

No means No!

When the Irish people voted on 12 June to reject the Lisbon Treaty, most of us believed it was dead, because of the unanimity requirement for it to come into force and because of the precedent set by the rejection of the EU Constitution by France and the Netherlands. The worst scenario we might have anticipated was a rerun with some political declarations added on to appease the perceived concerns of voters. However, it would now appear that voters' sentiment would ensure the defeat of such a proposal by an even bigger majority.

Instead we have EU leaders, Irish politicians, commentators and journalists suggesting methods to facilitate bypassing the people and either engaging in parliamentary ratification in the Dáil, ratifying the Treaty piecemeal, challenging the Crotty judgement, or including the terms in the Croatian accession agreement in 2010. This latter course would allow the Dáil the possibility of approving the accession and in the process approving the provisions of the Lisbon Treaty.

Of course, none of these scenarios are without political and legal risks for the Government, whose own supporters were less than enthusiastic about the contents of the Lisbon Treaty and whose misgivings can only have been consolidated by the arrogant approach of numerous EU leaders during the period following the referendum. There is also article 6 (1) of the Constitution of Ireland, which makes it clear that "all powers of government, legislative, executive and judicial, derive . . . from the people, whose right it is . . . in final appeal, to decide all questions of national policy, according to the requirements of the common good."

The People's Movement rejects any attempt to subvert the decision of 12 June and will actively campaign, both locally and nationally, to resist any such profoundly undemocratic development.

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Why not become active in our campaign against the subversion of democracy? You can contact us at post@people.ie, through our web site (www.people.ie) or at 087 2308330 for details of local contacts.

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