

FEDERAL ALLIANCE OF EUROPEAN FEDERALISTS
JULY 2021

**THE FAEF DECLARATION
AND
ITS CITIZENS' CONVENTION**



CONTENTS

CALL FOR PARTICIPATING	3
REASON FOR THE DECISION	6
● ANARCHIES, CRISES, AND SUCCESSIVE EUROPEAN STATE SYSTEMS	6
● THE EVER-FAILING PURSUIT OF A FEDERAL EUROPE IN A NUTSHELL	7
● THE TREATY APPROACH NEVER LEADS TO A FEDERAL EUROPE	9
● FAEF THUS OPTS FOR ITS OWN CITIZENS' CONVENTION	11
THE FORMAT OF FAEF'S CITIZENS' CONVENTION	13
● HOW DOES FAEF ORGANISE THE CITIZENS' CONVENTION?	13
● WHAT IS THE CORE OF THE CITIZENS' CONVENTION?	13
● THE LEGITIMACY OF THE CITIZENS' CONVENTION AND THE SELECTION OF ITS MEMBERS	14
● THE CONVENTION PROCESS AND TIMELINE	15
THE PROTOCOL OF FAEF'S CITIZENS' CONVENTION	16



Call for participating
 in the online Citizens' Convention
 of the Federal Alliance of European Federalists
 from 2 October 2021 to 31 May 2022

In May 2021, the EU-Conference on the Future of Europe began. Since 1800, this theme has been the subject of dozens of citizens' initiatives, plans, conferences, agreements, and treaties. All against the same background: the pursuit of a federal Europe. And all with the same fate: no federal Europe.

As soon as these citizens' initiatives reached the level that they had to be taken seriously by established political bodies, they were thwarted. Often, these societal initiatives failed due to a lack of knowledge of constitutional and institutional standards of federal state formation; but also due to naivety of federalist movements about the ability to make power-oriented administrators retreat in favour of democratic representation of the people, based on the adage 'All sovereignty rests with the people'.

In particular, the post-war **treaty-based vision** of federalism has consistently frustrated the creation of the federal United States of Europe. In fact, all positive examples of federalization (like USA, Switzerland, Canada, Australia, Germany, Austria, etc.) clearly demonstrate that you need a **Constitution** to establish a democratic federation. However, due to an endless sequence of failures, in Europe the treaty-based approach is still preponderant.

The format of the 2021-2022 EU Conference is, if anything, even worse than the previous one, the Convention on the future of the European Union from 2001-2003, led by former French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing. That Convention - with the aim of giving the Union a federal character through a Constitution - ultimately led in 2009 to the Treaty of Lisbon, and with it a strengthening of precisely the opposite of a federal Europe, namely a further expansion and deepening of the system of treaties. This is the so-called intergovernmental governance, also known as multilateralism. The intergovernmental system is, with its hierarchical, administration-oriented culture, legislation, structure, and procedures, the natural enemy of constitutional federal statehood which, with a Constitution of, by and for the people, finds its basis in society.

In the structure of the present EU-Conference, any reference to constitutional federalisation of Europe is absent. The aim is explicitly to further strengthen intergovernmental governance, if necessary, by adapting and expanding the system of treaties. The claim that things will be different now from those of past decades because some eight hundred citizens will now be involved is false, in the sense that this is nothing new. The thousands of European citizens who, since 1800, have been involved in the many attempts to establish a federal state system for Europe, have never had the opportunity to realise a European federation.

The Giscard d'Estaing Convention also involved citizens. It turned into chaos. Not only because the input was driven by regional, national, and private interests without regard to common European interests, but also because the outcome - a 'Constitutional Treaty' (a non-existent phenomenon, similar to 'a pregnant man') was judged by bodies of treaty-based, intergovernmental consultation and decision-making. The same will apply to the outcome of the new Conference. After intergovernmental consultation, it will finally be decided in 2022 by the European Council, the undemocratic body of the twenty-seven Heads of State or Government, which wants to maintain the EU's nation-state configuration: even more intergovernmental governance and even less representation of the European people. Let alone a Constitutional Federation.

