

PROPOSAL FOR A RESOLUTION [1.5] OF THE UEF FEDERAL COMMITTEE: APPEAL FOR A NEW EUROPEAN REFORM INITIATIVE

Presented by Otto Schmuck

1 The UEF Federal Committee, meeting in Berlin on 22 April 2018,

2 calls for the realization of a comprehensive reform agenda in Europe.

3 There is an urgent need for new initiatives in Europe. Multiple crises are still threatening the
4 political project of peace and integration in Europe. Some EU countries still have not recovered
5 from the prolonged economic and financial crisis, and the EU has not succeeded in successfully
6 dealing with the refugee emergency and the problem of domestic security. For the first time in
7 European history a member state is about to leave the Community. Moreover, the integration
8 process is jeopardized by the rise of populist and anti-European parties all over the EU and by
9 the violation of common values and basic rights in some of the member-states.

10 But at the same time there are important positive signs with regard to the future of Europe:

- 11 • After the Brexit decision the 27 remaining EU governments declared in Bratislava
12 unanimously to continue the European integration process.
- 13 • President Macron was elected on the basis of an explicit pro-European program and
14 offered far-reaching reform proposals for the EU.
- 15 • Commission president Juncker initiated with the white paper on the future of Europa a
16 new reform debate and listed in his speech on the State of the Union in September
17 2017 some concrete reform proposals.
- 18 • In Germany the new CDU/CSU and SPD government gave the future of Europe in its
19 coalition agreement top priority.

20 Until the next European election in May 2019 there is window of opportunity for decisive
21 reform steps. The UEF is deeply convinced that only with an effective, democratic and
22 accountable system of government at the European level Europe can become strong enough to
23 guarantee the European citizens' future, both with regards to growth, employment and social
24 welfare and in terms of internal and external security.

25 Demands the following reform steps:

- 26 • Without any delay the German and the French governments should come up with
27 common proposals able to address the serious flaws in the current EU governance,
28 especially as regards the completion of the Monetary Union, the question of migration,
29 the need of a strong European economic policy and of improving common
30 management of internal and external security affairs.
- 31 • Right from the beginning those proposals should be communicated to the governments
32 of the other EU-member states. Of major importance is the inclusion of the smaller EU-
33 partners.
- 34 • On the basis of those proposals the national and European institutions should be

35 invited to promote within the existing Treaties further political co-ordination among
36 the EU countries to face the refugees' crisis, the internal and external security affairs,
37 and to promote the economic plans to foster growth, sustainable development and
38 employment. Another important aim is to overcome the existing intergovernmental
39 agreements by including them in a new and more effective and democratically
40 controlled ordinary law system.

41 • Moreover the national and European institutions should be invited to launch a new
42 phase of integration going beyond the existing Treaties in order to preserve the Union's
43 achievements and to solve the institutional instability the UK referendum has created.
44 This new phase would be needed to consolidate the economic and monetary union into
45 a political union – enabling to build up a truly European sovereignty, creating a federal
46 system of coordinated and independent levels of government – and overcome the
47 current deficits of efficiency, democracy and accountability.

48 • In parallel there should be well structured and organized consultations of the civil
49 organizations and town hall meetings of the citizens in all EU member states on the
50 future of Europe.

51 The UEF and its national sections are prepared to support the reform process and to play a key
52 role in the organization of the citizens' consultations and the town hall meetings on the future
53 of Europe. Further reform initiatives will only be successful if they are supported by the pro-
54 Europe components of the society, the political parties, and the public opinion, for becoming a
55 driving force in the process of European unification.

AMENDMENTS TO PROPOSAL FOR A RESOLUTION 1.5.

Amendment n.	1	<i>submitted by</i> Domènec Ruiz Devesa	
Line number(s):	36		
Original text		Amended text	
The EU countries to face the refugees' crisis		The UE countries to manage the refugees' flows	

Amendment n.	2	<i>submitted by</i> Domènec Ruiz Devesa	
Line number(s):	50		
Original text		Amended text	
Addition at the end of the lin.		Which should be preceded by basic training on EU affairs.	