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# PROMOTING INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE

AT THE HEART OF EUROPEAN  
DEMOCRACY AND DIVERSITY



 **PSE**  
Socialist Group in the  
European Parliament

Promoting dialogue and building bridges between people of different cultures are key elements of our political programme.

Our members in the European Parliament work in many fields, influencing people's daily lives and touching upon various aspects of their cultures.

2008 is the year of intercultural dialogue. Our aim is to promote European citizenship, based on common values and respect for cultural diversity.

### What are our principles?

- international solidarity
- promotion of political and diplomatic solutions to crises and conflicts
- support for democratic processes as well as dialogue with civil society
- an end to intolerance and extremism
- equal access for all to education and employment
- empowerment in citizenship and political participation at all levels
- respect for fundamental human rights
- mutual understanding of different cultures and beliefs

### Our initiatives

- We are continuing our dialogue with Muslim communities in European and Arab countries, looking at the issues of citizenship and identities and the situation in different locations.



- We are pursuing the development of a European strategy for Integration of Roma people following the 2004 enlargement of the European Union. We are working on concrete ways to ensure that Roma people in the EU are able to live as full citizens.
- We will present an integration charter for citizenship, defining core fundamental rights and responsibilities for all to share.

### The future

The Year of Intercultural Dialogue gives us an opportunity to renew our drive for a Europe of tolerance. But the road will be long and the work will be hard.

Our opponents — those who spread hatred, mistrust and division between communities — are tireless. We need to use the opportunity of 2008 to renew our energy, refocus our aim and push forward.

The goal of an integrated Europe in which people from different cultures live together in peace and harmony is an honourable one. It is a goal that we as social democrats are proud to set for ourselves.

For more information on our work in this and other areas, please visit [www.socialistgroup.eu](http://www.socialistgroup.eu)

### Links

European Commission webpages on Intercultural Dialogue  
[www.interculturaldialogue2008.eu](http://www.interculturaldialogue2008.eu)