



**INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF
ENGINEERS AND SCIENTISTS
for global responsibility**

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**Dear members and friends of INES,
Dear all,**

as you probably are aware, the proposed constitution for the European Union has to be approved by all member states to enter into force. This procedure is now going on. Some member state parliaments have accepted the constitution, in other states the debate is still going on in preparation for a decision in parliament or by popular referendum.

INES envisions a Europe which is democratic, just, social, ecological and sustainable. There are provisions in the proposed constitution which are not in accord with these ideals. In particular, the obligations for the member states to provide a permanent modernization of their armed forces and to build a European armament agency, constitute a dangerous trend towards a militarization of the union. The enclosed appeal, approved by the INES Executive Committee on March 13, 2005, expresses our concern about Europe taking the wrong turn at a crucial moment.

A change in the EU constitution can only come about if the present proposal is rejected. We ask all EU and non EU members to endorse the INES appeal below with your individual signature and/or the signature of your organization. Please also distribute this Appeal widely within your networks and send this document with your signature back to the INES office. We will collect all endorsements and forward them to the appropriate member states.

Appeal against the inclusion of armament provision in the proposed EU constitution

We support a United Europe in the spirit of the humanitarian traditions of this continent. The European Constitution should reflect these traditions, as well as the principles of democracy, sustainable development and human dignity agreed to by the members of the United Nations in their Charter, as well as in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other seminal documents.

We, therefore, oppose the permanent armament obligation for all EU states in the proposed EU constitution. This is the first instance of such a proposed armament provision for any democratic state community. We call for the removal of the armament obligation from the constitution.

We oppose the formation of a European department for armament, research and military capabilities. We call for the establishment of a European Office for Disarmament and Civil Conflict Prevention.

We further oppose the use of our scientific and technical knowledge for military purposes. We will strengthen our efforts to inform the public and decision makers about the dangers of further armament, the possibilities of peaceful conflict resolution, and the political and societal requirements for the preservation of peace.

I endorse the Appeal above:

Name, Surname

Organisation

Email

Signature