Draft Party Resolution in support of the Simultaneous Policy

For adoption by party conference

Conference notes that:

1. Because investment, firms and capital move easily across borders, a government that acts first on many important issues, by raising standards, taxes or regulation, risks losing jobs and investment to countries that do not. This constrains every government, whatever its political direction.
2. The International Simultaneous Policy Organisation ("Simpol") is promoting a global campaign under which a series of multi-issue policy packages ("the Simultaneous Policy") is to be developed with citizens, negotiated within a framework approved by citizens in democratic countries, and agreed by participating governments. Each package is to be implemented by all participating nations simultaneously, and is to be balanced so that every participating nation is better off overall.
3. The Simultaneous Policy would be implemented by each national parliament under its own constitution. It creates no new supranational body and transfers no powers.
4. Citizens who support Simpol (“Simpol supporters”) undertake to give their voting preference, in national and, where applicable, European elections, to candidates and parties that have pledged to implement the Simultaneous Policy alongside other governments. Simpol invites political parties to support the campaign by adopting this Resolution.
5. The process to develop the content of the Simultaneous Policy would be launched only once the campaign has sufficient support from politicians and parties around the world. This Resolution, like a Pledge signed by a candidate, therefore commits the party to nothing unless sufficient other nations have made the same commitment. It signifies the party’s support in principle, and may be rescinded in writing at any time.

Conference believes:

1. That the risk of first-mover disadvantage limits the ability of every government to act adequately on problems that no nation can resolve alone, such as climate change, tax avoidance, pandemic preparedness and the safe development of artificial intelligence.
2. That the Simultaneous Policy offers a means of acting on such problems while safeguarding national competitiveness, because no nation implements it unless sufficient others implement it at the same time.
3. That the Simultaneous Policy complements both the party’s own national programme and existing international diplomacy, and replaces neither.
4. That the Simultaneous Policy complements the work of the United Nations, the European Union, the OECD and other international institutions, which provide the forums, expertise, data and agreed frameworks on which international action depends. It neither replaces nor competes with them, but strengthens the domestic mandate of national governments to act together on what is agreed.
5. That setting out clearly which commitments a government can deliver on its own, and which it can deliver only together with other nations, strengthens the credibility of the party’s programme with voters.

Conference resolves:

1. To support Simpol's campaign by:
    - Asking the party's candidates and elected representatives to sign the Simpol Pledge. The Pledge is an undertaking in principle to implement the Simultaneous Policy alongside other governments if and when sufficient other governments have made the same Pledge.
    - Recommending that party members become Simpol supporters.
    - Offering the party's policies on global problems for consideration in Simpol's policy development process, when that process is launched.
2. To present, in its manifesto, a distinct section setting out the goals it will pursue through simultaneous implementation with other nations, alongside the measures it will implement nationally [and, for parties in EU member states, those it will pursue at European level].
3. To adopt the Simultaneous Policy as official party policy, so signalling the party's commitment, if in government, and subject to the Simultaneous Policy having been negotiated within a framework approved by citizens and agreed by sufficient nations.

Please return a copy of the Resolution as adopted, by email, to info@simpol.org.