movement.

Finally, in the UK, Caroline has been at the forefront of opposition to the introduction of the Euro, defending instead national control of public spending and interest rates, and saying 'Yes to Europe, No to the Euro'.



*"Thousands of farmers in poorer countries are unable to make a living because of the distorting effects of the EU and US dumping food surpluses into their local markets. WTO talks won't make progress unless the EU and US listen to the wishes of the poorer nations themselves, who have been very clear about what they want: an end to food dumping and an agreement not to open discussions on liberalising new areas – such as investment, until existing negotiations are complete."*

**Caroline Lucas during the WTO talks in Cancun, Mexico.**

*"Labour rights and environmental standards are just too important to be left up to voluntary corporate self-regulation, or 'consumer power' alone. All future trade agreements should require all parties to uphold existing international labour and environmental standards."*

**Jean Lambert on the inadequacy of voluntary Corporate Social Responsibility.**

Above left: Caroline Lucas joins Trade Justice Movement campaigners lobbying Parliament to make world trade rules fair.

Left: Jean Lambert joins comedian Mark Thomas demonstrating against a proposed BP oil pipeline taking Black Sea oil to the western world across Turkey, Georgia and Azerbaijan.



# Peace and Human Rights

*“When it comes to the debate about weapons of mass destruction, the fact that two EU member states possess nuclear weapons arsenals undermines the moral authority of the EU as a whole. The overwhelming hypocrisy of both the UK and US governments in demanding the disarmament of others, whilst simultaneously upgrading their own nuclear capacity, is clear for all to see.”*

**Caroline to Parliament ahead of the 2005 Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Review Conference.**

*“I've seen at first hand how the new "apartheid wall" in the Occupied Palestinian Territories is destroying whole communities. While the Israeli people clearly have a right to safety, this wall has nothing to do with security, and everything to do with an illegal land-grab. It cannot be allowed to continue - the international community must take action.”*

**Caroline Lucas on her visit to Israel and the Occupied Palestine Territories.**

**The Green Party prioritises people and planet over the interests of governments and big business. That means defending human rights and working for peace and common security. Jean and Caroline have marched for peace and played prominent roles in direct action for human rights. As MEPs they have been able to demand answers and action from Government to ensure that existing legislation is respected. They want to make sure that the European Parliament provides a climate for peace and recognition of human rights both within Europe and beyond its borders.**

## *End to war*

The Green Party has been a distinct political voice in the Stop the War Coalition against the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. Green MEPs believe that war on Iraq was both illegal and immoral, and have played a prominent role addressing rallies across the country, including the million plus march in London. Caroline visited Iraq on the eve of war and brought back evidence of the humanitarian impact, especially on children, of the last Gulf war, raising the profile of the deadly impact of sanctions and of the use of deplete uranium with the European Parliament, the UK government and the media. Jean has taken the peace mission abroad in speaking to thousands of



Right: Caroline addressing a national anti-war demonstration in Trafalgar Square.

delegates at the Hiroshima Peace Conference, at the invitation of CND.

Caroline undertook a New Year peace mission to Israel and Palestine and saw first hand the devastating impacts of the ‘apartheid wall’ being built by the Israeli military to separate Palestinian and Israeli communities – meeting those from both sides who are campaigning against its construction. The wall has been condemned by the UN.

## *No to nuclear weapons*

Complaints made by Caroline at European level prompted legal action against the UK Government over radioactive discharges from their nuclear submarines in Devon and its nuclear weapons research programme in Berkshire. She has taken part in citizens’ weapons inspections of military bases and was also arrested during a peaceful blockade of the Trident nuclear submarine base in Faslane. Concerned about the impact on the health of Iraqi civilians and British soldiers, Caroline demanded a complete ban on the production and use of Depleted Uranium weapons, spoke in Parliamentary debates and public meetings and put questions to relevant UK Ministers and NATO officials.

Jean has consistently challenged increased EU military spending and promotion of the arms industry.

## *Human rights*

Green MEPs have fought hard for EU-wide core standards to stamp out organised people trafficking and slavery. Recommendations from Jean’s City Hall conference, attended by women’s organisations across the UK, called on the Home Office to adopt EU legislation on human trafficking and offer greater protection for the victims. Jean continues her work with community groups in London, such as the

Kurdish, Ghanaian, Sikh, Muslim and Jewish communities, bringing their views and concerns into the European Parliament.

Caroline and Jean have backed calls for a full inquiry into the deaths of hundreds of thousands of Sikhs in India in 1984. Jean hosted a Parliamentary screening of 'Amazons in Saris', a Rani Khanna film condemning Dalit discrimination in India. Jean, along with the International Dalit Solidarity network, will be questioning the Commission on human rights abuses in that country.

### Globalisation

Green MEPs recognise the links between economic justice and peace. Caroline represented the European Parliament as a member of the EU delegation to the World Trade Organisation (WTO) meetings in Seattle, Doha and Cancun, and has demanded that trade policy take into account the human rights records of trading partners.

Jean has campaigned alongside The Cornerhouse, the Ilisu Dam Campaign and Friends of the Earth against the Government using taxpayers' money through Export Credit Guarantees to underwrite potential human rights abuses in Turkey and Central Asia, and has called for public loans to be withdrawn from the Ilisu Dam and Baku-Ceyhan Oil pipeline projects. Jean visited the Kurdish region of Turkey to see the site of the proposed dam. (See also Alternatives to Globalisation.)

