

## Green strongholds: The Cities

Election results of Greens in Parliamentary elections  
and municipal elections in EU countries (updated: April 2009)

country	year	percentage	city (year)	percentage
<b>council seats for green lists running on their own:</b>				
Austria	2006	10.4%	Vienna (2005)	14.6%
Belgium (Groen! + Ecolo)	2007	9.1%	Brussels-Reg. (2004)	9.8%
Cyprus	2006	1.9%	Nicosia (2006)	
<b>c. 3%</b>				
Czech Republic	2006	6.3%	Prague (2006)	7.8%
Denmark (SF)	2007	13.0%	Copenhagen (2005)	11.2%
Finland	2007	8.5%	Helsinki (2008)	23.2%
France	2007	3.2%	Paris (2008)	6.8%
Germany	2005	8.1%	Berlin (2006)	13.1%
Ireland	2007	4.7%	Dublin (2004)	6.4%
Italy	2008	3.1% coal.	Rome (Verdi 2006)	4.8%
Luxembourg	2004	11.6%	Luxembourg (2005)	17.3%
Netherlands (Groen Links)	2006	4.6%	Amsterdam (2006)	13.7%
Spain/Catalonia (IC-V)	2008	0.7%	Barcelona (2007)	9.7%
Sweden	2006	5.2%	Stockholm (2006)	9.2%
UK	2005	1.1%	London (2008)	8.3%
<b>no seats for green lists running on their own:</b>				
Bulgaria	2005	(coal.)	Sofia (2007)	0.5%
Greece	2007	1.1%	Athens (2006)	1.4%
Poland	2007	-	Warsaw (2006)	1.7%
Portugal (Os Verdes)	2005	7.6% coal.	Lisbon (2005)	(2 s. in coal.)
Romania (Partidul Verde)	2008	-	Bucharest (2008)	0.9%
Slovakia	2006	3.5% coal.	Bratislava (2006)	(2 s. in coal.)
Slovenia (SMS)	2004	2.1%	Ljubljana (2006)	1.2%
Spain (Los Verdes)	2008	(coal.)	Madrid Reg. (2007)	1.1%
<b>Non-EU countries:</b>				
Croatia (Zelena Lista)	2007	0.2%	Zagreb (2005)	1.0%
Norway	2005	0.1%	Oslo (2007)	0.6%
Switzerland	2007	9.6%	Bern (2008, 3 lists)	22.2%

**In almost two thirds of the EU capitals, Green Parties are represented in the city councils (see list above).**

A comparison of the nation-wide Green results in the Parliamentary elections with those in the municipal elections in the capitals shows that nearly everywhere the Greens are much stronger in the cities.

**Politics in the cities (not only the capitals), traditional strongholds of the Greens, should therefore be a main concern of the European Greens.**

Further Info: see **HYPERLINK "http://wien.gruene.at/greeningcities" [http://](http://wien.gruene.at/greeningcities)**

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## **An example from Vienna: The "Day of the Unemployed" on 30<sup>th</sup> April**

On the day before May 1<sup>st</sup>, the international Labour Day, the Viennese Greens use to commit the so-called "Day of the Unemployed" - together with alternative, green and independent trade union groups.

We would like to stimulate the public debate on the challenge of unemployment with a focus on people who are affected by unemployment. Also we want to put a counterbalance to the large Labour Day event organized by the Social Democratic Party and by their fraction in the Trade Union.

Our activities on the "Day of the Unemployed" focus on unemployment rates, labour market policies and gaps in the social security systems.

Unemployed persons are exposed to a large political and administrative pressure. And the Austrian labour market policy increasingly pursues a "workfare" approach.

In "celebrating" this day, we also emphasize that the neo-liberal development of individualizing people and of privatization of social risks is aggravating more in Austria than in the entire European Union.

We have been organizing a street-events in Vienna every year basis since 1997 (the year when we first "celebrated" the "Day of the Unemployed").

NGO's and self-help organizations for unemployed people were able to present themselves and to get into contact and discussion with people on the street.

In 2007, we tried something different: We organized a press event in front of the Ministry for Social Affairs and the Ministry for Economy and Labour. In the afternoon we had a meeting with unemployment NGO's and initiatives, looking for some areas of co-operation and support.

Thus, we developed two formats in the last years to commit this "Day of the Unemployed" and we also will dedicate a whole day to all questions around unemployment on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2009.

Further info:

HYPERLINK "[http://wien.gruene.at/greeningcities/day\\_of\\_the\\_unemployed/](http://wien.gruene.at/greeningcities/day_of_the_unemployed/)"

[http://wien.gruene.at/greeningcities/day\\_of\\_the\\_unemployed/](http://wien.gruene.at/greeningcities/day_of_the_unemployed/)

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*Until 1995 Appointed Expert for European Issues of the Austrian Federal Ministry for Women's Affairs, Member of the Advisory Committee for Equal Opportunity of the European Commission.*

*From 2001-2005 member of the City Parliament (Landtag) of Vienna and Deputy Chairperson of the Green Group.*

*Since November 2005 member of the City Government of Vienna (without portfolio).*

*Member of the advisory board of the Vienna employment promotion fund (WAFF).*

*Spokesperson for European Issues, Gender and Labour Market Policy of Die Grünen Vienna.*

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