

European Foundation on Social Quality



10 JUNE 1997

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To the scientific participants of the
recent conference on **social quality**

concerning:
three favours

Amsterdam, June 17th, 1997

Dear colleagues,

The Invitation Conference on Social Quality, so impressive and well organized - thanks to the devotion and views of the Dutch Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sports - lies some days us now. As promised, after this conference the European Foundation organized the solemn presentation of the 'Amsterdam Declaration on Social Quality' and the Symposium with respect to this Declaration. We tried to organize this final arrangement referring to the archetypical relationship between the responsible king and his intelligent jester. Because of the complicated approach and lack of time, the board of the European Foundation was not able to say goodbye to many of you in the elegant way you deserved. In spite of this, we hope that all of you will remember the City of Amsterdam in its greatness of its human scale.

In order to be as complete as possible, we are glad to send you a copy of the 'Amsterdam Declaration' and the list of scientists, who signed this Declaration. The Ministry of Health and Welfare was so kind as to present all participants of the conference the book "The Social Quality of Europe". In the light of this we kindly ask you some favours:

- (1) will it be possible for you to inform people from your country about the book and the Declaration (with help of articles, etc)? Please, send us a copy of your contribution.
- (2) will it be possible for you to send us a list of names of scientists and high civil servants in your country in order to enable the European Foundation to send them the Declaration and a synopsis of the book?
- (3) do you have ideas with respect to the communication regarding the book and Declaration in order to develop some strategies, referred to in the book?

We have at our disposal translations of the English Declaration in French, German, Italian, Spanish and Dutch. If you would like to receive one of these translations, please let us know and we will send you the text. It is very important for us to come into possession of other translations as well: Greek, Portuguese, Danish, Swedish, Finish, Irish, Polish, Czech, Slovenian and Hungarian. The European Foundation has no means to do this necessary important job. We would thus be very grateful if colleagues from these countries could deliver us these translations.

We shall send a copy of this letter to the other participants of the invitation-conference and to our scientific relations in Europe. If they can assist the European Foundation in one way or another to stimulate the dialogue on social quality to develop and to sustain authentic bench marks for new social policies, this assistance will be very welcome. The European Foundation will send all of you her plans as soon as will be possible. With all our best wishes,

dr. Laurent J.G. van der Maesen, Secr.

cc: other participants of the conference and our relations

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The Amsterdam Declaration on Social Quality

June 10th 1997

signed by



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Dr. Jan Baars, social philosophy	University of Tilburg, Netherlands
Prof. Dr. Laura Balbo, sociology	University of Ferrara, Italy
Prof. Dr. Jan-Peter Balkenende, law	Free University, Amsterdam, Netherlands
Prof. Dr. Maria Bazo, sociology	University of Pais Vasco, Spain
Dr. Wolfgang Beck, political science	SISWO, Netherlands
Prof. Dr. Jos Berghman, sociology	University of Tilburg, Netherlands
Prof. Dr. Denis Bouget, economy	University of Nantes, France
Prof. Dr. Alfredo Bruto da Costa, economy	Portuguese Catholic University, Portugal
Prof. Dr. Svein Daatland, sociology	Norwegian Institute of Gerontology, Norway
Dr. Johan De Deken, political science	Humbolt University Berlin, Germany
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