



**TOWARDS
THE EUROPEAN ELECTIONS**

*For a federal
Europe*



BRUSSELS

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UNION OF EUROPEAN FEDERALISTS

25-26 November 2023

House of the European History

Institut Européen de la Culture Arabe

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FOR A FEDERAL EUROPE THE URGENCY OF OVERCOMING THE CURRENT TREATIES

The European elections in 2024 are destined to be of extraordinary importance for the European Union and its citizens. At stake is the future of the EU, and the direction to be given to the unification process. The design of a political Europe - directly legitimised by the citizens of Europe and capable of acting with political standing on the international stage and of successfully realising the profound ecological and digital transitions on an industrial, economic and social level - stands in contrast to the design of nationalist forces, which believe that politics should be the exclusive prerogative of the member states, the sole owners of sovereignty, even with regard to the rule of law.

The reality we live in, however, clearly indicates the urgent need to build a common European sovereignty. In the world, we are witnessing the return of imperial powers, democracy is in the balance even in the United States - which is no longer able to guarantee the continuity of its foreign policy and alliances - and we are confronted with the challenge of climate change, wars, financial instability and uncontrolled people mobility; in this framework, the sovereignty of European states and their capacity for political action is more insignificant than ever.

In addition, Russia's aggression against Ukraine has opened a new chapter in our history. The attempt to annihilate a democratic country that had already chosen its future in Europe, and to wipe out its people through a brutal invasion, is a challenge to the very existence of the European Union and its peace project. All this makes it all the more necessary and urgent to complete the building of the European Union, to make it strong and authoritative in its actions and capable of leading the democratic world, also thanks to the political and social model it embodies. The European unification process is the real enemy of autocracies, which are based on aggressive nationalism, tyranny, disregard for human life and freedom, contempt of human rights and corruption; and it is a process that must now be completed, going back to the roots of the Ventotene Manifesto. The threat is similar, and at the same level must be the response, finally implementing the reforms that will give life to a federal Europe.

We must not only complete our unity, by creating appropriate institutional mechanisms, to strengthen the convergence of our economic and geopolitical interests and promote our values and freedoms; but we must first of all politically defeat nationalism, which has returned to bring war to our continent, by creating democratic institutions that are untouched by this disease and, conversely, represent an alternative model, also for the rest of the world.

Building a federal Europe: where do we stand?

The pandemic and Europe's ability to react in unity and solidarity have opened up the possibility of a virtuous path, which the Conference on the Future of Europe has translated, through an unprecedented democratic participatory process, into concrete requests and proposals from citizens. These can be summed up in the demand for a Europe that is more capable to act and more democratic and close to its citizens, especially through the strengthening of the powers of the European Parliament to represent them.

All the EU institutions have committed themselves to following up on the results of the conference, but it is above all the European Parliament that has taken it upon itself to request the opening of a Convention for the revision of the Treaties and to draw up in the

Constitutional Affairs Commission an organic and profound proposal for reform, which was approved...

These are proposals capable of founding a true democratically legitimised European sovereignty and of laying the conditions for the development of a European political power and for a substantial emancipation of the Union from the member states.

We are convinced, as UEF, that the need to initiate these reforms, in order to provide the European Union with the appropriate competences, resources and powers to implement the common policies necessary to defend the values, security and interests of European citizens, must be at the heart of the European election campaign debate.

We call on the political forces and candidates to be equal to the historical and political moment and to have the capacity to present to the citizens what is really at stake in these elections, giving rise to a real transnational debate to strengthen the formation of an ever deeper common European consciousness.

The challenges ahead

Enlargement

The brutal aggression against Ukraine by Russia has created the need for accelerating the new enlargement, first of all to the Western Balkan countries, Ukraine and also Moldova and Georgia.

The challenge of including a further large number of members on the basis of a new, much more, geopolitical oriented and security-related vision implies the need to proceed in parallel with important institutional changes to make the decision-making mechanisms and structure of the European bodies adequate to ensure effective functioning with 35 or more members, without the risk of being paralysed or weakened.

The European Union owes it first and foremost to the candidate countries - and once again first and foremost to Ukraine because of the tragedy it is experiencing - not to betray expectations with regard to EU membership and to offer participation in a solid project.

In this respect, the reforms prefigured in the AFCO Report on Proposals of the European Parliament for the amendment of the Treaties - with the extension of the ordinary legislative procedure (which also implies the overcoming of unanimity and the right of veto) to most decisions, and with the strengthening of the European Parliament and the European Commission, - indicate the indispensable conditions for making the Union work and being able to build a structure on several concentric levels of integration around the nucleus of the countries that form a political union.

The necessary policies

The European Union faces a multiplicity of challenges in the field:

- Economics
- Social policies
- Environment
- Industrial policy
- Digitalization and AI
- Energy
- Health
- Education

- Foreign and security policy
- Real common Asylum and Migration policy
- Defence

The development of common policies in all these areas is necessary to promote inclusive societies and sustainable growth in Europe to maintain the European way of life and its standards. It is also necessary for the development of the strategic autonomy which is a material condition for the exercise of political sovereignty.