Faef is a **federation of organizations** that aspire to a **Federal Europe**.



The Federal Alliance of European Federalists (2018) - an independent, non-political federation of federalist movements - wants to offer a measured alternative by organising its own Citizens' Convention. The aim: *to actively involve - outside the EU context - a select group of fifty-five people with knowledge of federal state building in the composition of a federal Constitution for the United States of Europe, in order to improve our draft of such a Constitution. This federal Constitution will then be submitted for Ratification by the Citizens of Europe.*

By this method we are following as closely as possible the Philadelphia Convention of 1787, a group of fifty-five persons who designed the first federal Constitution in the world and had it successfully ratified by the people of the thirteen American states, the former British colonies. This was done without regard to their principal, the Confederate Congress, which originally gave them a mandate to come up with proposals to amend the existing treaty called the 'Articles of Confederation', without even expecting that the Convention would throw that treaty in the waste bin, designing an innovative Federal Constitution.

Our Convention is not intended to take stock of citizens' opinions, but to use the wisdom, knowledge, and experience of well-informed, knowledgeable citizens to build a strong federal Constitution for Europe. We will select 55(+) people from the pool of those applying for membership of our Convention.

As far as possible, they will be spread across the EU Member States, but participation is also open to people from outside the EU, including for instance other European countries or countries on the front door of the EU. Experts register through www.faeef.eu/en_gb/citizens-convention/.

The Shortlist of experts on (aspects of) federalism is attached to this Call.

Why involving experts in the Citizens' Convention? Just as the design of an aero plane for three hundred passengers is not left to people who do not know how to design it, it must be considered wrong to leave the design of a federal constitution for some five hundred million European citizens to people who do not know how to make it. The motto is: 'With applied sciences, supported by non-expert citizens, towards a constitutional federal Europe.'

The fact that Citizens who are not specifically knowledgeable about the drafting of constitutional federal law should nevertheless be involved in this process is done as follows:

- We will make this Call for participation, and the Shortlist, known Europe-wide via the media
- Citizens who would like to be members of the Convention can register so that the Convention will be 55(+). They can also choose otherwise, namely, to address members of the Convention or the FAEF Board with advice. The Board may submit such advice to one or more experts or assess the value of such advice on its own authority.
- The members of the Convention may themselves activate citizens and members of their organizations, to provide input.
- Citizens may also register via www.faeef.eu/en_gb/citizens-convention/

The Format of the Convention contains additional information. Amongst other things, it explains how the members of the Convention are selected.

The selection and other preparations will take place in July, August, and September. The Convention will start on 2 October 2021 and last until 31 May 2022.

On behalf of the Board of the Federal Alliance of European Federalists
dr. Leo Klinkers
President
leo@faef.eu



Reason for the decision
of the Federal Alliance of European Federalists
to organise ourselves a Citizens' Convention

Anarchies, crises, and successive European state systems



For five centuries Europe has been ravaged by three anarchies. In the Middle Ages, the nobility-anarchy of kings and other noblemen fighting each other; between 1648 and 1945, the nation-state-anarchy of warring states and, since 1951, the treaty based-anarchy of EU member states that flout agreements and treaties as soon as populist nationalism gains more power than adherence to the treaties. In this sense, the French President François Mitterand spoke at the end of his life, in a speech to the European Parliament, the memorable words: **"Le nationalisme, c'est la guerre."**

The term 'anarchy' here means the absence of transnational governance that can promote common interests and concerns in such a way as to avoid conflict and war.

Due to the absence of transnational representation of common interests, each anarchic phase ended in a serious crisis, after which a new European state system emerged. With the Peace of Westphalia in 1648, the Europe of a patchwork quilt of petty kingdoms, dukedoms, counties, and cities was exchanged for a system of nation states. After the First World War, the League of Nations was the first large-scale attempt to bind these nation states together by treaty and, in this way, keep them in check. This did not succeed. After the Second World War, the instrument of treaty-law was deployed again with the founding of the United Nations in 1945 and with the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) in 1951, the advent of the intergovernmental operating system that is now called the European Union.



