

Brussels, 21 November 2023

Call to support the Report on proposals of the European Parliament for the amendment of the Treaties

Dear Members of the European Parliament,

On Wednesday 22 November 2023, the plenary will vote on the Report on proposals of the European Parliament for the amendment of the Treaties written by the co-rapporteurs from the five pro-European political groups: Guy Verhofstadt (Renew Europe), Sven Simon (EPP), Gaby Bischoff (S&D), Daniel Freund (Greens/EFA) and Helmut Scholz (The Left). This will be an extremely important moment for our European cause.

The vote in the Plenary on the Report on proposals of the European Parliament for the amendment of the Treaties falls at a very timely moment. Following the challenges of the last decade, such as the financial and economic crisis of 2010, the climate emergency, the digital transition, the rise of China as a geopolitical actor, the Arab Spring and its aftermath, Russian aggressions and interference, migration flows, Brexit, the Trump presidency, the Covid-19 pandemic, and the Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, it is more necessary than ever to update our policies and reform our institutional framework.

As members of the European Parliament, an institution that represents the citizens' will and expectations, this vote seals the commitment made for more and better Europe in the Conference of the Future of Europe. More Europe means improving the Union's capacity to act and delivery of European public goods. Better Europe means taking decisions in a more democratic and efficient manner.

On policies, we must include in the treaties the objective of climate neutrality, the European Health Union and the social dimension.

In order to improve our decision-making, we need to overcome unanimity in the Council, especially in foreign policy, social policy, and taxation. We need to extend the Ordinary Legislative Procedure to all the policy areas and to strengthen the Parliament's prerogatives with a direct right of legislative initiative—among others.

This institutional upgrade is all the more urgent with the relaunch of the question of enlargement (in particular to the Western Balkans, Ukraine, Moldova, and Georgia). It should go hand in hand with deepening to manage a Union of—potentially—36 Member States.

Therefore, taking into account the scope of this Report—and even if you do not agree with some aspects — the ultimate goal of this proposal from the European Parliament to the European Council is to trigger the procedure to reform the Treaties.

Following the citizens' recommendations and conclusions from the Conference on the Future of Europe adopted on 9 May 2022, and following the European Parliament's resolutions adopted on 4

May and 9 June 2022, where this House voted to open the path to the Convention to revise the Treaties. The article 48(2) of the Treaty on European Union is clear in this respect:

“The European Parliament or the Commission may submit to the Council proposals for the amendment of the Treaties. These proposals may, inter alia, serve either to increase or to reduce the competences conferred on the Union in the Treaties. These proposals shall be submitted to the European Council by the Council and the national Parliaments shall be notified”.

Following this paragraph, the Council has the obligation to transmit the Parliament’s proposal as soon as it is adopted to the European Council.

An affirmative vote on Wednesday 22 November on the Report on proposals of the European Parliament for the amendment of the Treaties is exactly the answer that our Union and citizens need. I hope that together, as the European citizens’ representatives, we will show a wide majority in the Plenary vote, sending a clear message to the Council and urging its transmission to the European Council under the Spanish Presidency. Thus, we will have the opportunity to discuss the citizens’ priorities for a more effective European Union already in the European Council meeting of 15 December 2023.

Therefore, on behalf of the Union of European Federalists and the Spinelli Group, we take the liberty of strongly urging you to vote in favour of this report on Wednesday 22 November.

European citizens trust in us, while our unity needs to be strengthened urgently. I do believe that a large majority shares this aspiration and commitment.

Yours faithfully,

Domènec Ruiz Devesa

President of the [Union of European Federalists \(UEF\)](#)

Member of the European Parliament

Sandro Gozi

Chair of the [Spinelli Group](#)

Member of the European Parliament