

ON THE WAY TO ANOTHER CONSTITUTION

Olivier Faure's closing speech in Blois evoked it: we have reached the end of our institutions. We could speak of a VIth republic but the announcement of a VIth republic which could call into question the election of the president by direct suffrage, which the French are very attached to, is a rejection.

We can therefore at least work towards a renovated Fifth Republic.

The omnipotence of the President of the Republic by giving him a role of referee and impulse far removed from partisan issues must be fought.

Building a more democratic and fairer France, leading the ecological transformation of our society, developing cooperative capitalism, putting an end to the frenetic deregulation of finance, uniting the French around renewed republican values: this is our ambition.

If General de Gaulle's Fifth Republic corresponded to the expectations of the French after an unstable Fourth Republic, it is clear that it no longer meets today's challenges:

- President does not put his mandate at stake in a citizens' initiative referendum
- The parliament has become a registration chamber of the President, who brings the deputies of his majority back into line as soon as a wind of protest blows.
- Bills are often dictated by the government but are not the expression of the citizens.
- The opposition has no room for manoeuvre
- The political debate is frontal and sterile and does not lead to any consensus.
- Democracy can be summed up as a blank cheque given for five years to a single man, at the end of a campaign that has become a mediatized communication play but not a debate that listens to the needs of our fellow citizens.

Regardless of the context of the last elections, we cannot deny that citizens have long since been out of the loop of decisions, and abstentionists are progressing with each election.

The new constitution would mark a profound change, a new contract with the citizens, a careful balance between representative democracy and direct democracy. It would be a new society that would reconcile citizens and their leaders, and it would be the starting point for a democratic renewal necessary for the social-ecological demands of tomorrow.