

# Justitia et Pax

## The European Convention

An ethical grid for  
analysis and reflection

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Centre Jean XXIII, Luxembourg

# Key moments in the process for the Convention

The Convention's proceedings comprise three phases:

**A listening phase:** identification of the expectations and needs of the Member States, their Governments and Parliaments, and those of European society.

**A deliberating phase:** comparison of the various opinions put forward and assessment of their implications and consequences.

**A proposing phase:** synthesis and drafting of proposals.

**Working groups** were set up in June 2002. Their role is to look at certain issues more closely.

The **plenary session** of the European Convention on 24 and 25 June 2002 was devoted to civil society, giving associations and organisations an opportunity to put their points of view to the members of the Convention.

# Treaty establishing a Constitution for Europe

## Article 1: Establishment of the Union

1. Reflecting the will of the peoples and the States of Europe to **build a common future**, this Constitution establishes a Union [entitled ...], within which the policies of the Member States shall be coordinated, and which shall administer certain common competences on a federal basis.
2. The Union shall respect the national identities of its Member States.
3. The Union shall be open to all European States whose peoples **share the same values**, respect them and are committed to promoting them together.

# Treaty establishing a Constitution for Europe

## Article 2: The Union's values

The Union is **founded on** the values of respect for human dignity, liberty, democracy, the rule of law and respect for human rights, values which are common to the Member States. Its **aim** is a society at **peace**, through the practice of **tolerance, justice and solidarity**.

# Treaty establishing a Constitution for Europe

## Article 3: The Union's objectives

1. The Union's **aim** is to promote peace, its values and the well-being of its peoples.
2. The Union shall work for a Europe of sustainable development based on balanced economic growth and social justice, with a free single market, and economic and monetary union, aiming at full employment and generating high levels of competitiveness and living standards. It shall **promote** economic and social cohesion, equality between women and men, and environmental and social protection, and shall develop scientific and technological advance including the discovery of space. It shall encourage solidarity between generations and between States, and equal opportunities for all.

# Treaty establishing a Constitution for Europe

(art. 3) ...

3. The Union shall constitute an area of freedom, security and justice, in which its shared values are developed and the richness of its cultural diversity is respected.

4. In defending Europe's independence and interests, the Union shall seek to **advance its values in the wider world**. It shall contribute to the sustainable development of the earth, **solidarity** and mutual respect among peoples, **eradication of poverty** and **protection of children's rights**, strict observance of internationally accepted legal **commitments**, and **peace** between States.

# Values and aims

Values	Results / expectations
dignity	solidarity
liberty	society at peace (société "paisible")
democracy	common future
constitutional state (état de droit)	justice
human rights	well-being of its peoples (bien-être de ses peuples)

# dynamic values

Values	Principles		Results / expectations
	-	+	
dignity	respect	promotion	solidarity
liberty	respect	promotion	society at peace
democracy	respect	promotion	common future
constitutional state	respect	promotion	justice
human rights	respect	promotion	well-being of its peoples



# Spirit and mechanisms

Values	Spirit	Principles		Mechanisms	Results / expectations
dignity	the human person	respect	promotion	social cohesion / inclusion	solidarity
liberty	faith	respect	promotion	build a common future	society at peace
demo- cracy	subsidiarity	respect	promotion	civil dialogue	common future
constituti- onal state	justice	respect	promotion	institutions	justice
human rights	sustainable develop- ment	respect	promotion	environment / eradication of poverty	well-being of its peoples

# Christian added values

Results / expectations	Faith-based
solidarity	communion
society at peace	community
common future	hope for a new world
justice	grace / charity
well-being of its peoples	redemption

## Reflection grid

Values	Spirit	Principles		Mechanisms	Results/expectations	Faith-based
dignity	the human person	respect	promotion	social cohesion / inclusion	solidarity	communion
liberty	faith	respect	promotion	build a common future	society at peace	community
democracy	subsidiarity	respect	promotion	civil dialogue	common future	hope for a new world
constitutional state	justice	respect	promotion	institutions	justice	grace / charity
human rights	sustainable development	respect	promotion	environment / eradication of poverty	well-being of its peoples	redemption

Et si deus non daretur ?