



### **Political platform of the EU Democrats**

The EU Democrats (EUD) is an alliance of national parties, movements and parliamentarians across Europe that believe decisions must be made as close to the citizens as possible. Our members and allies are against further centralization of power in Brussels and work for the devolution of power from the EU to national and regional parliaments.

Transparency, subsidiarity, democracy and diversity are the four main principles of the EUD - values that we all share. Consequently, EUD takes a strong stand against all forms of racism, anti-Semitism and xenophobia.

The development of the European Union is a matter of great concern to us.

The European Union erodes European democracy in two ways: first, the ever-increasing transfer of power to Brussels widens the gap between citizens and the elites. This transfer makes it more difficult for citizens to control their governments. Secondly, the treaties of the European Union are written to widen the power of Brussels and big corporations at the expense of decision making in democratically elected bodies.

The EUD believes that decisions regarding the balance of power between market and democratically elected institutions should be decided in national parliaments according to results from national elections, and not by treaties that are interpreted by a small number of judges in the European Court in Luxemburg. This is a fundamental, undemocratic flaw in the basic construction of the Union.

The EUD consists of members, movements and member parties from a broad political and regional spectrum; from Scandinavia to the Balkans and the Iberian Peninsula. Our members have the necessary integrity to say: Stop!

The European Union is heading the wrong direction with its ever-increasing centralisation of power in Brussels. The EUD strategy is to unite critical forces that embrace our ideological foundation in a political struggle against the federalization of Europe.

On the whole, the three big political families: Christian Democrats, Socialists and Liberals, share a federalist agenda that controls the European Parliament. But they are silent about their long term goal of creating a United States of Europe. They know that such a development has no support among the citizens of the European states.

### **The daily work of the EU Democrats involves the following activities:**

- \* Arguing in favour of political independence for the member states and their national elected institutions.
- \* Monitoring the implementation of the EU Constitutional Treaty (the Lisbon Treaty) in the European Union and highlighting its problems in relation to the political independence of the member states.
- \* Working against new initiatives from the European institutions aiming at controlling more policy areas.
- \* Working against the development of a European Union Foreign Service that will undermine the member states foreign, security and defence policy.
- \* Working against the expansion of the euro zone. The EUD believes that a common currency for Europe is harmful both from a democratic and an economic point of view. The economic development since the introduction of the euro has proved our position to be correct.
- \* Working for transparency and reforms aimed at total openness in all EU institutions.

### **Our vision about future cooperation in Europe:**

Our common goal is to diminish the power of EU institutions and to create a Europe with peaceful cooperation amongst sovereign States. Within this overall strategy, there are many alternative specific approaches:

1. For some members the above described goal can only be achieved if their countries leave the European Union.
2. Other members would prefer to change the present European Union into something similar to the European Free Trade Association.
3. Yet others might have the opinion that the European Union is not only a common market but also an opportunity to cooperate in other fields such as environmental policy.

The EU Democrats find no contradictions between critical movements and "withdrawalists" since we all agree on a fundamental issue in present day politics: To stop the development of the United States of Europe! We must work together to stop the erosion of democracy, improve transparency, openness and national sovereignty.

### **Our future tasks**

EUD has a role to play in the politics of Europe.

We have developed information campaigns on the Lisbon Treaty in the first and second referendums and we will continue with our campaigns in the coming referendums: one in

Sweden on the euro and one or several in Denmark also on the euro, as well as the Edinburgh agreement.

We also believe that Icelandic voters are in need of EU information in the event a referendum takes place. Providing information in Iceland is one of our top priorities in 2010.

Furthermore, EU critical political forces around Europe need a contact in Brussels that can provide actual information on EU affairs.

The failure of the euro is an essential subject on which we can provide information, especially in countries such as the United Kingdom, Sweden, Denmark, Czech Republic, Poland and Estonia.

The EUD must also fight for the rule of transparency within the EU institutions. For example transparency in the disclosure of information must be the rule not the exception and it should also be applied to the EU budget.

The EU Democrats have the network and the necessary expertise to get the job done.

### **Is there any other alternative?**

Let's face it, even if the no-side won some battles (Nice, Constitution and Lisbon), the elites have managed to approve and ratify all treaties. We must join forces NOW in order to save democracy!