

F: PES



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Subject: Convention's Social Democrats in historic first meeting

21/02/2002 05:50 μμ

[IMAGE][IMAGE]
Brussels, 21 February 2002

CONVENTION'S SOCIAL DEMOCRATS IN HISTORIC FIRST MEETING

The Party of European Socialists will next week plan its contribution to the newly-established Convention on the future of Europe.

Two strategy meetings will take place on 27 February, the eve of the Convention's opening session, including the first gathering of the new body's social democratic members. Limited camera access is available at both meetings (see below).

PES President Robin Cook will lead talks at the 30-strong PES Praesidium from 16h30 to 19h15 in room 5H1 of the European Parliament's Spinelli building, rue Wiertz, Brussels. The discussion will focus on social democratic priorities for the Convention as set out in the PES Laeken Declaration last year.

Later, Mr Cook will host the first meeting of the Convention's social democrats, acting in conjunction with Convention vice-president Giuliano Amato and European Parliament Socialist leader Enrique Barón. The discussions will take place at the Renaissance Brussels Hotel, 19 Rue du Parnasse, 1050 Brussels. Issues to be dealt with include the long-term co-ordination of the work of PES Convention members.

Camera access is available at the Praesidium meeting room from 16h15 until the beginning of the talks. Access to the meeting with Convention members is available from 19h30 to 20h00.

The full text of the PES Laeken Declaration is available on the homepage of the PES Website - www.pes.org For more information please phone PES Spokesman Tony Robinson on Belgian mobile

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