

15 September 2009

Lisbon would abolish Irish right to propose commissioner

The EU Commission, which is appointed and not elected, has the monopoly of proposing all European laws. The EU prime ministers have promised each EU state a permanent commissioner, but there is a catch!

Lisbon would abolish Ireland's present right to 'propose' and decide who Ireland's commissioner is and replace it with the right to make 'suggestions' only, leaving it to the incoming Commission president to decide.

Under the present arrangements an Irish Government has the right to 'propose' and decide who the Irish Commissioner is. Under Lisbon Ireland can only 'suggest', leaving it up to the incoming Commission president to decide (Article 17.7 TEU; cf Article 214 TEC). In a post-Lisbon EU, it would be Chancellor Merkel, President Sarkozy and Gordon Brown who would decide who Ireland's commissioner would be, not the Irish government. What is the point of us continuing to have an Irish commissioner post-Lisbon when an Irish government could no longer decide who that commissioner would be?

Lave Broch of the Danish People's Movement will be the main speaker at a meeting in Carlow organised by the South East Region of the People's Movement. The meeting will be in Teach Dolmen, Carlow, tomorrow night, September 16th. A further meeting will be held in Club House Hotel, Kilkenny on September 21st. Both meetings start at 8.00 p.m. Patricia McKenna, the chairperson of the People's Movement will speak on Tuesday night at a meeting in the Grenville Hotel, Waterford and Arne Pederson from Norway will speak in Dungarvan on September 22nd.

A further list of meetings will be announced as it becomes available. All are welcome.

[ENDS]

For further information on this statement and on the People's Movement in the South East, contact:

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