



# Peace and Human Rights

**Green Party MEPs working for progress in the European Parliament**

**Caroline Lucas** MEP for the South East

**Jean Lambert** MEP for London



**The Greens | European Free Alliance**  
In the European Parliament

**Green Party** 

*The UK's Green Party MEPs, Jean Lambert and Caroline Lucas, are committed to promoting peace and human rights, both essential to Green politics.*



### *The so-called 'war on terror' and restrictions on civil liberties*

**Both Caroline, a Vice President of the Stop the War Coalition,** and Jean opposed the war in Iraq and have called for the withdrawal of troops. They have argued that anti-terrorism measures are increasingly being used as a pretext for restricting our civil liberties.

The Green MEPs have consistently called for the closure of the Guantanamo Bay detention facility. They have demanded civilian trials for detainees, access to the evidence held against them and long-term resettlement solutions for those released.

Jean and Caroline have actively campaigned for the release of UK prisoners, like Londoner Binyam

Mohammed, held for over six years without trial, and Omar Degayes from Brighton, who was recently released after a concerted campaign.

Jean was active on the European Parliament's Temporary Committee of Inquiry into the CIA's 'extraordinary rendition' flights, which found that some EU countries were complicit in the abduction and transport of civilians.

Caroline and Jean have strongly criticised the UK Government's extension of the pre-charge detention period to 42 days. They oppose ID cards and voted against the new EU Data Retention Directive.



*Above: Campaigning for the closure of Guantanamo, demanding that the prisoners be charged or released.*

Also a member of CND's National Council, she has presented a Written Declaration calling on the EU to play an active role in non-proliferation, making the case that the renewal of Trident amounts to a breach of the Non Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

## *The arms trade*

**The UK's Green MEPs consistently speak out** against the UK's involvement in the arms trade and continue to push for full implementation of the EU's Code of Conduct on arms exports.

Having demanded an inquiry into allegedly corrupt arms dealing between BAE Systems and Saudi Arabia, they condemned the decision by the UK authorities to refuse a full investigation.



*Above: Caroline calling for a ban on depleted uranium weapons at a conference in Brussels.*

## *Opposing nuclear weapons*

**Caroline and Jean are active in their opposition** to the proliferation of nuclear weapons, campaigning for nuclear disarmament and against the siting of US missile defence facilities on EU soil.

As Co-President of the cross-party Peace Initiatives Intergroup in the European Parliament, Caroline has been at the forefront of Parliament debates on these issues and has called on the EU to support proposals for a Nuclear Weapons Convention at the UN.

Both MEPs have attended peaceful blockades of the Trident nuclear submarine base at Faslane in Scotland, at which Caroline was among those arrested for a so-called 'breach of the peace'.

Green MEPs played an instrumental role in putting forward a successful, groundbreaking European Parliament resolution calling for negotiations on a global ban on depleted uranium



## *Promoting democracy and the right to self-determination*

**Green MEPs are committed to working for greater democracy** and the right to self-determination, campaigning on behalf of the people of Kashmir, Western Sahara and West Papua.

Jean has called on the European Union to aid free and fair elections in Bangladesh, Pakistan and the Maldives and for courts to be free from political interference. She has also highlighted the problems faced by the Tamils in Sri Lanka, the Kurdish people and the need for peaceful political solutions.

Green MEPs continue to campaign for an end to the Israeli occupation and the blockade of Gaza, and for a peaceful resolution to the conflict. Caroline has visited the region several



times, including as an official observer in a European Parliament election observation mission.

She has also urged the EU to appoint a special envoy for Tibet, and called for China to allow an independent investigation into human rights violations.

Caroline and Jean supported the peaceful protests in Burma and promoted a resolution demanding that the UN Security Council toughen sanctions on the military regime.



*Above: Israel's 'security' wall forms a backdrop for Caroline's official Parliament visit to Palestine.*

*Left: Jean is named MEP of the Year for Justice and Human Rights.*





*Left: Caroline addresses crowds at an anti war rally in Trafalgar Square*



*Below: Jean supporting Iraqi refugees denied asylum and the right to work in the UK*

Jean submitted a cross-party resolution calling on the EU Council and Commission to address the humanitarian crisis in Darfur and another on human rights abuses in the Congo and the use of rape as a weapon of war. She has spoken on that issue to a UN Human Rights sub-committee in Geneva.

Caroline is an active member of the campaign to reinstate the young Afghan politician Malalai Joya, an elected representative of Farah province, suspended from her role because of her stance against the warlords and anti-democratic forces in the Afghan parliament.

## *Asylum and migration*

**Both Jean, the Green Group's spokesperson on asylum and migration, and Caroline, have consistently argued for an asylum and migration policy that treats people with dignity – in particular highlighting the need to support people from countries facing ongoing**



conflict, such as Iraq and Zimbabwe, where safe return is not possible.

For example, they have supported a resolution in the European Parliament to prevent EU countries from forcibly returning refugees to Iraq while the country is unstable.

They have also campaigned against the deportation of migrants who arrived in the UK as children and know no other home country, and have opposed forced deportations that break up families.





*Above: Caroline and Jean call for troops to be withdrawn from Iraq*

## *Discrimination and abuse*

**Green MEPs continue to campaign** for the rights of the LGBT community and actively oppose the deportation of LGBT people to countries where they face abuse, torture or even death because of their sexuality. They have publicly condemned homophobic attacks on PRIDE marches across Europe.

Caroline and Jean highlighted the case of the gay Iranian, Mehdi Kazemi, who was facing deportation from the UK and death threats in Iran. Immediately following the European Parliament debate at which Jean spoke, the Home Office announced that he would be offered sanctuary. Caroline is continuing to call on Ministers to make a similar decision in the case of the Iranian lesbian Pegah Emambakhsh.

They both actively support the right to religious expression, whether that be the wearing – or not – of a cross, hijab, turban or Kara.

Jean hosted a hearing in the European Parliament at which three former ‘comfort women’, who were forced into sexual slavery by the Japanese army during the Second World War, delivered their testimonies. A successful Parliamentary resolution was adopted to recognize their ordeals, which Jean co-signed.

Green MEPs are supporting the Fawcett Society in its calls to improve justice and care facilities for rape survivors.

They have called on the European Union to appoint a Women’s Envoy to ensure that all policies take into account their impact on women, and to challenge EU governments to live up to their Millennium Goal commitments on women and development.



### **Caroline Lucas, MEP for the South East**

[www.carolinelucasmep.org.uk](http://www.carolinelucasmep.org.uk)  
[carolinelucas@greenmeps.org.uk](mailto:carolinelucas@greenmeps.org.uk)

### **Jean Lambert, MEP for London**

[www.jeanlambertmep.org.uk](http://www.jeanlambertmep.org.uk)  
[jeanlambert@greenmeps.org.uk](mailto:jeanlambert@greenmeps.org.uk)

Office of the UK Green Party MEPs  
Suite 58, The Hop Exchange,  
24 Southwark Street, London SE1 1TY