

## Direct Elections

This Congress of 14 parties representing 20 million voters in the European Community welcomes the prospect of direct elections to the European Parliament.

They acknowledge that each member country is entitled on this first occasion to decide upon the electoral system to be used. However, they assert that all member countries have a common interest in the integrity, representativeness and credibility of the European Parliament.

They believe that these objectives would be seriously impaired if one member country used an electoral system whose outcome distorts the views of its electorate.

In particular the Congress believes that it would be an outrage to European opinion was the British Government to employ the electoral system currently used for Westminster elections for the first European elections. This would return a British delegation even less representative of public opinion than is now achieved by nomination. Such a result would also distort the balance of political forces in the Community to the great disadvantage of European democracy.

### Resolution:

Direct Elections

### Year and Congress:

1976, The Hague

### Category:

European  
democracy –  
Institutional  
development of the  
EU

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