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Subject: Europe's social democrat leaders hold Downing Street
summit

News from the Party of European Socialists

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EUROPE'S SOCIAL DEMOCRAT LEADERS HOLD DOWNING STREET SUMMIT

Leaders of the Party of European Socialists are to hold a summit in Downing Street on Wednesday 9 October.

Twenty prime ministers, party leaders and senior European politicians are to attend the four-hour discussion hosted by British Prime Minister Tony Blair. The President of the Party of European Socialists, Robin Cook, will chair the discussions from 12h00 to 16h00.

Themes for the summit include: a new agenda for European social democracy both in Europe and at global level; and tackling right-wing populist and eurosceptic parties in Europe.

Participants will include German chancellor Gerhard Schröder and the Swedish and Finnish premiers, Göran Persson and Paavo Lipponen.

Party leaders taking part include: Francois Hollande of France; José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero of Spain; Poul Nyrup Rasmussen of Denmark; Piero Fassino of Italy; Ruairi Quinn of Ireland; Eduardo Ferro Rodrigues of Portugal; Jeltje van Nieuwenhoven of the Netherlands; Elio di Rupo and Patrick Janssens of Belgium; Mark Durkan of Northern Ireland; and Jean Asselborn of Luxembourg.

European Commissioners Neil Kinnock and Pascal Lamy are to attend along with Giuliano Amato, vice president of the Convention on the Future of Europe, António Guterres, President of the Socialist International, and Enrique Barón, Socialist Group leader in the European Parliament.

end

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