Both MEPs have taken a stand against police violence. Caroline chaired a Parliamentary hearing into police violence leading to the death of anti-globalisation protester Carlo Giuliani at the meeting of G8 ministers in Genoa, Italy in 2001. Jean brought a film about deaths in British police custody - Injustice - into the European Parliament to show to other Members.

The Greens want to achieve social justice not just for persecuted minorities but for all of us, and it is this vision that will inform their work in the forthcoming term.



*“Human trafficking for sexual purposes is a plague for this century, characterised by a complete disregard for human welfare. Its victims, mostly women and children, are identified by UK law as illegal immigrants rather than victims of crime. This approach only serves the interests of the criminals. We must, as a nation, revolutionise our thinking on stopping this evil trade, and this must echo throughout our legal system.”*

Jean Lambert to the Home Office during its the review of law against human trafficking.



*“European scrutiny of its Members’ Human Rights records is absolutely essential if we are to put an end to the double standards currently employed in the UK and elsewhere. We rightly insist that accession countries demonstrate their commitment to international human rights law but seem far less concerned about our own behaviour on exactly the same issues - the treatment of asylum seekers and a shocking culture of impunity regarding deaths in police custody, for example.”*

Jean Lambert leading calls for the Parliament to condemn the UK’s human rights record.



Photo: Molly Cooper - freelance photographer

Top: Caroline Lucas in the shadow of Israel’s ‘apartheid wall’ during a peace mission to the Holy Land.

Middle: Jean Lambert hosts a meeting at London’s City Hall on stopping the trafficking of women and children for sexual purposes.

Bottom: Jean protests outside the Houses of Parliament against the use of cluster bombs.



# Equal Opportunities and Anti-discrimination



Photo: Jeremy Rendell

*“If we are to fulfil expectations we must tackle discrimination with a sense of urgency. It is not enough that Member States have only partially done what is required of them. And it is unacceptable that some have not implemented the Directive at all. How can Europe promote social justice when it fails to empower workforces with the even most basic of human rights?”*

Jean Lambert when only four out of 15 Member States met the deadline for implementing law on equal treatment in employment, occupation and training irrespective of religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation.

*“Many of the most severe, persistent threats to global peace come not from conflicts between major political entities, but from increased discord within states and societies, along ethnic, racial, religious, linguistic, caste or class lines. That doesn’t mean that traditional geopolitical divisions no longer play a role in world security affairs. What it does suggest is that those divisions may have been superseded in importance by more local, more personal tensions.”*

Caroline Lucas on the new threats to peace and stability.

Far right: Jean speaking at her showing of a film in Parliament on the high levels of deaths of black and ethnic minority detainees in police custody.

Right: Caroline warning a UNISON demonstration how women will be most affected by public sector liberalisation.

**The Green Party MEPs believe that a successful Europe is one based on equality and cultural respect: a Europe that can overcome boundaries and act responsibly in its international relations. Jean and Caroline have spoken out against racism and challenged the media on its representation of asylum seekers. They advocate approaches to equality and social inclusion that embrace diversity.**



On these issues, Green MEPs are leading the way in Europe. Caroline and Jean have worked with women’s organisations such as the Women’s Institute to highlight how public service liberalisation disproportionately impacts women, both as service users and employees. Their demand for Gender Equality to be a key EU employment guideline was adopted by the Parliament. Caroline’s call for gender equality to be at the heart of the new European constitution saw a special working group established specifically on gender issues. Jean has promoted the employment of women in industries where they are traditionally under represented and has recently contributed to a report on women in the construction industry.

In the International Year of Disabled People, Jean successfully won Parliament’s backing for a new measure that will open the door for disabled people to claim benefits as they move between EU Member States.

Jean’s constituency of London is the most

ethnically diverse in the UK and she is a member of the European Parliament’s Anti-Racism Intergroup. She has driven Parliamentary scrutiny of the high levels of deaths of black and ethnic minority detainees in UK police custody. This has led the EU to criticise the UK’s 2003 human rights record. London is also home to the largest population of temporary agency workers in the EU, made up disproportionately of ethnic minorities. Jean has challenged the UK Government to end its opposition to a law that would end the exploitation of workers in the temporary workers sector. Green Party MEPs were a force behind the groundbreaking Racial Equality Directive which prohibits racial discrimination in the workplace and in service provision.

Both Green MEPs have spoken at many anti racist events. Jean joined the Muslim Council of Britain, Trade Unionists and cultural figures at the launch rally for Unite Against Facism. Caroline joined the Muslim Association of Britain to protest against France’s ban on ‘conspicuous religious symbols’ in schools. She told protesters that it was an affront to civil liberties and the right to choose.

Through the Lesbian and Gay Rights Intergroup, Jean has called on the Commission to investigate the UK’s proposed loophole on religious homophobia and employment. As Intergroup on Ageing Co-President, she joins Age Concern and the National Pensioners Convention in calling for a higher basic state pension and action to counter pensioners’ poverty.





