

RESPECT THE CITIZENS' WILL AND THE CONFERENCE ON THE FUTURE OF EUROPE

PETITION TO THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Together with
the European
Parliament and
the Citizens of
the CoFoE
we call for a
Convention to
reform the
Treaties

Europe is facing a dramatic moment in its history and is being called upon to respond to immense challenges in order to protect its citizens, ensure respect for its fundamental values and defend freedom and democracy. In this context, **the Conference on the Future of Europe was a key democratic moment that involved citizens in a reflection on the nature and future of the European Union.** It was not a formality, or a mere consultative exercise. At the end of a multi-layered process, the citizens drew up precise requests: they demanded that the European Union be strengthened in terms of external and internal action and that European democracy be developed further, both through forms of direct democracy and by giving more powers and competences to the Union's political institutions.

Most of the proposals elaborated in the conference can be implemented under current treaties, **but some require Treaty change.** They are few, but fundamental, for increasing the powers and improving the decision-making mechanisms of the EU.

The European Parliament, with the support of the Commission, has already taken action to call for a Convention to reform the Treaties, and will present a report with its proposals in the spring. **It is up to the Council to take action to allow this request to move forward; but the Council and national governments try to discourage the possibility of initiating EU reform.**

The Citizens' Panel Ambassadors of the Conference on the Future of Europe - who also represented the citizens in the Conference plenary - denounce this silent and stalling behaviour of the Council which is damaging the potential of the Conference. As they state. "In case that amending the Treaties is the only way for implementing a proposal, we see it as a necessity that must be pursued". "The requirement of amending the Treaties and requesting to open a convention is already supported by Parliament and the Commission. The Council has not expressed its support, thus showing again its unwillingness to listen to the citizens' voice, and to pursue the change the EU needs".

The Council cannot arrogate to itself the power to block a democratic process! It cannot pretend that the citizens have not spoken and asked to shape a stronger and more democratic Europe.

Sign the petition to support the demands of the Citizens and the European Parliament!



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I sign the petition to the EU Council of the Union of
European Federalists **RESPECT THE CITIZENS' WILL AND
THE CONFERENCE ON THE FUTURE OF EUROPE**

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REFORM
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