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PRESS RELEASE

New CER pamphlet: *EUROPE AFTER SEPTEMBER 11th*

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In *Europe after September 11th*, the Centre for European Reform examines the European Union's role in the new coalition of world powers that is committed to fighting terrorism.

The pamphlet argues that many good things have come out of the crisis, so far. The US is re-engaging with the world. The European Union has accelerated its plans to integrate in the fields of external and internal security. It is therefore better able to meet global challenges, and to act as a useful international partner. Under the leadership of Vladimir Putin, Russia has taken a strategic decision to move closer to the West, while NATO is becoming more of a political and less of a military organisation. This will allow Russia to develop a much closer relationship with the West on security issues. There are also signs of a new spirit of international economic co-operation, particularly between the US and Europe.

None of these positive developments is set in stone. All are fragile to a greater or lesser degree. In order to help ensure that these gains endure, the Europeans need to:

- *Make a renewed effort to push ahead with more solid and coherent foreign and defence policies.*
- *Move faster to harmonise policies on extradition, policing and judicial co-operation.*
- *Offer Russia a new role in the structures of European and global governance.*
- *Persuade the US that it is more likely to fulfil its objectives if it acts multilaterally, rather than unilaterally.*
- *Stress the importance of the coalition focusing not only on terrorism, but also on its causes, such as economic under-development and the collapse of states.*
- *And finally, on the economic front, the Europeans must help the Americans ensure that the positive news from Doha on the world trade talks is not undermined by arguments on how to cope with world recession.*

Notes for Editors:

1. The authors all work for the Centre for European Reform.
2. Jack Straw, the Foreign Secretary, will launch *Europe After September 11th* at a seminar on December 11th 2001. For further information please contact Catherine Hoyer on +44 20 7233 1199 or catherine@cer.org.uk.