



**EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT - BRUSSELS
8 and 9 NOVEMBER 2007**

**NEW TREATIES
CHALLENGES, OPPORTUNITIES,
TOOLS**

Next December, the Heads of State and Government are to sign a new European treaty which will then be submitted for ratification in each Member State of the Union.

The European Parliament has decided, before issuing its own assessment of the text, to invite European civil society to come to the Chamber and express its views on the new institutional landscape, asking it to present its appraisal and its expectations, but also to better define its role within the new framework that is taking shape.

The activities of this Agora will centre around two plenary sessions and two meetings of five workshops ('Tasks' - 'Rights' - 'Tools' - 'Borders' - 'Horizons'). All the Members of the European Parliament will of course be able to participate in the work of the Agora. The European public will also be able to follow all the debates during the Agora live on Parliament's internet site.

The programme for the Citizens' Agora of 8 and 9 November 2007 is included below. For more information, and to read the participants' contributions, visit the internet site: www.europarl.europa.eu

THURSDAY 8 NOVEMBER 2007

8.30 - 10.00:

Reception and accreditation of participants

Place: European Parliament Accreditation Centre (Altiero Spinelli building)

Delivery of dossiers and badges to participants.

10.00 - 12.30:

Plenary session

Place: EP Chamber, with video webstreaming

Interpretation: English, French, German, Italian, Spanish and Polish.

Inaugural sitting (10.00 - 11.00)

'What links exist between the European public and its Institutions?'

SPEAKERS:

- **European Parliament: Mr Poettering** (President of the European Parliament)
- **Council of the European Union: representative of the Portuguese Presidency** (to be decided)
- **European Commission: Mrs Wallström** (First Vice-President of the European Commission)
- **Economic and Social Committee: Mr Graf von Schwerin** (Vice-President of the EESC)
- **Committee on Constitutional Affairs of the European Parliament: Mr Leinen** (Chairman of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs of the European Parliament)

Open debate (11.00 - 12.30)

'What role for the Citizens' Agora?'

CO-MODERATORS:

- **for the European Institutions: a Vice-President of the European Parliament** (to be decided)
 - **for Civil Society: Mr Reuter** (Secretary-General of an international federation of social movements) **and Mr Kröner** (Secretary-General of a large European integration movement)
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12.30 - 14.30:

Interval

Parliament press conference (12.30 - 13.00)

Place: Parliament's press room - PHS 0A50

Interpretation: English, French and German

'Parliament's objectives through the Agora'

SPEAKERS:

- **Mr Leinen** (Chairman of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs of the European Parliament) **and Mr Onesta** (Vice-President of the European Parliament)

Lunch for Agora participants (12.30 - 14.30)

Place: European Parliament, Espace Yehudi Menuhin

14.30 - 18.00:

Workshop meetings

Interpretation: English, French and German.

Each of the five workshops will be opened by well-known speakers from the Institutions, who in 15 minutes will present the key points of the topics to be addressed. Participants will then have 15 minutes to respond to that opening speech before entering into an open debate. That debate, which will be led by two co-moderators (one from the Institutions and the other from civil society), will aim to establish a consensus or the range of options possible. At the end of the meeting a Member of the European Economic and Social Committee will present an oral summary of the work of each workshop. On that basis a team of 'reporters' (whose members will

come solely from civil society) will have the task of drawing up a very brief summary (one recto-verso page) of the outcome of the discussions.

Workshop A: 'TASKS'

Place: European Parliament, Room A3G2, with video webstreaming

The European Union is to tackle new topics and new solidarities. How should it address them?

Matters to be raised (list for guidance only):

- The European social dimension (in particular the definition of services of general interest and application of the Charter of Fundamental Rights)
- Climate protection
- Energy supply and energy interdependence
- Immigration policy
- An integrated European diplomatic service

GUEST SPEAKER:

- **Mr Jouyet** (*French Minister for European Affairs*)

CO-MODERATORS:

- **for the Institutions: Mrs Berès** (*Chairwoman of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs of the European Parliament*)
- **for civil society: Mr Luff** (*Director of a major NGO specialising in climate protection*) (tbc)

REPORTERS (civil society):

- **Ms Scheider** (*Representative of a large employer-employee federation*)
- **Ms Flanagan** (*Head of a leading training and mutual aid NGO*)
- **Ms Manolova** (*Journalist and Academic project leader*)

Workshop B: 'RIGHTS'

Place: European Parliament, Room A1G3, with video webstreaming

The European Union is to establish new rights. How are these to be understood?

