



Federazione dei Giovani Socialisti, Via Santa Caterina da Siena 57, 00186 Roma

Madrid, Spain, 29/12/2017

Cari compagni e care compagne,

2018 will be my 10th year as an activist of the most ancient Italian political youth organization, the 115 year-old Federazione dei Giovani Socialisti (FGS). I joined FGS and PSI (Italian Socialist Party) in 2008, the day after the worst electoral result of the history of Italian socialism: for the first time since 1882, obviously excluding the fascist dictatorship between the 20s and the 40s, no socialist was sitting in the Italian parliament. I've always been a supporter of the party, but I felt the urge to take an active role when I saw that the once glorious Italian socialism was in one of its darkest moments. I felt that my help was really needed, that it would have made a real difference. Moved by the same feeling, I decided with my comrades from FGS to come forward with this nomination for IUSY's Control Commission, with an authentic spirit of service. I've known IUSY for quite a long time, I represented FGS at the Congresses of Copenhagen 2014 and Tirana 2016, at the World Council of Yerevan 2015, and I've joined the last two IUSY SC. Now it's time for me to give something back to IUSY. Socialism and Democratic-Socialism are living troubled times in almost every corner of the world: the never-ending economic crisis and the raise of populism and nationalism have shattered our consensus at levels that were simply unthinkable a few years ago. We have lost the trust of our people and, more importantly, we have lost the meaning of our mission. A mission that must be, firstly, internationalist. We have been pushed back in national visions, a pattern particularly prominent in Europe, and we have forgotten that our final goal is international, is emancipation, social justice and freedom for all human kind.

Internationalism has always been our vocation, our choice, but nowadays it has become also a necessity. While almost every factor and every dynamic that moves and influences our societies, such as economy, finance, communication, migration or conflicts, are 100% global, politics and policies are still confined in national borders. Which simply means that politics, policies and democracy face the risk of becoming completely ineffective and useless. Even when we win national elections, we are not allowed to implement all the reforms needed to improve social justice because we cannot even remotely influence any of the factors that move the world today. Thinking that would be enough to increase the national control on these matters, as some of our nationalist and populist opponents say, is simply a dream, or rather a nightmare that would lead us back to the 30s. The only solution to give back power to politics and democracy is internationalism. It's moving democracy and politics back to an international level, to be able to really make a difference and change the world.

In this context, IUSY can and must have an important role. We must set up again the fire of internationalism, we must remind our mother parties and our people every day that internationalism is the only way to really and stably reach social justice and freedom all over the world. That is not just an ideological fetish, not an ancient vocation, but a necessity of today's policies. We can pursue this ambitious goal by improving and increasing our political presence and expanding our training for activists, allowing more people to join them. We must be constantly present in every scenario, with an original view on facts and events.

Dear comrades, the road ahead is harsh and complicated, but I'm sure we will succeed.

Fraternal saluti,

Riccardo Galetti – International Secretary Federazione dei Giovani Socialisti