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Friends Les amis of Europe de l'Europe

Miljø- og Planlægningsudvalget (2.
samling) MPU alm. del - Bilag 197
Offentligt

For the Attention of:
The Committee on Environment
National Parliament of Denmark

Fax: 0045 33375327

Brussels, 03 May 2005

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to you to propose the Committee on Environment to send a representative to take part in either of the two Press and Policymakers' Roundtables, that are being organised by *Friends of Europe* as a part of the official programme of the European Commission's 2005 Green Week.

As you will see from the attached material, we are holding the first of these Roundtables, entitled «The environmental challenge of global transport» on the afternoon of the Wednesday June 1, and the second «A green agenda for global business» on the following morning. Both will take place in the Commission's Charlemagne Building in Brussels, together with Green week events as a whole.

We would be delighted to welcome you to whichever of these Roundtables and would like to invite you to address the most suitable session during the day. Each will bring together some 45 senior EU policymakers, government representatives, NGO leaders, industrialists and journalists, around the table with another 100 observers. This interesting cross section of senior personalities will make an important contribution to the debate on tackling climate change. Observers will be able to listen to the discussions either in the room or on TV screens outside the main hall. A publication summarising the day's discussions will then widely be distributed to governments and business leaders.

The aim of these Roundtables is to contribute significantly to the debate on Climate Change, which is of course the over-arching theme for this year's Green Week. There will be few if any official presentations, but rather a genuine debate driven by two moderators. *Friends of Europe*, a prominent Brussels based think tank, will be circulating a report on both Roundtable discussions to business leaders and the media across Europe.

Please find attached further information on *Friends of Europe* as well as the Roundtable programmes.

I look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely,

Nathalie Furrer
Director
Friends of Europe

Note fra udvalgssekretæren:
Eventuelle deltagere bedes venligst
rette henvendelse til sekretariatet.

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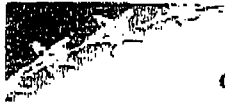
Green Cami

Friends of Europe is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to the analysis and wider understanding of European policy issues

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VOLVO

GREEN WEEK
Of Environment



THE ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGE OF GLOBAL TRANSPORT

DO EU TRANSPORT POLICIES ENCOURAGE SUSTAINABLE GROWTH?

A *Friends of Europe* Press and Policymakers' Roundtable
On the occasion of the Green Week 2005 of the European Commission
Brussels, Wednesday 1 June 2005

Session I
14.00 - 15.30

CAN CLEANER TRANSPORT TECHNOLOGIES WIN REWARDS IN THE MARKETPLACE?

Public opinion increasingly accepts the need for durable consumption, but the higher cost of cleaner technologies on the road and in the air remains a barrier in rich and poor countries alike. What incentives could encourage major R&D investments in low-carbon, no-carbon engines? New units ranging from hybrid to hydrogen have so far shown that gasoline and diesel engines are still the only practicable means of powering cars and trucks. What taxes and other measures might encourage both producers and consumers to opt for cleaner vehicles? What is the outlook for cleaner aviation and maritime transport, and for increased use of rail? What infrastructural and cultural policies are needed if Europe is to have better roads and more responsible drivers?

15.30-16.00 *Coffee break*

Session II
16.00 - 17.15

CLEAN FUELS: WHAT SCOPE FOR PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN VEHICLE MAKERS AND ENERGY GIANTS?

The development of revolutionary clean engines depends to a large extent on new fuel technologies. Forecasters may warn that the world's proven oil reserves are diminishing, but for the oil majors the business logic for researching into alternative fuels remains weak. What is the outlook for fuels like LPG, BTL (biomass to liquid) and the diesel substitute dmE, and what signs are there of research partnerships being developed between vehicle producers and energy giants? Could sectors like electricity and gas, and agriculture or biomass play a bigger role in the search for cleaner transport technologies?

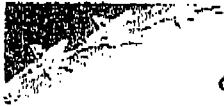
17.15-17.30 *Coffee break*

Session III
17.30-18.45

WHAT STRATEGIES ARE NEEDED TO INVOLVE THE DEVELOPING WORLD?

Passenger car use in the EU is expected to rise by 16% between now and 2010, but alarming as the CO2 implications of that may be they pale in comparison to the road transport picture worldwide. Even a dramatic no-carbon vehicle engine breakthrough in the industrialized countries would only slow but not halt the rising output of greenhouse gasses from the estimated 600m cars and trucks on the world's roads. Is a new policy initiative needed to bring tomorrow's economic powerhouses like China, India, Brazil and Indonesia into the forefront of the drive for cleaner transport?