# Asylum and Migration

**The current political and media climate has given rise to an aggressive wave of anti-migration and anti-asylum sentiment. As the EU doubles in size in 2004, the Greens are standing up to be counted in their support for protection for the most vulnerable.**

## Asylum

Victims of persecution have the right under the Geneva Convention to seek asylum in safe countries. Green MEPs have heard first hand the difficulties faced by asylum seekers. Caroline has campaigned for the closure of the Campsfield detention centre in Oxfordshire and has supported the cases of several asylum seeker detainees held there. On visiting the Sangatte refugee camp in Calais before its closure, Jean said closing the camp will not solve the problem. By making legal entry into the UK virtually impossible, governments are aiding human traffickers. Green Party MEPs have demanded changes to the UK's asylum law and detention policy, so that it protects those who are most vulnerable. In February 2004, Jean joined a sleep out in Trafalgar Square to draw attention to the human cost of the UK Government's draconian Asylum and Immigration Bill.

Jean is rapporteur for the high-profile EU Directive setting out definitions for refugee status. She has called for a moratorium on further efforts to expel and repatriate asylum-seekers until the Council of Ministers manages to agree who is entitled to stay. The Greens also want to see opportunities opened up to asylum seekers. Jean was instrumental in calling on the European Union to extend its funded training programmes to asylum seekers.

Both Caroline and Jean have publicly condemned extremist groups and have campaigned against the rise of the far right across Europe and in some areas of the UK.

They have challenged these racist doctrines which have also been echoed in some sections of the media. Jean joined demonstrators outside the Daily Mail headquarters following negative representations of asylum seekers in their newspaper.

## Migration

The Government recognises that migration into the UK is desirable given that there is low unemployment and a need for workers to fill gaps in the labour market. However, despite the fact that migrants bring money into the UK economy, (they account for 8% of the population but contribute 10% of the GDP), they are often made to feel like benefit 'scroungers'. Jean is the Parliament's specialist on cross-border social security co-ordination and has been at the forefront of pushing for equal entitlement for non-EU workers.

Jean has campaigned for Environmental Refugees to be given legal status under international law. She has called upon Governments to review the push factors for economic migration, such as climate change, and to examine whether a proportion of economic migrants – forced from home by environmental disasters – have any home to return to (see also Peace and Human Rights).

As Green Group spokesperson on asylum and migration, Jean is regularly called on by the media to contribute on asylum issues, and has maintained strong links with UNHCR, the Refugee Council, the Commission for Racial Equality and Joint Council for Welfare of Immigrants.



*“Neither the Home Office nor the European Commission has been able to give me a straight answer to the question ‘how do you get here legally’. Asylum seekers are being forced into destitution by a Government whose policy is taken straight from the editorial columns of the right-wing press.”*

Jean Lambert at a rally on the International Day of Action against the detention of immigrants and asylum seekers.



*“Kofi Annan received a standing ovation for his speech in the European Parliament in which he recognised that migrants must be viewed as ‘part of the solution, not part of the problem’ to peace and prosperity.”*

Caroline Lucas following Kofi Annan's speech to Parliament.

Above: Caroline Lucas leaflets Oxford constituents about the treatment of asylum seekers.

Left: Jean taking part in a Trafalgar Square sleepout in protest of the UK Government's Asylum and Immigration Bill.

# Employment and Social Inclusion

*“Strategies for improving the environment, creating jobs and tackling social exclusion rely heavily on training, but that training will fail to produce sustainable results unless it places the environment at its core. European initiatives try to address social exclusion, but by concentrating on job creation without considering sustainability they are failing to provide long-term solutions.”*

Jean Lambert on the launch of her report integrating employment, social inclusion and environment.

*“Everyone knows that many workers find themselves faced with ‘an offer they cannot refuse’ by employers who expect regular overtime – whether paid or unpaid – or for their workers to accept contracts which effectively sign away their rights. Such long hours cause terrible problems not just socially, for individuals and families, but in terms of health and safety and productivity and economic costs to employers and the UK generally.”*

Jean Lambert on the need for the UK to opt-in to the Working Time Directive.

**The EU vision is that social inclusion can be achieved by getting people into jobs. Where the environment and training fits into this vision is unclear. The Greens believe that employment is only one part of the solution for social exclusion. They want to see employment, social inclusion and environment issues given equal importance in EU strategies.**



British workers are more likely to work longer hours than any other Member State, despite working time regulations. Green Party MEPs have successfully challenged the UK Government’s opt-out of the Working Time Directive as it leads to abuse of the system. Jean has argued in Parliament that if workers need overtime in order to live, then there is a problem with the basic wage. Working with social economy organisations such as TELCO (the East London Community Organisation) she claims workers should be entitled to a living wage, rather than the right to continue compulsory overtime. Moreover, as lead Green on the issue in the Employment Committee, Jean is pushing for legislation to extend full-time employment rights to temporary staff (see Equal Opportunities and Anti-Discrimination).

The average age of the UK population is increasing yet fewer people are working into their sixties. This has resulted in great concern over the provision of pensions. As co-President of the Parliament’s Intergroup on Ageing, Jean continues to work with the EU Umbrella Group AGE highlighting the need for a strategic approach to tackling pensioners’ poverty.

