

## 2010: Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion

Four in 10 children in London live in poverty and many people are struggling on low-pay or in casual jobs. Across the European Union, 76 million people currently live below the poverty line. Affordable housing, decent education, healthcare and long-term care are vital for well-being and for combating inequality. Jean is calling for public provision of these services to be safeguarded as pressures mount on national budgets during the economic slump.

Speaking at the Stratford launch event for the 2010 European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion, Jean said "The safety net of social support must not be removed when it is most needed."

Find out more at [www.jeanlambertmep.org.uk/eu2010](http://www.jeanlambertmep.org.uk/eu2010)



Jean calls for urgent and ambitious international action on climate change, before it's too late.

## Greens demand united action on climate change

Jean and fellow Greens in the European Parliament have been campaigning hard for a strong international climate agreement including a minimum 40 per cent reduction in the EU's carbon emissions by 2020. Greens have also called for a 90 per cent emissions reduction in the UK by 2030.

"Off-setting our emissions simply by funding energy projects in developing countries will not solve the problem," said Jean. "We need to ensure that all EU countries stick to their commitments to achieve a major drop in climate emissions."

Find out more at [www.stopclimatechange.net](http://www.stopclimatechange.net)

## Water: too much and not enough

As Chair of the South Asia Delegation in the European Parliament, Jean visited leading decision makers in Bangladesh to discuss urgent measures to address climate change. The country is already experiencing more flooding and droughts, making it harder for people to grow food, to work and to live.

"It is vital that rich countries take responsibility for their contribution to climate change and act now to alleviate the negative effects on poorer nations. Investing in renewable energy is essential, as is providing aid to guard against immediate disasters," said Jean.

Find out more at  
[www.jeanlambertmep.org.uk/bangladesh](http://www.jeanlambertmep.org.uk/bangladesh)



Jean in Bangladesh pushing for action to limit the devastating impacts of climate change.

## Promoting non-animal testing

Jean has backed a Green Group initiative to promote alternatives to animal research and testing. The Written Declaration calls for the European Commission to increase funding for the replacement of animal research and testing and to promote the development and use of alternatives to animal procedures.

"This is an important declaration and I urge other MEPs to support and promote its aims," said Jean.

For more information go to  
[www.jeanlambertmep.org.uk/animals](http://www.jeanlambertmep.org.uk/animals)

## Celebrating London's youth achievements

At the Hackney Youth Awards, Jean acknowledged the exceptional work by young people to safeguard our environment. "The award winners and nominees are an inspiration to the whole community. I commend their hard work," she said.

Jean was also involved in London's European Social Fund (ESF) Awards at City Hall to showcase the talents, skills and achievements of people and organisations receiving European funding.

Find out more at [www.jeanlambertmep.org.uk/youngpeople](http://www.jeanlambertmep.org.uk/youngpeople)



Jean presents the ESF Personal Achiever of the Year Award to Chloe Adu

## Success in the Euro elections

"I would like to thank everyone who supported us and who voted Green in the European elections. The Greens significantly improved their vote share and I am honoured to be serving a third term for Londoners" said Jean.

Jean will be continuing in her roles on the Employment and Social Affairs committee and Civil Liberties committee and in a range of cross-party groups covering discrimination and equal rights. She is also now Chair of

the South Asia Delegation.

For more details, please visit [www.jeanlambertmep.org.uk](http://www.jeanlambertmep.org.uk)



Jean meets constituents near Heathrow during the European election campaign.

## LGBT rights under threat

The Lithuanian government has proposed a new law to ban the discussion of homosexuality in schools, echoing the divisive Section 28 law in the UK. Jean has called on the European Commission to investigate the legality of the law and make clear that it must respect the agreed core values and human rights of the European Union.

"This law would stigmatise gay people and do lasting damage to children," said Jean. "We need to foster open discussion in schools to tackle widespread and frequent homophobic bullying."



Protesting outside the Lithuanian Embassy against the proposed ban on the discussion of homosexuality in schools.

## Pushing for better air quality

Air pollution accounts for more premature deaths than road traffic accidents in London, yet the Government has repeatedly failed to meet EU air quality standards. Now the Government has called for a further time extension to meet new pollution standards for tiny airborne particles, which damage the lungs. Jean has called on the European Commission to reject this request in order to send a strong signal to the UK and other European coun-

tries that plans to comply with air quality standards must be backed by meaningful action.

Although the Mayor of London has published his Draft Air Quality Strategy, many of the measures proposed for reducing transport emissions are unlikely to produce the necessary results. "This is a grave issue for Londoners, but neither Government nor the Mayor is confronting the problem," said Jean.



Jean launches the Clean Air for London campaign with Green London Assembly Member, Darren Johnson.

Newsletter of Jean Lambert MEP, London's Green Party MEP

For more information go to [www.jeanlambertmep.org.uk](http://www.jeanlambertmep.org.uk) or

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