19.00 *Dinner*



Friends Les amis
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GREEN WEEK
DE Environment



A GREEN AGENDA FOR GLOBAL BUSINESS

DEFINING THE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES
OF INDUSTRIES AND ALL EU STAKEHOLDERS

A Friends of Europe Press & Policymakers' Roundtable
Brussels, Thursday 2 June 2005

Session I
09.00 - 10.30

DO WE NEED A NEW 'BARGAIN' BETWEEN EUROPE'S LAWMAKERS AND WEALTH-CREATORS?

Industry leaders are calling on the EU and its member governments for greater consistency in policies ranging from environmental protection to energy issues, and from taxation regimes to their attempts to promote innovation. Europe's lawmakers, on the other hand, are aware that the pressures of climate change and public opinion are demanding green commitments that will go beyond those of the Kyoto Protocol. How could Europe's major industries meet still more rigorous environmental standards without endangering their international competitiveness? How can we reconcile Kyoto and the Lisbon objectives? Do we need a comprehensive new 'bargain' between Europe's lawmakers and its wealth-creators?

10.30-11.00 *Coffee Break*

Session II
11.00-12.15

HOW SHOULD EUROPE'S CONSUMERS AND CITIZENS BE PRESENTED WITH THE CHOICES WE FACE?

Europe's ever-stricter environmental standards reflect widespread public concern over climate change, but have we Europeans as consumers yet faced up to the difficult choices we must make? Surveys show that although people may support and even vote for tougher rules to protect the environment, they won't necessarily as citizens pay the extra costs involved in producing greener products. How stark are the choices that now face us all, as both consumers and voters, and what can be done to present these choices to European public opinion? Is there a case for much closer collaboration between European business and officialdom on explaining environmental issues to consumers and making regulations and consumer advice more understandable?

12.15-12.30 *Coffee Break*

Session III
12.30-13.30

WHAT SHOULD EU STAKEHOLDERS DO TO MAKE KYOTO'S POST-2012 TIMETABLE AND TARGET REALISTIC?

With the pace of climate change accelerating, what measures should be introduced internationally after 2012, when the Kyoto Protocol's opening phase is over? How should the EU use its position as the world's unchallenged leader on global environmental policies to put together a new international strategy for cutting greenhouse gas emissions? What roles should be assigned to the major stakeholders, ranging from industry and governments to NGOs and consumer groups? Given that the challenge of slowing and eventually halting climate change is offering Europe a global leadership role, how best can the EU secure the backing of would-be industrial giants like China, India and Brazil, not to speak of greater cooperation from the U.S.?

13.30 *Lunch - End of Roundtable*



With the support of





Friends of Europe Les amis of Europe de l'Europe

Friends of Europe in brief

Friends of Europe (FoE) is Brussels' liveliest think-tank, aiming to stimulate new thinking on the future of Europe and broaden the EU debate. It is non-profit, with no national or political bias and a membership base that is as youthful as it is influential. Our goal since 1999 has been to take discussion of the key issues confronting the EU outside the charmed circle of the Brussels elite by linking up with major think tanks and media in Europe's national capitals.



KEY ISSUES

Two issues have formed a leitmotif of our debates and publications: reform of EU-level decision-making and ways of improving the EU's information and communication. These themes underpinned two ground breaking FoE publications: "Blueprint for a Reform" and "Getting the Message Across".

In addition, *Friends of Europe's* activities cover a wide range of topics and aim to take stock of the state of play in many of Europe's key policy areas. FoE's style and ethos is to provide an open forum for EU and national policymakers, business leaders and NGOs. As well as appealing to EU policymakers, our events are popular with the youth, MEPs, government representatives, researchers and professional consultants who do so much to help shape legislative initiatives.

INFORMAL AND LIVELY



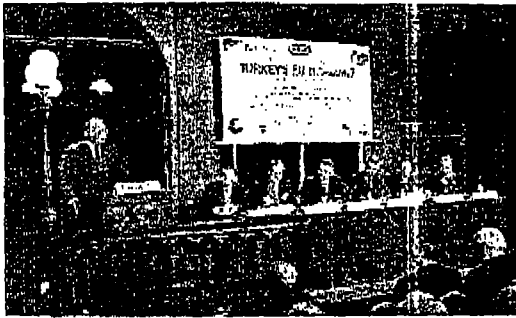
Our "Café Crossfire" evening debates, European Policy Summit international conferences and "Press and Policymakers" dinner debates at the historic Bibliothèque Solvay in the heart of Brussels are unique opportunities. They are often adversarial as well as being informal and lively. They offer ample opportunities for networking and off-the-record discussions with policymakers, corporate leaders and top EU officials. Through our regular "Atlantic Rendez-Vous" satellite-linked policy debates between Brussels and Washington DC, *Friends of Europe's* network now extends to specialist audiences on the other side of the Atlantic.

