

Legal Personality for the European Union
Contribution by Ján Figel',
Representative of the Government of the Slovak Republic in the Convention
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Mr. President,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

United and cohesive Europe (both - means and ends of our common policies) calls for proper, explicit unity and cohesion of its legal framework. One of the basic steps towards such aim is explicit single legal personality. This means we need to propose in our conclusions **merger of the legal personalities** of the Union, the Community and Euratom. I support such step and believe this is shared by majority of fellow citizens in Slovakia. Historically and symbolically we live in time when one of the Treaties, the ECSC-Treaty has just recently ceased to exist.

The proposal of the WG on Legal Personality is good for future enlarged Union, good for international community. I think it is good also for candidate countries in accession process – the clearer picture, the better for understanding and popular support of the European integration process. **Fruits of the proposal will be effectiveness and legal certainty** – for citizens, member states and partners of the EU. Single legal personality is also an important and efficient step towards requested and expected simplification of the Treaties.

At the end I want to express thanks to the Working Group for its job under Mr. Amato's chairmanship.

Results are clear understandable and will be part of Convention Conclusions. It is a successful example for other working groups.