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People's Movement calls on the Department of Foreign Affairs to postpone information campaign.

Commenting today on the Department of Foreign Affairs having awarded a contract to 'communicate the benefits of EU membership', former MEP and chairperson of the People's Movement, Patricia Mc Kenna, said: 'this plan to spend public money, supposedly to inform the Irish people about the benefits of EU membership, is completely inappropriate at this particular time as we are facing into a referendum on an EU treaty'.

'This so-called information campaign', she continued, 'is clearly designed to influence the outcome of the referendum and as such is in breach of the principles of the McKenna judgment'. This judgment forbids the use of tax-payers' money to influence the outcome of a referendum.

Mc Kenna called on the Department of Foreign Affairs to postpone their planned campaign until after the referendum. 'If they refuse to do so', she said, 'it will be clear what their real objective is: to bolster the "Yes" vote'.

[ENDS]

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