

**17 September 2009**

**Guarantees a clever tactic to mislead voters**

“The so-called legally binding guarantees which the Government claim they fought hard to secure do not change one single aspect of the Lisbon Treaty; all they do is reiterate the same assurances given by European heads of state during the first referendum on the treaty” Mr Frank Keoghan, national secretary of the People’s Movement, told a public meeting in Sligo last night.

“These assurances given by the ‘Yes’ side were not enough to convince people to vote in favour of the treaty first time around and I believe they will be dismissed by the voters with the same mistrust in the second referendum” said Mr Keoghan.

“People should not be fooled. This is exactly the same treaty that was rejected last year. Nothing has changed. This treaty will lead to the privatisation of public services and increased militarisation of the EU. Enshrined in this treaty are the failed neo-liberal policies which have caused the current economic crisis. This is a treaty for the bankers, for the speculators and for big business” he said.

The meeting was also addressed by Mr Brian O’Boyle, of the People before Profit organisation and by Councillor Declan Bree who appealed to the public to vote “No” to the Lisbon Treaty

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**For further information:**

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