

# **The position of the Czech Delegation on the Institutions of the European Union**

Jana Dvořáková  
Ester Fülekyová

In the new constitutional treaty the responsibility of national states should be emphasized for the implementation of public authority in all domains in which member states did not entrust their competencies to the institutions of the EU.

## **The Parliament**

- Since the European Parliament has a major role and is the assembly of the representatives of all European citizens, MEP's should have a strong support from the voters through a high turnout in the elections. This is not the case so far but could be helped through clearly identifiable party-politics in the Parliament with which voters could identify.
- Our recommendation is to increase the Parliaments powers so that it has rights of co-decision in all areas, such as agriculture and fisheries, where the Council decides on legislation by QMV. Currently QMV without co-decision means that national Parliaments or the European Parliament can neither block decisions.
- The European Parliament should also build closer links with national Parliaments. MEPs should have the right to attend meetings of the national Parliaments.
- Legislative acts of the Commission should be sent straight to national Parliaments and national legislative bodies should be informed in advance about the annual legislative plan of the European Commission.
- In the early warning system each Parliament should have two votes, in the case of two-chamber parliaments each chamber should have one vote. The Commission is obliged to review the proposition of a legal act against which 1/3 of the national Parliaments objects and argue its standpoint.

## **The European Council Chair**

- From the position of a small country, the Czech Republic does not support the idea of the EU President. As it is a great move for the accessing countries to entrust some of their competencies to the institutions of the EU, there should at least be a transition period between the accession to the European Community and the acceptance to the „political union“. Most of the formerly centrally planned economies fear to be dictated, which is a psychological block and the idea of the EU Presidency is a new move without any precedents.