

Delay on the road to union

There is doubt over the future of the Maastricht Treaty as British Ministers call for a pause to consider public opinion throughout Europe before proceeding with integration.

It is now thought unlikely that the Maastricht Treaty will come into effect as planned on January 1, 1993

IRELAND

June 19:
First nation to ratify the accord with 69% in favour
Treaty ratified

BRITAIN

Parliament may vote as late as 1993.
Key opponents are within Tory party.
Ratification uncertain

FRANCE

September 20:
People vote 51-49% in favour of the treaty.
Treaty ratified

HOLLAND

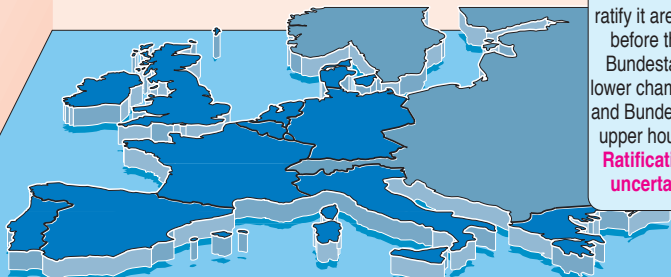
June 3:
Treaty submitted to parliament.
Ratification expected

DENMARK

June 2:
Treaty rejected
Second referendum due next year
Ratification expected

GERMANY

October:
Passionate debate expected when a bill to change the constitution to accommodate the treaty and another to ratify it are put before the Bundestag, lower chamber, and Bundesrat, upper house.
Ratification uncertain



PORTUGAL

October:
Revisions required to constitution to ensure legality before treaty is debated by parliament.
Ratification expected

SPAIN

September:
Constitutional reforms approved.
Oct: Debate to begin with final vote in December.
Ratification expected

BELGIUM

July 17:
Treaty ratified in lower house with 69% vote in favour.
October:
Treaty goes to Senate.
Ratification expected

LUX'BOURG

July 2:
Parliament votes 51 to 9 in favour.
Treaty ratified

ITALY

September 17:
Senate approves treaty by 176 to 16. Treaty must now be accepted by lower house.
Ratification expected

GREECE

August 1: 286 of the 300 deputies vote in favour in the single-house parliament.
Treaty ratified