U.E.F. NEWSLETTER N° 38

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1. FOREWORD BY PETER STREMPEL

Of friends or foes

The Campaign for a Europe-wide Referendum on the European Constitution is slowly gaining speed and an increasing number of organisations and individuals are expressing their support for our project – also some unexpected ones. Our initiative seems to find endorsement amongst some of the more Euro-sceptic players and we, as an explicitly pro-European organisation, have to ask ourselves how to deal with this situation.

In a recent UEF public debate in Brussels, Jens-Peter BONDE, leader of the Independence/Democracy Group in the European Parliament, discussed with Íñigo MENDEZ DE VIGO, European People's Party, the state of affairs in the constitutional process. Both are reputable members of parliament and participated in the Constitutional Convention. What became surprisingly apparent was the sense of resignation in DE VIGO's presentation. He could find very little to criticise in the expected procedure of deciding on a Mini-Treaty through the hated instrument of an Intergovernmental Conference and ratifying the outcome, where possible, by national parliaments only. There was no awareness of the damaging effect this might have on the perception of Europe's citizens. As he put it, the EU is an "Association of Independent States' and thus shouldn't be expected to act in any way like a normal state system. Strong words from someone, who signed the so-called *European Referendum Campaign* in 2004.

This campaign was strongly promoted by Jens-Peter BONDE, an MEP who is famous for demanding more basic democracy and transparency. The 2004 initiative had a similar, yet different goal – to have as many national referenda as possible on the Constitution on the very same day all over

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Europe. The EU Constitution – or Constitutional Treaty – would then only be adopted in the countries in which a majority vote in favour of it. A small, but delicate difference. For the moment, BONDE and like-minded proponents are strongly supporting our initiative. But there is already a revival of the 2004-campaign in the pipeline, expected to be launched before the summer. The European federalists and their allies are thus urged to speed up our very own action and move ahead, before the joint effort of Euro-sceptical forces begins to materialise.

We need to repeatedly emphasise that the European Referendum Campaign demands a single referendum on the same day – the EP elections 2009 – all over Europe. This referendum must not be abused to draw dividing lines between the European people and states, but should become a vehicle for 'Europeanisation' of the debate and ultimately the outcome. We must on the other hand not shy away from serious interaction with our *unconventional partners*. Their request for more democracy, accountability and transparency goes along our lines.

So maybe we'll have to follow the saying that the best way to shackle our opponents is by embracing them.

By Peter STREMPEL, member of the UEF FC

2. THE UEF FEDERAL COMMITTEE

On 21-22 April, the UEF Federal Committee was held in the Bavarian capital of Munich.

More than 70 delegates and visitors from all over Europe came together for the weekend to discuss the current state and the challenges of the Constitutional process, and the referendum campaign in particular.

Saturday morning began as usual with the FC's three working groups, the Political Commissions (PC). Key note speaker of PC I "Towards a European constitution" was Paolo PONZANO, member of the UEF FC himself, Chief Adviser for institutional matters inside the European Commission and former alternate delegate of the European commission in the last Convention. Mr. Ponzano urged that the constitutional process should not be left to eurosceptics and that the referendum campaign was a good tool to ensure that federalists' elements remain in the text. PC II joined the seminar "Enabling a Social Europe with a European constitution" (read more under section 6 of this Newsletter) and welcomed Jan KREUTZ, Assistant to former UEF President Jo LEINEN (MEP), as main speaker who emphasised the importance that should be attributed to social affairs in Europe. PC III "Europe in the World" focused on the Kosovo situation and the role the European Union should play in the region.

