

EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW

A Futuro en Común report

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A non-conformist proposal for the future we want

Humanity is at a crossroads in terms of deciding its future. A transformation is already underway, and we have to choose whether to lead it or fall victim to it.

At *Futuro en Común* **we are non-conformists** in the face of injustice, inequality, war, or the climate emergency - all signs of a failed development model that we still have time to change. That is why we choose to act. Midway through the 2030 Agenda, we are seeing setbacks in some of the proposed transitions designed to "transform our world". But there is still room for action. We can still be "the forefathers that future generations deserve¹".

Political ambition must be raised to set in motion the transformations needed to ensure that all people live in dignity and enjoy their rights within the limits of the planet. And the work starts at home: the independent scientific committee commissioned by the UN recommended that each state should develop its own roadmap to deliver on the 2030 Agenda, identifying and activating the key levers to instigate the necessary structural changes.

INconFORME is the contribution to this national action plan agreed by the more than 50 platforms and civil society organisations that work within the *Futuro en Común* alliance.

Some certainties in a sea of doubt

We live in uncertain times where pandemics, economic crises and wars are intermixed with unprecedented climatic events, rising food prices and hate-fuelled opinions that, although contrary to human rights, are dominating more and more public spaces. In this sea of doubt, we have a map with some certainties that form part of the landscape in which we are going to work:

There is no planet B. The current economic model is based on infinite growth with a pattern of production and consumption that is overwhelming the finite limits of the planet. As a result, humanity needs on average 1.7 planets each year to meet its demands for water, land, or the absorption of emissions. This rate has led to an alarming loss of biodiversity and a major climate crisis, with terrible consequences, especially for vulnerable people in countries who, historically, are less to blame for global warming.

Growing inequality. The current development model favours the concentration of wealth in the hands of a few, to the point where the World Inequality Report 2023² highlighted that the richest 10% of the world's population owns 76% of the total wealth, while the poorest 50% of the world's population owns only 2% of the total wealth. In our country, 26% of people are in a situation of poverty or social exclusion. And many more find it difficult to access housing, to keep their

homes at a comfortable temperature, or to make ends meet, even when they are employed. Again, the data are harsher for certain population groups, such as single-parent families, where up to 47% are in poverty, or the Roma population with 80%. Inequality exists within countries but also between countries: the global south's lack of resources to adapt to climate change, which they have done little to cause, is another example of inequality.

A wave of feminism for a world without discrimination. Thanks to feminism, the enormous amount of care work carried out mainly by women (in many cases migrants), which, although essential for the sustainability of life, continues to be invisible and undervalued, is now on the public agenda. It has also made clear the need to effectively and efficiently approve and apply laws that will allow us to put an end to the violence that women suffer, in a range of areas, for the mere fact of being women, with a painful number of femicides every year being just the tip of the iceberg. Furthermore, there is still a significant gender gap in the world of work, which is reflected in the fact that women in our country earn, on average, 20% less (33% in the case of pensions).

Human beings move. They always have and will continue to do so. But the barriers are getting higher and higher, and it is more difficult to do so safely. An increase in the global climate of war, coupled with the economic and environmental crisis, has led to a distressingly record number of displaced people: more than 114 million by 2023, of which over half are women and girls. Thousands of migrants die or disappear *en route* every year. And when they do manage to reach their destination, they find their basic rights denied by a multitude of problems with administrative regulation. Meanwhile, European countries continue to externalise borders and fail to facilitate safe forms of migration and asylum.

Shrinking civic space and the rise of militarism. Civic space across the globe is shrinking: the rights of association, expression, and peaceful assembly are being threatened. In Spain, the so-called 'Gag Law' is largely responsible for this. Violence is also manifest in a hatred of anything different: in 2022, those who suffered most from hate crimes were people perceived as different because of their nationality (43.5%) and because of their sexual orientation and gender identity (24.83%). We can see this same violent logic in the rise of militarism globally, with the highest global military spending since the end of the cold war and a civilian death toll not seen since the Rwandan genocide in 1994.

