

# Proposal for Skopje Spring Congress 2020

Proposal  
212

LYMEC Spring Congress, April 3 to 5, 2020 in Skopje

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Status:  accepted  rejected  transferred to \_\_\_\_\_

The Skopje Spring Congress 2020 may decide:

## 1 **Resolution on an EU-supported fund for the unification of** 2 **the island of Ireland**

### 3 **Recognising that:**

- 4 • There is a greater possibility of realising a united Ireland in the coming years than has  
5 ever been the case since the partition of Ireland under the Government of Ireland Act  
6 1920.
- 7 • Demographics are changing in Northern Ireland, and it is now seen as inevitable that the  
8 majority of citizens will, in the coming years, be of the Nationalist tradition (the 2011  
9 census has been called a “demographic watershed”).
- 10 • The 2019 UK General Election saw a majority of Nationalist MPs elected to Westminster  
11 for the first time in history.
- 12 • The Good Friday Agreement (also known as the Belfast Agreement) guarantees the right  
13 of the citizens of the island of Ireland to bring about a united Ireland when there is a  
14 majority both north and south to do so.
- 15 • That almost 56% of the population of Northern Ireland voted for the United Kingdom to  
16 remain as a member of the European Union in 2016.
- 17 • In April 2017, EU leaders, at a special Brexit summit in Brussels, unanimously agreed  
18 that Northern Ireland would automatically become part of the EU in the event of a united  
19 Ireland.

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### 21 **Considering that:**

- 22 • A vote for unity would bring about major institutional, structural and constitutional changes  
23 on the island of Ireland, creating a society and political system that must be  
24 representative and inclusive of all citizens.
- 25 • It would face significant challenges in bringing together different cultures, traditions and  
26 beliefs that all exist, and have a rightful place, on the island of Ireland.
- 27 • Were this process not to be done correctly, the island of Ireland would face major threats  
28 to the rule of law and its fragile peace, as well as potentially devastating economic and  
29 political shocks.
- 30 • It would therefore be the responsibility of the political leadership across the island of  
31 Ireland and the EU to ensure and support a peaceful, successful, seamless and just  
32 unification process.

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34 **Concludes that:**

- 35 • The EU would have to play a supportive role in this process, as it has already committed  
36 to the automatic membership of Northern Ireland in the event of unification, and that said  
37 process is guaranteed by the Good Friday Agreement.

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39 **LYMEC therefore supports:**

- 40 • An EU-backed extraordinary fund to be established to support the unification process,  
41 should it come about, to ensure a peaceful and successful transition.

*Attention: This is a preview! The official text is printed in the proposal book for Skopje Spring Congress 2020 03 - 05 April 2020.*