They include, among many others, the ability to develop a public investment policy to support the reconversion of many manufacturing sectors, the expansion of research and innovation in strategic sectors, and to intervene in the territorial areas and segments of the population most affected by the transitions taking place; in the field of external action, they imply the capacity to create new partnerships starting with Mediterranean and African countries, and to contribute to the creation of a wider space of security, exchange and cooperation that reflects also the legitimate aspirations of the global South, and the emergence of new supranational international institutions that can foster constructive dialogue and cooperation, favouring international trade and sustainable growth.

All these policies need to be developed first at European level, even if they can be articulated where necessary on different levels, whether national or regional/local, according to the principle of subsidiarity in line with basic principles of federalism.

For this it is necessary to endow the EU first of all with the power to autonomously find the resources to pursue them, to implement them when they have a European dimension, and thus with a democratic decision-making structure and an effective governance capacity.

The reforms contained in the AFCO Report on Proposals for the amendment of the Treaties envisage a number of necessary changes to this end:

- *the extension of competences and thus the possibility of political autonomy for the Union:*
 - a) exclusive competences in the field of environmental policy and the protection of biodiversity - a very important step because environmental protection has cross-cutting applications over a vast number of other policies -;*
 - b) competing competences in energy, industry, civil protection, health and education;*
 - c) strengthening foreign and security policy through the extension of majority voting in the Council;*
 - d) creation of an initial core of the Defence Union through the creation of military rapid intervention units under a single integrated command;*
 - e) extension of majority voting for the adoption of the decision on own resources and the multiannual financial framework to enable the Union to become the master of its own budget, which can be used to pursue its objectives and condition the actions of the Member States through conditionality policies along the lines of the NGEU;*
 - f) introduction of majority voting in the Council to activate the flexibility clause under Article 352 TFEU in order to provide the Union with a subsidiary legal basis for the adoption of acts necessary for the pursuit of its objectives;*
- *the consolidation of an essentially bicameral model and the strengthening of the European Commission (renamed 'Executive'):*
 - g) extension of the ordinary legislative procedure to the majority of decisions, whereby Parliament will permanently exercise the role of political co-decider of the Union alongside the Council, which will have to take decisions by majority vote;*

- h) granting Parliament the power of legislative initiative and the right to initiate infringement proceedings before the Court of Justice if a Member State violates EU law;*
- i) reform of the appointment procedure of the President of the Executive, who becomes 'President of the Union';*
- l) selection of the President by the Parliament to be confirmed by a majority of the European Council;*
- m) decrease in the number of members making up the Executive to 15 (secretaries), chosen on a political basis by the President himself, taking into account demographic and geographical balance;*
- n) reform of the European Council, consisting only of the Heads of state or government and the President of the Union (i.e. the European Executive).*

Sovereignty, democracy and the rule of law

Under the current system, political sovereignty remains a prerogative - in the last resort - exclusively of the Member states; democracy (understood as citizens' control of the institutions exercising political power over decisions on issues that affect their lives) is essentially exercised at national level. It is the national parliaments that decide on matters at the heart of sovereignty (and the lives of citizens).

As it is often pointed out by the German Constitutional Court - but not only - the fact that sovereignty is exercised democratically only at the national level sets the limits not only of the European institutions, but also of the possibility to have a true European democracy in the current system.

This means that, in order to find effective ways of strengthening democracy and democratic participation at European level, the only possibility is to revise the current European political-institutional system introducing core fundamental reforms in order to set some federal mechanisms within the EU, making the direct relationship between citizens and European institutions effective (see A. Hamilton, *The Federalist*, n.15) and thus realizing an institutional change that is constitutional in nature.

This request is also what emerged from the CoFoE. Citizens are aware that some of the key issues at the heart of sovereignty can no longer be adequately governed by Member states and ask for a stronger EU, with more political powers, but also call for a deeper reform of the governance that enable citizens to control and influence the functioning of the European institutions that would regulate and affect their lives.

It is also necessary to stress that, at a time of deep crisis in democratic systems that are challenged by citizens' growing mistrust in democratic institutions - a mistrust also exploited by external autocratic powers interested in weakening Europe -, it is necessary to effectively increase the European citizens' political participation.

The fundamental choice for a true European democracy therefore remains that of building a common European sovereignty, which, while enabling Europeans to deal effectively with the challenges on which their future depends creates the institutional mechanisms to give citizens the power to choose the policies they want to see developed and to control the work of the European institutions responsible for deciding and implementing those policies.

This is also the real way to counter the illiberal governments' claim to have no restraint in intervening in their own domestic legal and institutional system by questioning the respect for the rule of law, the respect of fundamental rights and the founding values of the European Union.

In this respect, the proposals for the amendments of the Treaties adopted by the European Parliament (which indeed is triggering the process of Treaty reform as the legitimate representative of all European citizens) are aimed to achieve this goal in concrete terms by giving direct powers to the European Parliament and the European Commission under control of the EP (as explained above).

