WRITTEN QUESTION E-1416/04 by Philip Claeys (NI) to the Council

Subject: Gerhard Schröder's desire to introduce the Constitution without ratification in all Member States

The Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, Gerhard Schröder, has been quoted by the German weekly newspaper Focus as saying that a way must be found of promulgating the European Constitution without its having been ratified in all Member States. However, this would violate all the existing rules on the subject.

Has this idea already been debated within the European Council?

What is the Council's view?

Are such statements conducive to public confidence in the European institutions?

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