

Kostas Simitis
Former Primeminister
Greece

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PRESS RELEASE

The European Union must produce a strategy for the future. We must once again convince our people that problems with supranational causes can only be solved at a supranational level. The Draft Constitution is still the most reliable step in this direction, but the prospects of its adoption are slim. The current period of reflexion tends to encourage inertia. Therefore we should adopt crucial chapters from the draft constitution on which consensus has emerged, f.e. institutional reforms, and the regulations for the Common Foreign Policy and Security Policy.

The economy must once again become the motive force for a way out of the crisis. We must strengthen crucial policies. Completing the Economic Union. Breathing new life into the Lisbon Strategy, with a broad plan for development and employment in the coming decade.

These policies need funds, more funds than they have received so far, and funds that produce tangible results.

The vision of a strong Europe demands a comprehensive plan with broader goals and outline the next middle-term steps in the European Union's evolution. For example, it should underline the possibility for the member states to engage in reinforced cooperation on specific policy areas.

Finally, we must realize that the European project cannot proceed at one speed for all 25 member-states. We must come up with structures and procedures that allow eventually the Euro team or another group to proceed, taking European Union policies to advanced levels of political unification.

The new shape of Europe must express the vast majority of its citizens. We must convince society, civil society, of the necessity of this vision, of the benefits that will accrue to it and to the vital interests of every individual citizen.