Furthermore, the Court of Justice under these proposals would have its supervisory powers over the Member States increased. The new procedure under Art. 7 TEU would provide for the possibility for the Council to denounce by a majority vote a violation of the rule of law in a member state, on which the Court of Justice would have to rule, imposing substantial fines if necessary. The Court will also be able to hear preliminary appeals on the conformity of draft laws with the Treaties on the initiative of Parliament.

The institutional balance of the Union will also change as a result of the introduction of a pan-European referendum, which will become an important instrument of participatory democracy of citizens in the EU's decision-making processes

A Commitment to a Federal Europe

UEF therefore reaffirms its commitment to support the proposal made by the European Parliament for a thorough revision of the existing Treaties, in order to meet the need to deepen the democratic capacity of the European Union and strengthen it in its power to act.

In this regard, UEF

- ***appeals first of all to the Spanish Presidency to forward the European Parliament's request for the launch of a Convention for the Reform of the Treaties in time for it to be put on the agenda of the European Council on 15 December;***
- ***urges the President of the European Council, Charles Michel, to make every effort to put the decision by the EUCO on the EP's request on the agenda for the 15 December meeting;***
- ***urges national governments to give the green light for the preparation of the Convention, as requested by the EP;***
- ***invites the European Parliament and the Council to reconvene a meeting of the Conference on the Future of Europe in order to share with the Citizens who participated in the work of the CoFoE the proposals elaborated to reform the treaties, as contained in the conclusions and final requests of the CoFoE***

Finally, in view of the European elections, UEF calls on all political forces and candidates to subscribe to the commitment to pursue the reforms proposed by the European Parliament in order to implement European policies that can guarantee citizens respect for their political, civil and social rights and contribute to the construction of a more stable, more peaceful, more cooperative and more solidarity-based world order.

TITLE OF RESOLUTION	FOR A FEDERAL EUROPE THE URGENCY OF OVERCOMING THE CURRENT TREATIES
	Raffaele De Luca

Line number(s): 167		
Original text	Amended text	
After : “ political participation.” insert	<p>“In this respect a key contribution, in terms of increasing democracy and the "European feeling" among citizens, would be given by the introduction of the new electoral law approved by EP in may 2022 and still not acted on by the Council.”</p> <p>The fundamental choice</p>	
Explanatory statement (optional):	The introduction of the new electoral law with a single EU-wide constituency and transnational lists would have far reaching effects on the federal construction	

Line number(s):	208	
Original text	Amended text	
Finally, in view of the European elections, UEF calls on all political forces and candidates to ...	<p>Finally, in view of the European elections, UEF calls</p> <p>on the European Council to implement the new electoral law as a matter of urgency in time for its use for the upcoming June 2024 elections</p> <p>on all political forces and candidates</p>	
Explanatory statement (optional):	Pressure is needed on the Council to overcome the present stall situation on the implementation of the new electoral law	

For Restoring Growth and Competitiveness in Europe

proposed on 17 October 2023 by Markus Ferber, Luca Lionello

The Congress of the Union of European federalists (UEF), meeting in Brussels on 30 November 2023,

whereas

- Representing the largest economy in the world, the European Union is committed to ensuring the well-being of its 445 million citizens.
- The EU is the world's largest trader of manufactured goods and services and it ranks first in both inbound and outbound international investments; the EU benefits from being one of the most open economies in the world and remains committed to free trade.
- Climate change and environmental degradation are an existential threat to the EU and to the world. To overcome these challenges, the EU is committed to become a modern, resource-efficient and competitive economy and to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050.
- Economic integration and convergence in the EU shall not give rise to income inequality and social exclusion, this representing a threat to the political stability of national and European democracy.
- Small and medium-sized enterprises are the backbone of the European economy making up the vast majority of European businesses employing around 100 million people throughout the Union and account for more than half of Europe's gross domestic product.

considering that

- The COVID-19 pandemic induced the sharpest peacetime recession in the European Union in 2020, reversing recent progress in rising living standards and leaving deep economic scars among vulnerable populations.
- The establishment of Next Generation EU through the issuance of common debt and the financing of national reforms for recovery and resilience allowed a fast recovery of the European economy, with most of the EU member economies recovering to pre-pandemic levels in 2021.
- The rebound from the pandemic has been disrupted by Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine since February 2022, which has led to an unprecedented humanitarian crisis, as well as economic uncertainty, in particular due to the rise of food and energy costs.
- European and national authorities adopted supporting policies throughout 2022 to help citizens and companies deal with rising energy costs and its inflationary consequences;
- The energy shock caused by the war in Ukraine has coincided with the post-pandemic reopening of the economy this triggering persistently high inflation in the EU; the ECB has been then obliged to tighten monetary policy decisively to prevent inflation becoming entrenched in the economy.