After a lunch reception in the Maximiliaeneum with a wonderful view over the Bavarian capital, the referendum campaign was officially launched in the form of a two hour panel discussion. UEF President Mercedes BRESSO opened the debate stressing that the majority of countries that hadn't decided on the draft constitutional treaty yet were in favour of a European Constitution but did not have the courage to act upon it. Therefore the campaign for a consultative referendum was a tool to show that European citizens support and want a Constitution. Ulla KALBFLEISCH-KOTTSIEPER, Vice-President of the Europa-Union Deutschland (EUD), the German section of the UEF, stated that top-down approaches as the Berlin Declaration were detrimental to the goal of a democratic Union. Two high ranking German parliamentarians were present: Claudia ROTH, head of the German Greens and Michael LINK, member of the parliamentary group of the German Liberal party spoke in favor of the UEF campaign. Mrs. ROTH stressed that the majority of European citizens had expressed

their wish for a European Constitution and this could not be ignored. Europe would need strong, efficient, transparent and democratic institutions and an EU that is close to the citizens. The EU would have to move away from declarations and motivate citizens to take an active part in the Union's future. Therefore she welcomed the UEF referendum campaign as a bottom-up instrument that will bridge the gap between citizens and institutions. Mr. LINK also stressed the need to have the final text of approved by the citizens as Merkel's "secret diplomacy" may be efficient and produce fast results, but not a feeling of identity amongst the European citizens (read more under section 5 of this Newsletter).

After the afternoon's plenary session that was closed by an intense political debate, the delegates enjoyed a common dinner in the famous and notorious Hofbräuhaus in the city centre.

On Sunday morning, the delegates accepted the application of *Eurooppafederalistit* as the new Finnish section, after Juha MUSTONNEN presented the organisation and its motivations for joining the UEF.

A total of 6 resolutions were subsequently discussed and adopted, stating federalist views on fields such as European Social and external affairs or the French elections. To read the resolutions, please click on the following titles:

Resolution on the European referendum

For a Social Europe

The Western Balkans and the EU

Against national economic patriotism and marginalisation of the internal market

More and better integration is the solution to French fears

Appeal for the establishment of a Parliamentary Assembly at the United Nations

You can also consult all the resolution on the UEF website at: http://www.federaleurope.org/index.php?id=5813

To view pictures of the event, go to: http://www.federaleurope.org/index.php?id=5812

The next Federal Committee of the UEF is scheduled to take place in November. Location and exact date will be announced in the next Newsletter.

3. PAST EVENTS

UEF participates in open doors day of the European institutions, Brussels, 5 May

Each year, Europe celebrates the anniversary of 9 May 1950, when France's foreign minister Robert Schuman urged European nations to pool their coal and steel production, which later turned out to be a first foundation on which to build closer European integration.

Since "Europe day" fell on a week day, the European Union's main institutions opened their doors to the public on the previous Saturday.

The interested public was able to visit Europe's main institutions such as the European Commission, the European Parliament, the Committee of Regions, or even take a rare guided tour of the Council of the European Union. There were several outdoor events as well, such as concerts and exhibitions, starting at around 10:00 am and running to 5:30 pm.

The UEF, along with other civil society organisations, was present on this special occasion with two stands. The Groupe Europe and the UEF Belgique held a stand inside the European Parliament, whilst the UEF and JEF shared an exhibition tent on Square Jean

REY, in front of the Park Leopold, close to the European Parliament.

UEF Stand at open doors celebrations

The UEF took this chance to make its Speak up Europe campaign known by the broad Brussels public and managed to get many signatures for the referendum campaign.

To see more pictures of this event please go to:
http://www.federaleurope.org/index.php?id=5921

UEF public debate:
"The June 2007 roadmap- A new vision for the Project Europe"
European Parliament, 9 May

On 9 May, the UEF organized a public debate in the Eastman Building of the European Parliament on the future of Europe in the perspective of the June 2007 European Council summit that will have to decide on a roadmap for a new EU Treaty.

