

The Path to European Defence

Guy Verhofstadt
Javier Solana

Erkki Liikanen

Philippe Busquin

Karl von Wogau (Ed)

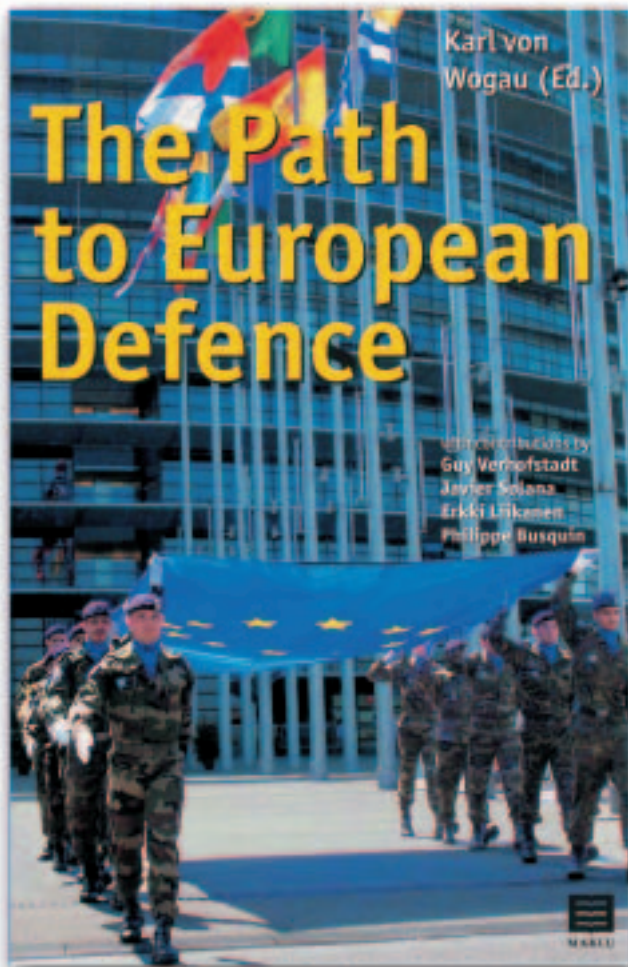
Prime Minister of Belgium

High Representative

of the Common Foreign and Security Policy

European Commissioner for Enterprises
and Information Society

European Commissioner for Research



Since the decisions taken in Helsinki in 1999 on the development of a European Security and Defence Policy the European Union has made a lot of progress in this direction. The necessary political-military structures are put in place and in the course of 2003, the European Union has successfully conducted two military missions in Macedonia and in the Congo. For the future, the task will consist in making troops for European missions more quickly deployable. A resolution of the European Parliament asks for a major role of the Franco-German brigade in this process.

Karl von Wogau wants to give a parliamentary impulse to the upcoming debates. He makes clear where the European Union stands today in defence and what still needs to be done to develop Europe in a way that it can cope with the challenges of the 21st century. European personalities contributed to the book, such as the Belgian Prime Minister Guy Verhofstadt, the High Representative of the Common Foreign and Security Policy Javier Solana and the European Commissioners Erkki Liikanen and Philippe Busquin.

A working party of the Kangaroo Group was contributing to the preparation of this book. This association deals with removing the remaining obstacle for the Internal Market of the European Union and brings together representatives of the European institutions and from industry.

In the development of European Integration, Karl von Wogau follows the principle that Jean Monnet described so well. He predicted that the unification of Europe will happen around major projects. According to Karl von Wogau, European defence is the next such challenge, which the European Union is facing.

The book has three key messages: First, a large majority of European citizens is in favour of a European Defence. Second, the four biggest parties in the European Parliament agree. And third, through a strategy and a plan with concrete requirements about time and content - such as in the Maastricht Treaty - a common European Defence can be realized by 2009.



Karl von Wogau graduated in economics and law, with a doctoral dissertation in constitutional history. He completed his economic studies at INSEAD in Fontainebleau and subsequently worked in an executive capacity at Sandoz AG in Basel, Switzerland. Dr. von Wogau has been a Member of the European Parliament since 1979. In 1984, he authored a benchmark parliamentary report on the work programme leading to the European Community Internal Market. In the decisive years preceding the introduction of a common European currency, Karl von Wogau chaired the European Parliament Economic and Monetary Committee. As of January 2002, he has served on the European Parliament Committee for Foreign Affairs, Security and Defence. He is a member of the European Parliament delegation to the NATO Assembly.

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