

Your Next Treasurer

Alberto Spatola - Electoral Programme for the role of Treasurer on the Board of Directors of Volt Europa AISBL

Your Next Treasurer: More Than Just a Title

I am running to be your next Treasurer, but for me, that phrase is more than campaigning: it is the core of my programme.

"Your" Treasurer means I am here to empower our teams. The traditional view of the treasury is someone who acts as a gatekeeper. I see it differently. I believe a Treasurer's true role is to find the "why," establish the priorities, and most importantly, figure out the "how." My goal is to create the financial and organisational framework that allows our chapters and Co-Presidents to win elections and build a progressive Europe.

The "Next" Treasurer is not just about who holds the role tomorrow; it is about keeping our eyes on what is coming. The Board we are electing now will lead us to the 2029 European Elections. With the creation of our Europarty, we cannot afford to just manage the present. We need a Treasurer who anticipates events, prioritises the future, and plans with a strategic long-term vision.

Here is how we will build that future together.

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The Europarty, the European Foundation, and Volt AISBL: an Ecosystem

The 2027–2028 Plan

I will implement a three-part strategy for the use of EU funds allocated to the Euro-party (EUPP) and European Political Foundation (EUPF)¹:

- A. covering establishing costs (hiring staff, office costs, etc.);
- B. developing our long-term fundraising capacity, and
- C. building a robust financial reserve for the 2029 European elections.

Once these three priorities are secured, any remaining EU funds will be utilised for eligible cross-border projects. This will relieve part of the financial burden on the Volt AISBL, freeing up its own resources to directly support our local chapters and campaigns.

Professionalisation and Office Culture

For Volt to mature, professionalisation must be more than an expectation. Therefore, we have to properly invest in our people. By leveraging the infrastructure and funding unlocked through our Europarty status, I will move forward to ensure that we:

- **Support and Recognise our Volunteer Leaders:** Recognising that many of our key European teams are led by volunteers, our hiring priority will be to provide these leaders with professional administrative and technical support. This provides the structural recognition and backing necessary for them to lead our political movement effectively without being overburdened.
- **Establish a Collaborative Physical Office:** The Europarty status provides the opportunity to move beyond purely digital coordination and establish a dedicated physical office. This hub will facilitate direct teamwork, foster a stronger organisational culture, and provide a space for collaboration.
- **Professionalise Mentorship and Interns Integration:** Within this physical environment, we will explore more structured integration paths—including Belgian university agreements, the European Solidarity Corps, and project-based reimbursements. This will ensure our junior talent receives proper mentorship and is professionally integrated into our daily operations.

¹ A European Political Party (EUPP), informally known as a 'Europarty', is a status recognised by the European Union for political families meeting specific criteria, most notably having elected representatives in at least seven EU Member States.

Each EUPP is entitled to establish an affiliated European Political Foundation (EUPF).

While Volt Europa is a pan-European party, it does not currently hold EUPP status.

There is an ongoing effort to achieve this by establishing a Volt Europarty alongside our existing movement (Volt Europa AISBL) in collaboration with partners.

Regardless of the specific path taken, attaining Europarty status is a core pillar of Volt's strategy, and we are closer than ever to reaching this milestone.

Unlocking the European Political Foundation (EUPF) potential

I will actively leverage our Foundation status to attract grants for training programmes and establish consortia.

We will build a professional, fully-funded environment dedicated to developing progressive, pragmatic, and innovative policies.

Sustainable Funding & Civil Society Partnerships

The Grassroots Engine

Developing targeted, pan-European campaigns to attract, engage, and retain small, recurring donors.

A key part of this strategy will be creating a new affiliation tier bridging the gap between formal members and volunteer supporters. This category will allow dedicated individuals to financially sustain our movement and contribute to key European political discussions, without holding formal voting power.

We could introduce this new tier under an engaging identity like *Co-purple*, and it can be linked to the Volt Europarty or European Foundation.

Events as Growth Engines

With our expanding ecosystem potentially comprising the Volt AISBL, the Europarty, and the Foundation (EUPF), we will need to host three separate General Assemblies. I propose consolidating these into a single, major event: the **Europeans' Convention**. By transforming our internal administrative gatherings into a large-scale, creative, and public-facing convention, we will create new opportunities to build partnership with aligned NGOs, socially responsible businesses, and innovative start-ups. We could refer to this partnerships space as “- Made in Europe”, echoing our core claim.

Recognising the sensitivity of external financing, we will establish clear ethical boundaries: we will engage with like-minded entities that share our values, allowing us to dramatically expand our external reach.

Europeanising Civil Society

We cannot rely solely on fluctuating opinion votes. We must build strong, permanent constituencies by investing in relationships with civil society entities that translate local battles into a European perspective.

I propose using the EUPF as a catalyst to build consortia for grants and joint projects with these partners, turning shared values into shared action. This strategic alignment will allow us to provide the framework for major outreach campaigns, exemplified by the European Citizens' Initiative (ECI) on the right to housing, turning a common local struggle into a decisive pan-European action.

Ultimately, we must prioritise actions that are strategic to deliver real impact and project our movement beyond its internal silos.

We see time and again that pan-European actions often struggle because Europe still lacks a truly integrated civil society and a common media landscape. We must Europeanise society just as we are doing in politics.

Empowering Chapters & Campaigns

Digital Infrastructure and Community Coordination

I will prioritise the full implementation of our new CRM platform to centralise communication with our membership and professionalise the management of our donor base. Alongside this technical shift, I will foster a cohesive community of treasurers to share expertise and execute unified, efficient financial and fundraising strategies across all chapters. Practically, I will implement regular touchpoints, including quarterly coordination calls between the European treasury and chapter treasurers, to ensure alignment and resolve local challenges collectively.

