



France in Action is an initial stepping stone to a *World in Action* crystallising a raising of consciousness that new values must emerge if the planet is to evolve on a different plane.

These values are underpinned by a concern for sustainable wellness for all world citizens, irrespective of colour or creed.

As new countries join the mainstream, the river will swell and become a force that sweeps aside the spirit of competition and intolerance.

Its watchwords will be cooperation, solidarity and peace.



DIALOGUE & ACTION

International relations must be rethought and not just revamped if a new balance between dialogue and action is to emerge together with a mutual comprehension of cultures, traditions and global economic realities. The age-old, outmoded competitive spirit must give way to an era of cooperation between people with a view to achieving sustainable wellness, respect for all living beings, as well as recognition of the right to be different.

Four main areas of focus englobe the environment, peace, implementation of democratic regimes and faire trade.

DEMOCRACY

Democracy is an ideal goal, a system of governance fostering citizen action within a nation or community, and concerned with sustainable wellness for living beings.

In pursuit of this ideal, *France in Action* will condemn summary justice, favour forces opposing totalitarian regimes, demand unconditional respect of individual freedom, never bow to dictatorships, whether material or moral, and protect all living beings, which shall neither be patented, manipulated nor alienated.

FROM COMPETITION TO COOPERATION

Harmony gives rise to union. It is now time for competition to give way to cooperation. We no longer have a choice, for it is our future generations, for whom we bear responsibility, that are at stake.

While respecting other countries' specific history and characteristics, we propose creating other nationally-based "*in action*" movements around shared core values such as the respect due to all living beings.

Peace between peoples will only emerge when there is a feeling that injustice and inequality are being erased, which is why those countries with the means must engage in actions that are based on solidarity and devoid of self-interest.

Among other things, switching from competition to cooperation implies that there is no more:

- Supply of patented hybrid (or even genetically modified) plant seeds provided free of charge or at derisory prices, as these benefit multinational agroindustry and enslave farmers.
- Help or incentives towards export-driven single-crop farming (coffee, chocolate, rape, sugar cane, cotton) supplanting local, food-production needs provided traditionally by mixed farming.
- Specialisation of territories which makes people more dependent on each other, bringing about endless competition, impoverishment and the enslavement of the weakest.

On the other hand, what it does involve is:

- Training for agrobiolgy, in the spirit of Pierre Rabhi's Earth & Humanism movement.
- Establishing an international voluntary service, which implies redefining the missions of armed forces, favouring civil peace interventions, developing technical help, micro-enterprises based on locally expressed needs and cultural exchanges.
- Nurturing an environment- & people-friendly economy that will boost small businesses and local trade, be nature-focused and bring about positive offshoots such as reduction in waste.
- Assisting with building healthy housing for all.
- Providing financial means for associations ready to commit themselves, with the backing of international voluntary service contingents.
- Promoting ethical funding.

Cancelling the debts of poor countries will be efficient if these countries are able to achieve food self-sufficiency. Current help consists simply in providing loans with interest tied in with conditions for trading with developed countries or supporting the political regime in place. For 1 dollar borrowed in 1980, such countries have already paid back 11 and still have 4 to go.

GLOBALISATION

Globalisation is presented by its rich-country promoters as a process aimed at creating a future society on a worldwide scale that will provide wellness for all. Such is simply not the case. 40 countries are poorer today than in 1990. Globalisation is thus often seen as an instrument of hegemony or exploitation of the weakest by the strongest: a modern-day version of imperialism.

World in Action must be concerned with:

- Assessing the impact of economic policies on all living beings.
- Creating an umbrella international research centre for globalisation bringing together experts from throughout the world to align perspectives for the weakest countries with the current economic backdrop.
- Supporting civil society members in these countries to enhance the existing model.
- Engaging diplomacy to set up the most suitable propositions towards these ends on a worldwide scale.
- Fostering the setting up of united regions, each sovereign from food and energy points of view, respecting identities and diversities, driven by a spirit of cooperation not competition.
- Recognising minorities, particularly those that don't hit the headlines (Tibet, native cultures...).
- Settling the Arab-Israeli conflict by supporting peace groups within the countries.
- Fostering education that targets wellness and know-how.
- Raising environmental awareness on a global scale.



WORLD GOVERNANCE

The current trend towards a globalised vision implies a world governance which can foster a sense of planetary identity, raise awareness that humanity is undivided and one and, finally, do away with the outmoded, hegemonic policies of contemporary powers.

World in Action implies the vision of a Community of Nations and the setting-up of a World Constitution. Priority will be given to respecting:

1. - The biosphere.
2. - Human and animal rights.
3. - The right to work, protection of employment infrastructures and access to housing.

