

Thematic contribution of the Champigny sur Marne section: For a successful reception of migrants

Section General Meeting of Saturday, October 17, 2020

Introduction

France and the European Union have been lands of immigration for a century! During the four centuries of exploration followed by colonization, we were a land of emigration to other continents.

As a country with a democratic political regime, we defend the freedom and the right to justice of its inhabitants.

As socialists, we are a political party historically internationalist and struggling for equal living conditions.

The capitalist exploitation of the labor force and the industrial revolution in the 19th century caused labor misery in Europe, new colonizations, and two world wars.

The Republic (1789, 1848, 1870) gradually gave, through union and political struggles, a place to the fight for equality and freedom for all. It organized compulsory schooling and equal opportunities.

Since 1945, the welfare state has been supporting the weakest, illness, disability, families, job loss and retirement. It is the social model of the European Union.

Immigrants from the first half of the 20th century - Italians, Poles, Spaniards employed in coal and steel industry, refugees from Russia, Armenia and all those who arrived since the end of World War II - have actively contributed to the national wealth.

The European Union's principle of solidarity allows countries of former dictatorships to access economic development through the common market, a foundation of social rights in addition to democracy and the free movement of people. The Portuguese, who came in large numbers from 1945 onwards, particularly to Champigny sur Marne, continued to come to work in the construction industry on secondment.

With the decolonization of North Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa and Southeast Asia, Francophones are joining, under the right to family life, family members who have already arrived as immigrant workers, residents, French or dual nationals. Some flee their respective countries for political or economic reasons.

Since the wars in Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, Libya, Eritrea, Sudan, war refugees have been arriving, but also refugees from Ukraine, Albania, Georgia who are applying for asylum.

France, like its European neighbors, is multicultural and not just regional. The contribution of the diversity of roots, languages, lifestyles, and social ties is the essential element of the population, which in the younger generations is mixing and experiencing the globalization of Europe.

A dynamism of social ascension, access to social rights and freedom of thought and worship is at work.

France is rich in these contributions. Regional landmarks endure and even if they are shaken, they adapt to population changes.

In 2015, the establishment of a large number of CAOs (reception and orientation centers for asylum seekers) by Bernard CAZENEUVE in the regions, provoked a violent political rejection by right-wing nationalists and the extreme right.

An instrumentalization of the Muslim religion by Islamist and extreme right-wing political forces creates a crisis of integration and scapegoats Muslims as well as Jews.

Welcoming misery is a problem because it is scary.

Remember that always, the rich could migrate more easily thanks to money, because he is welcomed with open arms!

The reception of immigrants must not be made in misery!

Denying the right of asylum, leaving foreigners who are parents of French children without a residence permit, who cannot be regularized or expelled, or whose obligation to leave the territory is inapplicable (the country of origin refusing to accept them), throws them into misery.

Our proposals :

- A welcome course granting a "arrival" residence permit with the possibility of declared work.

This will make the arrivals and departures more fluid and will allow for an inflow of membership fees. For what do the 500,000 people currently without residence permits live on? From the informal economy, mafia networks, trafficking, and various forms of human exploitation.

The 2012 VALLS circular authorizes paid work in CESU, it is a first step that must be resolutely pursued. We demand that those in the informal economy be regularized for work.

As a reminder, there is exemption from employer's charges for the minimum wage.

Employers will no longer be asked to pay a tax to the OFII (French Office for Immigration and Integration, attached to the Ministry of the Interior). It will be abolished and replaced by a specific tax on income from capital and real estate rent.

Declared, the employee will be able to contribute. It will be his solidarity with social protection for all and it will prevent him - for example - from being treated by the extreme right "as a privileged assisted person who came to eat the bread of the French"!

- We propose the creation of a public service that will acknowledge the fact that France is a country of immigration. France organizes itself accordingly with the constitutional guarantees of equality, fraternity and responsibility. The service will be attached to a ministry other than the Ministry of the Interior.

We offer a public service of French language learning, training in connection with the employers, bridges for diplomas according to the profiles.

Permanent jobs will be created for these integration actions: teachers of French as a foreign language, trainers, social workers. Citizen information will be offered on institutions, the rights and duties of each person, and the functioning of society.

- Access to housing will be provided by accompanying associations for refugees fleeing the war and those seeking asylum, with sufficient means to house all of them.

Today, once the application has been filed, one must go in principle to CADA (reception center for asylum seekers). Only 40% are accommodated there due to lack of space.