Both MEPs have worked closely with minority communities in their constituencies. Jean has developed strong links with London’s Kurdish communities having spoken out in support of the right of the Kurds to their own language. Caroline worked with Muslim and Jewish groups campaigning for peace in the Middle East.

Jean has been working to promote active European citizenship having submitted an Opinion on the subject as well as co-hosting a conference with the European Citizen’s Action Service (ECAS). She has successfully extended EU funding to advice services offering citizens information on their rights as EU citizens.

Top right: Jean introduces Polly Toynbee to a group of MEPs to discuss temporary agency working.

Bottom right: Caroline voting to end the UK’s opt out of the Working Time Directive.

# Public Services



Photo: Lifework

**Green MEPs are opposed to the privatisation of public services, believing it will lead to higher costs and poorer service provision. Caroline has been a leading voice in the anti-GATS campaign. Jean has worked with European Trades Unions to raise the profile of social inclusion and workers rights in the draft EU constitution.**

The General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) is an international trade agreement governed by the WTO. The aim of the GATS is to gradually remove all barriers to trade in services. The agreement covers services as diverse as banking, water, education, health care, waste collection, tourism and transport. The Greens are opposed to the GATS as it removes national government control over service provision and ties service provision to profit margins.

Jean and Caroline submitted a joint response to the EU and UK consultation on which services Member States would open to international competition, warning that the process was completely undemocratic and distanced citizens from decision-making. They also argued that any negotiations on service liberalisation would have a disproportionate effect on the most vulnerable, particularly in the developing world.

Caroline challenged Pascal Lamy's claims that the GATS negotiation procedure was transparent and fair, and signed a 'Call to oppose the World Trade Organisation's liberalisation of public services'. Jean published a report revealing to grassroots organisations how GATS threatens public services, mobilising local action. They have both spoken during national demonstrations and organised local meetings with interested organisations such as lead campaigners WDM and the Local Government International Bureau.

Many public services such as the postal service are already subject to market forces.

Jean has worked with community action groups to stop the closure of local post offices in London. She also submitted a response to Postcomm's Consultation on opening Royal Mail's delivery to private competition, highlighting the risks to labour standards and universal service.

The deteriorating condition of Britain's railways is another area of public concern. Green MEPs from across the EU have voted against proposals known as the 'Second Railway Package' for far-reaching liberalisation of European passenger railways. Yet



there are many other public services requiring protection. Jean and Caroline continue to work with the Union movement to defend and strengthen public services, speaking at key conferences including UNISON's national conference.

In the coming year the Green Party MEPs hope to continue to fight against competition rules which open public services to privatisation and corporate profit.



*"I am calling for measures to permit developing countries to maintain control over their public sector services and natural resources.*

*I am amazed at the complete failure of the WTO to undertake impact assessment studies of further liberalisation in service sectors, which is required by GATS but mysteriously remains off the agenda. This is something that should happen before, and not after, the next round of negotiations."*

**Caroline Lucas on the GATS negotiations.**

*"The European Union has set in motion a process that will see the full liberalisation of the post office service across Europe by 2009. Local communities are now fighting to secure their services for the most vulnerable against the collective wishes of the UK Government, the Post Office Regulators and the European Commission."*

**Jean Lambert addressing the move by the EU to open its postal services to international competition.**

Top left: Jean meets fire-fighters in support of their dispute with the Government.

Left: Caroline campaigning against the GATS Agreement in Oxford.

# Animal Protection



*“Wildlife must be seen as valuable, shared by us all, and not an expendable luxury for the few. We must educate both consumers and suppliers of illegal bushmeat in the EU and keep the bushmeat trade out of Europe.”*

Jean Lambert, a member of the committee which received 1.9 million signatures for a petition on bushmeat which led to MEPs voting to take urgent measures to stamp out the illegal trade.

*“The Commission has all the scientific evidence, and political support it needs to implement a ban on live exports right now. Failure to do so will prolong unnecessary animal suffering, widen the gap between consumers and the Brussels bureaucracy and reinforce the impression that unelected Commissioners can dismiss the wishes of elected MEPs and national governments whenever it suits them.”*

Caroline Lucas calling on the European Commission to implement an eight hour limit on live animal export journeys.



**Green Party MEPs have been at the forefront of the campaign against animal cruelty. Most animal protection legislation is now agreed at EU level, so the impact MEPs make is an important one and Caroline Lucas’s role, as Vice-President of the European Parliament’s cross-party Animal Welfare group, has provided an ideal opportunity to influence the animal protection agenda.**

Caroline’s amendment to allow Member States to ban the live export of farm animals and horses was accepted by the European Parliament’s Environment Committee.

Green Party MEPs, alongside BUAV and the National Anti-Vivisection Society, have demanded a complete ban on the testing and sale of cosmetics tested on animals. A Parliamentary Question Caroline tabled helped to bring about a substantial increase in European funding for the validation of non-animal test methods. Green Party MEPs are opposed to the use of primates in experiments, and have worked for an immediate ban.

Green MEPs have also demanded a complete halt to the import, production and sale of cat and dog fur. If approved, this would set a useful precedent by banning the trade in a particular type of fur. Other fur production methods are equally as cruel. Caroline has worked for a ban on the import of seal fur

from countries such as Canada and Russia. Jean Lambert initiated the process in the Petitions Committee that convinced Parliament to call unanimously for an Action Plan to tackle the EU’s illegal trade in endangered species poached as bushmeat.

