



European Humanist Federation
international association under Belgian law

Fédération Humaniste Européenne
association internationale de droit belge

Campus de la Plaine ULB - CP 237
Avenue Arnaud Fraiteur
B-1050 Brussels - Bruxelles
Belgium - Belgique

Tel: +32 (0)2 627 68 90
Fax: +32 (0)2 627 68 01
E-mail: fhe@ulb.ac.be
www.humanism.be

Press release

President Barroso receives the "non confessionals"

Brussels, 9 November 2005

The President of the European Commission, J. M. Barroso, has received in the building of the presidency in Brussels, a delegation of the European Humanist Federation (EHF) composed of women and men of several European nationalities.

The delegation informed the President of the objectives of the EHF aiming at developing a society based on tolerance, democracy and solidarity, on freedom of conscience and on equality between men and women.

In a society marked by the search for profit and by wild competition which disconcerts many people, EHF and its member organisations strongly wish to contribute to build a progressive and tolerant society, without any discrimination nor privileges.

EHF invited the president of the European Commission to ensure that the impartiality of the Institutions of the Union is respected, particularly in ethics committees or in any other groups, as well as regarding experts and other agents.

The delegation has insisted that no discrimination be accepted, in particular against non believers and that they enjoy, in all the countries of the European Union, a consideration equal to the one granted to religious convictions.

The President underlined the importance of developing the dialogue to bring together the European Union and its citizens. He pointed out that the values of the Union are also those of humanism.