Together, or not at all. During the pandemic it became clearer than ever: environmental, economic, and social dynamics are global and interconnected. Ensuring access to essential goods and services, guaranteeing health and vaccines, curbing the climate or food crisis, creating the conditions for peacekeeping, or defining minimum rules for safe migration and guaranteeing human rights are challenges

1. "El buen antepasado. Cómo pensar a largo plazo en un mundo cortoplacista" Roman Krznaric <https://capitanswing.com/libros/el-buen-antepasado>

2. World Inequality Lab 2023

that have reached planetary proportions and must be addressed in a global and collaborative manner. We need to restore multilateralism and global governance mechanisms that are capable of facing the challenges of today's world.

A guide to non-conformist navigation in this sea of doubt

The 2030 Agenda represented a great global consensus on the need to transform the existing development model. And for *Futuro en Comun* it is a roadmap that, ambitiously implemented, would allow us to move towards the transformations we need, under a new model focused on interactions and interdependencies in the social, economic, and environmental realms, as well as between territories and between generations.

In our proposals, we are also guided by the theory of **the Doughnut Economy**, by economist Kate Raworth, who has been able to integrate welfare, social and climate justice, and respect for the boundaries of the planet into an inspiring approach. The safe space for humanity, where people can live with dignity and equity on a finite planet, is the edible part of the doughnut. The inner edge, composed of twelve basic elements that guarantee a dignified life, sets a limit below which that dignity is not guaranteed. The outer part is set by the nine planetary boundaries identified by the Stockholm Resilience Centre.

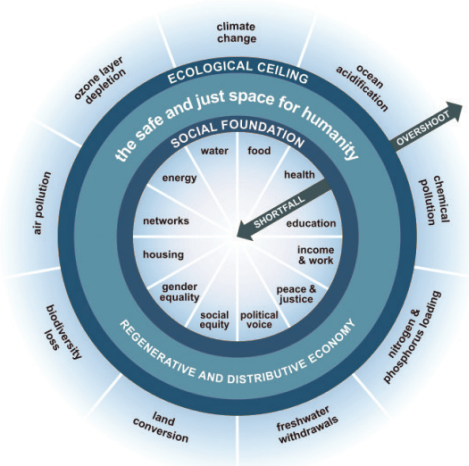


Fig.1. Kate Raworth's Doughnut. The safe and just space for humanity sits between the social foundation and the ecological ceiling. Illustration created in-house.

Policy proposals for systemic change

The non-conformist submissions of *Futuro en Comun* are set out in the following action plans and policy proposals. They constitute a roadmap for our country woven together with the consensus of all the entities united under our alliance and using the Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development guidelines as a common thread. This is the only way to ensure that the measures to be adopted, both national and

international, are oriented towards a common goal and fair, sustainable development and avoid negative impacts on people and the environment.

The implementation of the **Comprehensive System to promote and monitor Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development** contemplated in the Sustainable Development Strategy is the key to start developing, in a coherent manner, based on evidence and under the same development vision, the necessary public policies to address the major challenges we face. It would allow us to analyse the interrelationships that exist between the different sectoral policies and the Sustainable Development Goals and, therefore, to consider the positive or negative impacts of some on others, as well as their effects beyond our borders or towards future generations, in advance in the cycle of political decisions.

A welfare economy at the service of the people and the planet

We urgently need to move towards a model of production and consumption that respects the environment, is socially just, and is centred on the care of people and the planet. To this end, we propose:

- Moving towards a **fair ecological transition**. We need more climate ambition (to reach a 55% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 compared to 1990) with measures to save, democratise, and decarbonise energy through an energy generation model that is not only based on sustainable sources but is also territorially fair and where all the actors involved can participate in its planning. Furthermore, we need to bolster the protection and management of water, a limited and increasingly scarce resource. The food model must move towards sustainability following the principles of agroecology, including local consumption and involving the entire supply chain up to the consumer, paying particular attention to vulnerable groups. Transport is another high-impact sector where there must be significant changes, including a boost to public and collective transport as well as its electrification.
- Laying the foundations for **real change in the labour market** to accompany the transition to an economy for the common good, in which some sectors will disappear, and others will emerge,

generating new jobs, such as those linked to ecological transition and the implementation of the care system. Support schemes must be developed for workers and territories in sectors undergoing transformation and we must ensure that middle and low income earners regain their purchasing power.

