

Press Statement

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Lisbon will put the European arms industries centre stage

Speaking today Patricia McKenna former green party MEP and chairperson of the People's Movement said:

“The Alliance for Europe is wrong; The Lisbon treaty copper-fastens the development of a EU sanctioned arms industry because the treaty will give the EDA (European Defence Agency) originally named the European Agency for Armaments legal status in the EU.”

“How did the European project turn from a project to promote peace through economic trade into having weapons manufacture as a central plank? – the answer is simple – **lobbyists** from the arms industries made it happen.”

“In the same way **lobbyists** for other industries have make their mark on the treaty by putting big business first with people and public services last. The Lisbon treaty is not a treaty of the people it is a blank cheque for militarisation and privatisation.”

“In the future, those Member States participating in the ‘permanent structured cooperation’ (a new concept introduced by the Treaty of Lisbon), will be the military hard core of the union. The Treaty of Lisbon give the participants of this hard core the possibility to act on their own in the name of the whole of the EU and operate the resources and troops organised by them. The first EU battle troops are an embryonic forms of this cooperation.”

“Say YES to peace, Say Yes to a European project that belongs to the people by saying NO to Lisbon.”

END

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Former Green Party MEP and chairperson of the People's Movement