

Building the Constitutional Future of New Europe

A Civic and Academic Initiative for a Sovereign, Democratic and Peaceful Europe

Europe has changed. The world has changed. Our constitutional architecture has not.

The institutions that secured peace and prosperity after the Second World War were created for a different Europe and a different world. They were designed for a bipolar international order, slower technological change and a far less interconnected society. Today, Europe faces strategic competition, technological disruption, demographic decline, economic uncertainty, information warfare and the emergence of a multipolar world. These are not separate crises. They are symptoms of a deeper reality: Europe is trying to solve twenty-first-century challenges with a twentieth-century constitutional model.

Most political debates focus on policies. We ask a different question.

What kind of constitutional system does Europe need to remain peaceful, democratic, prosperous and strategically relevant in the decades ahead?

This is not another debate between federalists and defenders of national sovereignty. It is not a debate between larger or smaller institutions, nor between competing political ideologies. It is a search for a constitutional architecture capable of governing one of the most diverse political communities in human history.

Europe's diversity is not its weakness. It is its greatest civilisational strength.

More than forty nations, different constitutional traditions, multiple languages, diverse historical experiences and democratic cultures cannot be governed successfully through institutional uniformity. Attempts to simplify political reality often produce the opposite effect: bureaucracy instead of flexibility, centralisation instead of legitimacy, ideological confrontation instead of democratic dialogue, and institutional paralysis instead of effective action.

Complex societies require more intelligent constitutional design—not more centralisation.

The Constitution of New Europe is built upon the shared civilisational values, constitutional traditions and cultural heritage of continental Europe. It does not seek to replace Europe's diversity with uniformity, but to transform that diversity into a constitutional advantage. The objective is not to build a larger European administration, but a constitutional system capable of combining unity with freedom, common action with national responsibility, and strategic capacity with democratic legitimacy.

For this reason, the Constitution proposes neither the preservation of the existing European Union nor a return to a Europe of fully independent nation states. It introduces a third constitutional model: **the Open Modular Federation**. Instead of forcing every country into

the same level of integration, Member States participate according to their democratic choices while remaining part of a common constitutional order. Unity is preserved through shared constitutional principles and common strategic interests rather than institutional uniformity.

But the proposal goes far beyond institutional reform.

It introduces a constitutional division of competences designed to make Europe both more effective and more democratic. New Europe exercises only those powers that demonstrably create greater value through common European action than through separate national action. Competences not expressly conferred remain with the Member States, while additional integration takes place voluntarily through constitutional modules. Effectiveness is therefore achieved not through concentration of power, but through constitutional clarity, subsidiarity and accountability.

Within this framework, New Europe assumes responsibility only for those strategic functions that require a genuinely European capacity to act. These include foreign affairs within European competences, common external trade policy, European citizenship, protection of constitutional rights, strategic infrastructure, external border management, common standards, space policy, strategic research and other competences expressly conferred by the Constitution. Member States retain authority in all remaining areas, preserving constitutional identity, democratic autonomy and national responsibility.

Europe cannot become a respected global actor while speaking with fragmented and sometimes contradictory voices. Wherever constitutional responsibility belongs to New Europe, Europe must be capable of acting as a single constitutional actor in international affairs. At the same time, Member States continue to conduct their own foreign relations in areas remaining within their constitutional competences. The objective is not to replace national diplomacy but to multiply Europe's collective influence.

The Constitution also establishes a new European security architecture founded upon peace, strategic sovereignty, resilience and collective responsibility. Peace is recognised as the supreme constitutional objective, but peace requires institutions capable of preventing conflict and protecting constitutional order. Integrated Member States form the common defence system of New Europe, supported by common military standards, interoperable armed forces, coordinated procurement, strategic command structures, intelligence cooperation and shared capability development. Other Member States may participate according to their constitutional status through voluntary defence modules. The purpose is not militarisation, but the creation of a coherent European security architecture capable of preserving peace, strengthening deterrence and enabling Europe to assume greater responsibility for its own security.

Economic governance is equally redefined. The Constitution promotes a competitive, innovative and socially responsible market economy in which success is measured not only by economic growth but by improvements in quality of life and the balanced development of financial, technological, intellectual, human, social and natural capital. Strategic competitiveness, technological leadership and financial sovereignty become constitutional objectives because Europe cannot remain politically sovereign while remaining economically or technologically dependent. Economic policy is directed towards one overriding objective: making New Europe the world's leading community in quality of life.

The Constitution replaces unconditional solidarity with **responsible solidarity**. Mutual support remains a constitutional principle, but it is inseparable from responsibility, reciprocity and respect for constitutional obligations voluntarily accepted by each Member State. Rights, obligations and financial commitments remain proportionate to the chosen level of integration, ensuring that solidarity strengthens cohesion without weakening democratic legitimacy or fiscal responsibility.

The Constitution is deliberately founded **without ideological preconditions**. It neither constitutionalises progressive nor conservative agendas, neither liberal nor socialist economic doctrines, nor any particular cultural model. Its purpose is to protect democratic pluralism, constitutional neutrality and the primacy of the public interest over ideological or particular interests. It creates constitutional rules within which different democratic choices may coexist peacefully under equal constitutional protection.

It also recognises that sovereignty in the twenty-first century extends far beyond territory. Strategic, technological, financial and cognitive sovereignty become constitutional foundations of democratic self-government. Citizens cannot exercise genuine democratic freedom where strategic decisions, critical technologies, financial systems or public opinion are structurally controlled from outside Europe. Information integrity, protection against foreign interference and safeguards against covert cognitive manipulation therefore become constitutional responsibilities. Freedom of expression, academic freedom and independent public debate remain essential pillars of that protection.

Democracy itself is strengthened through a balanced combination of representative institutions and meaningful instruments of direct democratic participation. European referendums, citizens' initiatives, recall procedures and civic oversight complement representative democracy rather than replacing it. Citizens are recognised not merely as voters but as active participants in Europe's constitutional development, while strong constitutional safeguards prevent excessive concentration of power and ensure transparency, accountability and judicial oversight.

The Constitution of New Europe is not an ideological project. It is a constitutional project. Its ambition is to design institutions capable of governing continental complexity while preserving freedom, democracy and peace. It seeks to make Europe stronger where common action creates greater value, while protecting national diversity wherever democratic self-government remains the better solution.

Constitutional renewal is unlikely to emerge solely from institutions whose own constitutional design is under examination. Throughout history, Europe's greatest constitutional advances have begun with ideas before becoming institutions. For this reason, the Constitution of New Europe is being developed as an independent civic and academic initiative bringing together citizens, constitutional scholars, academics, economists, security experts, entrepreneurs and professionals from across Europe.

This is not a finished document. It is an open invitation to build together a constitutional framework capable of serving Europe for the next century.

If you believe Europe deserves institutions designed for today's realities rather than yesterday's assumptions; if you believe peace requires strategic sovereignty, democracy requires informed citizens, and prosperity requires constitutional clarity rather than

institutional complexity; if you believe Europe's diversity should become its greatest strength rather than its greatest challenge, then we invite you to join this conversation.

The future of Europe will not be determined by the complexity of its challenges, but by the quality of the constitutional institutions it chooses to build.

Libertas Europa

Designing the constitutional architecture for a Sovereign, Democratic and Peaceful New Europe.