

Municipal election program

DEMARINUORET **2021**



We can change the world – One municipality at a time

Every one of us uses municipal services on an almost daily basis. We commute to work, go to school, or visit a health station by walking, biking, driving, or taking public transportation on roads maintained by the municipality. Many of us also use services like libraries, sports facilities and culture and art services regularly.

Finnish municipalities have more than 500 different obligations set by Finnish laws. Municipalities take care of services and facilities – such as water management and energy production – that are crucial in our daily lives. Municipal decision making directly affects our environment and lives.

Our goals are built upon our desire to promote safe school environment and better mental health for everyone. We want that municipalities take responsible climate measures and preserve the building blocks of our welfare state to the best of their ability.

Be a part of the change – Vote for a young candidate!















Safer schools for everyone – Stop to violence and bullying in schools!

Every single youth has a right to feel safe in school all the way from basic to secondary education.

Violence and bullying in school can have serious consequences throughout the victim's life. Bullying fosters marginalization and in the long run bullying greatly increases the risk of anxiety disorders and depression.

Ministry of Education and Culture has estimated that a single marginalized young person costs our society 1.2 million euros throughout their life – not to mention the outrageous humanitarian expenses.

OUR GOALS:

-  Every adult must take responsibility in stopping and preventing violence and bullying in schools.
-  We must work together with students, parents, and school staff alike on preventative measures.
-  Schools must have enough staff to ensure sufficient support for the students.
-  We must educate the youth on the dangers of bullying and violence clearly and comprehensively.
-  All schools must take serious action in cases of racism, sexism, name calling, and other types of hate speech.
-  We must work together with other authorities also to solve bullying cases.
-  Illegal actions, such as violence in schools must result in immediate action. Working together with other authorities in serious cases is paramount.
-  Municipalities must have procedures in place to intervene and stop bullying and violence, and these procedures should employ already existing standards that have been tested and that have had good results.



Towards zero waste and zero emission municipality – Carbon neutrality goals in every municipality!

Finland's goal of carbon neutrality cannot be achieved without every municipality's commitment to ambitious measures. Municipalities must be committed to both fight climate change and prepare for the damages and environmental change climate change will cause. 80 % of Finland's greenhouse gas emissions come from energy production; from fuel used in heat and electricity production and transportation.

Municipalities can employ corporate governance methods to push for greener municipal energy production. 45 % of Finns live in municipalities which aim to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030. We must ensure that every municipality in Finland joins at least this minimum goal.

OUR GOALS:

- 🌐 Every municipality must have a goal of carbon neutrality in their strategy.
- 🌐 Municipalities must have Climate committees supervising climate measures.
- 🌐 Municipal budgets must be made more transparent in how money is used for climate measures.
- 🌐 City planning must take carbon footprints into consideration.
- 🌐 We must influence residents' consumer habits by improving public transportation. Public transportation must use renewable energy.
- 🌐 Bike share programs must be promoted.
- 🌐 Park-and-ride systems must be improved.
- 🌐 Forests must be taken care of and forest area increased as a carbon sink.
- 🌐 Schools and day-care centers must offer environmentally friendly and domestic food.
- 🌐 Life cycle emissions and environmental footprints must always be taken into consideration in public procurement.
- 🌐 Food waste must be minimized.
- 🌐 Municipalities must make recycling easier for residents.












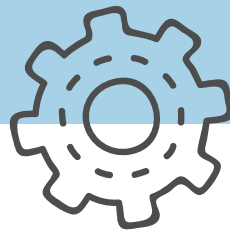
Focus on mental health work – Faster treatment access must be ensured!

75 % of mental health disorders manifest before turning 24. Because the catalysts for disorders lie early in childhood, mental health services for the youth are crucial.

The total societal cost of mental health problems is estimated at around 11 billion euros a year. Prevention of mental health problems and promotion of good mental health should not be limited to only health and social services. Tackling the issue should be a comprehensive task for the municipality in order to prevent humanitarian suffering and public economical damage.

OUR GOALS:

-  The whole municipal organization must focus on promoting good mental health, and different municipal sectors must take mental health effects into consideration in their operations.
-  Our goal is service within a week of a contact. Municipal strategies on mental health must focus on promoting good mental health and on prevention of and early intervention in mental health problems.
-  Municipalities must offer low threshold mental health services by utilizing single window service mechanisms.
-  COVID-pandemic and its effects on residents' mental health must be taken into consideration in decision making.
-  Mental health services must be available in places where the youth are.
-  School welfare officer, psychologist, school nurse, and doctor services must be easily accessible by every single youth. Psychiatric nurses are also a great asset.
-  We must listen to the youth in the making of welfare plans for the youth.
-  The significance of the private sector, parishes, and the third sector must be recognized in mental health work.
-  We must invest in the welfare of municipalities' own workers.



Large scale outsourcing of basic services must stop – Our goal is a sustainable municipality!

Local Government Act allows municipalities to outsource their services from private service providers. However, when outsourcing legally obligated services the municipality is still responsible for providing the services.

Municipalities must follow the Procurement Act when they buy services from the private sector. The current Act encourages municipalities to outsource socially responsibly, but few municipalities include responsibility criteria in their calls for bids.

Negative effects of outsourcing – such as pay cuts – must be made clear and public when deciding to outsource services. The cost of a service cannot be the only deciding factor. We demand transparency in the process of outsourcing and that decision making remains in the hands of the municipality.

OUR GOALS:



Legally obligated services must be mainly publicly produced by the municipality – not by the private sector.



If a municipality must outsource a service, the true costs and consequences of outsourcing must be made transparent to the residents.



In particular, social responsibility, workers' position, and quality of services must be taken into consideration.



Outsourcing contracts must include severe contractual penalties.



Transparent decision making in providing the services must be ensured.

+ Corona-exit checklist

We must make a stop to the increasing marginalization and inequality of youth!

- ☆ Municipalities must ensure that consequences left by the pandemic are taken into consideration also in the long run by investing in mental health services, child welfare and social support of families.
- ☆ Every adolescent must have a study place and a job.
- ☆ The funding of outreach youth work must be secured.
- ☆ The funding of One-Stop Guidance Centers must be secured.
- ☆ The youth must be secured opportunities to pursue a hobby.
- ☆ The most vulnerable families with children must be supported.



DEMARINUORET KUNTAVAALEISSA

Do you want to join in to make our municipalities an even better place for us all?

Welcome to the Social Democratic Youth of Finland's (SDY) municipal election network!

Our network is primarily meant for those young social democrats who are running in the 2021 municipal elections and their team members. All SDY members are also welcomed to join.

The network is used to share support material to SDY election candidates and to organize online meetings for members whenever possible. In the SDY municipal election network you can share any ideas for the municipal election campaign and join in yourself in the making!

**SDY Municipal election
network in Facebook:**



**Network's
e-mail list:**



More information on Social Democratic Youth of Finland's election goals and young social democratic candidates on our website:

WWW.DEMARINUORET.FI/KUNTAVAAALIT2021

Further Information

Pinja Perholehto

Chair of Social Democratic Youth of Finland

tel. 040 059 6521

e-mail: pinja.perholehto@demarinuoret.fi

Twitter: [@pinjaperholehto](https://twitter.com/pinjaperholehto)

PUBLISHER

Social Democratic Youth of Finland

Siltasaarencatu 18-20, C, 6 krs

00530 Helsingfors



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