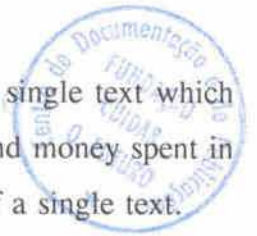




1. The proposals we make are a consequence of one common conviction as well as of the international law:
 - the civil and social rights are interdependent and indivisible.
2. This is not new: it has been voted and accepted by all members of the Union in the framework of the United Nations:
 - all members states have ratified the two pacts that follow the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, namely, the International Pact on Civic and Political Rights and the International Pact on Social, Economic and Cultural Rights;
 - all members, through their Head of State or of Government, have solemnly committed themselves to the priority of Social Development during the United Nations Summit on Social Development.
3. Our formulation of putting together social and civic rights leads us to the heart of citizenship. It is a fundamental concept to give shape to the political nature of the Union. But it cannot be restricted to the freedom of circulation, as it is written in the Maastricht Treaty.
4. Moreover, the European tradition, expressed openly in the most recent constitutions, gives to the social, economic and cultural rights, identical juridical dignity.
5. In other words, democracy cannot limit itself to abstract principles. It asks for the concrete condition expressed unequivocally, in the civic and social rights.
6. This is why the Committee considers that the ICG will fall short of its mandate if it doesn't attempt to outline the bases of a 'Bill of Rights', expressed as an autonomous title.
7. Of course, in order to do so, it is necessary to elaborate the synthesis of all Treaties and

Protocols already at work so that any normal person may have access to a single text which needs to be readable, coherent, and logic. We cannot understand the time and money spent in the work of ICG if it doesn't tackle, at least in its principles, the question of a single text.



8. The task in the immediate fore is not difficult. It is necessary to include, first of all, eight rights whose efficiency needs no extra action and whose judicial framework is entirely available in the current Treaty. They can be looked at as three types of fundamental rights.

A. Rights whose objective is to guarantee the respect of the

- a) equality before the law;
- b) the prohibition of all discrimination based on race, colour, sex, language, religion, political opinions or other opinions, national or social origin, fortune, birth, handicap or any other situation. It is equally prohibited to make any discrimination among European citizens because of their nationality;
- c) equality between men and women - work, education, family, social protection - and measures of positive action.

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B. Rights (still present in the current Treaty) which facilitate the economic and social