The debate, that took place in the framework of the Speak up Europe debate series, featured a panel of experts assembled by the UEF. The panel was composed of two MEPs, Jens Peter BONDE (Independence / Democracy Group) and Ínigo MÉNDEZ de VIGO (European People's Party) and a representative of the civil society Raymond Van ERMEN (Permanent Forum of Civil Society). The debate was moderated by UEF Secretary General, Friedhelm FRISCHENSCHLAGER and commented by Simon TAYLOR (Senior Political Reporter of European Voice).

MR. FRISCHENSCHLAGER addressed the panel with a few questions on the future of the European Union such as "Do we need a EU with more integration, more democracy? Has Europe reached its limits? Will Europe go back to a simple Union of intergovernmental cooperation?

The moderator then gave each panelist 5 minutes to express his position on the possible future, outcome and solution of the June 2007 roadmap.

From left to right: Raymond VAN ERMEN, Jens-Peter BONDE, Friedhelm FRISCHENSCHLAGER, Ínigo MÉNDEZ de VIGO, Simon TAYLOR

Jens Peter BONDE, who is known in the EU circle as a European realist started the ball rolling and expressed his views and concerns on the current situation. According to MEP BONDE, the main problem of the discussion for the revised Treaty or Constitution is that it doesn't involve the people "*The only possible way forward is to have a direct elected convention that would discuss the text chapter by chapter and submit the text to the European citizens by holding referenda in every country in Europe. Beside, if you decide to hold a referendum, you bind yourself to reach an agreement on a text the content of which must be presentable to the people*".

Ínigo MÉNDEZ de VIGO defended the community method and stressed that it *"has largely proved efficient, and therefore we should stick to it and keep as much as possible of the Constitutional Treaty since it goes beyond the community method and improves it in a way that would simplify greatly the decision making of the EU"*.

The audience

Raymond VAN ERMEN made clear that a crisis always offers room for new opportunities "*We should seize this crisis opportunity and make sure that the new Treaty acts as an accelerator of progress. The roadmap has to give an effective response to the citizens' concerns and address"*. Mr. VAN ERMEN also mentioned that some new challenges have come up since the Convention and that these new issues were not dealt with in the European Constitution. Therefore, he claimed that a new policy approach was needed to tackle issues such as the climate change, the energy independence and the competition against emerging economies *"The new Treaty is an opportunity for the EU to retrieve the citizens' confidence, to become the leading economy in terms of well being and low carbon emissions and to act as a key partner of development with its direct neighbors*."

He also demanded that the new Treaty be submitted to a consultation to the European citizens by 2009.

After the short interventions by the panel, Simon TAYLOR drew his first comments. Mr. TAYLOR questioned the idea of having a new convention as it would take a long time to set up and take even more time to draw conclusions. Moreover, he reminded the panel that the intentions of most member states was to keep as much of the constitution as possible. Mr. TAYLOR then pointed out the danger of binding referenda since "*people's voting habits are still directed by national politics"*.

The panelists were given the chance to react to the other speakers' interventions. Mr. MÉNDEZ DE VIGO insisted that if the original text was to be cut down, then some new elements should be added too. BONDE expressed his concerns on the lack of transparency of the decision process in the EU whereas MÉNDEZ DE VIGO described the European Union as "*an international organisation of integration in which we seek for consensus*".

Among the many questions that were addressed by the audience, the need for a new convention arose, the cost of non-communication in the EU, the nature of the referendum and its possible turnout, a multi-speed Europe and many more.

The debate was concluded by commentator Simon TAYLOR who asked the question to what extent the EU's economy and institutions were effective "*A European public space is a nice ambition but we are a very long way from anything like it*".

To see the program and more pictures, go to: *http://www.federaleurope.org/index.php?id=5923*

To read an article in Euractiv about this event: *http://www.euractiv.com/en/constitution/european-citizens-consultations-eu-leaders-care/article-163714*

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4. FUTURE EVENTS

Friends of JEF event in Berlin

As announced in the previous Newsletter, former JEF members and Friends of JEF will meet in Berlin from 30 June to 1 July 2007!