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FoE is dominated by neither academic nor corporate opinion. To stimulate public interest in the topics under discussion, the press is actively involved in many of FoE's activities. Our goal is to inform a wider audience across Europe about the issues that will decide the future of Europe. Our *Hearing from Europe* week-long satellite debate in June 2003 brought together political, business and civil society leaders in 28 countries, and was broadcast by 19 different European TV stations.

OUR MAIN ACTIVITIES



'European Policy Summit' international conferences

- Monthly one-day conference debates on a series of themes to be held on an annual basis;
- Purpose is to keep all stakeholders regularly informed about and involved in the key debates and to reach a wider audience than the Brussels circles;
- Participants have ample time for debate, questions and comments;
- Topics are divided into three clearly-defined sessions.



'Café Crossfire' evening debates

- Lively and genuine debates featuring a minimum of 2 speakers with opposing views;
- Set speeches limited to 5 minutes, followed by an interview session with 2 moderators;
- Café-style seating in small groups of 4 people to encourage an easy and informal atmosphere;
- Pre-debate drinks and Meeting Point networking;
- Usually on Monday evenings.



'Press and Policymakers' dinner debates

- Designed to encourage specialists in clearly defined economic or business sectors to discuss European policy issues with key EU officials;
- 19.00 welcome cocktail preceding the dinner;
- 25 or so participants including key journalists and high level representatives of business and the EU institutions; Exclusively for Friends of Europe's VIP members;
- Informal debate around the table;
- Unique opportunity for networking in a close, intimate environment.



'Atlantic Rendez-Vous' Satellite-linked policy debates

- 90 minute regular link between Brussels and Washington DC;
- 2 senior US and 2 European representatives;
- Purpose is to give experts in specific policy areas a genuine feel for the political mood across the water;
- Participants are able to question the introductory speakers in both Washington and Brussels, and also to respond to points raised by other participants on either side of the Atlantic;
- By invitation only for some 80 people at each end.

WHAT PARTICIPANTS RECENTLY SAID IN A FRIENDS OF EUROPE'S EVENT

"The EU is not asking Turkey to do more than EU member states or other candidate countries. There are no double standards."

Günter Verheugen, EU Commissioner for Enlargement



"If the EU wants to be a global power in the 21st Century, it must open up in terms of religion, race, historical background and geography. This can't happen without Turkey."

Oguz Satici, President, Turkish Exporters' Assembly (TIM)



"A cold peace has replaced the Cold War, Russia must be a participant in the key decision-making process with Europe."

Sergey Oznobishchev, Director, Institute for Strategic Assessments, Russia



"The EU will provide prosperity. Not just for the member states, but for Europe as a whole."

Väino Reinart, Ambassador, Permanent Representation of Estonia to the EU



"With its new economic strength and the search for political identity, Europe must decide on its own foreign and security policy."

Adrian Nastase, Prime Minister of Romania



"A successful neighbourhood policy will help the EU to digest the latest and future enlargements. It will stop the EU being the victim of its own success."

Pierre Chevalier, Personal Representative of the Belgian Prime Minister and Foreign Minister for the IGC



"We are fully convinced that REACH will contribute to the Lisbon strategy by stimulating the chemical sector. This is one of the most important industrial sectors in Europe, and we want to invigorate industrial leaders to move forward European industry as a whole".

J Delbeke, Director, Air Quality, Climate Change, Chemicals and Biotechnology, Directorate General for the Environment, European Commission



"Any more delays in REACH will reduce confidence further. In the end, people won't know whom to believe. European Institutions should provide a framework for business and consumers to put an end to the climate of fear."

Charles Laroche, Vice-President, Corporate Relations and Public Affairs, Unilever HPC Europe



"We need a process of continuous inclusion into working life, so that flexibility and adaptability are the result of freedom of choice for everybody, not just something which is imposed by enterprises."

Vittorio Prodi MEP



"If we continue to discuss about mutual recognition or full harmonisation in financial services, it will not be possible to make any progress."

Michel Pébereau, Chairman of BNP Paribas and Member of the European Financial Services Round Table (EFR)



OUR NETWORK

Friends of Europe's activities are directed by a Board of Trustees that is chaired by Viscount Etienne Davignon and made up of senior figures contributing to the process of European integration who include Jean-Luc Dehaene, Giuliano Amato, Javier Solana, Michel Barnier, Pat Cox, Antonio Vitorino, Carl Bildt, Pascal Lamy and Baron Daniel Janssen. Trustees also contribute to FoE publications such as "Salvaging the Wreckages of the European Constitution".

To stimulate the debate outside Brussels, FoE works in partnership with leading national think tanks in Europe and in the United States.

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