

23<sup>rd</sup> June 2011

To the  
Members of the German Bundestag

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The decisions of the heads of state and government of 24<sup>th</sup> March 2011 on the European Stability Mechanism (ESM) (and the “Euro-Plus Package”) have only exacerbated the Euro crisis. This happened particularly due to the direction of aid to the support of national budgets which are a problem: the basic problem however lies in the distortions, which are resulting in an increasing divergence of competitiveness between the national economies of northern and southern Europe.

This can hardly be solved by the reduction of national deficits. Since exchange rate adjustments are no longer possible in the Currency Union, this requires instead far-reaching economic reforms such as the reduction of unit labour costs, modernisation of social systems etc.

Although this must have been known to the governments of the 17 countries of the European Currency Union at the time of the decisions, so-called rescue packages were put together. The rescue package applying from 2013 will amount to € 700 billion in cash contributions, securities and guarantees: Germany will have to bear the lion’s share, and the financing will take the form of loans.

In mid-May, some members of the Bundestag had already voted against the aid for Portugal, and also spoken out against support for Greece and Ireland, and the future rescue package.

This resistance is to be more than welcomed, since it shows that German parliamentarians do not simply pass every resolution ‘on the nod’, but defend their sovereign right to decide on the budget. This is most laudable. This beginning has seen the development of a respectable band of rebels.

The Scientific Service of the Bundestag established in its assessment that the intended permanent implementation of the European rescue package requires a constitution-changing majority in the Bundestag and Bundesrat. There also exist basic constitutional reservations: in the Basic Law, the principle of democracy is prescribed as an immutable and indispensable

element of the German constitution (Art. 79 III, 20 I GG). This means that the freely-elected German Bundestag has the last word in all major decisions.

The European stabilisation mechanism however requires substantial guarantee authorisations to the national finance ministers, which means that major budget policy decisions can in future be made without the consultation of parliament, with incalculable burdens on the German budget. The government will therefore have to explain before the Federal Constitutional Court on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2011: How compatible are the ESM measures with German Basic Law or applicable EU law?

Whatever the Federal Constitutional Court decides, whether the verdict goes in favour of the people or in favour of political interests, the resistance of parliamentarians must continue. Defend your inalienable rights! Make history. Make German history!

Of the 332 members of the coalition government, 20 have already declared publicly that they will not vote for the new permanent rescue package – nor hopefully for any further ones. Our letter is therefore directed at all those who want to put an end to self-service from German tax funds before the crash of the Euro.

Irrespective of which country has its debt rescheduled, however strictly or otherwise, Germany will be one of these countries which has to have its debt rescheduled. Our call to you is: Stand firm. Do not support any further rescue package. Do this because the crash of the Euro is imminent; do it because you are parliamentarians, because you are allowed joint determination on behalf of the people; because it is not the will of the people to pile up more and more debts, which prevents reforms in Germany and destroys the value of pensions. The costs of the transfer procedure, which Germany has had to bear since the foundation of the state, must finally come to an end. Experts in the ministries must be heard: we must stop hiring expensive external consultants, who produce studies amenable to the government simply in order to preserve the power of the ruling parties. Huge amounts of debt have been piled up in this way, both explicit and implicit: The International Monetary Fund (IMF) estimated in 2006 that Germany was in debt to the tune of € 8.5 trillion. This figure must by now be over € 10 trillion.

As we are burdened by the debts of our fathers and grandfathers, we and our children will be burdened by the debts from the Euro crisis. The values of the social market economy, such as pensions, will no longer be available for future generations. If you as representatives of the people are concerned for the welfare of future generations, vote “No” on every resolution connected with the ESM procedure. Do not make common cause with a policy which is shaking and even destroying the very foundations of our country. Support the democratic values of Germany.

Remember: If the efficiency of previous parliamentary decisions is also brought into the balance, every one of the 622 members (including their predecessors in the seat) is responsible for about € 19 billion of the following debts:

1. explicit debts of around € 2.1 trillion;
2. implicit debts (in legal social security systems, including civil service pension schemes) currently approaching € 9 trillion;
3. previous rescue package contributions, including injections of funds to banks from tax funds in the amount of approx. € 500 billion;
4. the German contribution to the 2013 rescue package under discussion here of € 168 billion, plus € 22 billion in cash payment obligations via credit financing for the actual payment and the annual interest.

The above points have caused great anxiety amongst the people of our country, whose livelihood is being threatened by this decision, and will be further threatened by every future decision. Do not deliberately make the situation any worse!

With regard to the last point, it should be noted with respect to the rescue package contributions that in the case of the securities and guarantees, the main proportion of around € 700 billion is not an immediate debt, but one which will only be realised in the event of a crash, for which you are jointly responsible to the detriment of all the people in Germany. A decision nevertheless made in accordance with Point 4 would automatically accelerate the way to direct democracy.

The petition of the Alliance for Democracy of 31<sup>st</sup> May 2011 directed to the Petition Committee is enclosed with this letter for your information

**Do not continue to make the same mistakes as your predecessors: make policies for the benefit of the people, for the benefit of your children, for the benefit of the children of the country and for all the people of Germany!**