Due to the systemic flaws of the treaty system, the EU has no answer to the increase of dissolving internal conflicts and to increasing threats from external geopolitical developments. Simple concepts of systems theory therefore make a serious crisis of the current EU system predictable. After which a new European system of states will emerge. Given the evolutionary aspect of this process, this can only be a federation of the United States of Europe. In preparing of this FAEF considers asking citizens of Europe to lay the foundations of a federal Constitution themselves to be a matter of course.



if you are
prepared to join
**a democratic
federal Europe**

The ever-failing pursuit of a constitutional federal Europe in a nutshell

In response to the peculiar tendency of nation states to keep waging war, European unification is a wish that has existed for many centuries. But opinions differed as to how this should take place. Varying from top-down, hierarchical administrative coercion to the bottom-up construction of a state, in layers, with each layer having its own sovereignty. This second version was designed around 1600 by the German political-philosopher Johannes Althusius and contains the building blocks for what later became the methodology of federal state building.

A third version has nestled between these two versions since the First World War: connection between states on the basis of treaties. This is called intergovernmental or multilateral cooperation.

The evolution of this system from the League of Nations (1919) to the current Treaty of Lisbon (2009) shows an increasing emphasis on top-down governance. The final decision-making lies with the unelected leaders of the European Council. This European Council can bypass the principle of subsidiarity (= leave to the Member States what the Member States can do best themselves) because, with the help of Article 352 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (one of the two partial treaties of the Lisbon Treaty), the Council can make any decision that, in its opinion, serves the goals of the Union. Since the EU does not have a parliamentary democracy (= parliament is the boss), there is no system of political accountability. The most important decisions, especially those concerning the political order of the European Union, are taken unanimously. This gives the twenty-seven members of the European Council the possibility to block decisions with a veto if the subject would harm their national interest. As a confederal accumulation of national interests, **the Lisbon Treaty is the worst legal document ever written in the history of Europe.** This has consequences. Internal conflicts - especially over the question of 'who is actually the boss in the Union' - are increasing. Its geopolitical strength - if it ever had any - is diminishing. **The intergovernmental EU system has arrived at the end of its political life cycle.**

Constitutional and Institutional Toolkit



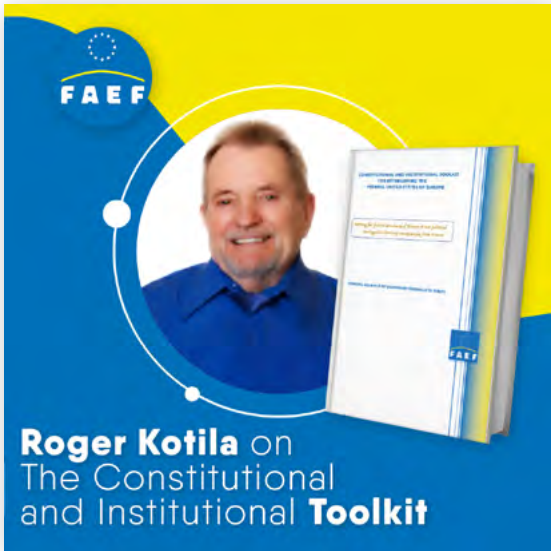
There is no space here to describe the systemic failures of the intergovernmental operating system and the resulting internal conflicts. For that, reference is made to FAEF's [Constitutional and Institutional Toolkit for Establishing the United States of Europe.](#)

The quarrels between Member States on the one hand, the conflicts between Member States and 'Brussels' on the other, as well as fundamental differences of opinion between EU institutions - for example between the European Parliament and the European Commission, or between the EU-Court of Justice and the highest Courts in some EU-member states - are not possible in a well-built constitutional federal state. That is, on the basis of a federal Constitution with proportional representation and popular voting, not suffering from the errors of an outdated electoral system, like in the USA with its two-party system, potential conflicts are resolved on the basis of the checks and balances of the trias politica and the rule of law.

With a federal Constitution of, by and for the citizens, a federation possesses democratic political accountability, sharing the inalienable sovereignty of citizens and of their own states with the sovereignty of a federal body empowered only to make decisions about interests and concerns that Citizens and Member States cannot represent on their own.

