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Subject: Convention's Social Democrats in first meeting

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## CONVENTION'S SOCIAL DEMOCRATS IN FIRST MEETING

Social democratic members of the newly established Convention on the Future of Europe will hold their first meeting tomorrow (27 Feb) under the auspices of the Party of European Socialists.

They will discuss their contribution to the Convention's work with leading figures in the Party, focusing on social democratic priorities set out in the PES Laeken Declaration last year. Co-ordination between the Party and its Convention members will be another central theme of the talks.

Convention vice-president Giuliano Amato and other leading politicians will meet journalists informally over a drink from 19h30 to 20h00 at the Renaissance Hotel, 19 rue du Parnasse, 1050 Brussels. Journalists wishing to attend are asked to contact the Party Spokesman's Service by 16h00 on 27 February.

Other Social Democratic Praesidium members of the Convention who will be available include Klaus Hensch (European Parliament), Antonio Vitorino (European Commission), Giorgios Katiforis (Greek Presidency) and Gisela Stuart (National Parliaments). PES Group leader in the European Parliament Enrique Baron will also be available.

Earlier, Party President Robin Cook will lead talks on the Convention at the 30-strong PES Presidency. The talks will be from 16h30 to 19h15 in room 5H1 of the European Parliament's Spinelli building, rue Wiertz, Brussels.

Camera access is available at the Praesidium meeting room from 16h15 until the beginning of the talks.

Camera access to the meeting with Convention members is available from 19h30 to 20h00 and for the opening of the formal meeting at 20h00.

The full text of the PES Laeken Declaration is available on the homepage of the PES Website - [www.pes.org](http://www.pes.org) - or by request to the Party Spokesman's Service.

For more information please phone Party Spokesman Tony Robinson on Belgian mobile

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