- While the EU Member States managed to quickly diversify the energy supply and emancipated from their dependency on Russia, the difficulty to slow inflation down resulted in a further tightening of monetary policy, thus having implications for growth.
- Aside from these difficulties, many Member States face high public debt levels, as well as macro-economic imbalances, which make them and the Union vulnerable to economic shocks; a process of budgetary consolidation and structural economic reforms is therefore needed.

strongly urges

- The European Union to further deepen the Economic and Monetary Union (EMU) through a reform of the Stability and Growth Pact. The new Pact shall pursue sustainable fiscal consolidation at national level while preserving social cohesion and fostering the process of decarbonisation.
- The European Union and its Member States to sustain an appropriate level of public and private investment needed to boost economic and social resilience and support the green and digital transition, including for greater energy efficiency and for the transition to renewable energy sources while at the same time avoiding excessive and inflationary spending.
- The Member States to support wage developments that mitigate the loss in purchasing power of wage earners, in particular for low-income workers, while reflecting medium-term productivity developments and limiting second-round effects on inflation.
- The European Union to modernise its industrial policy in order to be able to address the challenges of the 21st century. Points out that initiatives such as the Chips Act - while still too modest in ambition - can be a blueprint for how effective European industrial policy in the 21st century might look like.
- The European Commission to create a regulatory environment that allows small and medium-sized companies (SMEs) that are the backbone of the European economy to thrive. That requires first and foremost to better take into account the specific challenges of SMEs in every part of the legislative process.
- The European Commission to take stock of the body of European Union law identifying and addressing unnecessary administrative burdens; in this context, urges the Commission to deliver on the Commission President's promise to reduce reporting obligations by at least 25%.
- The European Commission to introduce legislative proposals to complete the Single Market for goods, services and capitals and thereby to induce economic growth. Points out that in areas such as energy, financial services and even the cross-border posting of workers still many obstacles and bottlenecks exist that need to be overcome.
- The European Commission to modernise its competition policy by streamlining procedures, better taking into account of international developments when it comes to market definition and allowing European companies to become European champions.
- The European Union to implement policies that secure access to critical raw materials for the European economy. The green and digital transition can only succeed if the European industry has unencumbered access to raw materials such as rare earths. Such access must be ensured via third countries, via better and more

effective recycling processes and via the more effective utilisation of resources within the Union.

- The European Commission and Member States to address the skills shortage by fostering vocational education, addressing the gender gap in labour market participation, opening avenues for easier migration of highly-skilled workers and facilitating recognition of degrees and work certifications obtained in third countries.
- The EP and the Council to finalise the adoption of the legislative proposals tabled by the European Commission aimed at promoting a sustainable globalisation and accountability by regulating business activities of transnational corporations and investors at the cost of human rights and the environment, mainly the proposals for a Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive, the Regulation banning products made with Forced Labour, as well as numerous sectoral initiatives including the Regulation on Deforestation Free Products, the Conflict Minerals Regulation and the Critical Raw Material Acts.
- The European Commission and Member States to boost research and development by increased spending, better cross-border cooperation, introducing tax advantages and better commercialisation of basic research.

The European Commission to implement an ambitious trade agenda fostering a rule-based international trade system, pushing for a reform of the World Trade Organisation and pushing for ambitious and fair bilateral trade agreements.

	Dafni Gogue	
Line number(s):	88	
Original text	Amended text	
	<p>The EP and the Council to finalise the adoption of the legislative proposals tabled by the European Commission aimed at promoting a sustainable globalisation and accountability by regulating business activities of transnational corporations and investors at the cost of human rights and the environment, mainly the proposals for a Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive, the Regulation banning products made with Forced Labour, as well as numerous sectoral initiatives including the Regulation on Deforestation Free Products, the Conflict Minerals Regulation and the Critical Raw Material Acts.</p>	
Explanatory statement (optional):	Pressure is needed on the Council to overcome the present stall situation on the implementation of the new electoral law	

The atrocities of the wars in Ukraine and Palestine remind us of the urgency of having a federal European government to be able to act on the international stage

We are living in an international political context that brings us back to a time when conflict is once again a dramatic reality or a real and threatening possibility in many regions.

There are many sources of instability in entire regions: from Africa to South-East Asia, from Europe to the Middle East. A competitive multipolarism is being constructed in which continental actors struggle to create a new balance of power, based on their political ambitions.

It is also a system in which the clash between democracy and autocracy is beginning to shape international competition, and in which international institutions, starting with the UN, are severely weakened.

In this highly unstable context, security can no longer be taken for granted, and there is an urgent need for the European Union to untie the knots that prevent it both from being an authoritative and decisive international player in the emergence of the new order and from being autonomous in guaranteeing its own security.

Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine

Russia's armed aggression against Ukraine has triggered a global security crisis unprecedented since the end of World War II. Russia's imperialistic outlook and nationalist ideology are contaminating international relations and tend to recur in other areas of the world, fuelling tensions and triggering a multiplicity of potential conflicts.

