

EUROPEAN CHAIRS

The Commission of the European Community launched in 1990 "the Jean Monnet Action" with the aim of initiating university courses on European integration. Within this framework, the Commission created the EUROPEAN CHAIRS.

A European Chair is defined as "a professor position fully dedicated to teach courses on European integration in first and second cycles, as well as directing research in third cycle. The European Chair must include, at least partially, some compulsory courses" (Definition of a European Chair in the VADEMECUM of the Jean Monnet Action 1990).

The creation of these European Chairs is, doubtless, a right European initiative and a step forward in the academic construction of the EC.

The Chair in the university world is the highest and most respected position. A Chairholder both in the university and in the profane world is considered as the most respected authority in academic matters.

For these reasons the Chairholder of a European Chair should not be below the Chairholder of a traditional Chair (Spanish or French etc.) in the legal, economic and symbolic spheres.

LEGAL SPHERE

At this moment (January 1993) the Chairholder of a European Chair is not in a legal position similar to the one held by a Chairholder of a traditional Chair (Spanish, etc.). The Chairholder of a traditional Chair becomes in Spain and elsewhere a kind of civil servant of the state with a high salary and a tenured position until the age of retirement with all social security benefits. Therefore it would be appropriate that the Chairholder of a European Chair becomes a full-time public official of the Commission until the age of retirement.

ECONOMIC LEVEL

The economic level should not be below an A2. This would allow the Chairholder of a European Chair to be fully dedicated to such a relevant task in the construction of the EC in the academic world, without having to limit his time out of economic problems. Furthermore this high salary would place the Chairholder of a European Chair at the level of high European executive positions.

SYMBOLIC LEVEL

The Chairholder of a European Chair is in itself an important symbol of the Commission, of the EC and of the European university world. Therefore it would be regrettable that the Chairholder of a European Chair be

below the level of a traditional Chairholder in legal and economic aspects. as is the case now.

On the other hand it would be advisable that a special certificate be designed and granted to the Chairholder of a European Chair at an academic ceremony at the Commission's Headquarters.

If the Chairholder of a European Chair would not reach the legal, economic and symbolic levels of a traditional Chairholder, this splendid initiative of the Commission would not achieve the aims foreseen both home and abroad nor would it be in tune with the times of this new era of the EC after Maastricht.



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UNIVERSIDAD COMPLUTENSE

10-II-1993

Excmo. Sr. D
Jordi Solé Tura
Ministro de Cultura
Madrid

Querido Ministro,

Ayer me recibió en su despacho del Parlamento Europeo en Estrasburgo Lord Plomb, el ex-Presidente del PE. Está muy entusiasmado con el proyecto de la Academia Europea de Yuste y me asegura le traspunta que está dispuesto a apoyar esta iniciativa con todos los medios institucionales a su alcance.

También tuve una larga conversación y almorzo con



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el Presidente de la Comisión de Cultura del PE y ex-Ministro de Cultura en Italia, Antonio LA PERGOLA, en presencia de Marcelino Oreja, Presidente de la Comisión Institucional del PE.

Antonio La Pergola me ha brindado todo su apoyo institucional en el desarrollo de esta Academia Europea. Me ha sugerido le transmita de su parte que usted como Ministro de Cultura de España presente este proyecto en el PE, si le parece oportuno. Antonio La Pergola hablaría en primer lugar y daría el apoyo de su



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Comisión a este proyecto. A continuación le presentaría a usted a los eurodiputados en el hemisferio del PE y usted haría una presentación de la Academia Europea de Yuste.

Tendría, naturalmente, sumo gusto en exponerle personalmente este proyecto que lancé a la Comisión de la CE como una iniciativa de mi Cátedra Europea Jean Monnet, si le parece pertinente.

Quedo a su disposición con un saludo cordial.

P.S. Le adjunto copia *José Jáuregui* de las páginas del BOE en el que aparece la AEY.