Matters to be raised (list for guidance only):

- Implementation of the Charter of Fundamental Rights
- Practical effects on the Charter of certain countries 'opting out'
- Introduction of a right enabling the general public to petition the Commission

GUEST SPEAKER:

- **Mr Botopoulos** (*Member of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs of the European Parliament*)

CO-MODERATORS:

- **for the Institutions: Mr Markov** (*Chairman of the Committee on International Trade of the European Parliament*)
- **for civil society: Ms Erdmenger** (*Representative of a large social partner federation*)

REPORTERS (civil society):

- **Ms Hoel** (*Adviser to a major European federation of social organisations*)
- **Mr Bartoz** (*Representative of a European federation of youth movements*)
- **Mr de Boet** (*Essayist, author of numerous works on rights and European democracy*)

Workshop C: 'TOOLS'

Place: European Parliament, Room A1E2, with video webstreaming

The European Union is to acquire new tools. How should they be used?

Matters to be raised (list for guidance only):

- Procedure for nominating the Commission President and the Commissioners
- Virtually universal legislative codecision with a double majority within the Council
- Transparency of the Council's legislative process
- Stability of the European Council Presidency
- Budget procedure

GUEST SPEAKER:

- **Mr Baron Crespo** (*European Parliament representative at the Inter-Governmental Conference*)

CO-MODERATORS:

- **for the Institutions: Mrs Jäätteenmäki** (*Vice-Chairwoman of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs of the European Parliament*)
- **for civil society: Mr Fragnière** (*Former Rector of the College of Europe, chairman of a European cultural movement*)

REPORTERS (civil society):

- **Mr Forbes** (*Unit Head for Europe of a social partner confederation*)
- **Ms Matcov** (*Representative of large European integration movements*)
- **Mr Grosjean** (*Representative of a transnational network of civic organisations*)

Workshop D: 'BORDERS'

Place: European Parliament, Room A3G3, with video webstreaming

The European Union wishes to enhance its geo-political role. How should it envisage this new relationship with the rest of the world?

Matters to be raised (list for guidance only):

- Deployment of a European diplomatic corps under a single head
- Criteria for accession to the European Union and integration capacity
- Neighbourhood relations and conflict prevention policy
- Development policy and support for democratisation processes

GUEST SPEAKER:

- **Mr Duff** (*European Parliament representative at the Inter-Governmental Conference*)

CO-MODÉRATORS:

- **Mrs Zdravkova** (*Vice-Chairwoman of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs of the European Parliament*)
- **for civil society: Mr Cwik** (*Representative of European integration movements and spokesman for a cultural forum*)

REPORTERS (civil society):

- **Ms Stoeva** (*Representative of an economic think-tank*)
- **Mr Aspe Montoya** (*Representative of a European integration movement*)
- **Mr Hammer** (*Representative of a European integration movement*)

Workshop E: 'HORIZONS'

Place: European Parliament, Chamber, with video webstreaming

The European Union is to agree an institutional compromise in order to break the deadlock in certain areas. How should the future stages of European integration be envisaged?

Matters to be raised (list for guidance only):

- Ways of consulting and informing the people of Europe and enabling them to take decisions
- The structure of European civil society and ways in which it can act
- A new power enabling the European Parliament to amend the Treaties
- Simplifying the machinery of the Europe's Institutions and making their workings transparent

GUEST SPEAKER:

- **a representative of the future Slovene Presidency of the Union** (*to be decided*)

CO-MODERATORS:

- **for the Institutions: Mr Carneiro** (*Member of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs of the European Parliament*)
- **for civil society: Mr Ciavarini** (*Chairman of the national branch of a large European integration movement*)

REPORTERS (civil society):

- **Mr Spoel** (*Administrator of a transnational network of civic organisations*)
- **Mr Ingber** (*Adviser to a large European integration movement*)
- **Ms Gabrielle** (*Project leader for a large European student network*)

18.00 - 20.00:

Reporter meetings

Place: various rooms at Parliament (to be decided)

No interpretation

The five reporting teams will meet to work on the summaries of the proceedings of their respective workshops.

FRIDAY 9 NOVEMBER 2007

9.00 – 12.00:

Workshop meetings

Interpretation: English, French and German.

During this second working group session each of the five workshops (on the same subjects) will finalise its conclusions by amending and confirming the reporters' texts (drawn up as very brief summaries: maximum of one recto-verso page per workshop). As with the previous meetings, these discussions will be headed by two new co-moderators, one from the Institutions and the other from civil society. The reporting teams will be the same as the day before.

Workshop A: 'TASKS'

Place: European Parliament, Chamber, with video webstreaming

The European Union is to tackle new topics and new solidarities. How should it address them?

