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Preamble

The world is changing faster today than at any point in history, and it is impossible to tell how the world, and within this world, Europe, will look in a decade.

We face a multitude of crises, from climate change, migration, technological upheaval, xenophobia and rising inequality. The temptation to withdraw and focus inward, the attraction to walls rather than to bridges, to radicalization and polarization, and to gated societies has never been so high.

At the same time, we have never had such access to information, connection, and possibilities for organizing and mobilizing people to make real change before. The time has come to recognize that there can be and that there are alternatives.

Everywhere, people *organise*, resist oppression & build a renewed horizon of justice, solidarity, of cooperation and of genuine care (for one another, for nature, for our common future). These attempts, as fragile and as scattered as they may sometimes be, are our best hope to eventually break this cycle of hatred and violence, and to steadily engage in the transition towards a just and sustainable future for all.

We believe in people power, in movement building, in organizing. We are committed to help people and civil society actors in Europe cooperate in order to **[resist]** all forms of domination, exploitation and oppression; to **[rethink]** the way we relate to one another; and to **[renew]** our societies, our future and the path in between.

[resist]

For this to happen, we know that we need to break existing power structures & dismantle entrenched privilege and to support increased and greater participation and equal opportunity through large and small acts of resistance to debunk the myth that we can't change these systems.

[rethink]

We are committed to strengthen efforts to concretely define our collective path and journey towards this just and sustainable future.

We acknowledge that this includes changing ourselves, the way we organize as well as the way we relate and interact with one another - in order to create collective understanding and ownership of both the "where" (we are going) and the "how" (we get there).

[renew]

From our perspective, this requires a commitment to go after the root causes of the many crises that we face, and the capacity to go beyond an issue-based approach, in order to trigger broad, systemic change.



Nothing about us without us!

We are committed to "power with" (as opposed to "power over") - to strengthen and nurture the collective power of those who are directly affected by the issues they organize around, fight against, create from.

This new funders/activists collaborative is one of our attempts to build resilient communities of actors engaged in progressive transformative change - towards a regenerative economy, in a fair Europe, within a world of solidarity and the planetary boundaries.

We recognize that too often, philanthropy can be part of the problem much more than of the solution. Philanthropy can't pretend not to be challenged by the demands for real democracy, for active participation and for accountability (to movements, to activists and to citizens rather than only to financial accountants and tax authorities).

Our core values

We commit to the following values and rationales inspired by the Jimez Principles for Democratic Organising:

Democracy

The fund: It is made and run in a democratic and participatory way by the community so it is driven and affected by its own decisions.

European context: The legitimacy of the prevailing democratic system has been degrading due to corporate capture of the Nation State and a political elite which has failed to defend or promote people's rights, which leads to a lack of citizen's participation, loss of both trust and participation. The best solutions to the crises Europe faces will require the participation and engagement of the public: we believe that the only way to tackle patriarchy and forms of dominations and exclusion based on cultural background, race, class, gender, sex, sexuality, education, access, ability is through active participation and decision making of *all*.

Inclusivity

The fund: As much as diversity is championed as the beating heart of the fund and its community, an inclusive mindset is key to achieve this.

Philanthropy: We are committed to expand access to the resources of philanthropy: grants, networks, outreach and we acknowledge that these are enhanced by a diverse and engaged community of activists.



Openness

The fund: The community seeks to expand and renew itself and is open to new people and ideas.

Europe: Europe is not a closed entity - bordered by patrol and control. We see Europe as an evolving community.

Mutual trust and respect

The fund: Trust in other people's ideas and skills and respect for their viewpoints and actions roots the fund in good human relations and builds great collaboration.

Europe: Social change happens when there are spaces for open conversations and active listening. The platform and fund will create the conditions for these conversations to happen with the goal to regenerate solidarity in Europe and allow communities to discover common ground based on trusting relationships.

Peer-to-Peer

The fund: Learning from and with each other through inspiration by peers / participants without hierarchy between who is learning and teaching. Sharing to avoid replication and makes use of existing tools and practices.

Europe: Our ambition is to enhance and develop more collaboration and exchange to promote/highlight the commons at a new scale.

Transparency

The fund: The network and actions supported by the fund will be made visible to contribute to a great participatory engagement and public accountability.

Europe: We intend to promote and demand transparency as a first step towards more accountability - our own accountability as well as the one of those who have and might keep having power over our lives to transform into a collective power, found in community and common ground.

Autonomy:

The fund: Participants will decide about funding autonomously from funders.

Europe: Nothing about us will happen without us!