

ERC NEWSLETTER 03/ MAR 18, 2003

<http://www.european-referendum.org>

Dear friends,

this ERC-newsletter will be published on a regularly basis

In the future we will publish it more often because there is

a lot of dynamic in the process right now :-)

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AND HERE ARE THE NEWS:

- 1.) Convention members support appeal for referenda!
- 2.) Increasing ERC-activities in the countries
- 3.) Supporters needed: N O W !!!
- 4.) Homepage: regularly updated and interactive
- 5.) 14 people working for ERC

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1.) CONVENTION MEMBERS SUPPORT APPEAL FOR REFERENDA!

After about 40 meetings with convention members during one year we succeeded to co-initiate a working group of convention members, MEPs and NGOs. The convention members created a text about the need of referenda in order to adopt a possible EU constitution. This text - which is very similar to our appeal – shall be put into the conventions debate and shall be part of the (final) draft constitution. 21 members (!) of the convention (and alternates) signed it already. A lot more gave us to understand that they will think it over or sign later. In addition our ERC-friends in a lot of countries are going to make appointments with “their” representatives in the convention. If you also want to contact one of “your” countries’ convention members to make him/her sign the draft text, please contact Michael Efler <mailto:michael.efler@mehr-demokratie.de> who is the coordinator of this process. Please get active now to make sure that the people are involved at all in the constitutional process!

Read more details: <http://european-referendum.org/convention.html>

See also article in euobserver:

<http://www.euobserver.com/index.phtml?sid=7&aid=10559>

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2.) INCREASING ERC-ACTIVITIES IN THE COUNTRIES

Our goal is to find active groups in the several countries which take the responsibility for the ERC. Step by step the activity level gets higher:

Signature gathering have started in DK, D and B
Active lobbying in DK, LU, D, B, NL, GR, CZ
Building a ERC network in DK, LU, NL, B, D, E
Events active/passive in DK, NL, LU, F, E, D
Translation of materials DK, LU, D, B, NL, CZ/SLO, E, RO, F
Own ERC homepage in DK: <http://www.folkeafstemning-eu.dk/>
See also: <http://www.european-referendum.org/up/up18.html>

We are going to find supporting groups in the UK, FIN and MAL.
There are already good contacts and some meetings planned.
Good contacts to accession countries as SK, SLO, EST
who will join the campaign after their accession referenda.
Also good contacts and supporters in BG and RO.

IF YOU WANT TO GET ACTIVE IN YOUR COUNTRY PLEASE
CONTACT Ronald Pabst: <mailto:pabst@european-referendum.org>

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3.) SUPPORTERS NEEDED: N O W !!!

See the current supporter list with 40 organisations from 17 countries.
We are in touch with a lot more who still have to consider their
support: <http://european-referendum.org/appeal/app3.html>

PLEASE support us NOW! If you – as an organisation - can accept the
4 demands of the European Referendum Campaign, which you will find at
the beginning of our start-page, just “sign” it online
as an organisation: <http://european-referendum.org/appeal/app2.html>
There are NO OBLIGATIONS connected with the signing.
It only entitles us to put you on the supporter list!

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4.) HOMEPAGE: REGULARLY UPDATED AND INTERACTIVE

We (especially Ronald Pabst) worked a lot on our homepage.
There are regular nearly daily “updated news” about questions
of the referendum partly taken from the <http://www.euobserver.com>,
partly our own news. Furthermore there are a lot of interactive
tools (thanks to Jonas von Poser who supported us technically)
Find here a selection of options:

Send an e-card to your friends to promote the ERC:
See: <http://www.european-referendum.org/cards/de/card.html>

Sign the appeal online! If you did not do it yet, do it now!
See: <http://european-referendum.org/appeal/app1.html>

For quick and basic information: Take a tour!
See: <http://www.european-referendum.org/tour/1.html> (java script)

Country data and prospects concerning referenda:

See: <http://european-referendum.org/background/index.html>

Discussion Forum (hardly used) – its up to you to get it alive!

See: <http://www.european-referendum.org/forum/>

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5.) 14 PEOPLE WORKING FOR THE ERC

Compared to January there was an explosion of manpower concerning the ERC. Things are going on much faster now. There are 14 (!) people involved in the ERC – only on the European level (5 of them working full time). The rest is in charge of certain projects. – In addition to that there are all the people who are working in the several countries. Here an overview to get the right contact:

OFFICE FRANKFURT:

Heiko Dittmer <mailto:heiko.Dittmer@yucom.be> (working in Brussels)

=> networking, new contacts, coordination, lobbying, strategy

Thomas Rupp <mailto:rupp@european-referendum.org>

=> networking, lectures/articles, coordination, new projects, strategy

Ronald Pabst <mailto:pabst@european-referendum.org>

=> homepage, networking, office organisation, fundraising, internships

Stephanie Seitz <mailto:seitz@european-referendum.org>

=> media mailing list, interview project

Alexander Gräf <mailto:graef@european-referendum.org>

=> fundraising, European Social Forum Paris

Achim Maas <mailto:maas@european-referendum.org>

=> increasing traffic of our homepage, links

Jeanette Ehrmann => upkeep and maintenance of database

Imogen Kühn => fair referenda project, research

Daniela Betz => democracy (deficit) in the EU, research

Jonas von Poser => homepage, technical support

Marco Glos => transmit postcard, graphic and design support

OFFICE BERLIN:

Michael Efler <mailto:michael.efler@mehr-demokratie.de>

=> responsible for lobbying, scientific consultancy, lectures

Carsten Berg <mailto:cberg@rz.uni-potsdam.de> => lobbying, networking

Lars Bosselmann => lobbying, homepage

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That's it for today.... All the best

Heiko Dittmer Roland Pabst Michael Efler Thomas Rupp