

Europeans cheer Irish 'no' vote on EU

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A man in Dublin, Ireland, on Friday reads results of a referendum on the Lisbon Treaty, the European Union's blueprint to modernize its powers and institutions. NIAL CARSON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Many Europeans say this is exactly the problem with democracy Brussels-style, where European Commission members are not directly elected but wield continental powers.
"We're told we can vote no, that the system requires unanimity. But when it actually happens, every time, the EU tells us: You really only have a

right to vote yes," said Dublin travel agent Paul Brady.
The treaty would increase powers for the president and foreign policy chief and prune the commission from 27 to 18 members. That would mean only two-thirds of the countries could nominate one of their own members in any given term. It also would trim the policy areas where a holdout

nation can block a decision.
"It's OK to belong to Europe, but I do not want to be governed by them," said David Richards, 56, a tourist from Lincoln, England.
Richards expressed delight at Ireland's "no" vote and said he wished he had the same opportunity in his homeland, where skepticism about all matters EU runs high. The

United Kingdom is one of EU members that wait for the Irish referendum to proceed with their ratification in Parliament.
People across the continent complain they have no input to influence EU treaties. They say it's not enough that elected governments have to negotiate such treaties.
Would-be voters in France and the Netherlands are particularly annoyed by that score. Majorities there thought they had registered powerful statements against EU accountability by shutting down the EU's proposed constitution in 2005.
Instead, most of the constitution's rules for shaping EU institutions and decision-making procedures reappeared in new packaging two years later when all governments signed the Lisbon Treaty in the Portuguese capital.
French President Nicolas Sarkozy, whose country assumes the rotating EU presidency next month, is saddled with keeping the Lisbon Treaty alive.
He said Saturday that the "Irish hiccup" should not affect other governments' in-house ratifications.
But Sarkozy conceded that voters throughout the bloc were liable to shoot down the high diplomacy of EU insiders if given the chance.

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Time to select national delegates is running out! Please join us on June 28th to ensure a fair and open process for national delegate selection. This meeting will give all delegates a chance to have their voices heard. "Mr. Riles", Mike Weber, has endorsed this convention, and we intend to conduct this meeting legally, in accordance with applicable rules and laws. All delegates are strongly encouraged to attend.

1. Please bring your delegate badge & photo ID to the Grand Ballroom in the Grand Sierra Resort in Reno, Nevada on June 28.
2. Delegate check-in will begin at 7:00 am and the convention will come out of recess at 9:00am.
3. No fee will be charged to delegates, media, or guests of the April 26th meeting who present their badges.

For More Information: Visit www.NevadaGOPconvention.com Or Call (775) 331-2662

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