

**ADDRESS BY MRS. AYFER YILMAZ, MEMBER OF THE TURKISH GRAND  
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, TO BE MADE AT THE PLENARY SESSION OF THE  
CONVENTION TO BE HELD ON 12-13 SEPTEMBER 2002**

MR. CHAIRMAN,

THE EUROPEAN UNION CARRIES OUT ITS MISSIONS BY A COMPLEX ARRAY OF INSTRUMENTS AND PROCEDURES. IT IS DIFFICULT EVEN FOR EXPERTS TO FOLLOW AND UNDERSTAND THIS COMPLICATED SYSTEM. AND IT BECOMES QUITE APPARENT WHY CITIZENS FEEL FRUSTRATED AND AT LOSS WHEN THEY TRY TO FOLLOW UP THE WORKINGS OF THE UNION.

THE COMPLEXITY OF THE SYSTEM ARISES FROM THE FACT THAT THE CURRENT SET UP OF THE UNION HAS EVOLVED IN TIME, AND DURING THIS EVOLUTION, INTENTIONS TO IMPROVE RESULTED IN ADDITIONAL PROCEDURES WITHOUT ABOLISHING THE ONES NOT IN USE OR WITHOUT ATTEMPTING TO ESTABLISH COHERENCY AMONG THEM.

OUR PRIORITY SHOULD BE ESTABLISHING A SYSTEM WHICH IS EFFICIENT, ACCOUNTABLE AND HENCE SIMPLE TO UNDERSTAND BY ALL.

TO THIS END, I BELIEVE THAT WE FIRST NEED TO REVIEW THE THREE-PILLAR STRUCTURE OF THE UNION AND CONSEQUENTLY SEARCH FOR WAYS OF SIMPLIFYING AND REDUCING IN NUMBER THE CURRENT LEGISLATIVE PROCEDURES.

A QUICK ANALYSIS OF THE CURRENT SITUATION WITH REGARD TO LEGISLATIVE PROCEDURES AND LEGISLATIVE ACTS REVEALS THAT SOME OF THEM ARE NO LONGER IN USE. FOR INSTANCE, IN THE AREA OF JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS, LEGAL INSTRUMENTS SUCH AS DECISION, FRAMEWORK DECISION, CONVENTION BETWEEN MEMBER STATES, POSITION AND COMMON POSITION ARE ENVISAGED BY THE TREATY. YET, CONVENTION BETWEEN MEMBER STATES IS ALMOST IN DISUSE. SETTING ASIDE THE INSTRUMENT OF COMMON POSITION THAT DEFINES IN GENERAL POLITICAL TENDENCIES OF THE MEMBER STATES, IT COULD BE OBSERVED THAT DECISIONS AND FRAMEWORK DECISIONS, WHICH REQUIRE THEIR TRANSPOSITION INTO DOMESTIC LAW BY THE MEMBER STATES, ARE ALSO NOT TRULY OPERATIONAL. FOR THIS REASON, LEGAL INSTRUMENTS SUCH AS REGULATIONS AND DIRECTIVES, WHICH ARE EXTENSIVELY USED UNDER THE FIRST PILLAR, COULD BE USED MORE OFTEN IN THE AREA OF JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS WHEREAS THE ONES THAT ARE NOT OPERATIONAL COULD BE ABOLISHED.

ON THE OTHER HAND, DURING THE COURSE OF THE EVOLUTION OF THE UNION THE CO-DECISION PROCEDURE, BY WHICH, THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL PARTICIPATE IN THE LEGISLATIVE PROCEDURE AS CO-LEGISLATORS HAS ACQUIRED WIDER AREAS OF APPLICATION AND THEREFORE, IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE TO SUGGEST

THAT THIS PROCEDURE ACCOMPANIED BY QUALIFIED MAJORITY VOTING IN THE COUNCIL SHOULD BE THE MAIN PROCEDURE AS IT PROVED HIGHLY USEFUL.

WITH REGARD TO THE BUDGETARY PROCEDURE, IT IS APPARENT THAT CURRENT PROCEDURE APPLIED FOR ESTABLISHING THE UNION BUDGET IS WAY TOO COMPLICATED. THEREFORE, I BELIEVE THAT THE BUDGETARY PROCEDURE COULD BE REPLACED BY CO-DECISION PROCEDURE WHICH WOULD SIMPLIFY THE PROCESS AND CONTRIBUTE GREATER EFFICIENCY.

THANK YOU.