

**Question for written answer E-001569/2023
to the Council**

Rule 138

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Subject: The Valencia Memorandum

In May 1930, the French Foreign Minister, Aristide Briand, made a formal proposal to the nations of Europe for a federal European Union. This diplomatic initiative under the aegis of the League of Nations gave rise to the Study Commission for the European Union in September 1930.

In January 1931, the Chair of Valencia's Ateneo Mercantil business and cultural centre addressed, with the support of prominent Valencian civil society organisations, a visionary memorandum to the Spanish Minister of State outlining proposals for the Briand Commission.

This memorandum predates other key texts in the history of European integration such as the Ventotene Manifesto (1941) or the Schuman Declaration (1950), stating as it does that, if 'sincere European economic and political cooperation' was not brought about, Europe would return to war and that 'opposition to either of the two trends towards European cooperation in the economic and political fields would leave us standing alone and make us responsible for fatal armed conflicts'.

This text deserves to be recognised as part of the EU's intangible heritage, for example by awarding it the European Heritage Label.

What is the Council's view of the 1931 Memorandum of Valencia's Ateneo Mercantil?

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