The question now is: why is it that – for instance - the world of sport within the International Olympic Committee is a private federation that operates globally, while we do not yet have a public European federation, let alone a World Federation?

The answer is the choice that federalists made immediately after the Second World War to use the instrument of Treaties to establish a federal Europe. Not the instrument of a Constitution. Partly under the influence of the treaty-based United Nations founded in 1945, the treaty was always chosen as the instrument in the tangle of discussions between 1946 and 1950 about the right method to realise a federal Europe. After the French Foreign Minister, Robert Schuman, made a passionate plea on 9 May 1950 in the **Schuman Declaration** for a federal Europe, but on the basis of a Treaty, the European Coal and Steel Community was established a year later, thus laying the foundations for Europe's intergovernmental governance to date. Schuman, supported by Jean Monnet, made with this an **unforgivable mistake**. The administrative aristocracy never relinquished that undemocratic instrument in favour of a constitutional, democratic, effective federal state. At least in Europe. After the advent of the first public federation in 1787, the United States of America, twenty-six more federations have emerged that now together house 42% of the world's population.



In our pursuit of a constitutional federal Europe, we support the Democratic World Federalists (DWF, San Francisco) who, with a well thought-out Earth Constitution, has designed the legal basis of a world federation. We welcome the attention DWF's President Roger Kotila is paying to our [Constitutional and Institutional Toolkit for Establishing the Federal United States of Europe](#).

The deep-rooted nation-state character of the European Union, with its treaty-based anarchy, is incapable of recognising common interests and subsequently promoting them with the most appropriate form of state, the federal one. This has always acted as a brake on the federalisation of Europe. They seek union in confederal, intergovernmental cooperation. But it is a seeming, illusive union, because the treaties are filled with such opt-outs that the promotion of specific national interests takes precedence over the promotion of common European interests. In order to survive in the increasingly conflictive EU system, solutions are sought in deepening and extending the treaty-system.

Whether the predictable failure of the aforementioned EU-Conference 2021-2022 will be the trigger for a final crisis of the EU is now unknown. The Federal Alliance of European Federalists prefers not to wait for that and with its Citizens' Convention is already laying the foundation for a constitutional federal Europe.

The treaty approach never leads to a constitutional federal Europe

Many hundreds of political, scientific, and social key figures have intervened in the federalisation of Europe since WWII. In our context, Altiero Spinelli and Mario Albertini are the most important, because they took the most principled and fundamental approach to the federalisation of Europe.



Spinelli founded the Union of European Federalists (UEF) in 1946 on the basis of the Ventotene Manifesto (1941-1944), which he and Ernesto Rossi wrote in exile. The core of that Manifesto was: establish a constitutional federal Europe after the war on the basis of a federal Constitution, ratified by the people, on the model of the Philadelphia Convention (1787). From the beginning of its existence, the UEF - in an era of the emerging cold war (Russia versus the West) and the failure of a European Defence Force (seen by Spinelli as an ideal opportunity for the creation of a constitutional federal Europe) - was beset by doctrine-battles and other divergent views, recorded in the annals of rapidly succeeding congresses and other meetings. It forced the political philosopher Spinelli to start behaving like a politician and to make methodological compromises. But each time he recovered and returned to his original constitutional approach, with a radical rejection of nation-state hegemony.

But he was never able to realise this excellent vision. The current trend from 1946 to opt for a treaty-based approach instead of the constitutional one eventually won out. As a result, a gradual, incremental approach has prevailed to this day, waiting for the moment when the treaties suddenly turn out to be a federal constitution. An illusion.

Mario Albertini tried, around 1962, with the founding of the Federalist Autonomy Group, once more to break through this gradual approach by spreading the notion that federalism was not just an organisational concept, but as an ideology it was equal to concepts such as democracy, liberalism, and socialism. Just as freedom was the ultimate goal of liberalism, equality the goal of democracy and social justice the goal of socialism, so he saw federalism as the goal of world peace. With a constitutional federal Europe as an indispensable building block of a World Federation. He saw federal statehood of Europe as an indispensable remedy against the endemic disease of nation-states to fight each other with violence, divide humanity into classes and pluralism, destroy diversity.