The UEF, consistent with what it has maintained in all its statements, continues to believe that Ukraine's struggle of resistance is a struggle for the defence of the freedom of all Europe, and as such should be fully supported. That is why it considers it essential that granitic and convinced support for Ukraine is maintained, on all levels, including military and logistical. Just as maintaining economic and political pressure by all Member States in the Union against Russia remains essential.

We therefore believe that any diplomatic initiative to ease the Russian-Ukrainian conflict must include full recognition of Ukrainian sovereignty and respect for legitimate borders.

This is also crucial to support an international framework in which the law and diplomacy can prevail over the use of force in international disputes.

The EU should support Ukrainian reconstruction and follow closely the accession process of the country. For this reason, EU Treaties reform is an urgent and indispensable step, in order to be able to respond effectively to the enlargement challenges facing the new situation of a Union of more than 30 Member States in the near future.

The Middle East and the return of the war in Palestine.

The Israeli-Palestinian issue, since 2006 (the year of the Palestinian elections), has been confined to a regional issue and the international community has given up playing a role in building a credible path to peace. Since 2006, we have witnessed a crescendo of violence between Israel and Hamas (Operation Cast Lead in 2009, the major clashes in 2012, 2014, just to mention a few). This context paved the way for Hamas' operation last October.

This horrific terrorist attack on southern Israel, perpetrated by Hamas against unarmed civilians, through commando actions, kidnappings and rocket fire, constituted the most dramatic attack on Israel since the Yom Kippur War (1973) with a very high number of civilian casualties and the capture of a very high number of hostages. It is an act of terrorism, barbaric and criminal, aimed at making peace impossible and unleashing a crescendo of violence and destruction.

On the part of the State of Israel, also on the basis of its legitimate right to self-defence, we are instead witnessing the fall into the demonic trap created by Hamas. The war it is waging in Gaza, inevitably, and by Hamas' own will, is generating humanitarian catastrophe with thousands civilian victims (including children) that the international community cannot tolerate.

Therefore, the UEF, in the awareness that at this dramatic moment the merciless logic of war and the goal of annihilating the enemy have taken over, and the time table of arms prevails over everything, recalls the importance of a credible and extraordinary diplomatic initiative that creates the conditions for a humanitarian ceasefire and the release of hostages, also paving the way to the launch of an international conference to support a sustainable peace process. Restoring peace in the area will require extraordinary efforts and vision. It is clear that it is necessary to put an end to the domination of Hamas in Gaza, which is a terrorist organisation - moreover part of a network of alliances fuelled by the ayatollahs' regime - that pursues the destruction of the State of Israel; a force that also crushes any democratic expression in the Palestinian population itself. What is also needed on Israel's part, however, is the respect of international law and the ability not to fall into the trap of extremism that foments hatred. If the conditions for peaceful coexistence are to be created, it is necessary to work towards a framework in which a future Palestinian state can consider entering into a pact of a federal nature with that of Israel, in order to share democratic institutions that can guarantee peace and the rights of all.

The UEF cannot at the same time fail to note how weak the UE's voice is at this juncture, and how cacophonous the reaction of European states has been until now. This is another reason why, if Europe really wants to contribute to the return of the possibility of peace, it must quickly equip itself with the decision-making and political mechanisms that will enable it to move on the international stage quickly and with a comprehensive common policy agenda, being represented by a true European government endowed with authority and autonomy in external action, generating a unique framework of European intervention that can influence global power relations.

In conclusion, in a new, highly fractured international scenario, where new regional and global powers demand to count on the international scene while new and old crises mark the horizon, we consider the construction of a strong common foreign and security policy, together with a solid pillar of civil protection capacity, crucial for the destiny of European unity and global stability.

That is why we support the launch of a Convention that opens the revision of the Treaties and is in continuity with the conclusions of the Conference on the Future of Europe and reflects the reforms envisaged in the AFCO Report on Proposals by the European Parliament on the amendment of the Treaties.

TITLE OF RESOLUTION	The atrocities of the wars in Ukraine and Palestine remind us of the urgency of having a federal European government to be able to act on the international stage
Name:	Catherine Vieilledent

