

Syriza Program For Greece

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The daily bulletin of Italy's Communist Refoundation Party published today a point form summary of the apparently official program of Greek radical left coalition, Syriza. Without further comment, I translate from the Italian the Syriza political program.

- Audit of the public debt and renegotiation of interest due and suspension of payments until the economy has revived and growth and employment return. Demand the European Union to change the role of the European Central Bank so that it finances States and programs of public investment.
- Raise income tax to 75% for all incomes over 500,000 euros.
- Change the election laws to a proportional system.
- Increase taxes on big companies to that of the European average.
- Adoption of a tax on financial transactions and a special tax on luxury goods.
- Prohibition of speculative financial derivatives.
- Abolition of financial privileges for the Church and shipbuilding industry.
- Combat the banks' secret [measures] and the flight of capital abroad.
- Cut drastically military expenditures.
- Raise minimum salary to the pre-cut level, 750 euros per month.
- Use buildings of the government, banks and the Church for the homeless.
- Open dining rooms in public schools to offer free breakfast and lunch to children.
- Free health benefits to the unemployed, homeless and those with low salaries.
- Subvention up to 30% of mortgage payments for poor families who cannot meet payments.
- Increase of subsidies for the unemployed. Increase social protection for one-parent families, the aged, disabled, and families with no income.
- Fiscal reductions for goods of primary necessity.
- Nationalization of banks.
- Nationalization of ex-public (service & utilities) companies in strategic sectors for the growth of the country (railroads, airports, mail, water).
- Preference for renewable energy and defence of the environment.
- Equal salaries for men and women.
- Limitation of precarious hiring and support for contracts for indeterminate time.
- Extension of the protection of labor and salaries of part-time workers.
- Recovery of collective (labor) contracts.
- Increase inspections of labor and requirements for companies making bids for public contracts.
- Constitutional reforms to guarantee separation of Church and State and protection of the right to education, health care and the environment.
- Referendums on treaties and other accords with Europe.

- Abolition of privileges for parliamentary deputies. Removal of special juridical protection for ministers and permission for the courts to proceed against members of the government.
- Demilitarization of the Coast Guard and anti-insurrectional special troops.
- Prohibition for police to wear masks or use fire arms during demonstrations.
- Change training courses for police so as to underline social themes such as immigration, drugs and social factors.
- Guarantee human rights in immigrant detention centers.
- Facilitate the reunion of immigrant families.
- Depenalization of consumption of drugs in favor of battle against drug traffic. Increase funding for drug rehab centers.
- Regulate the right of conscientious objection in draft laws.
- Increase funding for public health up to the average European level. (The European average is 6% of GDP; in Greece 3%.)
- Elimination of payments by citizens for national health services.
- Nationalization of private hospitals. Elimination of private participation in the national health system.
- Withdrawal of Greek troops from Afghanistan and the Balkans.
- No Greek soldiers beyond our own borders.
- Abolition of military cooperation with Israel.
- Support for creation of a Palestinian State within the 1967 borders.
- Negotiation of a stable accord with Turkey.
- Closure of all foreign bases in Greece and withdrawal from NATO.

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