But even that approach has failed. The question 'How can you make a federal Europe?' has been answered again and again from 1946 with: 'do it with treaties.' The basis for this was always not a scientific method but a belief; the belief that ultimately - if these treaties are tinkered with often enough - a constitutional federal Europe will emerge of its own accord.

With the tenacity of a religious sect, this belief is propagated to this day by the Union of European Federalists (UEF). Later this approach has been borrowed also by other pro-Europe movements and organizations. In the light of the origins of the first federation, that of America, this is incomprehensible. The UEF often bases its pursuit of a federal Europe on the success of the Philadelphia Convention of 1787. But it does not draw any conclusions from the fact that that Convention threw out the treaty of the Articles of Confederation (that was supposed to bind together the thirteen newly founded states in North America between 1776 and 1787) because this instrument failed.

Instead, the Convention designed a federal Constitution, ratified by the people of those states.



The previously cited [Constitutional and Institutional Toolkit for Establishing the United States of Europe](#) describes in Chapter 4 the arguments - borrowed from systems theory - with which some of the founding fathers of the USA, James Madison, and Alexander Hamilton, radically reject (in the Federalist Papers, so after completion of the Philadelphia Convention) the use of a treaty. Anyone who is prepared to read the Chapter 4, just mentioned, will be convinced that clinging to the claim that you can build a federation on a treaty is nonsense. Not only in terms of correct constitutional law making, but also in terms of historical political philosophy.

FAEF thus opts for its own Citizens' Convention

The above is the reason for FAEF to organise its own Citizens' Convention.

With this document as the FAEF Declaration of July 2021 we refute the correctness of the Schuman Declaration of May 9, 1950. The history of America that (a) with a well-founded radical rejection of working with a treaty laid the foundation for federal state formation, allowing it to grow into the state it is today, and (b) of the mistake of Robert Schuman and Jean Monnet – and other European politicians - to lead the federalisation of Europe along a treaty-path, making the European Union merely an accumulation of conflicting nation-state interests, without democratic accountability and without any geopolitical weight, should by now be clear enough to reject the EU's intergovernmental operating system as radically as Madison and Hamilton did in their Federalist Papers and to exchange this multilateral monstrosity for a constitutional federal Europe.

In addition, our Convention aims to counterbalance the EU-Conference that is trying to strengthen the dysfunctional intergovernmental EU system of governance. Furthermore, it serves as a platform for federalist and pro-Europe movements that would like to join our federation FAEF, to strengthen our strategies 'federating the federalists' and 'educating the federalists'. And, of course, this approach aims also to provide a democratic alternative before the predictable administrative vacuum, created by the failures of the EU's intergovernmental system, becomes the playing field for autocratic European and foreign leaders, condemning Europe to further division, conflict, and geopolitical irrelevance.

We are guided by the Philadelphia Convention as 'best practice' and position FAEF as a so-called Constituent Assembly. This is a group of people with the task of drafting a Constitution, a task we derive from our Statutes (see www.faeef.eu). Returning to the cradle of federal thinking and acting has a special reason: all failed attempts since 1800 to achieve a constitutional federal Europe have one characteristic in common: none of them explicitly used the Philadelphia Convention as a model. We do.

Mind you, whether a well-built federal state also functions well depends on the quality of the people in charge there. Any well-built 'house' can be destroyed by the wrong 'residents'. The history of several 'failed federations' (in Europe, Africa and Asia) proves this.

Our choice to take the method of the Philadelphia Convention as best practice concerns the value of an innovative state structure that does justice to the common interests of a diversity of states, while guaranteeing their continued sovereignty.

This does not imply uncritical praise of what is meant by democracy in America.

There is no place in the constitutional federal Europe that we aspire to for the outdated two-party system of the USA with its problematic Electoral College, which stems from the district-based election system.



We have a draft ten-article federal constitution, written in 2012-2013 by Leo Klinkers and Herbert Tombeur in their European Federalist Papers. That draft was subsequently improved by FAEF's board. With the task of improving our already existing draft of a federal Constitution, we are following the method of the Philadelphia Convention. Their work between May and September 1787 was also based on documents by James Madison that could be further developed after only two weeks into the famous federal Constitution under the adage "We the people ...".

