

*A Contribution to the Convention Members – Outline*

Padua, May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2003

According with the Laeken Declaration and with the principles of democratic participation, we are glad to send our contribution about the future of the European Union.

First, we have realized that the composition of the European Convention is not representative enough of the European peoples and of the real weight of each party at the European Parliament. Moreover we observe that the presence of female members is not sufficient. We think that it should be the European Parliament, or a Constituent assembly, to write the Constitution, but we believe the Convention formula better than an intergovernmental conference.

On subsidiarity, we think it should be functional, horizontal, and not only territorial.

We suggest the complete integration of the Chart of Fundamental Rights as the first part of the future Constitution. The activation of a special procedure for human rights violations in front of the Court of Justice of the European Communities is for us a priority.

In addition, we recommend the adoption of the following text for Article n. 1: “*The European Union repudiates war as an instrument for the resolution of international controversies and recognizes peace as a fundamental right of the individual and of peoples. The E.U. provides its contribution to the construction of a peaceful and democratic international order; the E.U. promotes the enforcement and the democratisation of the United Nations and the actively contributes to the development of an international multilateral cooperation*”.

We believe that Europe should have a *single* legal identity; we also confirm the centrality of the principle of subsidiarity for the definition of competences inside the E.U., and of promoting synergies between European and national parliaments.

We ask the European Central Bank for stronger responsibility; we advocate a stronger role of the E.P. in appointing the members of E.C.B.’s Executive Committee. We also ask the publishing of its documents to be compulsory.

We think that targets and strategic interests of E.U. should be proposed by the European Commission and then adopted by the E.P. with simple majority vote, and by the Council of the European Union with qualified majority vote.

We recommend the creation of a Foreign Affairs Minister; he should be the Vice-President of the European Commission. We also suggest the communitarisation of the Common Foreign and Security Policy.

Concerning Common Defence, we ask for enforcing the role of the E.P., for creating a Common European Diplomatic Corps and a Common Military Police Corps, respecting Article n. 52 of the U.N. Charter and according with its principles.

We suggest that legal instruments be reduced from 15 to 6. Definition of a hierarchy of laws and extension of the procedure of co-decision in the adoption of legislative acts would also be important.

We ask for defining a Common Immigration Policy and for creating an European Prosecutor.

We believe that E.U. should clarify its competences on social policies through legal guidelines and we believe that the E.P. should have the power to initiate legislation in this field.