

ECOSY, Young European Socialists

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Resolution on the upcoming IGC on the future of Europe

After the closure of the Convention, an Inter Governmental Conference (IGC) will start on the future of Europe to adopt a final proposal of a European Constitution.

The Young European Socialists calls the IGC to respect the constitutional text for the European Union adopted by the Convention on the future of the European Union at its last session.

The method used in the European Convention of gathering representatives of European and national legitimacy is a good one and should be used again for any further reform of the Constitution of the EU.

The improvement of the current treaties through the inclusion of the Charter of Fundamental Rights with a legally binding status and through the recognition of the necessity of coordination of both economic and employment policies is recognised by the Young European Socialists.

However, Ecosy is very concerned about the fact that in the current proposal the national and European representatives failed to underline specifically the richness of the social model that has been developed in Europe. The European Union has still no social policy, so that it is able to develop a comprehensive economic policy in the interests of its inhabitants.

Further, it is not admissible that the Constitution of the European Union would only mention the importance of the services of general interest in the European Welfare State through the already existing article of the Charter of Fundamental Rights. The high level of services of general interest provided within the European Union should not only be protected in the Constitution of the EU, it should be promoted. The principles of guarantee of access of all inhabitants to public services for free or at an affordable equal cost should be enshrined in the Constitution.

In order to build a real social Europe, we also strongly demand the IGC to implement qualified majority voting within the European Council in co-decision with the European Parliament regarding social affairs.

As far as the institutional reforms are concerned, the Young European Socialists disagree with the shift towards more intergovernmentalism to which these proposals would lead. The creation of a long term president of the European Council, the creation of a Minister for foreign affairs answerable to the European Council, unanimity being maintained to decide on Common Security and Foreign Affairs issues, the choosing of the President of the European Commission remaining by the European Council, only increase the say of national interests in the running of the EU. To build an ever closer union, we need only the European interests to be promoted for the benefit of the

inhabitants of the EU, through the generalisation of qualified majority voting, through a high involvement of the European Parliament and of the European Commission.

The President of the European Commission should be the leader of the executive in the European Union, elected by and answerable to the European Parliament. The European Parliament, representation of the citizens, and the Councils, representation of the States, are the legislator, providing the EU with appropriate budgetary means to conduct policies of fight against unemployment, social exclusion, etc.

Some countries already announced that they want to renegotiate the outcome of the European Convention. Therefore, Ecosy will go on advocating its project. The European Constitution should go further than the current proposal: we want to live in a federal, social, political European Union!