At the centre of the activities of the treasurers' community there will be three recurring processes:

- **The Quarterly Treasury Community Hub:** I will establish quarterly coordination meetings with treasurers from all chapters. This will not just be a technical alignment call, but a platform to consolidate our financial data. By integrating chapter-level data with Volt Europa's metrics, we will produce a comprehensive, pan-European view of our collective financial health.
- **Accessible Narrative Reports:** Arising from these quarterly meetings, we will translate our detailed financial data into clear, narrative-driven regular reports. These will highlight where our money goes, the impact of our campaigns, and how we are pacing towards the 2029 European election.
- **Collaborative Executive Briefings:** I see an opportunity to improve our monthly financial reports by transforming them into a collaborative space. I will use these briefings to help the Board and the Executive Team to deeply understand our financial reality, ensuring we can plan campaigns and allocate resources together.

Ultimately, fostering coordination is also important to define clear benchmarks across chapters and share best practices with the clear goal of making them efficient, common European standards.

Building the Capacity to Transform

I will prioritise the financial support necessary to successfully launch and manage cross-border actions.

Our next European Citizens' Initiative (ECI) - Right to Housing! - is a great example of how we turn our shared causes into tangible effects. Consequently, the most important investment we can make is in building our internal capacity to run these campaigns. By developing a professional core of experts, including fundraisers and strategists, we will ensure that every Euro invested in campaigning and outreach delivers a tangible return: bringing in the recurring donors and electing the officials we need to transform Europe.

Professional Governance, Transparency & Risk Management

Scaling to a Large NGO through intelligible transparency

I believe that practising intelligible transparency serves our members first. Moreover, it is essential for the future developments and requirements we will encounter as we grow.

We can envision scaling up in the next seven to eight years to qualify as a "large" non-profit organisation (AISBL) under Belgian law. This status is reached by meeting at least two of the following criteria: 50 employees, a €12 million annual turnover (cash flow), and a €7 million balance sheet total. Achieving this involves increasing our current organisational capacity between five and ten times, depending on the specific metric.

To handle this growth, we must move beyond mostly technical Excel sheets to produce clear, accessible narrative reports that tell the story of our budget and prepare us for future Belgian legal requirements. By starting this shift now, we can ensure a gradual transition that builds a new treasury culture step-by-step.

As a member-led movement, we owe ourselves more than just formal transparency; we must provide clear explanations and consistent communication that empower us all.

Stronger Conflict of Interests Checks

Becoming more visible and open, with the Europarty alongside our existing organisation, is a massive opportunity that brings its own set of challenges.

We will develop robust, professional conflict of interest checks for partners and supporters, drawing inspiration from international standards like the US Form 990² to create an effective framework without becoming excessive red tape.

These checks are intended especially for non-members who have access to our internal communications and events; this applies even more concretely to those who might join my proposed new tier of recurring donors (*Co-purple*).

A primary focus will be Volt European Communities. As they become increasingly influential in shaping debates and advising our elected officials, clear guardrails are essential.

These measures are not intended to limit their action, but to enable and protect them by ensuring their contributions are backed by professional transparency.

A Strategic, Enabling Treasurer

I am putting forward this ambitious programme because I fully support the next Treasurer being a full-time role. We have already created the budget for this; now, we must make the internal cultural shift to recognise that a Treasurer can provide far more than operational oversight. By dedicating full-time capacity, we transform the role into a strategic one, focused on enabling our political success.

² Form 990 - Wikipedia: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Form_990

Collaboration with the Co-Presidents

As part of the Executive Board, I will focus on Volt's effectiveness, providing the Co-Presidents with the space they need to focus externally on building electoral capacity and internally on unifying our voice for 2029.

Bridging the Board and the teams

I will actively work to bridge the gap between the Executive and Non-Executive members, finding case-by-case ways to empower our board members and integrate their strategic input.

Furthermore, I am committed to involving our chapters through their treasurers and working in harmony with the Secretary Generals to avoid overlapping responsibilities. By collaborating closely with the rest of the European team, especially those that constitute the Treasury, we will ensure that our work is unified and aligned with our shared political goals.

Yours, Next

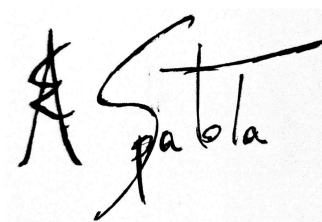
My commitment to our movement is rooted in a simple contrast. During my Erasmus in Slovenia, I walked the same ground where my grandfather fought during the Second World War. That experience changed me; it made the European project personal. Since co-founding Volt in Italy in 2018, that "fire" has driven my activism. I don't just want to manage an organisation; I want to empower the people and communities capable of transforming our continent.

"Yours" is my promise of service. It means moving beyond the traditional image of a Treasurer buried in receipts and Excel sheets. I am here to be an enabler who ensures you have the professional framework and the resources to succeed, whether you are celebrating Europe Day in Torino, in Gent or in Ede, or campaigning for the Berlin Landtag, or the Cyprus Parliament. My role is to make the "how" possible so that your "why" can change Europe.

"Next" is my promise of strategy. On the night of the 2029 European Elections, I want us to look back and say that the Treasury didn't just keep things running: it kept us focused on the target. By making the right choices today, we ensure our success tomorrow. We are not just preparing a budget; we are building the engine of our political transformation.

I am already on the move to listen, to learn, and to build this with you. Let's turn our shared values into a decisive, pan-European reality.

I am Alberto Spatola, and I am ready to be **Yours, Next**.



Brussels, Europe
12/04/2026