

## IRELAND HAS MORE THAN PAID ITS WAY IN EUROPE

Since EU membership, “we estimate European vessels have taken up to €200 billion worth of fish out of our waters” (Mr Ebbie Sheehan, Irish Fishermen’s Organisation). Add fish processing and the value of the fish jumps to around €600 Billion - 10 times the €60 Billion Ireland received from Brussels.

## IRELAND’S INFLUENCE WOULD BE DECIMATED

Lisbon almost doubles the voting power of the Big EU States (Germany, UK, Poland, France and Italy), while more than halving Ireland’s voting weight. It would decimate our influence in the EU and prove economically disastrous for us.



## CONTROL OF OUR NATURAL RESOURCES:

- Repatriate our fishing rights with their huge jobs and income potential.
- Exploit our enormous gas and oil reserves in the people’s interests. Make Ireland a wealthy nation like Norway.
- Stop the outlawing of domestic turf cutting – people have conserved Ireland’s bogs for centuries.

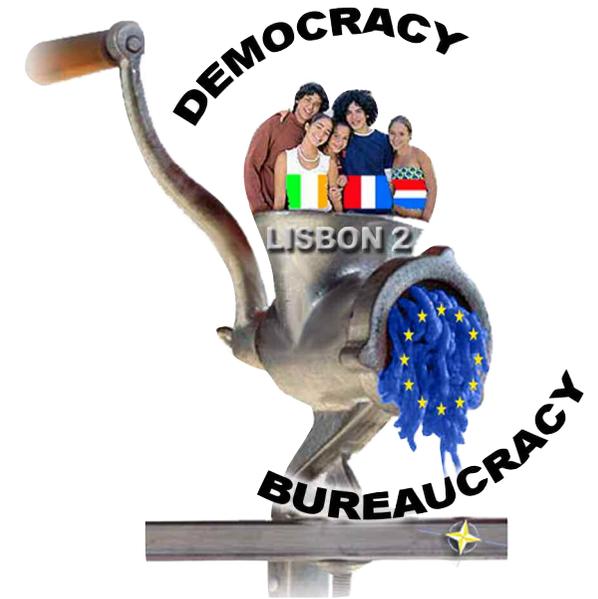
## LISBON TREATY IN A NUTSHELL - THE TREATY:

- Is a Constitution for an EU Federal State.
- Creates an EU President, an EU Foreign Minister, an EU Foreign Policy and an EU Public Prosecutor.
- Will develop the EU as a military power.
- Requires Ireland to increase military spending.
- Gives the arms industry a formal and major role in the EU
- Enshrines the failed economic policies that caused the global crisis.
- Means EU Laws override the Irish Constitution and Irish Law.
- Copperfastens EU Court of Justice rulings that will lower wages and worsen conditions for working people.
- Hands power to the Big States: doubles the voting strength of Germany, France and Britain.
- Halves Ireland’s voting strength and makes us a small peripheral player.
- Takes away our veto in over 60 policy areas.
- It’s a self-amending treaty – can be changed without our consent.
- Opens the way for new taxes and tax harmonisation throughout the EU.
- Contains economic policies that will hurt the Developing World.
- Would result in the widespread privatisation of essential social services.

Ní hé Bunreacht na hEorpa atá uainn, ach Bunreacht na hÉireann a chosaint!

# VÓTÁIL NÍL

# VOTE NO to LISBON



## WHY ARE WE VOTING AGAIN?

In June 2008, the Lisbon Treaty was rejected by 53% of voters – a bigger majority than elected US President Obama.

Why is the Government squandering millions of Euro to overturn a clear democratic decision?

This waste takes place as unjust cuts in education, health and social welfare are planned.

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## THE LISBON TREATY IS PAST ITS SELL BY DATE

*“The Lisbon Treaty is 9 years old and out of date- it enshrines the failed economic policies that led to the current global recession.”* Patricia McKenna former MEP

The cosy circle of politicians, bankers and developers who caused the economic crisis now expect us to pay for their failures. They threaten worse economic times if we reject the Treaty again. But Lisbon would worsen the economic situation, not improve it.

### **Lisbon means:**

- Less regulation of banks. No control over our interest rates. (Articles 63, 120, 127, 206)

### **Lisbon is against state aid for jobs:**

- Much needed state aid to local industry, agriculture and fisheries is illegal under Lisbon. (Articles 126, 127).

### **Lisbon attacks Public Services:**

- Public services (e.g. health and education) would be open to competition from private companies. (Articles 106, 107)

### **Lisbon’s taxation threats:**

- Imposition of VAT on Public Services; Creation of EU taxes (Art.311); Outlawing of Irish Tax Rules (Art. 113 and Protocol 27); and Harmonisation of corporation tax is postponed until after the referendum.

One EU President  
One EU Foreign Minister  
One EU Foreign Policy  
One EU voice at the UN  
= One EU Army?

## EU MILITARISATION

Lisbon bristles with military clauses (Articles 21-55; 326-334 and Protocol 10). But there are only 3 articles on the environment (Articles 191-193).

- Lisbon gives the arms industry a huge say in EU affairs through the European Defence Agency. It commits us to *“undertake progressively to improve [our] military capacity”* (Art. 42.3). There is no such stipulation in relation to health care or job creation!
- Lisbon ties us to NATO: *“a more assertive Union role in security and defence matters will contribute to the vitality of a renewed Atlantic Alliance”* (NATO) (Protocol 10).
- Lisbon contains a ‘mutual defence clause’. There is no Irish opt-out. (Article 42.7). And it foresees us *“supporting third countries combatting terrorism in their territories”*(Art.43) - that could lead us to war in Afghanistan for example?!

## “GUARANTEES” THAT GUARANTEE NOTHING

*“..nothing has changed in the Lisbon treaty and it would be dishonest to suggest otherwise”* Lucinda Creighton, Fine Gael’s Spokesperson on European Affairs, Dáil Debate on Lisbon Treaty, 8th July 2009.

The “guarantees” are not legally binding, only promises that they will be included in a treaty at some unknown future date.

## ATTACKING WORKERS’ PAY AND CONDITIONS

*“It seems reasonably if not absolutely clear to the Court that in the absence of an REA, contractors from other Member States could exercise their freedom to provide services in this jurisdiction under the EC Treaty at the same rates and conditions of employment as apply in their country of origin. Depending on the country of origin, this could seriously undermine the competitive position of Irish contractors”* (Labour Court, Dublin 2009)

The Labour Court tells it as it is: EU Court of Justice (ECJ) rulings attack wages and conditions. We could be competing directly against poorer rates and conditions imposed by foreign companies. The Lisbon Treaty copperfastens this trend.

## 2ND REFERENDUM – AN ATTACK ON DEMOCRACY

*“I think all of the politicians of Europe would have known quite well that if a similar question had been put to their electorate in a referendum the answer in 95 percent of countries would have been ‘No’ as well.”* EU Commissioner Charlie Mc Creevy

In 2005 the French & Dutch voted **NO** to the EU Constitution. Brussels repackaged it as the Lisbon Treaty. Of the 27 EU states only Ireland, thanks to our constitution, got the right to vote on the Lisbon Treaty. However, **NO** was the wrong answer. So we have to do it again. This is undemocratic.

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