For the record: anyone wishing to take note of the draft federal Constitution submitted to the Convention for improvement can find it in Chapter 6 of the aforementioned Toolkit.

The 55(+) expert citizens who, with the contributions of many other citizens, will improve our draft Constitution must not exceed the number of the present ten articles. If the Americans could establish a federal state of eventually fifty Member States based on a Constitution of only seven articles, we can do the same with ten articles. Once the brake on restricting to ten articles is released, the methodology of correct federal constitutional law is abandoned, and the Constitution falls prey to excesses of nation-state political folklore as is the case with the Lisbon Treaty.

The following chapter contains the Format of our Citizens' Convention.



The format of FAEF's Citizens' Convention

How does FAEF organise the Citizens' Convention?

FAEF is organising the Citizens' Convention on the basis of its own scenario. This is described in detail in Chapter 7 of the aforementioned Toolkit and is based on the methodology of the Philadelphia Convention of 1787 as best practice.



That Convention of fifty-five designed the world's first federal Constitution, based on the ideas of European political philosophers. As said before, it rejected the intergovernmental confederal treaty that failed to guarantee cohesion and cooperation between the thirteen new states since 1776 (the independence of the thirteen British colonies), because this treaty actually caused conflicts between the states. This federal Constitution of only seven articles, improved or supplemented in later years by twenty-seven amendments (see the Toolkit mentioned above, Chapters 8 and 9) proved to be a successful foundation for growing as a federal state to fifty member states. Its strength withstood even the Civil War of 1861-1865. It served as a model for the twenty-seven federal states that today house over 42% of the world's population.

What is the core of the Citizens' Convention?

As regards the core, it is important to state what it is, but also what it is not.

As has already been said, the Convention is not intended to take stock of opinions. We leave that to the EU-Conference on the Future of Europe. We are looking for concrete contributions to improve our draft federal Constitution for Europe.

Nor does the Convention discuss policy issues such as immigration, climate, health, defence, foreign policy, energy and so on. These very important common interests are addressed when discussing the articles of the draft federal Constitution that deal with the powers of the federal European Congress.

In other words, that there should be, for example, a single common European defence is self-evident to the FAEF; we do not spend time on that. What matters is the way in which we formulate that interest, alongside other common interests, in the federal constitution.

The Convention is therefore about the constitutional form needed to enable a federal body to represent those common interests, while preserving the sovereignty of the Member States. The creation of a democratic federal state requires a federal constitution. The legitimization of such a Constitution requires the participation of the people.

The legitimacy of the Citizens' Convention and the selection of its members

The extent to which our Citizens' Convention can be seen as a legitimate representation of the people of Europe depends, among other things, on its composition. Here diversity is the decisive factor. On this point we distinguish:

- **Knowledge-cultural legitimacy.** We involve people with knowledge of federal statehood and federal constitutional law.
- **Bottom-up legitimization.** This is brought in by representatives of grassroots organisations and citizens' associations. This participation is essential to found the basis of a democratic and effective federation.
- **National legitimacy,** in the sense that each EU country must be represented in the Convention.
- **Media recognition.** Attention for this project by the mainstream and social media is an indispensable element for gaining support for the Convention and its outcome.

The following procedure will be used for the selection of members.

The Board contacts persons of whom it knows or suspects that they have the right knowledge and/or experience to become a member of the Citizens' Convention. If that contact is positive they register at www.faeef.eu/en_gb/citizens-convention/.

We will publicize this document Europe-wide through all media at our disposal. Persons reading this and wishing to be members of the Convention should register at www.faeef.eu/en_gb/citizens-convention/, stating their credentials. Knowledge and experience of constitutional federal law is a recommendation but not a must.

On the basis of the registrations of experts and non-expert citizens, the Board of FAEF compiles the Citizens' Convention. There is also room for persons from non-EU countries, such as Norway, Iceland, United Kingdom, Switzerland, Albania, and Northern Macedonia. Representatives from regions such as Catalonia, the Basque Country, Corsica, and Scotland are also welcome. The final selection may lead to 55(+) participants.