Jean and Caroline have both repeatedly called on national governments and the Commission to amend the Common Fisheries Policy to prevent the by-catch of dolphins and porpoises. Caroline’s draft report for the Research Committee on Fisheries Research stated that measures to mitigate bycatch should be a top research priority.

Caroline has also led the campaign to highlight Low Frequency Active Sonars devastating impact on whales and cetaceans, initiating a debate in plenary and handing a petition to NATO.

Green Party MEPs continue to work for the conservation of habitats. Caroline has worked to preserve the remaining habitats of the Iberian Lynx – which is threatened with extinction.

Jean, having spoken to representatives from Bird Life Malta, has raised Malta’s non-compliance of the Bird’s Directive particularly with reference to hunting periods and trapping. She also questioned the Commission on the capture and trading of protected species in Greece. In her constituency, she has fought alongside local community groups to preserve London’s shrinking green habitat, for example in Maylands Field in Havering, and Erith Marshes in Bexley, where developments threaten migratory wild bird and protected marshland species.



Top right: Caroline visiting diminishing Spanish habitat as a part of her campaign to save the lynx.

Far right: Jean Lambert fights to protect Maylands Field in Havering.

# Food and Farming



Photo: Lifework

Green Party MEPs have worked hard to ensure that farmers and consumers can enjoy a better agricultural system. Recognising public concerns, they join Friends of the Earth and Greenpeace in calling for a ban on Genetically Modified (GM) food and crops and support for environmentally friendly and organic farming.

The Greens in the European Parliament were instrumental in ensuring that all GM products be labelled and that the UK could take appropriate measures, should they so wish, to prevent the unintended presence of GMOs in conventional and organic products.



The Green Party MEPs have been working for radical reform of the Common Agricultural Policy, to ensure that farmers receive a fair price for what they produce, and to reduce environmental damage. Caroline, as a member of the Environment and Consumer Protection Committee, has been working with organisations such as Sustain, FARM, and the Small and Family Farmers Alliance for local food economies, fair prices for farmers and strong controls on supermarkets.

She has continued to promote organic farming as a healthy, sustainable farming system that benefits farmers, consumers and the environment.



The Greens want to give power back to those who produce food. Caroline has written a number of reports on Local Food, proposing ways of reducing the power of the supermarkets. She has pressed the UK government to use EU money to help farmers create and promote local food initiatives of which they are in control. She has tabled an amendment to demand that the European Commission consider ways of supporting and promoting small local abattoirs.

Caroline also submitted amendments to the new EU public procurement rules to try to ensure that local authorities can ring-fence a proportion of their budgets for the procurement of local products. Jean Lambert has highlighted the exploitation of poorly paid workers in the food industry. She has also called for tough new rules to stop food manufacturers targeting children with misleading claims about the health benefits of their products.

In the future Caroline and Jean will continue to work to ensure that our farming system is sustainable and is geared to benefit farmers and consumers, not supermarkets and processors. Caroline is also planning to campaign to ban TV advertisements for junk food aimed at children.

*“The message about the need to eat a healthy diet is getting across to people, and they do look at labels to assist them. ‘90% fat free’ sounds healthy but it can still mean the product is 10% fat – which is actually higher than most low fat products. That’s why I’m backing proposals for new rules to compel food manufacturers to be accurate and transparent in the claims they make about their products – particularly those aimed at children.”*

**Jean Lambert backing Parliament’s review of food labelling.**

*“Legally binding rules are needed to protect farming and consumers from GM contamination. Consumers have a right to avoid GM contaminated food and politicians must introduce legislation to guarantee that this right is protected and upheld. Consumers have spoken out and the EU should not ignore them.”*

**Caroline Lucas on the commercial planting and licensing of GM crops.**

Top left: Caroline Lucas launches her report ‘Stopping the Great Food Swap’ in Oxford.

Far left: Jean supports a local anti-GM campaign in Havering.

# Environment



*“The Government’s plans to concrete over vast swathes of the South East region’s countryside will not only cause irreversible damage to the environment here, but will put the whole region under huge pressure as the existing infrastructure is simply inadequate.”*

**Caroline Lucas on the Government’s planned housing development in the South East.**

**Green Party MEPs continue to challenge policy makers to put the environment and sustainability at the heart of European legislation and policy. Caroline has worked to ensure that the air we breathe is as free from pollution as possible, that our beaches and seas are clean, and that GM foods are banned. Jean has proposed an integrated EU-wide Green Training strategy as part of her work on employment and social inclusion. Together they are working in the European Parliament towards a more sustainable and equitable society.**

## Pollution

Given the long coastline of Caroline’s south east England constituency, and the importance of tourism to the coastal regions of her constituency, Caroline has worked with Surfers Against Sewage to strengthen the new EU’s Bathing Water Directive. Despite attempts by other Parties to weaken its content, Caroline managed to build a cross-party alliance of MEPs in order to ensure safe standards for bathing water across Europe. She successfully extended the scope of the Directive to include groups other than bathers such as surfers.

