



ASSEMBLÉE DES RÉGIONS D'EUROPE
ASSEMBLY OF EUROPEAN REGIONS
VERSAMMLUNG DER REGIONEN EUROPAS
ASAMBLEA DE LAS REGIONES DE EUROPA
ASSEMBLEA DELLE REGIONI D'EUROPA

Original in German

AER GENERAL ASSEMBLY
(Seinäjoki, 7th and 8th December 2000)

RESOLUTION ON THE CHARTER OF FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS OF THE EUROPEAN UNION
(Document CONVENT 50 of 28th September 2000)

- adopted unanimously -

1. The Assembly of European Regions welcomes the present Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union as representing an important step towards the creation of a Europe of Citizens. The Charter summarises and makes visible the basic rights of citizens vis à vis the European Union and the European Community. It represents a well-balanced compromise incorporating a wide variety of constitutional traditions.
2. The Charter will strengthen the legal position of people living in the European Union and improve controls over the exercising of European sovereignty. At the same time it identifies the European Union as a community of shared values.
3. From the point of view of the Regions, the Assembly of European Regions particularly welcomes the fact that the principle of subsidiarity has been incorporated into the Charter and the Preamble refers to the national identity of the member States and the organisation of their State power at national, regional and local level. It further welcomes the fact that the European Union, in Article 22 of the Charter, declares its belief in the diversity of cultures, religions and languages in Europe.
4. The Assembly of European Regions regrets the fact that, apart from the Convention hearing of 19th June 2000, the accession States were not more closely involved in the process of drawing up the Charter. It calls for Europe-wide discussion of the Charter and announces its intention to participate in such discussion.