On Friday there will be an international EU-briefing on the leftovers of the German Presidency and the forthcoming agenda of the rest of the Trio-Presidency (Portugal 2007/ Slovenia 2008). Organisation: http://www.europeanmovement.org

The event will take place in the Paulinenhof (yard of the Heinz-Schwarzkopf-Foundation) in the historic centre of Berlin (Mitte) near Hackescher Markt. In this yard the joint office building of the European Movement Germany, UEF Germany and JEF are located. The evening will have a character of a Biergarten combining party and political talks. And the night will be long...

On Sunday, a common boat trip on the River Spree, just 5 min from Paulinenhof, including "Katerfrühstück" (hangoverbreakfast) and sightseeing.

A modest participation fee of 56 EUR, covering the event in Paulinenhof and the boat trip will be asked for. For more information see: http://www.friends-of-jef.net/

24th International Seminar on Federalism "Federalism in Europe and the world" Ventotene, 2-7 September 2007

For many years, the Altiero Spinelli Institute for Federalist Studies has organised a yearly international seminar on the island of Ventotene. This island off the Italian coast was the place where Altiero Spinelli, author of the Federalist Ventotene Manifesto, was imprisoned during the Second World War. Each year, young Federalists gather here to discuss with leading experts from the European and World Federalist Movement federalist ideas and their application to the European and global context.

Possible topics for this year's conferences may include but are not limited to:

- Federalism as a Political Theory
- Federalism as an Institutional Model
- The Values Pursued by Federalism
- Federalism as an Answer to the Challenges of Globalisation
- The EU as the Most Advanced Federalist Experiment
- The Potential for a Greater Global Role of the EU
- The Federal Citizenship: A New Model
- Past, Present and Future Role of the Federalist Movements in the European Integration
- Proposals for Overcoming the Present Stalemate of the EU
- Guidelines for Strategy and Action of the Federalist Movements in the Near Future

If you want more information on this seminar, please go to: *http://www.federaleurope.org/fileadmin/files_uef/ALTIERO_SPINELLI_INSTITUTE_FOR_FEDERALIST_STUDIES.doc*

Conference Reforming the United Nations, democracy, justice and security in the age of globalization 7-8 June, Turin

On 7-8 June, the Centro Studi Sul Federalismo organizes a conference in the "Accademia delle Scienze" on the topics of democracy, security and justice in a globalized world.

To read the programme, please go to: http://www.csfederalismo.it/User/Convegni/seminari/globalizz2.pdf

5. REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN

Let the European people decide! Launch of the UEF/ JEF Referendum Campaign, Munich, 21 April

On 21 April, the UEF launched a Campaign for a European consultative Referendum on the European Constitution.

The UEF has opened the next stage in its promotion of a European constitution by launching a campaign for a European referendum on the European Constitution to be held at the occasion of the European elections in 2009.

From left to right: Friedhelm FRISCHENSCHLAGER, Claudia ROTH, Mercedes BRESSO, Michael LINK

Campaigners from all over Europe came together at the Bavarian Parliament in Munich for the launch of the campaign that has the objective of collecting 1 million signatures from citizens all over Europe. Signatures will be collected through street actions, but mainly with the help of a new and interactive website that was launched officially on 16 March 2007 in Berlin: www.europeanreferendum.eu

The UEF welcomes the success of the launch event. Prominent representatives of the German political world, such as Claudia ROTH, head of the German Greens and Michael LINK, member of the parliamentary group of the German Liberal party spoke in favor of the UEF campaign.

A new survey led by the German opinion poll EMNID and commissioned by the UEF's German section, the Europa Union Deutschland, showed that 75 per cent of the German citizens want a European referendum on the constitution.

UEF Secretary General, Friedhelm FRISCHENSCHLAGER said "*We need a European referendum to bridge the gap between citizens and European politics and to break the logjam in the constitutional process*"

To read the Press release that was issued after the event, please go to section 9 of this Newsletter.

