

Brussels, 9 December 1998

FOR INFORMATION

This is a presentation of five paragraphs of the first draft manifesto of 4 November including the amendments presented for the first Working Party meeting (11-12 November 1998).

Please note that the discussion on 9 December 1998 will be on the basis of the revised draft distributed on 7 December 1998

3 Making the Euro a Success

The Euro could make a significant contribution to promoting growth. It is therefore in the interests of all Member States, whether members of the single currency or not, that the Euro is a success. A sound Euro will protect Europe against the destabilising pressures of currency speculation, reduce costs for business and contribute to a new financial and monetary world order. We commit ourselves to ensuring that the single currency achieves a smooth introduction and provides growth and stability for our people.

SPÖ

The Euro can make....

PvdA

Replace: The Euro could make a significant contribution to promoting growth. It is therefore in the interests of all Member States, whether participants in ~~members~~ of the single currency or not, that the Euro is a success.

PvdA

Add: A sound Euro will keep inflation under control, protect Europe against the destabilising pressures of currency speculation

PvdA

Add: reduce costs for business, lead to lower prices and expanded product choice for consumers,

SAP

... a more stable (delete:new) financial and world order

PvdA

Replace: and contribute to a new world financial and monetary system ~~world order~~

SPÖ

add after secondlast sentence:

.....and monetary world order. We will work für a close cooperation between the independent European System of Central Banks and the other economic policy institutions in Europe. We commit ourselves.....

PS-B

After the sentence "a sound Euro monetary world order", add the following sentence: "it will also have the advantage of benefitting consumers, in particular by stabilizing their purchasing power".

SP-B

Ad a new last sentence:

"The ECB has to conduct a monetary policy for the euro-area following the goal of price stability taking into consideration growth and employment. Such a policy must be conducive to credibility, certainty and predictability."

SPD

Modify as follows

"The Euro must contribute to sustainable investment, growth and job opportunities. The success of the single currency is in the interest of all the European Union's member States, but particularly to all the States of the 'Euro-11' zone. A sound, stable Euro will protect the European economy and European jobs from the fluctuations of exchange rates and competition, and from the destabilising effects of currency speculation. Monetary Union will reduce business costs and fully open up the single market to small and medium-sized businesses; contributing to a new and more stable financial world order. The introduction of the single currency will give rise to greater stability, through the co-ordination of economic, monetary and employment policies. The European Central Bank, independent but also accountable, should promote stability through its monetary policies. We want the single currency to succeed because monetary union is advantageous in terms of economic and employment policies. The single currency offers Europe's citizens new opportunities for economic growth, and stability through sustainable investment; in turn, this will help to reduce unemployment."

PS-France

Modify as follows:

"The Euro must favour growth and employment. It is therefore in the interests of all Member states, whether members of the single currency or not, that the Euro is a success. To achieve this, the European Central Bank must - apart from ensuring price stability - support economic Union policies and attain high level employment by reducing interest rates. We will work towards the implementation of the democratic responsibility of the European Central Bank by establishing open dialogue with the responsible institutions for coordination of economic policies (the Ecofin council, Euro 11, the Commission, the European Parliament) and with the social partners. A sound Euro will protect Europe against the destabilising pressures of currency speculation, reduce costs for business and will enable Europe to be the main protagonist of a financial and international monetary order which will be stabler and fairer because more regulated. We commit"

4 Completing the Single Market

The European Union is now the largest and richest single market in the world. Its guarantee of access to markets anywhere in Europe is a great advantage to our economies. Businesses are now able to produce and export on a European scale. A successful and fully functioning single market is part of the foundation of the future prosperity of the Union and the route to sustained growth and employment. Taxation should not distort economic decisions with regard to labour, capital and services and must allow for rebalancing in favour of employment and the environment. The introduction of the Euro will also require measures to avoid harmful tax competition. We commit ourselves to completing the single market and to ensuring that Europe's industries have free and equal access across Europe's markets.

