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Θέμα: Keimeno

Γιά κ. Ν.Θέμελη.

Αγαπητέ μου Νίκο,

Σου στέλνω ένα σημείωμα που ήδη έχει λάβει ο Πρόεδρος.

Φιλιά,
Τάκης

Comments on the Draft Declaration of
the Action Committee and European Democracy

1. As regards the **title of the new treaty**, the term “consolidating” does not appear to be the best one, not least because it implies that the present European Union is **not** consolidated. Perhaps a much better title would be “Treaty for the **Enlarged** European Union”.
2. As regards the **structure** (consolidating treaty + adaptation act), it seems to be too complicated and liable to give rise to ratification problems. It might be much better to have the treaty with a protocol annexed to it which will contain the necessary adaptations to the existing treaties and the policies of the European Union so that both texts to be ratified simultaneously.
3. As regards the **protocol** on the role of the national parliaments/subsidiarity/proportionality, this is already contained in the Constitutional Treaty and it has received considerable support from member states and national parliaments.
4. As regards the idea not to include provisions concerning the **values and objectives** of the Union, this does not appear to be a very wise idea. First of all because it will be bizarre to have a Treaty of such an importance without making any reference to values and objectives and secondly, because, from our point of view, the relevant articles of the Constitution contain a number of important and progressive

references to values and objectives of the Union(i.e. full employment, etc).

5. As regards Title I of the Treaty (pg 4/8), it is important for symbolic and other reasons to include in the title the term **solidarity**. Thus Title I would read as follows "*The foundation of the European Union: Fundamental Rights, Solidarity and the Rule of Law*".

6. As regards the **proposals for reflection**:

i. **Consultative referendum**: it could be a useful instrument but for the future not for the ratification of the present treaty (for the future European Constitution, if there would be one).

ii. **Election of the Commission's President**: one idea could be the European political parties to propose their candidate for the presidency of the Commission for the European elections. The candidate of the party which gets the majority will become president of the Commission.

iii. **Social protocol**: in spite of the risk of alienating some members, it is necessary to have something more visible on the social Europe. In order to reduce the risks, it would be useful to link the social protocol to globalisation process .

iv. **EU tax**: the idea is maturing and we could support it.

v. **Future Constitutional Treaty**: it would be advisable to leave the door open for a future constitutionalisation of the European Union. So the treaty could contain a provision or declaration to the effect that after 2009 a

new attempt would be made for drafting a constitution for the EU.

- vi. **European Parliament and enhanced cooperation:**
one idea is to grant the “assent” to the EP throughout the process of “enhanced cooperation”.

It would be also necessary to have more strengthened provisions on:

- **Climate change**

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