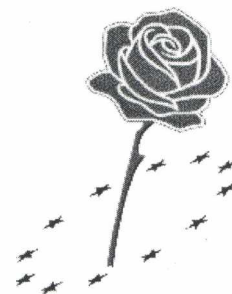


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NOTE TO THE PRESIDENCY OF THE PES

Re.: CFSP debate

From: Jan Marinus Wiersma

At the end of the meeting of the Presidency of the 30th of October four areas of importance were identified.

1. Europe's global responsibility (paper by Rudolf Scharping).
2. The new security situation in the light of the 11th September terrorist attacks (draft Group paper by Jan Marinus Wiersma).
3. Regional approach (as put forward by Javier Solana).
4. The military dimension of CFSP (as introduced by André Flahaut).

The Scharping paper concentrates on the medium and the long term. I will reproduce below the main elements.

- Europe, as a model of civilisation, should take a global responsibility.
- Europe has developed global interests based on its growing international weight.
- Europe should contribute towards the resolution of the major issues facing mankind.
- Europe should speak with one voice, ensure therefore the political and institutional development of CFSP and enhance its capacity for action.
- Europe, being an example itself, has an interest in strengthening regional structures. Co-operation within regions should be linked to co-operation between regions. The structures will have to be completed with global ones.
- The EU has to redefine its relations to NATO, OSCE and UN.
- The EU and the US will remain the principal anchors of stability. But relations with key states like Russia are also fundamental.

The Parliamentary Group of the PES has with the help of a special working party finalised a first version of a position paper on the new security situation. It concentrates on the fight against the causes of terrorism, both in the second and third EU pillars. It is based on the principles of broad security as developed in Parliamentary Group's paper on New Dimensions of Security.

Both the Scharping paper and the Groups position take into account the important role that the EU can play in promoting security and stability in key regions like the CIS, the Balkans, the Middle East and Central Asia. See the point made by Solana.

Both papers also underline the need to rapidly develop the military dimension of the CFSP which should come to include the fight against terrorism. How we are confronted with the lack of progress in setting up the rapid reaction force.

As a follow-up I would recommend:

- To discuss and to formulate a PES presidency reaction to the Scharping and Parliamentary Group papers.
- To produce a discussion paper for the PES Council based on Scharping's input and on elements taken from the final Group document on terrorism and from New Dimensions of Security. A conference on the global role of Europe could be organised in advance.
- To continue the debate on the New Frontiers of an Enlarged EU that was started in Berlin.

(This can be done in the framework of planned activities like the Forum Conference in Moscow and the upcoming meeting of the PES network for south East Europe. We should send a political fact finding mission to the Ukraine. We should do the same in the Middle East. We can discuss the Barcelona process in the framework of our meetings with partners from the region.)

- A special seminar devoted to the institutional and operational questions concerning the Rapid Reaction Force and to the issue of parliamentary control in the Second Pillar area.