

Motion 1 for the future of Europe – Extend the Schengen area

Motion: We, the Pirate Party of Europe, suggest (1) to widen the Schengen area to include all member states of the Council of Europe and (2) to change the external border policies to comply with the principles the European convention on human rights.

Argument: Europe is a paradoxical land. It is a land of freedom of movement – as long as you are on the inside. But it's also a land of rejections, of the militarisation of its external borders.



While we enjoy programmes and opportunities like Erasmus for all, our borders are closed for everyone else. There is no Erasmus of the Mediterranean.

In a disgusting move, Europe has entrusted the control of its borders to states that haven't even signed the major refugee conventions and protocols, such as Libya, a non-member of the 1951 *United Nations Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees (CRSR)*.

Gabriele del Grande, the Italian human rights journalist, has documented on <http://www.fortresseurope.blogspot.com/> that at least 18.567 people have died since 1988 in their attempt to reach the Fortress Europe.

We need to broaden our perspective and look at the world as though it were a large city; a city with a poor neighbourhood and rich neighbourhood. Each morning the unemployed leave and go to the richer neighbourhood in search of work. The rich people are sick of seeing these beggars in their neighbourhood so they put an army around the borders of the neighbourhood so that no one can enter. After a week, hundreds are arrested and some have been killed and now there are no longer people coming to this affluent neighbourhood. This only seems to work if we look at the situation from the perspective of the rich people. Europe is not only an accomplice but also a hypocrite by saying 'everything is fine.'

In this global village, the only antidote to policies that create poverty, injustice and war, is the countermand on the 'freedom of movement'.