PvdA

Delete: The European Union is now the largest ~~and richest~~ single market in the world.

PvdA

Replace: Its guarantee of access to ~~markets anywhere in Europe~~ the entire European market is a ~~—~~of great advantage to our economies.

PS-B

"Its guarantee of access to markets anywhere in Europe is a great advantage not only to businesses which are now able to produce and export on a European scale, but also for small and medium-sized enterprises which must be helped to have access to those markets".

SAP

delete all sentence: "Businesses are now able a European sclae"

SAP

add:fully functioning single market open to the world is part of

SI

Fourth sentence:

~~Taxation~~ must be coordinated so as not to distort economic decisions with regard to labour, capital and services and must allow for rebalancing in favour of employment and the environment.

SAP

change: Tax breaks and subsidies (delete Taxation) should not be allowed to distort

SAP

change: Tax havens can be as harmful as social dumping and must be countered particularly with the introduction of the Euro. (Delete will also require....tax competition)

SPÖ

add to second last sentence:

"....to avoid harmful tax competition, especially in the fields of capital income and business taxation. In this context, we will also start a process of harmonization of taxes in the EU member states. We commit

PvdA

Delete and replace: We commit ourselves to completing the single market and to ensuring that Europe's businesses have free and equal access....

PvdA

Add: across Europe's markets, and to increasing consumer protection.

SPD

Replace "Taxation should not distortservices" with:

"We will oppose every form of distortion to the single market; because distortion goes against the communitarian ethos of the single market. Moreover, tax disparities and unfair fiscal competition must become a thing of the past. They erode the foundations of the social model and are incompatible with the single market."

Proposal for a new commitment

PS-B and SP-B

Introduce the following paragraph so that the Manifesto includes 21 points as set out in the introduction:

The Single Market and the creation of the Euro mean that the balance of taxation must be restored. We must take care that taxes on income from work are reduced by increasing tax receipts on income from capital, on speculative activities and on consumption of energy, in the context of a balanced policy of environmental protection. In addition, we must aim for tax harmonization in order to avoid excessive distortions in competition. Greater cooperation between Member States in order to fight against tax fraud must be ensured. We commit ourselves to restore the balance of taxation in a way that is favourable to employment and sustainable development.

16 Acting Together in the World

Each member state will be better able to secure its interests in the world if Europe can act as one. We secure a better deal in international trade talks if we speak with one voice. We can have a bigger impact on world events if we pursue an effective common foreign and security policy. We can better enforce the security of our continent if we are able to bring to bear our joint strength against those who threaten its peace and stability. We commit ourselves to building close and strong cooperation in foreign policy and to developing Europe's defence identity.

PvdA

Delete: We secure a better deal in international ~~trade~~ talks if we speak with one voice.

PS-B

We secure a better deal in international trade talks if we are united

PES Women

Add to the second line, after the words "one voice" "we can promote a better world for everyone if we defend international employment and ecological standards and if we commit ourselves to the defence of individual rights and democracy in the world"

SAP

add: (after:common foreign and security policy) We can by shared efforts offer a humanitarian response to needs for asylum from political persecution

PS-B

Fourth sentence:

We can better enforce the security of our continent if we are able to bring to bear our (1 word deleted) strength against those who threaten its peace and stability.

SAP

change: ...strength against threats to (delete: those who threaten us) peace and stability

SAP

We commit ... strong cooperation in foreign and security policy and to developing ability to prevent and respond to emerging conflicts and crises (delete Europe's defence identity)

SPO

We commit ourselves to developing –in close and strong cooperation – a common European foreign and security policy including a common defence identity.

19 Reforming Europe's Budget

The European Union must have secure funding which enables it to meet the demands we place upon it and take account of new priorities, such as enlargement, the introduction of the Euro and the need to promote growth and employment. The European Union must find imaginative new ways of financing investment without increasing its budget ceiling, such as public-private partnership and the use of the European Investment Bank's lending facilities. The citizens of Europe must be convinced that the European Union is applying rigorous controls on public expenditure. We commit ourselves to meet new priorities within the present budget ceiling, to develop new sources of investment and to improve the efficiency of Europe's financial management.