With many of her constituents living in coastal areas, Caroline drafted a report on coastal pollution for the Environment Committee. The Report called for urgent action to reduce the sulphur and nitrate found in ship fuel. Her report was well received as an important step against damage from ship emissions to our coastal environment and our health.

The increasing number of diesel engines has resulted in greater concentrations of their hazardous emissions and a rise in respiratory diseases such as asthma. The Greens have been working to reduce such harmful air pollution and Caroline has urged the Commission to legislate against car

emissions which are responsible for a rising death toll among EU residents. Jean has joined London’s Green Deputy Mayor Jenny Jones in calling on the Commission to investigate how new developments in East London may put London in breach of the Air Quality Directive.

Both MEPs welcomed Parliament’s vote on the Environmental Liability Directive. Industry faces the ‘polluter must pay’ principle, and must pick up the bill for environmental disasters. Caroline made an official complaint to the Commission following the UK Government’s approval for the importation of 13 ‘toxic’ ships which should have been cleaned and dismantled in the United States. Working closely with Friends of the Earth, Caroline forced the UK Government to respect EU environmental legislation.



## Waste

Both MEPs, reacting to the health concerns of their constituents, have opposed the construction of waste incinerators, promoting instead a zero-waste policy with emphasis on reducing packaging, promoting re-use and increasing recycling. Jean has joined local residents in challenging a new energy-from-waste incinerator in Bexley and has visited several recycling initiatives with London Remade. Caroline has supported local efforts to stop the construction of



*“This is great news for the environment and will go a long way to ensuring disasters like the devastating oil spill following the sinking of the tanker Prestige never happen again,”*

**Caroline Lucas on Parliament’s vote for the Environmental Liability Directive.**

Above: Jean on a visit to Free Form’s Green Bottle Unit which creates 100% recycled glass products for urban design and regeneration schemes.

Right: Caroline Lucas with demonstrators outside a waste incinerator in Canterbury.



incinerators in the South East, including a campaign by the Sandwich Action Group for the Environment, which resulted in the developer withdrawing plans for an incinerator near Canterbury. Jean has called for an EU investigation into a legal loophole affecting the way Member States define electrical waste and dispose of printer cartridges.

### Sustainability

Sustainability is the key component of Green Party policy. Jean has hosted a series of seminars in London linked to the EU-led Sustainable Cities initiative with such organisations as POLIS, Climate Action Network and Waste Watch to discuss crucial policy areas such as energy, waste, planning and transport. Parliament backed Jean's recommendation that the EU Sustainability Strategy incorporate the environment into all EU funded training schemes.

### Environment and Health

Caroline and Jean have worked hard to ban GM crops because of the risks they pose to the environment and human health. Green Group pressure in the European Parliament has already resulted in legislation requiring GM products to be labelled and permitting national governments to prevent the unintended presence of GM in conventional or organic products (see Food and Farming).

Nanotechnology is the science of manipulating matter at the molecular level. Caroline has led a national campaign to raise awareness of the potential health risks associated with some applications of nanotechnology, and co-hosted a Parliamentary public hearing on the subject. She has also commissioned research to establish whether European regulation in this field is adequate.

Both MEPs have called for a moratorium on erecting 'TETRA' phone masts until questions over their radiation emissions have been answered. Responding to Caroline's commissioned research on the health risks of mobile phone masts, both MEPs have called for an end to mobile phone masts being erected near schools and hospitals.

### Environmental Accountability

Environmental accountability remains high on the Green agenda. In partnership with Friends of the Earth, Jean has called on the European Commission to end illegal logging and to impose stricter penalties on the unauthorised timber trade in the EU. Jean's work on the Aarhus Convention has stressed the need for community participation in environmental matters. Her action has highlighted UK Government's attempts to reduce community involvement in its new planning law.

Both MEPs have called for a moratorium on development on Greenbelt in London and the South East. As a member of the Thames Gateway London environment steering group, Jean has called for a protected London-wide urban green spaces network. She has also joined London Wildlife Trust in campaigning against development on Erith Marshes, one of the last areas of grazing marshland on the Thames riverside. She used her membership of the Petitions Committee to raise local community complaints to the Commission against the UK Government's implementation of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) law. In the case of the Crystal Palace Campaign, the Government is being taken to Court after Jean helped highlight inadequate local consultation.

With 80% of environmental legislation coming from the EU, the significant achievements of our MEPs this term have shown how effective Greens can be at the European level. In the next term our Members will continue their work to see environmental costs internalised, production methods improved and public health and opinion accounted for.

*“London’s got a real problem with its waste, and has one of the worst recycling records of any city in Europe. We should be encouraging businesses and community projects to seek new solutions to this growing problem and contribute to a more sustainable waste strategy.”*

**Jean Lambert on her tour of recycling plants in London.**

*“Sustainability is not just a domestic issue. It is an international and inter-generational concept. If we are to take it seriously it will radically reform the European Union agenda, which will make it a far more relevant and exciting one than people find at present.”*

**Jean Lambert in a speech on sustainability to the Parliament.**



Top left: Jean Lambert on a tour of a glass recycling plant in London.

Above: Caroline demonstrating with Surfers Against Sewage for improved safety of UK bathing water.