Line number(s):	61
Original text	Amended text
Add between line 61 and 62 the following text	<p>Why not protect the two major hospitals in Gaza? (a desperate appeal)</p> <p>Since the Israeli army took control of Al Chiffa and did not find the Hamas HQ that it hoped to destroy there, the hospital has been under its exclusive authority, surrounded by military vehicles. It could therefore resume its activities if it were connected to nearby Israeli territory to provide it with the electricity and water it desperately needs. Israel could also send them the humanitarian aid piling up on the Egyptian border. We could at once ensure that the hospital is back in operation, with both Israeli and Palestinian staff (Hippocratic oath requiring) and begin to distribute aid to those who need it.</p> <p>The Israeli army, which prides itself on the precision of its fire, is fully capable of protecting hospitals and continuing the battle elsewhere, by pursuing Hamas fighters. It would play a good role and Hamas would have difficulty opposing this sanctuary, provided it still has the means.</p> <p>Once the fighting slows down, we could extend the sanctuary zone so that at least part of the Gaza Strip can start functioning again. This in order to accommodate refugees that humanitarians could resupply, which would allow them to hold until both sides agree to a ceasefire. Then it would be necessary to identify a preferably Arab armed force, to take over from the Israelis something - everyone started to think about: in fact, there are not many armed forces capable of taking on such a difficult task. , the peacekeepers have too strict rules. From experience, they are not able to control such a dangerous area. The armies of the oil monarchies have money, but not enough professionalism. Among the signatories of the Abraham Accords, I only see the Moroccan army, as able to take responsibility for the matter with support from other Arab countries and money from the Gulf.</p>
Explanatory statement (optional):	As Europeans, we must step out of the trap and refuse to stand by powerless. There are possible ways to prepare the (long) process of peace-building NOW. Time has shown that nobody has taken action to solve the old problem of Palestine. Calling for a ceasefire and for a 2-state solution, or a Federal union of the two (which needs confidence-building!) are for the mid or long term. Not enough

REINFORCING UEF -WFM COOPERATION DRAFT POLITICAL DECLARATION

In December 2022, in an event hosted by the European Parliament in Brussels, the UEF and WFM celebrated together the 75th anniversary of the Montreux Declaration. They reaffirmed their political will to strengthen their cooperation and promote a peaceful, democratic and global governance. This event was the outcome of multiple endeavours since the UEF Vienna Congress in November 2018, and it started a new era of closer cooperation between the two federalist organizations.

Recalling that in 1947 in Montreux, the federalists seized the historical momentum of the Second World War, the proliferation of nuclear weapons and the risk of a new global catastrophe and confirmed their will to work towards the creation of a global federal government. They reaffirmed their commitment to promote peace, cooperation and universally agreed common rules and justice.

The beginning of the twenty-first century saw the return of power politics and the proliferation of wars, putting an end to this previous era of optimism. The world is sadly entering a new brutal era of conflicts. Across the globe, groups are arming up and choosing to resolve conflicts through violence and force rather than dialogue. Russia's aggression against Ukraine in February 2022 and the new war in Gaza in October 2023 mark a significant shift towards worldwide insecurity, threats, economic instability as well as the excessive use of weapons to resolve international conflicts. Indeed, instead of using financial resources towards environmental restoration and social justice projects, States have now multiplied their military budgets and investments in their defence and security sectors.

In this unstable global environment, a strong partnership between the World Federalist Movement and the Union of European Federalists should strive to promote a ruled based federal global system, reinforcing democratic governance and the peaceful resolution of the main challenges faced by humanity.

For the next two years, the World Federalist Movement and the Union of European Federalists should develop initiatives focused on:

I. peace and conflict prevention. Given the current situation in Europe, the Middle East as well as in Africa and South America, the promotion of a framework for dialogue, de-escalation and conflict mediation/resolution is a strand of work the UEF and WFM/IGP should get particularly involved in. We must act to create better channels of communication, creating incentives to resolve disagreements peacefully and in accordance with international law while avoiding armed conflict. Such campaign would benefit from being discussed more globally. The work on peace and conflict prevention and resolution can take multiple forms in which civil society and federalist organizations have a true role to play. The mobilization against cluster munitions and anti-personal landmines can lead to significant changes, prohibiting the use of these weapons in conflict areas. Regional and global campaigns to promote a more conflict-preventive foreign policy would be an area where closer cooperation between the UEF and the WFM could have real value-added benefits.

2. the development of regional exchange between federalists. Given that we are aligned movements, we have much to learn from one another. It would be a mistake to fail to use the shared experience and advice of other like-minded groups. We, in UEF, have a movement rooted in a long history of social and political activism, spanning various regions and countries across Europe and spreading across various political families. Our experience in building consensus, reaching out to various stakeholders and mobilizing various parts of civil society for a democratic, equal and federal Europe is something that can and should be shared. On the other hand, we would benefit from an influx of new ideas from movements around the world. This might allow us to view our methods or the way we present some of our key positions from a different perspective. In practical terms, training activities, educational projects and informal discussions in these areas would be a good way to organize such cooperation. Online events, even if sometimes impersonal, allow much wider participation.

3. international justice and accountability. This encompasses themes such as the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms. These should be the key issues that drive all of our work strands. We have seen recently a worrying trend towards the questioning or weakening of these norms. This highlights the growing importance of fundamental rights, international justice and accountability in key policy areas such as corruption, severe transnational crimes and war crimes. These aren't only temporary necessities, and we can't simply ignore them. We should, as federalists, lead the way by strengthening existing norms for facing new emerging challenges or setting new ones where necessary.