For more information about the referendum campaign, please go to http://www.federaleurope.org/index.php?id=5630 or directly to: https://www.europeanreferendum.eu/

MFE Memorandum for the Government and the Parliament on Europe's future

The Moviemento Federalista Europeo (MFE), the Italian section of the UEF, has adopted a memorandum to be addressed to the Italian Government and Parliament. Abstracts of the text are printed below. If you wish to read the entire text, please refer to the link at the end of the article.

"No to a Mini-Treaty, no to a Mini-Bureaucratic Europe, without a Constitution and without the European people.

The intergovernmental Conference that is about to be called by the German Presidency of the Union seems to be leading towards the abandonment of most of the substance of the

Constitutional Treaty. The European Constitution will be replaced by a "classic" intergovernmental Treaty. The aim is to avoid new referendums. Thus, the process of reforms which had begun to draw the citizens closer to the Union, will end up by widening the gap between the electors and the elected.

The German presidency of the Union has given out a series of questions which quite clearly indicate what the conclusions of the intergovernmental Conference will be. Besides quashing the term Constitution, the Convention procedure – in which the citizens' representatives could make their voices be heard – will be eliminated to return to the "classic method" of diplomatic conference. (…).

The 18 countries that have already ratified the European Constitution can still oppose this ill-fated outcome (…) The defence of the European Constitution requires strong action.

Europe needs a Constitution. It will not be possible to face the existential challenges of globalisation, of the ecological reconversion of the economy and of a foreign policy without a European democratic government supported by the citizens. The European Constitution is the pillar of Union policies in the world.

In all the countries of the Union, the European federalists have launched the Campaign "1,000,000 signatures for a consultative European referendum" in 2009 (www.europeanreferendum.eu). The European federalists ask:

- party leaders to sign the Petition for a European consultative referendum and to invite their members and supporters to do the same;
- the Italian Parliament to commit the government to defend the European Constitution in the Council and in the intergovernmental Conference, without giving in to the Eurosceptic countries' blackmail;
- the European Parliament, the sole legitimate representative of European citizens, not to allow the European Constitution, the outcome of the debate between the European Parliament and the national Parliaments in the Convention, to be reduced to a Mini-Treaty. Only a new European Convention can legitimately decide if and how to amend the Treaty which adopts a Constitution for Europe."

To read the full text, please go to:
http://www.federaleurope.org/fileadmin/files_uef/memorandum_future_of_Europe.rtf

6. SPEAK UP EUROPE

Speak up Europe seminar
« Enabling a social Europe with a European Constitution,
Munich 20-21 April

On 20-21 April 2007 in Munich, the UEF held a very interesting, lively and interactive seminar on the perspective of a Social Europe.

From left to right: Jan KREUTZ, François BILTGEN, Heinz-Wilhelm SCHAUMANN

The seminar ran over two days and was divided into three discussion parts.

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The first discussion focused on the Lisbon Process and the European Constitution. Main speaker was François BILTGEN, Luxemburg Minister of Labour and Employment, who talked about his experience and about his vision of the Lisbon process. The second part looked at how social affairs should be addressed in the constitutional treaty and welcomed Dr. Roman MARUHN from the Center for applied politics of the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München as guest speaker. Finally, the third part of the seminar concentrated on the "federalist perspective" of a social Europe and was chaired by Joan Marc SIMON, member of the FC, with Jan KREUTZ, also member of the FC and Assistant to Jo LEINEN, MEP and chair of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs.

In his speech, the Luxemburg Minister of Labour and Employment reminded the public of how vividly "Social Europe" was discussed in the latest referendum campaigns, not only in France but also in Luxemburg. He stated that even if the social dimension had not been treated in the Rome Treaties, Europe has progressively obtained a social dimension. François BILTGEN stressed the needs and advantages of a Social Europe and the common values emerging from it:

Solidarity (especially in social security and social inclusion), Social dialogue (currently exist at the European level) and the value of human labour, which has a deeper signification than the economic and employment notions.

