



Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for **Europe**
Alliance des Démocrates et des Libéraux pour l'**Europe**

ALDE Seminar

"The institutional implications of a more open integration"

Co-hosted by MEPs: **Alexander Graf Lambsdorff,
Jean-Louis Bourlanges, Andrew Duff**

Wednesday, 7 February 2007, 15.00 - 18.30h
European Parliament, Room: ASP 3G3 Brussels
Interpretation EN, FR, DE

The future of Europe continues to be the subject of heated discussions. Various models, like differentiated integration, concentric circles, variable geometry or a hard core EU constantly reappear in the debate on how the EU should organise itself. They all have in common a more open approach to integration compared to the "one-size-fits-all" approach with which the EEC once began. Few scholars or politicians, however, have looked at what these proposals really mean for the EU institutions - Commission, Council, Parliament, and the Court. Therefore, the ALDE Group in the European Parliament invites you to a seminar on "The institutional implications of a more open integration". On the eve of the 50th anniversary of the Treaties of Rome, our aim is to discuss the models and to use experts' and audience's input to create a better understanding of the various models and their respective advantages and drawbacks from an institutional perspective.

Programme

- 15h00** **Opening of the Seminar by Graham Watson,
Leader of the ALDE Group**
- 15h15 - 15h45** **Keynote Speech by Günter Verheugen,
Vice President, European Commission**
- 15h45 - 16h45** **Panel One**
This panel will outline what a more open integration could look like. Advantages and disadvantages of various integration models will be analysed and discussed *from a political perspective* with the audience and experts.

Moderator: Alexander Graf Lambsdorff, MEP
Panellists: Jean Louis Bourlanges, MEP
Prof. Eric Philippart, College of Europe / ULB (Université Libre de Bruxelles)
Prof. Gilles Andreani, Paris University II

16h45 - 18h10

Panel Two

The second panel will then examine the institutional consequences for Council, Commission, European Parliament and the Court that some of the models entail. Their merits and demerits would be evaluated *from an institutional perspective*. The experts' input will be used to determine possible ways which could lead to a more open integration policy of the European Union.

Moderator: Alexander Graf Lambsdorff, MEP
Panellists: Andrew Duff, MEP
Janis A. Emmanouilidis, Center for Applied Policy Research (CAP Munich)

18h10 - 18h30

Closing remarks by Alexander Graf Lambsdorff, MEP

18h30 - 19h30

Cocktail hosted by the ALDE Group