



A&D : Syndicat autonome
de la fonction publique de l'Union européenne

Section de Luxembourg

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SAVE 2000 JOBS

The EU needs a Better, Not a Smaller, Cheaper Civil Service

Dear Colleague,

The Finnish Council President has demanded that Commission and the European Parliament foresee a drop of 2.000 (=8.5%) jobs from the establishment plan of the EU Institutions. Please help to defend the 2.000 jobs by sending an email petition to the European Parliament. This involves circa three minutes of purely mechanical work on your part. How much time you spend thinking and talking about the job cuts is another matter entirely. (For breaking new and further information, see <http://homepages.internet.lu/A-D-Luxembourg/>)

- 1) Goto <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/parliament/public/petition/submit.do?language=EN>
(The "EN" stands for English; there are other languages available at the European Parliament.)
 - 2) Please fill in the fields Surname, First Name, Mr/Mrs, Postal address, Town, Postcode, Country, E-mail, Name of association, Nationality
 - 3) "If the Committee on Petitions declares your petition admissible, do you agree to its being considered in public?" We clicked on "Yes", you click as you see fit.
 - 4) Copy this (mark and cntr-c)

The EU needs a Better, Not a Smaller, Cheaper Civil Service
- Paste into field (with cntr-v) Title of your petition near the bottom of the screen.
- 5) Copy this (mark and cntr-c)

The Presidency has proposed to cut 2.000 posts (=8.5%) from the establishment plan of the EU civil service. I strongly oppose this plan for a number of reasons.

a) The last wave of enlargement boosted the number of Member States (and of problems)

by two thirds without any proportional increase in personnel and budget. The two next accession states are small, but their problems require extra work from all of us.

b) The Kinnock Reforms brought pay cuts of 17.5% (spread out over six years for established officials). The most unfortunate contractual agents lost up to 40% of their pay. The new officials, who took up posts after the reform are somewhere in the middle of this sorry mess.

c) Taken together, the two points mean more work for less pay. What is certain about the proposed cuts is that EU citizens will have 2.000 less chances to escape from unemployment. The rest of the proposal is just refuted theories and non-guaranteed promises. There will be no real saving, as this work will still need to be done. Cutting the number of officials will simply mean outsourcing the work. To date there is no evidence that any money is saved by doing this. Costs are simply transferred to another budget line, though of course it is still the European Taxpayer who pays in the end.

d) Speaking of promises, the ten new Member States were promised contingents of posts when they joined the Union. They will have to wait decades, perhaps all eternity, before the EU delivers on its commitments, if jobs are cut.

e) I freely acknowledge that there are flaws in the construction of the EU, but it makes no sense to commence demolition when the construction is hardly half finished. Therefore, I request that

This petition be forwarded to the Budgetary Committee and to the Plenum That my representatives in the European Parliament vote against the 2.000 proposed job cuts.

Paste into field (with cntr-v) into the field "Text of your petition" near the bottom of the screen.

[If you are willing to put in extra effort, it is good if you write your own petition, in your own words, in your own language. If you do that, we would appreciate a copy of text.]

6) Please click on "Send".

7) When you receive a confirmation of receipt via email from the EP, please "forward" a copy to A&D-L at ADL-Webmaster@internet.lu, so that we can keep track of progress.

8) Forward copies of this email to anyone living in the EU who opposes unemployment. Ask them for help.

Best Regards,
Michael Ashbrook
Political Secretary
A&D-L