AFRICA

Africa is the continent which is most threatened by the negative aspects of globalisation and it is vital that the independence of its constituent countries be respected, since Africa has a role to play for humanity in the 21st century.



A new collaborative approach is required based on honest and sincere recognition of the continent's values and, in return, Africa can provide other countries with elements of social and spiritual value that are rare on the ground in developed countries.

EUROPE

The creation of the ECSC, the EEC followed by the EU has enabled the "old continent" to enjoy a period of peace and has brought undeniable benefits. And yet the union is fragile since its foundations are still essentially economic. It is still looking for its way socially and culturally. Its decision-making institutions must serve the people they represent. We reject a community policy that is exclusively growth-driven and whose economic challenges are hurdles to sustainable wellness. The setting-up of an economic zone protected from American and Asian products is worth thinking about.

United Europe stands; United Europe makes peace. Union is the mother of harmony. And yet nothing can be built without the approval of its peoples, without mature awareness. "Yes" to the Union of Research, Ecology and Peace, yes to a genuine, active cooperation for Justice and Police, yes to harmonisation of European legislation in fiscal and social fields, yes to criteria for managing public funds; but where each country retains its culture and traditions.

The real Union will be built when its peoples become truly European in spirit, a process which can be enhanced by elected representatives, education systems and media.

France in Action is not against the idea of a European constitution, but in the same vein as a future world constitution, it must take on board other principles than those put forward in 2005: respect for the environment, democracy and fair trade with the general interest of its constituent peoples as a common denominator.

PEACE AND DISARMAMENT

It is becoming a matter of urgency to engage a real policy of global, political, multilateral and progressive disarmament.

World military expenditure totalled 1,118 billion dollars in 2005, which represents 2.5% of world GDP, i.e. an increase of 34% on the 1996-2005 decade.

639 million light weapons, produced by some 100 countries, are in circulation throughout the world, a ratio of 1 weapon for every 10 people.

Over 300,000 children soldiers are involved in conflicts.

1/3 of the world's countries devote more to military expenditure than health.

No political movement worthy of the name can put forward a project for society which ignores this reality.



One of the first aims is to halt nuclear escalation.

France in Action supports the *Peace Pact*, drawn up by the *Coordination for Disarmament and Peace* (CDP), aimed, among other things at:

- Creating a major ministry for defence, disarmament and cooperation.
- Allocating consequent savings to meeting needs in social, healthcare, cultural, educational, environmental and humanitarian fields.
- Consulting citizens on a regular basis on the principles and means for defence policy and international cooperation.
- Suspending the export of all categories of warfare weapons.
- Calling on all nuclear States, whether or not signatories of the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), to negotiate and adopt by 2010 a plan to abolish nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction.

We wish to see the creation of a Global Peace Committee made up of internationally recognised personalities.

Long-lasting peace will be brought about as essential fears are reduced and basic needs met.

We are implementing concrete actions on the basis of these vital principles.

UNITED NATIONS

The UN objectives, and in particular implementation of MDGs (Millennium Development Goals) will not be achieved. There is a need for institutional reform if countries of the South are to find their place, for the gap between rich and poor countries is growing wider.

UN reform initiatives run counter to the interests of certain member countries, despite the fact that there is no shortage of proposals for reform, mainly from international civil society organisations. Such fundamental initiatives could be sponsored by member States. Awareness exists, but those in power need to raise the level and obtain people's backing.

So that the UN can fully meet the goals of its Charter via more democratic and efficient means, we seek to:

- Develop genuine International Law backed up by adequate institutions to ensure that it is applied: this involves enhancing the efficacy of the International Criminal Court (ICC) which must be ratified by all countries, as well as creating a peace-keeping force to back up international law. The ICC would have jurisdiction for judging environmental crimes committed by private individuals and States, along the same lines as those against humanity.

- Reform the UN Security Council: selection of new candidate countries, in addition to the 5 permanent members.

- Create an Agency for renewable energies, energy savings and sustainable wellness.

Financial institutions act in accordance with the private interests of a few industrial countries. Experts from the IMF, World Bank and WTO favour growth and free trade. We must widen the spectrum of parameters by:

- Reinvesting Parliaments with power to establish priorities for their countries, rather than have these decided by financial markets.

- Leaving the choice of development strategies up to countries.

- Granting loans to small businesses and farmers, not just multinationals.

We wish to enhance the principles of the United Nations Charter, ratified on the 26 June 1945, together with those of International Law in general, which must be respected by all States without exception. *France in Action* is committed to making this Charter widely known, respected and applied.

international@lafranceenaction.com

0810 812 872 - 06 25 45 30 01 - Fax 0810 599 648

E-Mail: info@lafranceenaction.com

Web : www.lafranceenaction.com