- Restoring nature and conserving the planet's **bio-diversity**, putting in place measures to eliminate its main threats and to repair damage to the natural world, with the aim of protecting 30% of land and marine zones by 2030.

Inequality and poverty are a thing of the past

In order to ensure that economic inequality is reduced (with the objective that by 2027 the Palma Ratio will have fallen to below one) and poverty, specifically the rate of people at risk of poverty and exclusion (AROPE), has fallen to at least 18.2% by 2027, *Futuro en Común* considers it essential to:

- Address the issue of **socially fair tax reform**, raising the level of tax revenue with progressive levies that tax the accumulation and transfer of wealth. The resources to finance the welfare state must come from fair and green taxation, where those who have the most and those who pollute the most pay the most, also incorporating gender justice criteria. And they must be used for their intended purpose: to pay for public services and social protection that guarantee both rights throughout a territory and lives worth living.
- Reform the **income guarantee** system to consolidate a more inclusive model that ensures guaranteed income as a subjective right, with priority actions to ensure access to this system for the most vulnerable people and groups.

Guaranteed social rights

Faced with a weakening welfare state, we must strengthen it in order to guarantee the economic, social and cultural rights of all people through public services, regardless of their administrative situation or the territory in which they live, and to this end we must:

- Develop a **comprehensive care system** that provides a common guiding framework for all public policies related to care, under a single objective, with a clear definition of the target public, inter-institutional involvement, and common principles (universality, equality and non-discrimination, co-responsibility, promotion of autonomy, progressiveness, intersectionality, solidarity in funding, etc.). A system that makes it possible to move towards a public model of care in the community, guaranteeing all people the right to care and to be cared for, as well as guaranteeing the labour rights of care service providers.
- Ensure a **universal and quality public health** system that is available to the entire population (with-

out excluding migrants), with a preventive and promotional approach guaranteed by strengthening primary health care (accounting for up to 25% of total health expenditure).

- Achieve **equitable and quality public education**, with greater investment and planning that focuses on the integration of groups that are being left behind.
- Ensure **decent housing** for all by expanding the stock of public housing for social renting (up to 5% of the total by 2030), curbing rent inflation, and eradicating slums.
- **Entrench the public pension system** in the Constitution to prevent any government from modifying or privatising it, in whole or in part.

A society free of discrimination and violence

One of the five pillars of the 2030 Agenda is peace, understood as the outcome of societies that are just, inclusive and free from fear and violence. To this end, we at *Futuro en Común* believe we need to:

- Promote **transformative education for equality and global justice**. Although the current Education Law in Spain (LOMLOE) already incorporates this education in the curriculum, we need to ensure that it is rigorously implemented throughout the country so that future generations can build fairer societies, based on respect for human rights (including sexual and reproductive rights), peaceful coexistence, empathy, equity, and sustainability of the planet.
- Achieve **equal treatment and non-discrimination** through the implementation of the law passed in 2022 and with increased resources.
- Put an **end to male violence, violence against children, and violence motivated by race, ethnicity, or sexual orientation**. We must advance with collective responsibility and social condemnation of all forms of violence, including invisible and everyday violence. Furthermore, the regulatory frameworks that have made progress in recent years need to be allocated sufficient resources and greater guarantees in their implementation. The implementation of these regulations, with a focus on prevention, is the only way to bring about a drastic reduction in the rate of violence.
- **Regularise the more than 500,000 people in an irregular administrative situation** and amend the Law on Foreigners and its regulations to allow migrants access to civil, social, political, economic, and cultural rights.
- **Reduce military spending** (with the aim of reducing it to less than 1% of GDP by 2027). In the face of escalating warfare, there must be a commitment to the concept of human security as promoted by the United Nations, based on meeting basic needs, human rights, and the absence of fear.