One of the main issues linked to the debate on Social Europe were the difference of notions people attach to the concept of a Social Europe. "Labor protection and employment creation" could often be seen as contradictory. On this point, BILTGEN insisted that there was no mathematic correlation between labour law and employment and emphasised that labour law could not solve the problems of the labour market alone: "*Labour law is not enough, not only do we need more jobs but we also need better jobs! Europe needs to invest more into research and development as the Lisbon Strategy clearly has proven inefficient. We often talk about growth and employment as objectives in the EU when in fact they are tools to be used to reach a higher common objective, a Social Europe*".

The seminar was the chance for the participants to challenge and question the Luxemburg minister on the objectives and results of the Lisbon Strategy that was launched in March 2000 with the objective of turning Europe into the most competitive, high qualified economy.

François BILTGEN stressed that a Social Europe could only be possible if the 4 freedoms (free movement of goods, services, persons and capital) were actually achieved and that the free movement of persons was still not ensured satisfactorily in the current EU single market.

The audience agreed almost unanimously on the fact that the EU should implement a system of minimum social standards in Europe, where standards can differ from country to country but exist and are binding.

The second part of the seminar entitled "More social Europe with a European Constitution" featured Dr. Roman MARUHN from the Center for applied politics of the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München. The question "Can a European Constitution bring a Social Europe?" was at the centre of the debate but other interesting themes were addressed by either the speakers or the audience, such as the efficiency of the Lisbon Strategy, the efficiency of the EU in terms of jobs protection and creation.

Finally, on Saturday morning, Jan KREUTZ took up on the points made by Mr. BILTGEN the day before and demanded that the European Central Bank to adds Employment,

Growth and Sustainable development to the main aim of control of inflation. In his opinion social cohesion is a premise for the achievement of sustainable growth. A lively debate followed the introduction from Jan KREUTZ. The participants debated whether it makes sense to have social policy at European level and on whether the EU should intervene more in order to guarantee rights to people and not only freedom for the market. Two resolutions, one on Social policy and the other one about business role in promoting social Europe, were presented and debated by this seminar.

To read a French article about this event, please go the website of the Luxemburg Ministry of Labor and Employment: http://www.mte.public.lu/actualites/articles/2007/04/20070420_fb_munich_seminaire_uef/index.html

7. NEWS OF THE FEDERALIST INTERGROUP

Parliament's position before the June European Council

The next meeting of the Intergroup discusses the Parliament's position before the June European Council and will offer the opportunity to have an exchange of views with Elmar BROK (PPE-DE, D) & Enrique BARON CRESPO (PSE, E) co-Rapporteurs on *the road map for the Union's constitutional process.*

The meeting will meet on 23 May 2007 in the European Parliament in Strasbourg.

8. OTHER

JEF action for a European Referendum

JEF sections will jointly state their demands across the borders of Europe in a true pan-European referendum action. We hope you and your sections will join in!

The action will take place Saturday 16 June - just one week before the Summit and a few days before Merkel concludes the German Presidency - i.e. straight in the spotlight!

In short the action will include:

- build huge artsy, symbolic ballot boxes in all cities
- make a street referendum where JEF across Europe ask the Europeans if they want a referendum (and for them to sign the petition)
- a sticker guerrilla action to spread the web page across town
- meetings across Europe with politicals and prominent people to get media attention. We will try to get Merkel as well to hand over the result of the campaign day.

Summer University on Federalism

From 27 August to 14 September 2007, under the auspices of the Swiss Confederation, the institute of federalism of the University of Fribourg (Switzerland) presents its summer University: "Federalism, Constitutionalism and Democratic Governance in Multicultural Societies, 19th session".