PASOK

The European Union must have secure and sufficient funding which enables it to meet the demands we place upon it and take account of...

PS-B

First sentence:

The European Union must have secure funding which enables it to meet the demands we place upon it and take account of new priorities, such as enlargement, (3 words deleted) the Euro and the need to promote growth and employment.

PS-B and SP-B

Second sentence:

(The first part of the amendment does not affect the English version).

The European Union must find imaginative new ways of financing investment (5 words deleted), such as public-private partnership and the use of the European Investment Bank's lending facilities or a CO2 tax.

PvdA

.... public expenditure. Waste and inefficiency must be eliminated.

PS-B

Fourth sentence:

We commit ourselves to meet new priorities (5 words deleted), to develop new sources of investment and to improve the efficiency of Europe's financial management, in order to respond to new priorities.

20 Reforming Europe's Institutions

The European Union needs democratic and efficient institutions if it is to deliver effective policies which accommodate the larger Union of the next century. The people of Europe need accountable institutions if they are to identify with the European project. The European Commission must be capable of better fulfilling its functions by being better organised and by clearer collective responsibility. The European Council must set the strategic agenda for Europe and the Council of Ministers must adopt more effective procedures and greater coordination. The European Parliament must make full use of its increased powers of scrutiny and work in closer partnership with national parliaments. We commit ourselves to reform the institutions of Europe before enlargement to ensure that they are in touch, up to date and responsive to change.

PASOK

The European Union needs democratic and efficient institutions if it is to deliver effective policies which accommodate the larger Union of the next century. We have to look afresh at the EU institutions and their working taking into consideration the principle of subsidiarity in this respect.

PS-B

Second sentence:

Does not affect the English version.

PS-B and SP-B

Third sentence:

The European Commission must be organized so as to exercise its functions in the best possible way with collective as well as individual responsibility.

PvdA

The European Commission must be capable of better fulfilling its functions by being better organised and by clearer collective and individual responsibility.

PvdA

The European Council must set the strategic agenda for Europe and the Council of Ministers must adopt more effective procedures, and greater coordination and increased transparency.

PS-B and SP-B

Does not affect the English version.

SI

Fourth sentence:

The European Council must set the strategic agenda for Europe and the Council of Ministers must adopt more effective procedures and greater coordination by extending the use of qualified majority voting.

 PASOK

The European Parliament should develop as a genuine co-legislation in the EU institutional system and must

SAP

add: "Increased powers of scrutiny concentrate its work on the issues where a decision by the Parliament really makes a difference and work closer ...

SPO

We commit ourselves to reform the institutions of Europe in connection with enlargement to ensure that they are in touch, up to date and responsive to change.

PS-B

Sixth sentence:

Does not affect the English version.

Amendment proposed by the PES Development Ministers

Point 17 - Promoting Solidarity with other Nations-

Replace by:

Europe has a heavy responsibility to show leadership in eliminating world poverty. When one in four of the world's population is living in abject poverty, taking action to promote development is a clear moral obligation. But it's also in Europe's common interest. Many of the world's contemporary challenges -war and conflict, mass migration, degradation of the environment, rapid population growth- have their roots in poverty. Reducing poverty through development will help us to tackle these problems more effectively. Development co-operation is also an essential instrument for promoting human rights and democracy and managing the process of globalisation in a way that brings benefits to all the world's people. Europe must enhance its development effort and allocate a larger proportion of its development aid to low income countries. Trade is also crucial to development, and Europe must ensure fair access to its markets for poorer countries. We remain firmly committed to the internationally agreed target of 0.7 per cent of GNP for development assistance. **We commit ourselves to working in partnership with developing countries and pursuing policies on aid, debt relief, trade, investment and the environment which will contribute to the international poverty eradication targets, specifically the goal of halving the number of people living in abject poverty by 2015.**