***Towards a Political Union***

proposed on 21 May 2025 by **Luca Lionello, Chair of Political Commission 1 (PC1) - On Federalist Strategy for a Federal Reform of the EU**

**The Federal Committee of the Union of European Federalists, convening in Brussels, Belgium, on 21-22 June 2025**:

**Aware that**

The growing dominance of power politics in an increasingly competitive multipolar world — driven by the hegemonic rhetoric of major powers like the United States, Russia, and China — is threatening the foundations of international coexistence established after World War II.

Ending the conflict in Ukraine and contain Russia's aggressive ambitions will secure a lasting peace. A stable, sovereign Ukraine restored in its internationally recognised borders will serve as a buffer against Russian expansionism and.

Europe must develop an autonomous defence system to reinforce the credibility of European security and ensure its strategic independence from the United States. Meant to become a European pillar within NATO, it will foster a renewed transatlantic partnership based on mutual respect and balanced responsibilities and contribute to a fairer, more resilient alliance.

In an uncertain global environment, the Union must defend its citizens, uphold strategic autonomy, and respond to external threats. Stronger defence will also reinforce its role as a global actor for peace and stability.

"A credible and effective European defence system cannot be established without the backing of a federal political union, serving as the nucleus of a European Federation. Only deeper political integration can give the EU the democratic legitimacy needed for a common defence. A federal structure enables a strong and effective command chain to address shared security challenges.

**Concerned by the fact that:**

The recent trade policies introduced by the U.S. administration have created uncertainty among global economic stakeholders and pose a significant threat to the stability of international commerce, potentially paving the way for a global recession.

Due to its strong dependence on the United States, the international financial system is increasingly vulnerable to ongoing turbulence within the U.S., particularly the rapidly declining role of the dollar and concerns over the sustainability of U.S. public debt. This would expose Europe to significant financial risks, including disruptions in payment systems, reduced monetary autonomy, and increased vulnerability to external shocks.

The multiplication of new hotspots of tension — from Gaza to the conflict between Pakistan and India, as well as in Yemen — represents a threat to peace in Europe and globally.

The rise in the European Union of openly anti-democratic and pro-Russian political forces — strongly hostile to European integration and backed by the Trump administration represents a major threat to the future of the European project.

**Considering that:**

The European Commission is tentatively engaged in strengthening European defence through initiatives such as the "Rearm EU" programme.

The European Parliament has repeatedly called for a stronger defence integration, although only by an unlikely reform of the EU Treaties. In particular, the Spinelli Group within the EP has long advocated for such reforms to supposedly facilitate defence integration within the broader framework of a treaty revision aimed at transferring more sovereignty to the Union.

With Friedrich Merz elected Chancellor and Emmanuel Macron confirmed to lead for the next two years, Germany and France now claim they will take significant initiatives to strengthen common defence and revive institutional reforms within the European Union. This French and German partnership, possibly open to more countries (e.g. Poland in the framework of the Weimer Triangle) must be advanced within a broader European framework that strengthens the Union as a whole.

**The Union of the European Federalists**

**stresses that**

The process of national rearmament, within the framework of the European Commission’s *RearmEU* project, remains insufficient without EU-level coordination, European procurement, and adequate common investments, which will fully function only within a federal union.

The British and French-led volunteer initiative in Ukraine is a first promising step to sustaining Ukrainian resistance and represents a potential moment of European emancipation from U.S. control. It is crucial, however, that this effort becomes integrated into the creation of European defence tools within the framework of Federal Union.

In light of growing threats to economic stability—such as trade tariffs and financial turmoil—the European Union must fully leverage its existing instruments. These include the establishment of a Capital Markets Union, the creation of common safe assets, and the implementation of the 'Digital Euro' project by the end of 2025. Furthermore, the European Central Bank should pursue agreements with central banks worldwide to ensure the Digital Euro is accepted as a legitimate means of payment."

**calls upon**

the **European Parliament** to work decisively towards the relaunch of European integration, based on the following priorities:

1. Establishment of an autonomous European Defence and Security System (EDSS). The EDSS should include its own command structure and operational capabilities for territorial defence, in accordance with Article 42 of the Treaty on European Union (TEU). In order to overcome the obstacle of unanimity among the 27 Member States, the EDSS should be created through the activation of Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO), as provided by Article 46 TEU. However, stating that such past initiatives only concluded in an Europe *à la carte*, only a vanguard of states setting up a kernel federation can advance towards a genuine European defence capability.
2. A renewed Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF). The next MFF must include a significantly larger EU budget, financed through Eurobonds and new own resources, to support common defence, climate action, and other European public goods. The European Parliament should exercise its veto power under Article 312 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) to reject any MFF proposal that fails to fully reflect these ambitions.
3. A reform of the Union’s institutional framework is unavoidable to:
* Extend qualified majority voting to all common policies, particularly foreign policy;
* Introduce a European fiscal capacity and a common budget financed by own resources.
1. Such reforms can only be carried out through a constitutional procedure to ensure democratic legitimacy and institutional continuity. This shall be initiated by a group of willing countries, ready to move forward. This approach will allow for deeper integration among a core group of states, preventing paralysis and enabling concrete progress on key priorities such as defence, fiscal capacity, and democratic governance, while keeping the door open for others to join at a later stage.

**amendment FORM**

**Deadline for amendments to the proposed resolutions: 12:00 PM (CET) 10 June 2025**

**Completed forms should be sent to:** **secretariat@federalists.eu****.**

**Please fill out one table per amendment and one amendment form per resolution. Do not add rows or columns to the tables.**

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