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“Concluding remarks at the Interparliamentary Committee Meeting: “State of the debate on the Future of Europe”

10th October 2018, European Parliament, Brussels, Belgium

Our exchange today has given us a lot of evidence of a shared awareness that future of Europe is in our hands. We need close cooperation among all levels of European and national governance. This cooperation is crucial if we want to restore European confidence of the citizens. And without any doubt, there is an overwhelming need for national parliaments to take Europe closer to people, their voters.

In this context, and many have said that, the results of the task force on subsidiarity, proportionality and doing less more efficiently had implications for all European institutions. We as European Parliament, and the Constitutional Affairs Committee in particular, have to reflect on this valuable report. But many have also confirmed that wherever common efforts are needed to find solutions to problems Europe faces we need more Europe.

Europe has given us seventy years of living in peace. But we live in times when Europe has to be caring and fair. To restore trust of citizens, transparency in decision-making is fundamental. Brexit, a sad and wrong experience, helps us to discover that people care about European citizenship and European identity. The full awareness of this will not come overnight, education is essential.

But a caring Europe, Europe that protects citizens cannot be about going backward as some national and European leaders seem to dream of. We live times when political parties have got weaker, leadership is confused. We need leaders that are capable of establishing constructive dialogue with citizens.

We have ignored the need of a genuine dialogue for far too long. It is not about informing or communicating, it is about listening and responding and about guts to stand up to populist empty slogans. Especially, when concerns and grievances of citizens are, more often than we think, legitimate. And let us make it clear, it is unfair to try to convince citizens that Europe can protect them better with the resources limited to one percent of European GDP and less competences. This is impossible.

Continuation of institutional reforms may be less urgent than developing a dialogue with people but still needed. Institutions are an important constitutive element of European democracy. We know what to do and how to strengthen European institutional set up and make it more democratic.

Completion of the European Monetary Union reform is also about stability and safety, about the quality of life and reducing costs of future crises. So we have to explain to people why European deposit insurance scheme is important. Why reforming the European Stability Mechanism matters for them. Why it matters to ensure that euro plays a more meaningful role in the global economy. Why the European Parliament should play together with national parliaments a more significant role in the European Semester process. Why strengthening of the European Monetary Union does not have to mean a deeper split between those who share common currency and those whose political leaders take a risk of growing opportunity costs of staying outside.

We can make citizens understand why security and immigration policy should be a joint task between European and national common decision-making and why solidarity could make a difference here. Unfortunately, weaknesses in the functioning of democracy are the fact of life at all levels of governance. There are national leaders practicing democracy by bending the rule of law and undermining European values and principles. This must stop. This destroys political cohesion in Europe and works against confidence, which is a key element of European foundation. So yes, we have to change the way we make Europe go forward

That is why what matters today more than ever is trust, democracy, transparency, pro dialogue leadership, engagement of citizens, in particular the young ones, who

have more in common among themselves across Europe than with older generation at national level. This is where change is needed. This is where no change would not be a wise option.