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CC

Subject: The euro makes people feel more European -- Web poll

[IMAGE]

## THE EURO MAKES PEOPLE FEEL MORE EUROPEAN -- WEB POLL

The euro has made the overwhelming majority of people feel more European, according to the results of a Web poll published today.

Participants in the poll on the Web site of the Party of European Socialists - <a href="https://www.pes.org">www.pes.org</a> — were asked to express their view of the statement: 'Now that we have the euro, I feel more European.'

Results of the first assessment of the impact of the euro since its introduction as notes and coins at the beginning of the year — were:

75.3 per cent said that they feel more European;

14.3 per cent responded 'The euro has not changed the way I feel about Europe'; and

10.4 per cent disagreed.

The PES today opened a new poll on whether or not voting in elections should be made compulsory. The PES Web site has also opened a forum for discussion of the issue.

EU Commissioner Neil Kinnock told last week's meeting of the PES Presidency in London: 'We have to introduce compulsory voting with constituency-based proportional representation.'

End

For more information please phone Tony Robinson on Belgian mobile

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