Christian Democratic Party Manifesto

A Single Currency

The Euro is the official currency of the European Union. It is the only currency that is used by more than 317 million Europeans. The Euro was established by the Maastricht Treaty in 1992. The Euro has surpassed the U.S. dollar in terms of combined value in circulation. However, the United Kingdom is one of the two countries to hold out on adoption of the Euro, the other country being Denmark.

In the United Kingdom one of the most important issues is participation in the common currency. Supporters of the Euro believe that a common currency would lead to an easier trade of goods and services throughout the Euro zone, therefore allowing fewer barriers throughout the countries. Simply put a single market will ultimately lead to a single yet successful economy. Some leaders also argue that abandoning the Sterling and adopting the Euro will lead to economic growth and financial stability. Also by using a common currency it would be easier to hold governments accountable for their spending habits by setting budget deficits that can not exceed three percent of the countries Gross Domestic Product.

On the other hand there are a group of leaders who believe the Euro will not be in the countries best interest. There is a fear that the switch to a central currency may cause disturbance with certain businesses. Another issue with the Euro is, as the single currency is implemented many are rounding prices up on goods because the value of the dollar is
different. This has caused many to be skeptical of the idea of a switch to a single currency.

With a few minor changes we the Christian Democratic Party will be in favor of the Euro. One of our main principles is to hold the government accountable and with the requirements of the Stability and Growth Pact it can be easily attainable to impose a tight system of checks and balances on our governments spending. The CDP also stands for economic growth and with the value of the Euro increasing everyday it is very hard not to notice the obvious perks of the Euro.

Education

Currently the United Kingdom is under a plan known as Local Management of Schools, in which individual schools are free to make their own choices about how to recognize nationally defined education goals, alongside parental involvement. Parents also have the choice over which school their child attends, with the idea that schools will have to compete for students in an education market. Both the Thatcher and the Major governments support a process of moving education authority from its producers, that is, teachers and administration, to its consumers, the parents and students. Undoubtedly it is unjust for schools to select students on the basis of education aptitude or income. Schools may base admission upon merit and aptitude to a certain extent, but racial discrimination as well as economic discrimination is unacceptable. Although, the United Kingdom is passing funded programs to aid low income families. A government funded Assisted Places Scheme, designed to increase choice of schooling, enables around 35,000 students from low income families to attend selected independent private schools. Another reform
passed a few years later increased the program to accept 70,000 students and extended eligible choices to all compulsory education.

The Christian Democratic Party believes that while a higher education is vital to the European Union, a few changes to the current system would greatly be supported. We believe in traditional family values. Christian Democrats believe that schools of faith will produce happier students as well as higher examination results. Also, the CDP would like to see the opportunity for students to attend single sex schools, if the parents of the child so choose. We feel the parents and the students should have the final say on which school to attend.

Immigration and Asylum

Immigration and Asylum have become very important issues in the United Kingdom due to an increase in immigration levels. In 2004, 582,000 immigrants entered the UK, which was 223,000 more than the amount of people leaving the UK. As of 2006 the total estimated population of the UK was 60.5 million people. With numbers this high many are saving that the UK has become overpopulated and should have a more strict policy on immigration into the country. It is however the European Union who makes the policies on immigrants entering the member states from outside of the member states. Because the EU prides itself on its culture of freedom and tolerance and economic prosperity it has become an attractive location for immigrants of countries outside the EU.

The Christian Democratic Party has its own views on what should be done regarding this issue. The CDP feels that immigrants and asylum seekers should have to meet stricter policies in order to enter the country. The CDP feels that a culture of
immigrants will grow dependant on the UK, causing the government to spend more money on immigrants. The CDP feels there should be certain language qualifications when it is relevant to a job. Certain competence standards should be met. Policies should be changed to encourage guest workers to become more proficient in European cultures and language. The CDP will also support legislation which would require asylum applications to be completed within six months and quick and safe transit for those whose applications were turned down.

National Health Services

The UK is known for having one of the best healthcare systems in the world. In recent years the National Health Service has implemented lifelong electronic records of all citizens, a group of hospitals that share information on a connected system, and fast and convenient information exchange. The National Health Service has become a great way to maintain a healthy and stable society.

The Christian Democratic Party believes that the NHS is an important part of the European policy that must be protected at all means. Especially since most of the population is in the working class, we must make sure that this class and all of the citizens, especially the children and the elderly, be taken care of to the best of our ability as a society.

Gasoline Tax

With the gasoline tax being 300%, half of that of the average European nation, many people have argued for and against the raising of the gasoline tax. A raise in the price of gas would be beneficial for the environment and decrease the amount of traffic on our roadways. The problem with this is that the more we tax our citizens on gas, the
less it becomes their choice on means of transportation. It also will take more money out of the pockets of the tax payer.

The Christian Democratic Party has nothing against the environment, but does not like the idea of having to pay even more taxes on a product which we already pay extremely high taxes on. The CDP will do everything in its power to insure that taxes on gasoline do not increase. We wish to keep this money in the pockets of those who earned it.