

**8 June 2008**

**Lisbon: the 'YES' campaign is built on deceit and lies**

Speaking today Patricia McKenna, former Green Party MEP and chairperson of the People's Movement, said:

“The Lisbon treaty is not a referendum on our membership of the EU, if we reject Lisbon our economy will NOT be damaged in fact we will retain our remaining economic levers which we will need to respond to economic challenges ahead.”

“The only thing the Lisbon treaty makes more efficient is the privatisation of public services and the militarization of the EU. A "NO" vote in the Lisbon treaty by the Irish people is critical to prevent the legalization of the move of the EU from a purely economic and co-operative union to a political union at the cost of the sovereignty of European nations.”

“The 'YES' campaign just like the Lisbon treaty is built on deceit and lies. In recent days an example of this deceit was laid bare by *Le Monde*, one of the most respected newspapers in France, when they quoted a French Government official saying:

‘We are avoiding formal declarations and discussions until the 12 June, the instruction is clear: no aggravating topics on taxation, defence and agriculture, the Irish are sensitive. On taxation, a key factor in Ireland's prosperity, the Commission is being very careful to remain discreet. Its proposals on the harmonisation of company tax bases were initially due before the summer, but will now come in the autumn.’

The Irish people need to be remain strong in the coming days because if Lisbon is passed our economy will be left rudderless and our sovereignty and that of our European neighbours beyond repair.”

**For comment or verification call Patricia McKenna 087 2427049**