

## POLITICAL RESOLUTION

***The Union of European Federalists, meeting in their Federal Committee in Berlin on 24-25 October 2009, resolves as follows:***

Recalling the decisions of the UEF Congress in Paris of October 2008,

1. Congratulates the people of Ireland, and those who led the Irish referendum campaign, for their overwhelming endorsement of the Lisbon treaty on 2 October;
2. Welcomes the fact that the treaty has now been supported by democratic decisions in all twenty-seven states of the Union as well as by the European Parliament;
3. Notes the ratification of the treaty by the President of Poland on 9 October;
4. Insists that Czech President Vaclav Klaus accepts the will of both Chambers of Czech Parliament and ratifies the Treaty immediately;
5. Looks forward in any case to the entry into force of the Lisbon treaty at the earliest possible opportunity;
6. Notes the political guidelines of Mr José Manuel Barroso, President-elect of the European Commission;
7. Calls on the European Council, at its meeting on 29-30 October, to nominate, according to the spirit of Lisbon, the twenty-six other members of the Commission, including the Vice-President/Foreign Minister, and the President of the European Council; insists that all candidates and especially this first full-time President of the European Council should have a proven track record of commitment to political integration;
8. Urges the Parliament to proceed swiftly to hear all the candidates for the new Commission, and to insist on the following elements in the programme of the new college over the next five years:
  - (i) a commitment to a radical review of the EU budget and finances with a view to creating a more transparent, progressive and buoyant system capable of sustaining economic recovery and tackling the great challenges like social cohesion of society and climate change; a larger budget in which states agree to a gradual transfer of spending from the national to the EU level where there is added value in terms of economies of scale, cost efficiency and the overcoming of market failure;
  - (ii) the setting up of a 'Delors Committee II', made up of outside experts, to review the arrangements for economic and monetary union with the goal of creating a single financial supervisor at the EU level, to develop a genuine common economic policy serviced by a proper budget, financed by euro-taxes, and EU treasury and the issuance of EU bonds, and to give to the Eurogroup real political and fiscal authority, including single representation at the IMF in order to promote a reform of the international monetary system;
  - (iii) to support the global climate change negotiations with sustained efforts at agreeing and implementing internationally binding measures in which Europe takes the lead in the creation of a World Environmental Organization, endowed with limited but real powers and sufficient financial resources provided by a World Carbon Tax including the financing by the industrialised countries of a significant part of the implementation costs of less developed countries, and the development of new means of global governance;
  - (iv) a commitment to establish a European social policy designed to address the detrimental consequences of the current financial crisis and the repercussions, as far as employment losses

and its negative consequences for the citizens are concerned, notably poverty and social exclusion, especially in the context of the follow-up to the Lisbon strategy to be adopted in 2010;

(v) The early implementation of the Lisbon treaty provisions for the establishment of the External Action Service as an efficient, transparent and democratically accountable European diplomatic service, attached for budgetary and administrative purposes to the Commission, which is given all the necessary means for conducting an active European foreign policy, in particular in the areas of conflict prevention, peace-building, civilian and military crisis management and disarmament; facilitation of the emergence of a core group of states to forge a common defence, including the pooling of military spending and the incremental integration of defence capabilities, which should be put at permanent disposal of the UN.

(vi) the deployment of all the new instruments and assets afforded by the Lisbon treaty to the development of common policies in justice and interior affairs in order to meet the demand of citizens and states for better security and stronger protection of civil liberties and fundamental rights;

(vii) the electoral reform of the European Parliament in time for 2014 so that a certain number of MEPs are elected from trans-national lists for an EU-wide constituency – a reform which will promote the rapid development of the European political party system and personalize and politicise the election campaign thus strengthening the link between the citizens, the Parliament and the European executive, and promoting European democracy;

9. Recognises the need, in the light of the Lisbon treaty, to refresh the debate about the goal of a federal Europe and to review the ways and means of building a united European democracy; encourages the exploitation of all the democratic improvements contained in the treaty, including the citizens' initiative and other aspects of participatory democracy and civil society consultation;

10. Addresses this resolution to the European Council, the European Commission, the European Parliament and the European political parties.