



**European Movement  
Mouvement Européen**

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**“Perspectives of the institutional evolution of the European Union”**

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**1.** - Despite appearances, the current juridical-institutional situation of the European Union is clear.

**1.1.** - All of the Treaties, including Nice, are currently in force.

**1.2.** - There is a Treaty establishing a Constitution:

- ratified by 13 countries,
- rejected by 2 countries,
- ratification pending in the 10 other countries.

**2.** - How will this situation develop?

There are two theories:

**2.1.** – The first of these is that there are those who want to take advantage of this rejection, and refuse this Constitution for good.

**2.2.** – Then there are those who, like me, believe that a Constitution is needed and that there is no point in creating a new substantially different one.

**3.** - The first position (2.1) creates the following problems:

**3.1.** – There are unresolved institutional problems that the Constitution attempts to remedy:

- The necessity for more democracy and transparency.
- The necessity to define the common values and to give a binding nature to the Charter of Fundamental Rights.
- The necessity to be more effective in the fight against terrorism and organised crime.
- The necessity to strengthen the social dimension of the Union.
- The necessary construction of a basic Common Foreign Security Policy.

**3.2.** - Those who say no to the Constitution don't have an acceptable alternative for everyone.

**3.3.** - The pet phrase “we have to give priority to the problems that citizens are worried about” rightly faces up to these problems and the difficulty in resolving them across those institutions that don’t function well.

**4.** -The success of the second position (2.2) requires time in order to:

**4.1.** - Change the current economic situation.

**4.2.** – Solve the political problems of some reticent countries.

**4.3.** - Visualise more clearly, the “cost of the imperfect Europe”.

**4.4.** – Solve the problem of financing the Union.

**4.5.** - Reflect on the clarifications of the actions which are necessary in order to drive away the mistrust relating to certain aspects of the Constitution.

**4.6.** - Clarify the non-institutional reasons, which clouded the vote on the Constitution (limits of the Union, economic and social European model, the immigration process...).

**5.** – Nonetheless, the conclusion of this process should adopt a shape that:

- Substantially respects the ensemble of consensus contained in the Constitution, already approved by 14 Member States (the Constitutional Treaty is currently on the road to being ratified in Belgium).

-Contributes to the clarification of the objections of the Member States where there was a “No” vote.

**6.** - The European Parliament has the necessary means and democratic representativeness in order to:

-direct the process of reflection and elaboration that are necessary in to arrive at the required solution

-collaborating with national parliaments

-based on democratic debate with the civil society, which the Commission and the Economic and Social Committee want to promote

-obtain the synergy of initiatives that successive Council’s presidencies are likely to launch

- and make use also of a Consultative Committee at the highest level which can spell out the way.

**7.** - **CONCLUSION:** With patience, tenacity and a clear mind the constitutional solution will clear a path for itself.