4. global environmental (including biodiversity) actions and proposals. Both organizations can coordinate initiatives, build synergies, and enhance cooperation across sectors, improve knowledge, education and develop concrete initiatives. In 2023, common events have already been organized for a Global Green Deal. Two webinars took place in June and October which focused on financial and supranational monetary governance and ecological agriculture (including presentation of the European Restoration law). New initiatives can be scheduled for the next period on key issues such as water scarcity (promoting inter alia access to drinking water for all and ways to facilitate alternative dispute resolution related to water resources), health and environment -access to basic services of global economic interest, transformation of urban environment -socioeconomic dimension, the law of the Sea, environmental rule of law -fighting biodiversity harms.

List of participants

First name	Last name	Role	Section
Paolo	ACUNZO	Delegate	Movimento Federalista Europeo Italy
Janina	AEBERHARD	Delegate	Europäische Bewegung Schweiz Switzerland
Philipp	AGATHONOS	Delegate	Europäische Föderalistische Bewegung Österreich Austria
Francisco	ALDECOA LUZÁRRAGA	Delegate	Unión de Europeístas y Federlistas de España Spain
Andrea	APOLLONIO	Observer	Movimento Federalista Europeo Italy
Antonio	ARGENZIANO	Delegate	JEF Europe
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Ulrich	BEUL	Delegate	Europa-Union Deutschland Germany
Raphaël	BEZ	Delegate	Europäische Bewegung Schweiz Switzerland
Madalin-Catalin	BLIDARU	Delegate	JEF Europe
Gianluca	BONATO	Delegate	Movimento Federalista Europeo Italy
Josep	BORRELL	Guest	
Mercedes	BRESSO	Delegate	Movimento Federalista Europeo Italy
Cecilia	CALABRESE	Guest	Member of the European Parliament
Alain	CALMES	Delegate	UEF Luxemburg Luxembourg
Pierangelo	CANGIALOSI	Delegate	Movimento Federalista Europeo Italy
Eliana	CAPRETTI	Observer	Movimento Federalista Europeo Italy
Ilaria	CARIA	Staff	UEF Secretariat
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Marco	CELLI	Delegate	Movimento Federalista Europeo Italy
Francesco	CERASANI	Guest	
Matilde	CERON	Delegate	Movimento Federalista Europeo Italy
Lina	CHAHROUR	Observer	European Parliament
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Simona	CHMELIKOVA	Observer	Europa-Union Deutschland Germany
Giorgio	CLAROTTI	Delegate	UEF Group Europe EU Institutions
Anna	COSTA	Delegate	Movimento Federalista Europeo Italy
Simone	CUOZZO	Delegate	Movimento Federalista Europeo Italy
Pier Virgilio	DASTOLI	Delegate	Movimento Federalista Europeo Italy
Diego	DE CASTRO POLO	Guest	
Raffaele	DE LUCA	Delegate	Movimento Federalista Europeo Italy
Deniz	DEMIRAL	Guest	UEF Belgique Belgium
Rodrigo	DIAZ MARTIN	Guest	
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Cyrus	ENGERER	Guest	MEP Observer
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Chloé	FABRE	Delegate	Union des Fédéralistes européens France
Petros	FASSOULAS	Guest	European Movement International
Kevin	FEBRES	Observer	Unión de Europeístas y Federlistas de España Spain
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Claudio	FILIPPI	Delegate	Movimento Federalista Europeo Italy
Francesco	FRANCO	Delegate	Movimento Federalista Europeo Italy
Thorsten	FRANK	Delegate	Europa-Union Deutschland Germany
Daniel	FREY	Delegate	Europa-Union Deutschland Germany
Beatriz	GARCIA-MARINA	Guest	
Richard	GELENIUS	Delegate	Europa-Union Deutschland Germany
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Alessandro	GIORDANI	Guest	
Alexandro	GIORDANO	Guest	
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Sandro	GOZI	Guest	
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Roland	HÜHN	Delegate	Europa-Union Deutschland Germany
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Miku	KUUSKORPI	Observer	Eurooppafederalistit ry Finland
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Michael	MONTAG	Delegate	Europa-Union Deutschland Germany
Guido	MONTANI	Observer	Movimento Federalista Europeo Italy
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Carlo Maria	PALERMO	Delegate	Movimento Federalista Europeo Italy
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Nikos	PAPANDREOU	Guest	MEP from S&D, Member of EP's SPINELLI Group
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Alessandro	PILOTTI	Delegate	Movimento Federalista Europeo Italy
Julian	PLOTTKA	Delegate	Europa-Union Deutschland Germany
Julia	PREISS	Delegate	Europa-Union Deutschland Germany
Sigfrido	RAMÍREZ PÉREZ	Observer	Observer
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Matteo	RONCARÀ	Delegate	Movimento Federalista Europeo Italy
Marcos	ROS SEMPERE	Guest	
Domenico	ROSSETTI DI VALDALBERO	Guest	
Giulia	ROSSOLILLO	Delegate	Movimento Federalista Europeo Italy
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Raúl	SANTIAGO FUENTES	Guest	
Christelle	SAVALL	Delegate	JEF Europe
Florian	SCHMID	Delegate	Europa-Union Deutschland Germany
Jessica	SIMOES	Observer	European Parliament
Giovanni	SOLFRIZZI	Delegate	Movimento Federalista Europeo Italy
Stefano	SPINACI	Guest	
Franco	SPOLTORÉ	Delegate	Movimento Federalista Europeo Italy
Stefan	STADER	Delegate	Europa-Union Deutschland Germany
Malte	STEUER	Delegate	Europa-Union Deutschland Germany
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Luisa	TRUMELLINI	Delegate	Movimento Federalista Europeo Italy
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Sofia	VIVIANI	Delegate	JEF Europe
Anton	VON CETTO	Delegate	Europa-Union Deutschland Germany
Tobias	VON GOSTOMSKI	Delegate	Europa-Union Deutschland Germany
W. G.	WETTACH	Delegate	Europa-Union Deutschland Germany