Matters to be raised (list for guidance only):

- The European social dimension (in particular the definition of services of general interest and application of the Charter of Fundamental Rights)
- Climate protection
- Energy supply and energy interdependence
- Immigration policy
- An integrated European diplomatic service

CO-MODERATORS:

- **for the Institutions: Mr Voggenhuber** (Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs of the European Parliament)
- **for civil society: Mr Hallo** (Former chairman of a major European confederation of environmentalist movements) **and Mr Venables** (Director of a large European federation of civic movements)

REPORTERS (civil society):

- **Ms Scheider** (Representative of a large federation of social partners)
- **Ms Flanagan** (Director of a large NGO for training and mutual assistance)
- **Ms Manolova** (Journalist and academic, project leader)

Workshop B: 'RIGHTS'

Place: European Parliament, Room A3G2, with video webstreaming

The European Union is to establish new rights. How are these to be understood?

Matters to be raised (list for guidance only):

- Implementation of the Charter of Fundamental Rights
- Practical effects on the Charter of certain countries 'opting out'
- Introduction of a right enabling the general public to petition the Commission

CO-MODERATORS:

- **for the Institutions: Mr Adamou** (Member of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs of the European Parliament)
- **for civil society: Ms Vayssade** (Chairwoman of the women's committee of a major European integration movement)

REPORTERS (civil society):

- **Ms Hoel** (Adviser to a major European federation of social organisations)
- **Mr Bartoz** (Representative of a European federation of youth movements)
- **Mr Boet** (Essayist, author of numerous works on rights and European democracy)

The European Union is to acquire new tools. How should they be used?

Matters to be raised (list for guidance only):

- Procedure for nominating the Commission President and Commissioners
- Virtually universal legislative codecision with a double majority within the Council
- Transparency of the Council's legislative process
- Stability of the European Council Presidency
- Budget procedure

CO-MODERATORS:

- **for the Institutions: Mr Onesta** (*Vice-President of the European Parliament*)
- **for civil society: Mr Hagert** (*Representative of a national federation of youth movements*)

REPORTERS (civil society):

- **Mr Forbes** (*Unit Head for Europe of a social partner confederation*)
- **Ms Matcov** (*Representative of major European integration movements*)
- **Mr Grosjean** (*Representative of a transnational network of civic organisations*)

Workshop D: 'BORDERS'

Place: European Parliament, Room A1E2, with audio webstreaming

The European Union wishes to enhance its geo-political role. How should it envisage this new relationship with the rest of the world?

Matters to be raised (list for guidance only):

- Deployment of a European diplomatic corps under a single head
- Criteria for accession to the European Union and integration capacity
- Neighbourhood relations and conflict prevention policy
- Development policy and support for democratisation processes

CO-MODERATORS:

- **for the Institutions: Mr Schöpflin** (*Member of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs of the European Parliament*)
- **for civil society: Mr Pii** (*Chairman of a large youth movement for European integration*)

REPORTERS (civil society):

- **Ms Stoeva** (*Representative of an economic think-tank*)
- **Ms Aspe Montoya** (*Representative of a European integration movement*)
- **Mr Hammer** (*Representative of a European integration movement*)

Workshop E: 'HORIZONS'

Place: European Parliament, Room A1G3, with audio webstreaming

The European Union is to agree to an institutional compromise in order to break the deadlock in certain areas. How should the future stages of European integration be envisaged?

Matters to be raised (list for guidance only):

- Ways of consulting and informing the people of Europe and enabling them to take decisions
- The structure of European civil society and ways in which it can act
- A new power enabling the European Parliament to amend the treaties
- Simplifying the machinery of Europe's institutions and making their workings more transparent

CO-MODERATORS:

- **for the Institutions: Mr Leinen** (*Chairman of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs of the European Parliament*)
- **for civil society: Mr Roirant** (*Head of a large European network of transnational civic movements*)

REPORTERS (civil society):

- **Mr Spoel** (*Administrator of a transnational network of civic organisations*)
- **Mr Ingber** (*Adviser to a large European integration movement*)
- **Mr Gabrielle** (*Project leader for a large European student network*)

12.00 – 14.00:

Interval

Lunch for Agora participants (12.00 – 14.00)

14.00 – 16.00: **Plenary session**

Place: EP Chamber, with video webstreaming

Interpretation: English, French, German, Italian, Spanish and Polish

Workshop reports (14.00 – 15.00)

SPEAKERS:

- two **REPORTERS** per workshop (5 minutes per person)

General closing debate and approval of results (15.00 – 16.00)

CO-MODERATORS:

- **for the Institutions: Mr Onesta** (Vice-President of the European Parliament)

- **for civil society: Ms Del Rio** (Journalist and academic, member of a committee of experts on governance) **and Mr de Buck** (Secretary-general of a large international federation of social movements)

16.00 – 16.30: **End of proceedings**

Agora press conference (16.00 – 16.30)

Place: Parliament's press room, PHS 0A50

Interpretation: English, French and German

SPEAKERS:

- one reporter per workshop to set out the results of the Agora

'Family photo' of the participants and presentation of a 'commemorative diploma' (16.00 – 16.30)

Place: EP Chamber