To read the invitation, please go to: http://www.federaleurope.org/fileadmin/files_uef/summer_university_invitation.pdf

To read the program, go to: http://www.federaleurope.org/fileadmin/files_uef/Summer_university_program_2007.pdf

To consult the registration form, go to: http://www.federaleurope.org/fileadmin/files_uef/Summer_University_regform_07.pdf

To read the registration information, go to: http://www.federaleurope.org/fileadmin/files_uef/Summer_University_Registration_information.pdf

9. PRESS RELEASES

Let the European people decide!

The UEF launches Campaign for a European consultative Referendum on the European Constitution in Munich on 21 April.

The Union of European Federalists has opened a next stage in its promotion of a European constitution by launching a campaign for a European referendum on the European Constitution to be held at the occasion of the European elections in 2009.

Campaigners from all over Europe came together at the Bavarian Parliament in Munich for the launch of the campaign that has the objective of collecting 1 million signatures from citizens all over Europe. Signatures will be collected through street actions, but mainly with the help of a new and interactive website that was launched officially on 16 March 2007 in Berlin: www.europeanreferendum.eu

The UEF welcomes the success of the launch event. Prominent representatives of the German political world, such as Claudia ROTH, head of the German Greens and Michael LINK, member of the parliamentary group of the German Liberal party spoke in favor of the UEF campaign.

A new survey led by the German opinion poll EMNID and commissioned by the UEF's German section, the Europa Union Deutschland, showed that 75 per cent of the German citizens want a European referendum on the constitution.

UEF Secretary General, Dr. Friedhelm Frischenschlager said "We need a European referendum to bridge the gap between citizens and European politics and to break the logjam in the constitutional process"

Check out the referendum campaign website on: www.europeanreferendum.eu

JEF Europe answers to MERKEL's 12 points-questionnaire

In reply to the letter sent out by German Chancellor Angela MERKEL to her 26 European counterparts, the Young European Federalists (JEF Europe) take a stand on 12 questions concerning the future of the Constitution.

In their open reply letter the Young European Federalists underline both the advantages of the current version of the Constitution and the most urgent needs for further improvement. They strongly urge for the parts I and II of the current text to be upheld in their entirety while including new topic fields, in which the Union has progressed over the past months.

To read more, please go to: www.jef.eu

10. NEWS FROM THE SECRETARIAT

New campaign officer

On April 30th, Peter Matjašič joined the UEF team as the new campaign officer for our European referendum campaign.

Peter is 27 years old, Slovenian by nationality but European by heart. He has studied international relations at the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana and has been active in JEF for five years (currently junior Vice-President of JEF-Europe and

Editor-in-Chief of the online magazine **the**new**federalist**.eu).

As campaign officer Peter forms an integral part of our Campaign Team and is responsible for updating the campaign website, respond to the emails from info@europeanreferendum.eu, follow-up on signatures and requests for official partners + local contacts as well as prepare the campaign newsletter, offer support and coordinate campaign activities of UEF and JEF sections.

Peter will be working from his home as the majority of his tasks are web-based. Currently his home is in a small village in North-Eastern Slovenia, soon to be changed for exciting Berlin. Peter is fluent in English, German and Spanish and has a good working knowledge of French, Catalan as well as Bosnian-Croatian-Serbian.

11. CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

- 23 May : Federalist Intergroup meeting in Strasbourg
- 25 May: Speak up Europe debate on Kosovo in Austria
- 31 May: Speak up Europe event in Slovakia
- 2-3 June: Speak up Europe event in Cyprus
- 7-8 June: Conference : Reforming the United Nations, democracy, justice and democracy, in Turin
- 30 June: Friends of JEF meeting in Berlin
- 30 June: Bureau meeting

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The UEF, founded in 1946, is an independent and non-governmental European organisation, campaigning for a federal Europe. Since April 2005, it is presided over by Mrs. Mercedes BRESSO, President of the Italian Region of Piedmont, Member of the EU Committee of the Regions.

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