

The purpose of the discussion on abortion in a militarized world

by Diethelm Raff

The example of Ireland

How to sow divisiveness among groups opposing despotism by means of a referendum on abortion

In Europe, a small number of people are attempting to centralize power within the European Union and to subordinate the EU to superpower interests by making use of the most diverse means and methods. To this end, the power of citizens to take political influence is to be eliminated to a large extent and their self-determination to be abolished; ultimately, all opposing citizens are to be sworn in to the militarization of all areas of life. These are the conditions under which the Nice Treaty must be considered. Thanks to the efforts on the part of a single individual a few years ago, the Irish are the only nation within the European Union able to vote on every treaty that delegates rights of sovereignty to other institutions. Nevertheless, it came as a great surprise to the governing elite in Ireland when on 7 June 2001, 54% of the Irish voted against the EU's Nice Treaty. Using "half-truths, arrogance and extortion" (*Neue Zuercher Zeitung, NZZ* 11 June 2001) the government tried to force the Nice Treaty upon its citizens. What the government did not tell them was that the treaty ultimately serves to extend the EU's despotic powers in favor of superpower aspirations and wars - all of this at the expense of its citizens. The European Union is despotic because its structure does not include a separation of powers, the countries' elected representatives to the European Parliament are not even allowed to initiate laws, and to date citizens across Europe have yet to express a common will to administer themselves within the borders of a European Union. Among other things, the Nice treaty transfers the so-called Petersberg tasks including wars of aggression (crisis intervention) to an army of the European Union, which has not been placed under any democratic control what so ever. This EU army is expressly intended to wage wars all over the world in order to secure (major corporations') capital interests. The present treaty would therefor abrogate Ireland's neutrality. The Nice treaty likewise abolishes citizens' sovereignty rights in 30 areas, starting from the structure of the commission to the right of asylum and immigration laws. By abolishing the principle of unanimity in these areas, a majority of ministers will be able to force their decisions upon the other countries, thus also upon the elected representatives of those countries. In the name of "enlarged cooperation", only seven states will be able to deprive other democratically structured nation states of their ability to make their own decisions in the future, thus handing them over to the control of the despotic European Union; and concomitantly, the influence of small states will be

substantially lessened.

The Princes of the European Union want to bring the Irish into line with their policy

To attain their goals, The EU rulers need the Nice Treaty, which in accordance with Trotsky's idea of a permanent revolution, will be replaced in 2004 by a further treaty. After the Irish 'No', the Ministers at the European Union summit meeting in Gothenburg in June 2001 explicitly stated that the (Irish) citizens cannot prevent them from implementing the Nice Treaty - despite the fact that under existing EU law, the agreement of all member states is required. They will not let themselves be stopped from extending their despotic rule. Bertie Ahern, the Irish Premier, was instructed to introduce a second referendum, which will be voted on in October of this year. They will not make use of the same surprise tactics they used in the first one - i.e. setting the date of the vote three weeks after the first announcement and wrapping it up in a package with three other issues, a number unheard of in the history of the country. The *Neue Zuercher Zeitung* of 11 June 2002 bluntly writes how little the European Union is ready to take the doubts of its citizens seriously. Instead of entering into an open and honest dialogue, the government is deceiving its citizens: "The government seems to concentrate pragmatically on a clearly identifiable group of opponents (...) By "neutralizing" this opposition group, and by higher number of voter participation a positive result is to be reached." On June 12 the *Neue Zuercher Zeitung* reported on a meeting of EU foreign ministers : "The Irish authorities want to work 'calmly and confidently' towards ratification, Ahern explained (...) In its second attempt to jump over the hurdle Ireland can count on the assistance of its European partners. The ministers agreed that first a comprehensive analysis of the motives must be made." The German Foreign Minister and committed Marxist, Joschka Fischer , explained how the citizens' will is to be dealt with, in that the political elite, the progressive forces are to overcome it: "Fischer put the Irish 'No' in the tradition of the dialectic process of crisis and progress typical for the European Union." (*Neue Zuercher Zeitung* 12 June 2001). The Fine Gaels director for elections, Jim O'Keeffe explained how the new strategy will target specific groups as part of a positive campaign.

How opponents of the EU are to be eliminated

In a despotic structure, all means are allowed to eliminate the citizens' power of taking political influence. Such means have, for instance, been documented in the former GDR's state security guidelines No. 1|76. For example:

2.6.1. Objectives and range of application of measures of subversion

2.6.2. Measures of subversion are to be directed toward causing as well as utilizing

and reinforcing such contradictions and/or differences among hostile-negative forces, by which they are divided, paralyzed, disorganized and isolated and through which their hostile-negative attitudes, including their effects, are prevented, substantially limited or completely stopped (...)

2.6.3. Effective forms of subversion are: (...) Causing distrust and mutual suspicion within groups, groupings and organizations.

How can these measures be applied to the Irish situation? In Ireland, opponents of the

EU consisted on the one hand of Sinn Fein, the political group said to be connected with the Irish Republican Army. Sinn Fein gained increasing support in Ireland and Northern Ireland after the Irish Republican Army renounced terror. Coincidentally or not, Northern Ireland suddenly experienced several terror attacks, which again diminished Sinn Fein's reputation. Nevertheless, Sinn Fein gained votes in the elections two weeks ago.

The main block of opponents to the EU, however, was made up of so-called Pro-Life or anti-abortion groups who are very strong in Ireland. Under no external pressure and well in advance, Prime Minister Ahern announced on 7 March that a referendum be held this year on the inclusion to the constitution of a prohibition on abortion. This issue was intended to split opponents of abortion and at the same time make Ahern and his party popular with Catholic voters. The referendum calls for abortion to only be permitted in the case of substantial danger to the physical health of the mother, thus no longer in the case of a threatening suicide, as the highest Irish court decided some years ago, for example. The constitution at the same time would lay down that life begins with the nesting of the fertilized egg into the uterus, and not with the act of fertilization itself. As was to be predicted, opponents of abortion were split, one part (including the Catholic Church) finding that it was an advantage to have at least this right embodied in the constitution. The other part found that the constitutional law did not go far enough. In any case, a huge controversy arose on an issue that carried great emotional weight with a majority of the opponents of EU despotism. A coalition between the largest opposition party Fine Gael, the Green and Labour parties, which wanted to liberalize abortion, rejected the constitutional referendum with a scarce majority of 50.42%. The fact that his referendum was only submitted as a strategy and that the government was not concerned about preventing abortions can be clearly seen in a statement made by the Irish Minister of Health, Michael Martin. He explained that the estimated 7,000 women who travel to Great Britain for abortions a year is not Ireland's concern, since the British have another legal situation allowing abortions and that it would be unrealistic, for example to intensify border controls." (SWR, Europa Magazine, 2 March 2002 at 4.35 pm.

Particularly striking is the fact that no political or other objective reasons existed for

this referendum. Instead, it was merely intended to weaken the opponents of EU despotism or to sow divisiveness on an issue of particular importance to many of them. Was this part of the assistance promised by Ireland's EU superpower partners in the fight for votes? In any case, as an initial success of this strategy, Ahern gained an absolute majority in the parliamentary elections 2 weeks ago. In the fight for the vote on the Nice Treaty referendum currently gearing up, Ahern will now claim that he would certainly never agree to a treaty that also supports abortion. And many will believe him.