# Energy and Climate Change

Photo: Lifework

*“The Government’s targets on energy efficiency, emissions reduction and renewable energy production are all voluntary – which means the government will only have the power to introduce the necessary changes by changing the way government itself works. The reality is that policy is simply not integrated and the ongoing work of departments and ministries – far from contributing to achieving these aims – are actively undermining them.”*

Jean Lambert on the Government’s Energy White Paper.

*“The growth of air travel has profound consequences for global warming and climate change, because aviation is the fastest growing source of greenhouse gas emissions, and threatens to negate savings in carbon dioxide achieved by other industries under the Kyoto Protocol. According to the IPCC Special Report on Aviation, aviation could contribute up to 15% to the overall global warming produced by human activities by 2050.”*

Caroline Lucas on aviation’s contribution to climate change.

**Green Party MEPs have challenged policy-makers to take climate change seriously and reform their approach to energy policy. They believe that renewable energy is not the sole solution to climate change; energy demand must also be reduced. Green MEPs have lobbied at national and regional level to establish a carbon-neutral energy-efficient economy. Both MEPs have spoken at climate change rallies in London. Caroline Lucas has challenged the Government’s protection of the UK’s bankrupt nuclear industry by revealing unfair state subsidies.**



## Climate change

Climate change will have a significant impact on London and the South East. Yet the Government is set to increase the pressure on both regions to be the economic superpower for the whole of the UK. Plans to build 200,000 new houses, together with roads and facilities, will do nothing to increase the regions’ sustainability.

Caroline is preparing a report on how the effects of climate change – including rising sea levels, droughts, and increases in extreme weather conditions – will affect her constituency and its population.

## Energy future

The Government’s energy strategy, whilst promoting renewables, does nothing to reduce energy usage overall. The recommendations from Jean’s conference on

renewables and energy management influenced London’s Energy Strategy, calling for reduced demand and greening supply. She has highlighted how EU energy policy will affect her constituency, calling for stronger action by the Government and clarity for local authorities.

Working with London South Bank University, Jean has highlighted the growing skills gap in the energy and construction industries regarding renewable energy and sustainable construction solutions. As a member of the environmental steering group for Thames Gateway London, she has promoted BedZed style zero-carbon housing for East London.

## Nuclear energy and waste

Caroline has been a high profile anti-nuclear campaigner, successfully bridging the gap between Parliament and popular protest. She has forced the European Commission to launch legal investigations into UK government practices in relation to nuclear energy on a number of occasions. The Commission is investigating Caroline’s suspicions that the government has contravened EU rules on illegal state aid by subsidising British Energy through its bail out package at the expense of the UK taxpayer. She has also ensured the UK’s nuclear weapons industry is held accountable for breaches of nuclear safety and environmental legislation. She forced the Commission to undertake a legal investigation into radioactive discharges at the Trident base in Devonport. This has led to the prosecution of the UK Government in the European Court of Justice. A third Commission investigation, initiated by Caroline, is currently underway at the Aldermaston nuclear weapons base in Berkshire. Jean has been active in the anti-Sellafield campaign, supporting an international conference and a hearing in the European Parliament.

Right: Jean Lambert at the Sustainable Energy Action stall at Planet Havering.

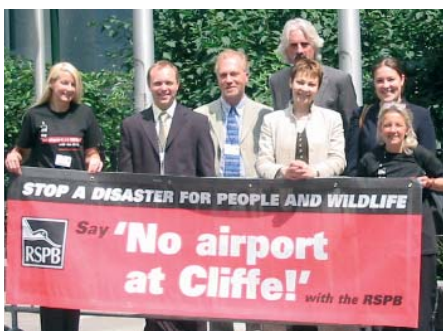
# Aviation and Transport

The Green Party's MEPs have promoted a transport system that serves the needs of local communities without destroying our health or the environment. They have demanded the renationalisation of the railways, fought congestion, and supported alternatives to the car. The Greens want to see the aviation industry pay the true environmental and social costs of flying, to ban night flights and to halt the unrestrained expansion of airports.

## *Congestion in our skies*

Aviation is the fastest growing source of greenhouse gases on the planet. Both Caroline and Jean have challenged the UK Government's airport expansion programme, condemning it for recklessly increasing the contribution aviation will make to climate change.

Caroline's Written Declaration, calling for a ban on all EU night flights, is gathering support, and in a report for the Parliament's Transport Committee Caroline won Parliament's backing for proposals to introduce environmental charges and noise restrictions on airlines. Working in partnership with HACAN Clearskies and the Aviation Environment Federation, Caroline has organised conferences for aviation campaigners both in London and Brussels calling for demand management and reduction, rather than increased capacity. With the RSPB, Caroline sponsored a meeting for campaigners in Brussels against



a new airport at Cliffe in Kent. She tabled a Written Question to the Commission arguing that an airport at Cliffe would have been in breach of EU environmental legislation.

Caroline is now a national spokesperson for the anti-expansion movement, speaking against plans for Gatwick, Shoreham, Farnham, Biggin Hill and Heathrow, all of which would impact on her constituency. Green Party MEPs will continue to call for the aviation industry to meet the true social, economic and environmental costs of flying.

