



PRESS RELEASE

(19 November 2002)

Following the **dynamic and controversial** speech on "Montesquieu and the European Union", given by **Prime Minister Guy Verhofstadt** to the **College of Europe community** in the new Bruges Concert Hall yesterday, Monday the 18th of November 2002 (*See the College website on www.coleurop.be to get a copy of the speech*), the College of Europe, Campus Bruges, is organising a top level Forum on the cultural and educational impacts of enlargement and the role of the culture and education within Europe taking place from November 19th until 24th 2002 in Bruges, Belgium.

We are pleased to invite you as one of our press contacts to the part of this conference where Mr. **Jean-Luc Dehaene**, **H.E. Giuliano Amato** and **Mr. Nikolaus Van der Pas** will be present to take questions as invited speakers at the **Bruges Conference Week on "Culture, Cultural Rights and Education in an Enlarged Europe"**, organised by the College of Europe in conjunction with the European Association for Education Law and Policy on Wednesday 5.30 p.m. at the Townhall of the City of Bruges.

The College of Europe will also be welcoming Mr. **Jean-Luc Dehaene** and the very eminent professor **Bronislaw Geremek** on Friday the 22nd at 6 p.m. for the Piet Akkermans Memorial Lecture. This speech is followed by a reception at 8 p.m. which will also take place at the Townhall of the City of Bruges.

The Forum deals with issues such as education, languages, cultural diversity and cultural rights. These issues will be addressed from a case-study perspective as well as from the perspective of an enlarged Europe. Recommendations will be adopted by a panel of European leaders, chaired by Mr. Jean-Luc Dehaene, Vice-Chairman of the European Convention. These recommendations will be handed over to the participants of the European Convention.

For more information on this conference and its programme, please check our website www.coleurop.be.