

European Movement  
ITALIAN COUNCIL

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Rome, 24<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Mrs. **Roberta METSOLA**  
President  
European Parliament  
Rue Wiertz  
1047 Brussels  
Belgium

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Dear President Metsola,  
Dear MEPs,

First of all, we wish you a happy 2023 year and a fruitful work for the future of the European Union.

If the Council will accept the proposals adopted by plenary Assembly in May 2022, 470 days left to the European elections that could be held the 9<sup>th</sup> of May 2024.

As European Movement, we strongly support the content of the report adopted in May 2022 and we are convinced that its enter in force with the common agreement of all the Member Countries will be in the interest of the European democratic dimension and of all the European citizens.

We have decided to send an open letter to the Council of the Union to remember the need and the urgency to give a coherent follow up to this report and to establish, as soon as possible, a unique date for the tenth European elections.

These elections should be an historical time to open the way to a deep reform of the European system, more than fifteen years after the signature of the Treaty of Lisbon, to:

- Update the division of the competences between the European, the national and the local levels in the framework of a dynamic principle of subsidiarity
- Confirm the principle of the primacy of the European law and the respect the Rule of Law as the main values of a common and ever closer Union
- Simplify, make more effective, transparent and democratic the European institutional system

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- Create the best conditions to plan the future of Europe going beyond a Union able to respond to emergencies
- Prepare the European institutions to welcome the candidates countries when they will fulfill the entire conditions to enter in the European Union.

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We strongly support the will of the European Parliament to assure an ambitious follow up to the conclusions of the Conference of the future of Europe and to give concrete answers to the needs expressed by the citizens engaged in the Conference and we are convinced that the best method could be to choose a way in two steps:

- First of all, strengthen the European policies within the current treaties in due time before the European elections to show the capacity of the European Union to act in a situation characterized by geopolitical, economic and social emergencies
- At the same time, elaborate the political framework of a deep reform of the European Union as the contribution of the outgoing Parliament to the European electoral campaign in view of the leading and constituent role of the new elected Parliament going beyond the Treaty of Lisbon.

You can find here in attach and *pour mémoire* a paper written by the European Movement and its collective members collecting our opinions about the main elements of the future reform of the European Union and starting from the proposals discussed in the Constitutional Affairs Committee and in the others "*pour avis*" Committees.

We are ready to integrate our proposals with more ideas and suggestions.  
Best regards.



Pier Virgilio Dastoli  
PRESIDENT

**OPEN LETTER TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT ON THE FUTURE OF EUROPE**

The European Movement in Italy warmly welcomes the decision of the EP to open the way to a deep reform of the EU consistently with the proposals adopted by the Conference on the future of Europe.

The European Movement in Italy subscribes the need and the urgency to change the Treaty of Lisbon before the end of this legislature:

- with a simplification of the EU institutional architecture,
- with more transparency and accountability,
- reshaping the EU in a way that will guarantee its open strategic autonomy with a single foreign and security policy including a common defence,
- in the effective and democratic decision making,
- and with a new reflection on EU competences.

The European Movement in Italy is ready to support the EP proposals to amend the treaties:

- concerning the inclusion of health, healthcare, education, and energy among the shared competences,
- introducing an emergency clause whereby the Council by qualified majority voting and the EP can empower the Commission to act with extraordinary competences and to mobilize all necessary instruments in case of major crises in fields such as security and defense, health, and climate,
- changing unanimity decision making to qualified majority voting in the Council,
- providing the EP with full co-decision legislative rights where it has a consultative role and co-decision rights on the Budget including on the revenues,
- a genuine legislative right of initiative complemented by the European Citizens Initiative directly addressed to the EP,
- introducing an EU-wide referendum,
- introducing a social progress protocol to ensure that social rights are fully protected and safeguarded in case of conflict with economic freedoms, while respecting the competences of the social partners,
- introducing a European citizenship statute including the non-EU residents and a specific appeal to the Court of Justice on Fundamental Rights.

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The European Movement in Italy draws the awareness of the EP to clarify the question of the political borders of the EU, the institutional architecture of the Continent, and the division of competences in a multispeed European integration and it is ready to submit its proposals before the start of the Convention.

However, and in view of the enlargement of the EU, the European Movement in Italy is convinced that the political deepening of the European integration to achieve its federal goal is inescapable - overcoming the conflicts between absolute sovereignties which risk blocking the way to a deep EU reform - by the constituent role of the EP elected in May 2024 on behalf of EU citizens.

At the same time, it is necessary to create a public space where the European interests prevail empowering by appropriate methods the participation of structured civil society, social partners, local and regional authorities in the unification of Europe, maintaining and enhancing the innovative dynamic created by the Conference on the future of Europe with the direct and deliberative engagement of the citizens.

Consistently with the role of the Convention, emphasized by several CSOs networks as well as *Citizens Take Over Europe* - considering the deadline of the 8<sup>th</sup> of June for the amendments in AFCO, the deadline of the 14<sup>th</sup> of June for the opinion of the other committees and the next plenary session of 22<sup>nd</sup> of June - the European Movement in Italy suggests:

- to strengthen the effectiveness and the democracy of the EU,
- additionally introducing shared competences in the fields of industrial and SMEs policies, training, culture, youth, and Civil Protection,
- exclusive competences in the Articles 208 to 221 TFEU,
- suggests to pursue social progress reinforcing EU competences to raise minimum standards and setting up European facilities for upward convergence in the social field,
- changing unanimity decision making to qualified majority voting in the European Council and in the Council by amending Articles 22, 42.2, 42.4, 46.6, 48.4, 48.6 TEU and Articles 19, 103, 153.2.b, 192, 311, 314, 352 TFEU,
- providing the EP with full co-decision rights notably in the Articles 5 and 121 TFEU always where the unanimity decision making change to qualified majority voting and in the nomination of the Members of the Court of Justice.

Moreover, and in accordance with the principle "*no taxation without representation*" the European Movement in Italy suggests submitting the multiannual financial framework on expenses and genuine own resources to an inter-parliamentary conference (assises)

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*interparlementaires*) where all the members split in political and transnational groups acting by a qualified majority.

Even more, the European Movement in Italy suggests providing the EP a full constitutional right to modify the treaties following the assent of an inter-parliamentary conference (*Assises interparlementaires*) acting by a qualified majority voting without an intergovernmental Conference.

Thank you in advance to support our proposals.

**Rome, 23 of May 2022 (thirty-six anniversary of Altiero Spinelli's death)**