

The Swedish Social Democrat Youth Organisation voted No to the Lisbon Treaty

In the beginning of August SSU, the Swedish Social Democrat Youth Organisation, held its congress in Uppsala. It was reported that the congress had decided to say No to the Lisbon Treaty.

Kristin Linderöth is an EU opponent from the SSU branch in Lund. She confirms that SSU has taken a standpoint against the Lisbon Treaty.

- That is correct, says Kristin Linderöth, who at the congress was re-elected as a board member. The issue was handled under the section of Democracy in our Action program, and the congress decided after a rather keen voting that SSU is against the Lisbon Treaty. The national board was thereby overruled by the representatives, as a bare majority of the board earlier voted for a yes. I made a reservation in the board, as several others. Of course we are happy now, even if a No from the SSU might have been more important a year ago.

Of the total 248 representatives at the congress 121 vote against and 110 vote yes to the Lisbon Treaty. One of them that voted against was Riad Aliefendic from region of Scania.

- We critics firstly highlighted the power transfer to the union and that the European Court of Justice in principle can make judgement in all questions that concern the Swedish constitution. We argued that the Lisbon Treaty is un-democratic and will make the EU a superpower, he says.

- As EU opponent I am against all forms of more close contacts as the EU is a bourgeois project, but even many in favour of the EU are critical as they will see a well defined international collaboration, and not a federative superpower project where more and more decisions are taken above the heads of the citizens of the member states.

Riad Aliefendic thinks it is very painful that a constitutional issue of this calibre has been downgraded in all member states except Ireland, where a second forced referendum has been called in order to get the people to make the correct voting.

- The poem by Bertolt Brecht of DDR, where he asks the leaders to change the people if they do not vote correctly, is very striking in this process, says Riad Aliefendic.

He hopes that the Irish voters will vote No even this time in the second referendum of the Lisbon Treaty 2 October.

- The Irish people should insist and be proud of the understanding and knowledge they have had in this issue. The Lisbon Treaty has not been changed at all since the first referendum. What I can say, do the right think, vote No even this time.

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