Asylum seekers are entitled to €6.80 for food and €7.40 per day if they are not housed (€220 + €222 monthly). In addition, they do not have the right to work.

As a reminder, the applicant who obtains political asylum cannot under any circumstances return to the country where his life is in danger.

- The asylum application should no longer be used to gain legal time on French soil. There must be other legal possibilities to match the level of those rejected.

150,000 economic migrants per year is a reasonable number for a country of 67 million people.

36,512 subsidiary asylums or protection were granted in 2019 out of 132,000 applications filed.

In total in 2019: 257,222 titles were granted: 91,445 for student status, 88,778 for family reasons, 38,843 for work, 1,645 for health reasons and 36,512 for asylum, i.e.

38,157 on humanitarian grounds; 18,906 people were deported as a result of the obligation to leave the country out of the 100,000 rejected asylum seekers.

The European Union, with its aging population, has understood that its migration pact needs to be reviewed. Let us, as European Socialists, be at the forefront of the current proposals!

A work immigration exists de facto and it takes an irregular form. It must be recognized and integrated because it participates in economic life.

- The right to housing of the DALO law voted under President SARKOZY is based on social landlords.

We request a DALO in the private rental, including by requisition.

It would be financed by a specific tax on the purchase in France by wealthy foreigners of real estate, factories, paintings, vines or other property, in the name of solidarity with the most disadvantaged.

Cities that do not respect the social mix of the SRU law will pay an additional tax.

This should ensure and fund the implementation of "Housing First for the Homeless", a step in the right direction by the Macron government.

- The networks of welcoming cities will be generalized. The latter must train their agents to understand migration issues, interculturality and the logic of benevolence.

They will have to make even more unoccupied housing available, organizing moments of convivial meetings with the inhabitants, integrating in the actions of welcoming new inhabitants, for example.

The right of foreigners to vote in municipal elections after 12 months of residence will be created in order to quickly involve them in democratic life.

The "vivre ensemble" worked under the HOLLAND presidency will be developed to avoid community withdrawal, suspicion or rivalry between immigrants or with the inhabitants.

With the Celts, Romans, Greeks, Lombards, Goths, Huns, Alamanni and other Albains or Franks, Visigoths, Basques, Saracens, Vikings, Saxons... the European continent in its long history since Neanderthal and Cro-Magnon has always been a space of movement of populations! Scientists have demonstrated this with DNA.

Let's say it! Welcome to all! Let's learn to be one in cultural differences, to mix, to share wealth, to contribute, to pay progressive taxes, VAT is already for everyone!
Access to French nationality will be encouraged!

- We will talk about immigration positively.

I want to emigrate to France because one of my sons lives there and he wants me to look after his children and I would do some services in CESU so as not to weigh too much on him. I am applying for a visa.

I flee Libya: I am welcomed in a European country, I am in Lesbos in a refugee camp in Moria, I am welcomed as an asylum seeker without delay in CADA and CADA with an accompaniment by an association.

I have an opportunity to go and work at a friend's house in France. I am applying for a visa. I will earn money that will allow me to come back to the country with a capital; I get a residence permit. Some French people do it within multinational companies or in French-speaking third countries (Switzerland, Canada or ex colonies) and expatriate for a while.

I am African and I suffer from drought, I am welcomed as a climatic refugee and I can work in organic agriculture, whose techniques I wish to learn: I apply for a work visa.

Conclusion

- The new globalized France needs people from all walks of life, francophones from colonial times, Europeans of the Union or not, political exiles or war exiles, to be part of the future that cannot be based on the balance of victimized revenge, of injustices committed by France.

The democratic, egalitarian and fraternal identity is before us with the immigrants!

Socialists alone may not succeed in defeating the reactionary forces at work.

At the 2015 regional elections in the PACA region and in the Hauts de France, our socialist candidates applied the Republican withdrawal in the face of Marine Le Pen and Marion Maréchal representing the worst.

Our call for a blockade vote, unlike FI's, in the 2017 presidential election forced the moderate right to extricate itself from anti-immigrant far-right followers!

Once again we speak of humanism on the right...

Both the trumpist or salvinist path is also possible in France, with the complicity of external dictatorships from the Middle East, and by the game between the great economic powers with an interest in weakening the EU.

Let's affirm our convictions! Yes to immigration! With respect for the dignity of migrants!