First name	Last name	Role	Section
Danni	WHITE	Observer	member of JEF Belgium, former executive board, JEF Belgium
Rainer	WIELAND	Delegate	Europa-Union Deutschland Germany
Florian	ZIEGENBALG	Delegate	Europa-Union Deutschland Germany

Indications for elections of the UEF institutional bodies

The Congress directly elects - and with different voting:

A (according to Articles 11.3 and 16.1 of the Statutes):

- the President,
- the Vice-Presidents (fixing the number between 2 and 4)
- the Secretary General, on the indication of the President
- the Treasurer
- the members of the Executive Bureau (fixing the number between 5 and 10)

B (according to Articles 11.5 and 14 of the Statutes):

- the members of the Federal Committee (1 for each started amount of 10 delegates appointed by the national sections, i.e.: **10** in total)

C (according to Articles 11.4 and 17 of the Statutes):

- the members of the Arbitration Board (7 members, who must not be members of any UEF body).

According to Article 22 of the Statute, candidacies must be accompanied by a number of signatures equal to at least 10% of the delegates to the Congress (i.e. **14**) or the support of **three** national sections.

All candidacies must be deposited at the Congress presidium, accompanied by the necessary signatures, by noon on Saturday 25 November.

For candidates for the various EB positions and the Arbitration Board, a form is also available (from the congress website - <https://federalists.eu/congress/xxviii-uef-european-congress/>) to be sent to the secretariat. Again, signatures can still be collected directly at the Congress, and handed in by the scheduled time of 12 noon on Saturday 25 November

The remaining members of the Federal Committee not directly elected by the Congress are appointed by the National Sections on the basis of their respective membership, as regulated in Art. 14.1b (the delegates of the Sections are comprised of one basic delegate and one additional delegate for each started amount of 200 members) and Art. 14.2 (no Section shall have more delegates than the double amount of the total number of delegates of the 10 Sections that are entitled to have the lowest number of delegates).

Please find here (https://federalists.eu/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/UEF-Memebship_delegates_FC-Members_definitive.pdf) the table with the numbers of the respective

national delegations, which are to be appointed on Sunday morning (see [agenda](#) for the scheduled time of the national delegation meeting) and delivered immediately to the UEF secretariat together with the e-mail addresses. Sections are also invited to appoint a number of substitute members (see Art. 21.2 of the Statutes) in order to best ensure the presence of the entire delegation at Federal Committee meetings.

The delegation appointed by the JEF consists of the same number of elected FC members directly from the Congress, i.e. **10** members.

Section	Status <i>de facto</i>	Declared Members 2022	2023		Number of Delegates	Numbers of the national delegations in FC 2023-2025
			Due 33.058,85€	Paid 31.603,85€		
Austria	Active	105	315,00€	315,00€	3	2
Belgium	Active	90	270,00€	270,00€	2	2
Bulgaria	Active	40	120,00€	120,00€	2	2
Cyprus	Active	45	135,00€		2	2
Czechia	Inactive					
Finland	Active	79	237,00€	237,00€	2	2
France	Active	126	378,00€	378,00€	3	2
Germany	Active	15927	12.870,85€	12.870,85€	40	40
Greece	Active	110	330,00€	330,00€	3	2
Groupe Europe	Active	94	282,00€	282,00€	2	2
Hungary	Active	30	100,00€	100,00€	2	2
Italy	Active	3426	10.278,00€	10.278,00€	36	19
JEF Europe	Active				14	10
Kosovo	Active		100,00€	100,00€	2	2
Lithuania	Active	pending	100,00€		2	
Luxembourg	Active	75	225,00€	225,00€	2	2
Montenegro	Inactive					
North Macedonia	Inactive					
Portugal	Inactive					
Romania	Inactive					
Serbia	Inactive					
Slovakia	Inactive					
Slovenia	Inactive					
Spain	Active	961	2.883,00€	2.163,00€	11	6
Switzerland	Active	1250	3.750,00€	3.750,00€	14	8

United Kingdom	Active		100,00€	100,00€	2	2
TOTAL		22.553	33.058,85€		144	95 + 10 JEF



Union of European Federalists
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