

COALITION NEGOTIATIONS: THE COALITION AGREEMENT AS A BENCHMARK FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF SUSTAINABILITY

The Mouvement Ecologique is currently very often asked about the outcome of the elections and the new government formation. How does the Mouvement Ecologique see the chances that sustainable development ideas will be given the necessary priority under the new government?

The Mouvement Ecologique is a politically neutral environmental movement committed to the aims of sustainable development. In the run-up to the national elections, the Mouvement Ecologique had carried out a detailed analysis of the election programmes of the various parties, which had also encountered widespread interest. Regarding the current coalition partners: The DP's programme was considered quite positive in elements; however, it was regretted that it relied very heavily to almost exclusively on voluntaristic measures. The CSV programme was quite vague in essential areas of sustainable development. Statements such as a law must be reformed made it difficult to interpret. In addition, the programme contained a number of statements which, in the opinion of the Mouvement Ecologique, are not compatible with sustainable development (e.g. numerous new road construction projects).

These points were also discussed in the two national roundtables and the respective party representatives were confronted with these statements (see replay on www.meco.lu).

Now the coalition agreement of the new government parties is to be elaborated. The Mouvement Ecologique is directing all its energy and commitment towards ensuring that the essential aspects of sustainable development are taken up here. In the "Note du Mouvement écologique dans le cadre des négociations de coalition" it is emphatically stressed that important strategies drawn up under the previous government (e.g. in the fields of regional planning, mobility, climate and energy as well as nature conservation) must form the basic principles for future policy in these areas. There must be no regression in this matter. The new government can, if necessary, put up for discussion certain ways to achieve the climate and nature conservation aims, but not the mandatory goals to be achieved.

As a party-politically neutral environmental organisation, the Mouvement Ecologique, as in the past, relies on dialogue with the government in this context. In this sense, it was positive that a first exchange with the coalition parties could take place. However, it would be rather too early to draw any further conclusions from this.

Because: The coalition agreement will ultimately be a decisive factor in how the Mouvement Ecologique will position itself towards the government in the coming years: It will represent the benchmark in the final analysis and will be very closely analysed by the Mouvement Ecologique against the backdrop of our demands. This will be done - in the spirit of our organisation's tradition - on the basis of a critical analysis - in all objectivity and independence.