## *Congestion on our roads*

As a member of the Parliament's Transport Committee, Caroline has called for health impact assessments for major EU-funded transport projects. The Greens support alternatives to car use that will increase access to public transport and improve conditions for pedestrians and cyclists. Jean recently promoted Europe's Car-Free Day, supporting greener alternatives in London. She worked with the Green Party's London Assembly members seeking to expand the congestion charge. She has requested a European investigation into air quality breaches in London and has challenged the proposed Thames River Road Crossing, as it will bring more noise, pollution and traffic for East Londoners, and will not provide the local public transport solutions residents need.

## *Privatisation of our rail services*

The Greens support sustainable transport alternatives. Caroline and Jean voted to oppose Europe-wide passenger rail liberalisation, after the disastrous experiences with the UK's privatised railways. Joining with Greens on the London Assembly, Jean has protested against the privatisation of the London Underground under the PPP scheme.



*"Across Europe people are rediscovering their towns and cities, their neighbours and their heritage and reducing congestion, pollution and accidents – thanks to the Car Free Day initiative. We need a breath of fresh air for Londoners, and I call on all drivers to consider alternative forms of transport not just on Monday but every day of the year."*

Jean on European Car-Free Day in London.

*"It is absurd to heavily subsidise an industry, and then cry crocodile tears over the impacts of its expansion. Campaigners have already shown that if aviation fuel were taxed at the same rate as car fuel, we would need no further airport capacity in the UK for 30 years."*

Caroline on the Government's Aviation White Paper.

Left: Caroline Lucas joins RSPB campaigners saying no to an airport on the marshes at Cliffe, North Kent.

Above: Jean joins Green Deputy Mayor Jenny Jones supporting Car-Free Day in London.



# Looking ahead

## **Caroline Lucas MEP** *(South East region)*

Caroline already has many plans for her future work. She will be pushing for the European Commission to ban night flights from all EU airports, and has already begun to help co-ordinate a million strong petition to the Commission to try to achieve this.

In the aftermath of the collapse of the WTO Ministerial in Cancun, Caroline will continue to press for radical reform of the rules and procedures of the WTO, so that trade genuinely promotes sustainable development and poverty eradication, rather than the profits of multi-national companies.

On the animal protection agenda, she will work to ensure that future farm animal welfare legislation on battery hens results in a ban on battery cages, and to end the factory farming of pigs and chickens. It is clear that the Chemicals Directive will form a major part of the environment agenda in the next legislature. Caroline plans to submit amendments to prohibit the use of hazardous chemicals, and will work to promote an entirely non-animal test strategy. She will also be working to ensure that the EU meets, and goes beyond, its Kyoto commitments and reduces pollution to an absolute minimum.

Caroline will continue to make the case that it is not in the interest of the British people to join the Euro, and to insist that a referendum is held in the UK on ratification of the new constitutional Treaty.

## **Jean Lambert MEP** *(London region)*

Environmental and social protection need strong advocates in Europe as the push for liberalisation and increasing competition continues. Jean will continue to defend public services and, for her, health-care will be a developing priority.

She plans to strengthen her campaign for a European-wide 'green' training strategy, so that an environmental dimension is integrated in to our daily work and the essential workforce needed to reach climate change targets is developed.

Working conditions and pay will continue to be an interest for Jean, especially the follow-up to the consultation on the Working Time Directive and the development of the Temporary Agency Directive.

She will continue her work on the defence and development of civil liberties as the European Arrest Warrant and other such legislation comes on-line. The Equalities agenda also remains important, especially in the light of EU enlargement.

Jean has future plans on increasing public access to information and consultation, and the development of cross-border networks for grassroots organisations. She looks forward to developing these ideas with all of you.

### MEP websites

[www.carolinelucasmep.org.uk](http://www.carolinelucasmep.org.uk)  
[www.jeanlambertmep.org.uk](http://www.jeanlambertmep.org.uk)

### Caroline Lucas's Constituency Office

Suite 58, The Hop Exchange,  
24 Southwark Street,  
London SE1 1TY

Tel: 020 7407 6281  
Fax: 020 7234 0183  
[carolinelucas@greenmeps.org.uk](mailto:carolinelucas@greenmeps.org.uk)

### Caroline Lucas's Parliamentary Office

08 G 103, European  
Parliament, Rue Wiertz,  
Brussels 1047, Belgium

Tel: 00 32 (2) 284 7153  
Fax: 00 32 (2) 284 9153  
[clucas@europarl.eu.int](mailto:clucas@europarl.eu.int)

### Jean Lambert's Constituency Office

Suite 58, The Hop Exchange,  
24 Southwark Street,  
London SE1 1TY

Tel: 020 7407 6269  
Fax: 020 7234 0183  
[jeanlambert@greenmeps.org.uk](mailto:jeanlambert@greenmeps.org.uk)

### Jean Lambert's Parliamentary Office

08 G 107, European  
Parliament, Rue Wiertz,  
Brussels 1047, Belgium

Tel: 00 32 (2) 284 7507  
Fax: 00 32 (2) 284 9507  
[jelambert@europarl.eu.int](mailto:jelambert@europarl.eu.int)

### To find out more information about the Green Party visit

[www.greenparty.org.uk](http://www.greenparty.org.uk)

or write to 1a Waterlow Road, Archway,  
London N19 5NJ



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