



**Junge Europäische Föderalisten  
Jeunes Européens Fédéralistes  
Young European Federalists**



**U.E.F.**  
*Union of European Federalists  
Union des Fédéralistes Européens  
Union der Europäischen Föderalisten*

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## **Resolution on EUROPEAN POLITICAL PARTIES**

According to the article I – 46, PART VI, of the E.U. Constitutional Treaty: “Political parties at European level contribute to forming European political awareness and expressing the will of the citizens.”

UEF and JEF EUROPE:

Taking into account that:

- The current condition in the political structure of the European parties cannot realistically promote European awareness
- European political parties are actually coalitions of national parties without clearly defined political agendas common to all the national member parties
- The citizens of the member-states vote for a “national” representative rather than a “European” spokesperson following the national political agenda
- The current organizational structure of the European Parties cannot effectively support Europe-wide demands.

Being aware that:

- In representative democracies political parties are the key intermediaries between citizens and the state
- Parties form the political preferences of the citizens, transform them into electoral mandates of party governments and ultimately into public policy
- European political parties could significantly contribute to the democratic accountability of the political process of the European Union and enhance the legitimization of the European governance
- The turnout to the European elections remains extremely low.

UEF and JEF Europe firmly believe that:

- European Parties should run for the European elections
- The European parties should have a key role in increasing the turnout in the European elections
- National parties should be ready to follow the agenda of their European equivalent on European issues
- Candidates MEPs for the European parliamentary elections should be elected under the same political umbrella that the European Parties provide
- European Parties should share specific visions and proposals on European issues that they should communicate to the citizens of the Union
- European Parties should have clear procedures and statutes that will be respected by their members – accordingly the MEPs should comply with the rules and decisions of their political parties
- European Parties should propose a candidate for the Presidency of the European Commission before the European elections

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- In accordance with the proposal by the EP European parties should be represented directly at the EU level. 10% of the seat of the EP should be allocated proportionally after a direct vote given to the European parties. The remaining 90% should be allocated as presently in multiseat national constituencies. By introducing a direct representation for EU parties, the EU parties can present their Commission candidates on a European platform. This would further the European campaign and increase the legitimacy of the Commission.

Therefore UEF and JEF Europe:

- Call upon the national political parties to open the debate about the role of the European ones and commit themselves to strong, alliances, based on the ideology and the vision about Europe
- Request the Commission and the European Parliament to engage citizens – especially those active in political parties- to this dialogue
- State once more their belief that strong European Political Parties will lead EU a step forward and will bring citizens closer to the decision-making level, providing them the necessary political platform for their “European demands”.

*Resolution adopted by the JEF Federal Committee on 31 October 2004  
Resolution adopted by the UEF Federal Committee on 21 November 2004*