

Work of the Convention

Resolution

adopted by the Central Council (Warsaw - June 2003)

At the meeting of its Central Council in Warsaw on 6 June 2003 ELEC, after receiving notification of the latest work of the Convention, and having noted that:

- ◇ recent international events have shown that national states in Europe were incapable of developing a unified response to an international crisis;
- ◇ a growing public expectation existed for a united Europe, active in world affairs;
- ◇ a simple return to the Nice Treaty would constitute a serious regression from the original objectives of the Convention;

asks

- ◇ that the final document of the Convention, a draft Constitution, should not be a mere elaboration of a compromise reflecting the lowest common denominator, but that it should be clear, consistent, and transparent so as to be more easily understood by the public, and that it should offer a vision of a new foundation for Europe;
- ◇ that it should set ambitious aims for an enlarged Europe, emphasising its common destiny and interests; an area of peace, security and solidarity; an expression of enriched cultural diversity; a strengthened economic and monetary union; a social dimension; a framework for sustainable development; a resolutely democratic process;
- ◇ that this Constitution should help bring Europe closer to its citizens;
- ◇ that its preamble should refer to Europe's Judeo-Christian tradition and values;

supports those aspects of the existing draft that are likely to meet these aims and to reinforce the Union's institutions (in particular the appointment of a Chairman of elevated status for the European Council as well as of a Foreign Affairs minister, and the setting up of an efficient Commission, free from national constraints and collegially guardian of the common interest), as well as the extension of qualified majority voting;

emphasises that enlargement should not lead to an increase in centrifugal forces, but to a strengthening of the Community dynamic; in this context, ELEC, aware that the need for more Europe is not uniformly felt, and that some political leaders are not yet ready to accept significant losses of sovereignty, takes this opportunity to re-state its position of 12 May 2003 on enhanced cooperation;

calls on all Member States to reconcile their concern for security and the desire to assert their sovereignty with subsidiarity and with the need to take greater account of the values of solidarity within the Union and the necessity for progress towards greater political integration and an ever-closer union of peoples.