A feminist society

We are taking steps towards a more egalitarian society, free from violence and where differences are respected, but resistance is very strong, and we still need to implement measures such as:

- **Tackling the pay gap** and ending the lower participation of women in the labour market by ensuring the effectiveness of the principle of equal pay for equal work.
- Making advances in **co-responsibility in care** and in the recognition of the rights of carers, the vast majority of whom are women.
- Guaranteeing **sexual and reproductive rights**, regardless of administrative status or territory of residence.

A strong democracy

We urgently need to reverse the reduction of civic space that is taking place in our country, and in the world, and to advance the deepening and strengthening of democracy with the participation and empowerment of citizens and organised civil society. Often the most vulnerable and marginalised groups in society, such as women, Romany people, those who have been racialised, migrants, the poor, and LGBTBI+ people, are particularly affected because this narrowing of civic space makes it easier to exclude them from decision-making processes and they suffer more intensely from violence and hatred. This is why *Futuro en Común* proposes:

- **Repealing the 'Gag Law'** and guaranteeing the freedoms of association, peaceful assembly, and expression that make up civic space.
- Establishing a **governance of artificial intelligence** that guarantees fundamental rights and freedoms.
- Improving transparency and **reducing institutional opacity and corruption**, with an independent anti-corruption control system and measures to ensure the impartiality of senior officials and guaranteeing that they work in the general interest.
- Creating institutionalised and systematic mechanisms for **civil society participation**. Participation should be systematic and should be in line with the cycle of developing, monitoring, and evaluating all public policies, not just legislative projects.

A country active in global change

The overlapping crises that are affecting our world need a global response guided by the 2030 Agenda, the Paris Agreement, and human rights treaties, with strengthened multilateralism. We believe, and

we want, Spain to be an active agent in changing the model and for this we propose:

- Developing a **global sustainable development policy** committed to promoting peace, as well as climate, gender and global fiscal justice, and human rights. We call for this policy to have clear commitments, a roadmap, adequate resources and monitoring instruments, and to address, among other issues:
 - **Fairer and more sustainable external trade**, guaranteeing human rights and environmental treaties;
 - Enhancing the **positive contribution of Spanish companies abroad**, promoting the approval of a legal framework that guarantees due diligence.
 - Making clear commitments to **migrants' rights**, contributing to the creation of safe pathways, and ensuring the implementation of the European migration pact that guarantees their rights.
 - **The protection of persons and organisations that defend human rights**, territory, freedom of expression, and freedom of the press.
 - **The promotion of peace at an international level**, exhausting diplomatic channels as a means for conflict resolution, and discouraging militarism and the escalation of war.
 - The promotion and protection of **global public goods, such as health and the environment**. We need to improve the metrics that measure the impact that our lifestyle has, both on other territories and on these global public goods such as health.

We need to **reduce the environmental and social footprint of our production and consumption model**. In addition to consuming less, we need to ensure that the production of what we consume is governed by high standards of respect for the environment and human rights, whether it is produced domestically or imported, whether by our own companies or by foreign companies.

In addition, the existing Cooperation Law needs to be implemented ambitiously, and resources committed to it: 0.7% of GDP until 2030 and 0.55% in this Legislature.

In addition to this ODA budget, Spain should contribute to **global funds for the SDGs and for climate justice**, commensurate with its capacity and its historical responsibility.

Beyond GDP

To measure sustainable development, we need indicators beyond Gross Domestic Product (GDP), as it has a significant flaw in its logic: it overlooks important aspects that sustain life, while giving value to activities that consume and pollute the planet. Initiatives such as the Coherence Index (known as 'Indico' in Spanish), the Genuine Progress Indicator (GPI) or the Ecological Footprint index, which measures the impact of human activity on the planet, are working along these lines.



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Futuro en Común is a platform of more than 50 civil society organisations. We encourage you to visit and share our website: www.elinconforme.es.

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