The website shall list the names of the members of the Convention and their e-mail addresses for citizens who wish to address them directly with ideas and advice.

The Convention process and timeline

We will prepare the Convention during the months of July, August, and September 2021. The Convention itself will start on 2 October 2021.

The method of launching the Convention will depend on the response to this call to participate in this Convention. In principle, the Convention will last until 31 May 2022.

We divide the work into twelve parts of three weeks each. First, we ask for improvement of the Preamble and its Explanatory Memorandum. With the request to send those improvements to us via administration@faef.eu. The Board decides (assisted by representatives of member organizations) within a week whether it is indeed an improvement and publishes the improved text on the website. Thereafter, the same procedure will follow for each of the ten articles of the draft federal Constitution. And finally, another three weeks for opinions on how to present the improved draft to the people of Europe for Ratification.

Specialists on specific aspects of federal law or institution do not have to follow the three-week procedure and can - after studying our draft - immediately give an opinion on that specific subject. If this leads to reactions, the Board may consider opening a Discussion Forum especially for this purpose.

The final result - the improved Preamble, the ten articles and the advice on the Ratification process - is assessed by the **FAEF General Assembly as the Constituent Assembly**. It therefore has the final say. For federalist and pro-European movements that would like to be part of this Constituent Assembly, this competence of the General Assembly may be reason to register in time as a member organisation of our federation FAEF.

The People of Europe decide whether or not to ratify the final draft of the federal Constitution. If a majority (of those entitled to vote) of the peoples of nine Member States ratify, the federation of the United States of Europe comes into force in accordance with Article 20 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. For this aspect, see pages 123 and 194 of the Toolkit mentioned above. We assume that the national parliaments concerned will support this Ratification by a majority of their people.

Of course, we would appreciate it if all peoples of all EU member states would Ratify the Constitution. As far as we are concerned, countries that are currently in the waiting room of the EU - Albania and Northern Macedonia - can also participate in the Ratification.

We aim to conclude this work by 31 May 2022 with a Symposium in The Hague - the legal city of the world - attended by all members. To cover the costs, we are launching a crowdfunding campaign. The final product will be communicated to the participants, the media, the European Parliament, the European Commission, and the European Council, and to the parliaments of the 27 EU Member States.



The Protocol of FAEF's Citizens' Convention

The members of the Citizens' Convention are required to sign the following Protocol. Other contributing Citizens are not required to sign but are requested to show their support for the FAEF Declaration and its Citizens' Convention by signing it. The Protocol reads as follows

I,.....

- A. Convinced that the time has come to establish a truly democratic European Federation,
- B. Participating as a Member of the Citizens' Convention for a Constitutional Federal Europe in order to contribute to the fulfilment of the centuries-old need for the creation of the United States of Europe,
- C. Having read and examined the relevant documents referred to in this document.
- D. Agreeing that the purpose of the Citizens' Convention for a Constitutional Federal Europe is to decide on an improved draft Federal Constitution and its Explanatory Memorandum and on how the people of Europe shall be approached for Ratification of the draft Constitution, implying that my presence in the Convention is focused on decision making.
- E. Will contribute to that decision-making in accordance with the following provisions:
 1. I agree that in the deliberation, advice and decision making on the improvement of the draft Federal Constitution there is no room for treaty related intergovernmental matters; that consequently the principle 'All sovereignty rests with the people, thus working from the bottom up' is considered and acted upon; that the final version of the Federal Constitution does not exceed ten articles; and that I submit my opinions to the FAEF completely independent of other parties or interests.
 2. After having studied the relevant documentation, I will focus on possible improvements to the present draft of a Federal Constitution, its Explanatory Memorandum, and the way the people of Europe will be approached to Ratify it.

3. I may decide to do this work in collaboration with one or more other Members of the Convention, and with other Citizens who can support me

4. I agree that the Board of FAEF will weigh my advice on whether it is really an improvement to the texts before it; that the final result will be weighed and assessed by the General Assembly of FAEF as Constituent Assembly and then submitted to the people of Europe for Ratification.

.....
Signature

Please send this Protocol by email-scan to administration@faef.eu.