

**Constantinos Simitis**

Από: VERHOFSTADT Guy [ ]

Αποστολή: Παρασκευή, 4 Φεβρουαρίου 2011 2:57 μμ

Προς:

**Κοινοποίηση:** COHN-BENDIT Daniel OFFICE; DURANT Isabelle; GOULARD Sylvie

**Θέμα:** First Shadow Council Meeting 22-03-2011

**Συνημμένα:** Spinelli -conclusions 12 01.pdf

Dear Members of the Shadow Council,

We would like to invite you to the First Shadow Council meeting which will take place on the 22nd of March, in the Bibliothèque Solvay, Brussels.

We all regret that the European Council has opted for the intergovernmental method. This is of course a result of the greater interest paid by our current Heads of State or Prime Ministers in defending their own national interest rather than the common European interest. The aim of the Shadow Council is to do precisely the opposite and look for solutions based on the interest of the entire European Union and of its citizens. By looking for European answers for the most important points on the agenda of the Council meeting in March, the members of the Shadow Council can clearly demonstrate that another way does exist.

*Agenda*

10.00-12.30 : Meeting of the Shadow Council

12.30-14.00 : Lunch

14.30-15.30 : Press conference in the European Parliament (at walking distance)

*Adresse*

La Bibliothèque Solvay

Leopoldpark

137 rue Belliard

1040 Brussels

Please confirm your attendance to [secretariat@spinelliagroup.eu](mailto:secretariat@spinelliagroup.eu)

Travel and hotel expenses will be reimbursed afterwards.

The agenda and the necessary documents will follow in the coming weeks.

We hope to see you at this important event.

Kind regards,

Guy Verhofstadt  
Daniel Cohn-Bendit  
Isabelle Durant  
Sylvie Goulard

OK.

Thank you for the  
e-mail of February 4.  
I will attend the  
meeting on March 22

SIMITIS

Conclusions of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Spinelli-Group Steering Committee  
12 December 2011

1. On Wednesday 12 January, the Spinelli Group held a public debate in the European Parliament, attracting over 500 people and well over 1000 viewers on web-streaming. Chaired by Daniel Cohn-Bendit the debate featured a discussion between Joschka Fischer and Jean-Marc Ferry (both founding members of the Spinelli Group) on “*the United States of Europe – towards a transnational society?*”.

It was followed by a meeting of the Steering Committee, which discussed i.) the Spinelli doctrine/Spinelli-stamp principles and ii.) the organisation of the 1<sup>st</sup> Shadow Council. Additional documents were distributed on the future of European finances, on the MEP-Spinelli Group and the Spinelli-Group’s relations with think-tanks and established networks.

2. The discussion on the Spinelli doctrine was an opportunity to reflect on the means and objectives of the Spinelli-Group. Whereas all the members share the urgency and necessity of rekindling the European flame, there were some differences as to the definition of what “federalist” and “more Europe” meant both in principle and in practice. It was decided:

- to design a “Spinelli stamp”, following the amended proposition of a “Spinelli doctrine” (see enc.) and to publish its guiding principles;
- to use the “Spinelli stamp” as well to “name and shame” a proposal/individual whose contribution to the European debate is deemed “regressive” or contrary to the community spirit;
- to invite institutions and/or proposals to seek the “Spinelli stamp” approval.

A trial of one year has also been decided, to assess the viability of the doctrine and the stamp, before its possible revision.

3. The Shadow Council will be organised on Tuesday 22 March, i.e. two days before the official Council, in order to maximise media attention.

It should provide conclusions on 2 items – one taken from the agenda of the official Council and one advocated by the Spinelli-Group itself.

For this occasion, the two items should be: 1. economic governance/treaty changes and 2. the Union’s own resources.

Documents will be circulated in advance for comments and revision.

The question of the timing of the Shadow Council was raised. If it is too close to the European Council we can only expect to influence the fixed agenda, and probably only marginally. If we intend to influence the agenda of the Council, and/or the very substance of its outcome, the Shadow Council may need to take place a week beforehand.

4. The next meeting of the Steering Committee will take place on 22 March in Brussels.