

BENELUX POSITION "ESSENTIALLY RIGHT" - BROK

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The German MEP Elmar BROK - European Parliament representative at the Amsterdam and Nice intergovernmental conferences, considers the [Benelux Paper on the Future of Europe](#) "essentially right". The three Benelux governments were aiming for an effective, democratic, and transparent Union, he said.

They pointed the way out of the impasse created by the Irish referendum, he said. But he thought enlargement could in fact go ahead without Irish ratification of the Nice Treaty. Matters such as weighted voting could be handled during enlargement negotiations, he argued.

Brok also supported the position taken by EPP President Wilfried MARTENS at the EPP Summit at Göteborg on finding a better way of agreeing changes to the Treaty. There should be a broad public discussion, involving national parliaments, the European Parliament, the Commission, and Member States, Brok argued.

