

HOW TO SAVE EUROPE FROM COLLAPSING

BY

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Europe is in jeopardy, fascism is in the lift again. Is it to be saved and how? Yes undeniably it needs to be, for it is democracy that is at stake and needs rescuing. As Winston Churchill once said in the House of Commons, 11 November 1947 *Many forms of Government have been tried, and will be tried in this world of sin and woe. No one pretends that democracy is perfect or all-wise. Indeed it has been said that democracy is the worst form of Government except for all those other forms that have been tried from time to time....*

Yet democracy is fragile and so is Europe that is going through crisis after crisis. It used to be the champion and the guarantor of peace, of democracy of Human Rights values and development but is now being threatened by vicious bouts of national sovereignty.

What exactly is Europe standing for? On the one hand it is being advocated by genuine idealists, active utopists who were and are willing to definitely put an end to the aftermaths of the second World War that was in the first place a European war. They want to spare mankind a comeback of conflicts whether it is fascism or any other form of totalitarian Islamic ideology. On the other hand there are more or less occult powers that dominate international finance and multinationals, advocating neo liberalism, seeking a growing and dominant economic space favorable to their direct financial interests.

Active partisans of the former vision are a majority of European MPs (not all of them); those who stand for the second option are backed by lobbyists, and their might tends to grow in importance. On top of all there are the euro-sceptics. It is indeed democratically possible to send enemies of democracy to the Parliament which happened in the twenties in Italy and in the certies and may happen again.

Grexit and even Brexit are no longer total fictions but real possibilities. There are those who are willing to take advantage of the Union and are ready to give back Europe as little as possible, those who want to have their cake and eat it too and those who would simply wish to get rid of Europe like Marine Le Pen and the like.



In some sort of a way, the forces of destruction within the European project have been present in it right from the start in the late fifties. We are now actually observing a mounting malaise within the European population that gives rise to populism and lack of confidence towards Europe's bureaucrats and professional politicians when it comes to contain financial extravaganza, immigration and terrorism.

Schengen is about to collapse, racism, antisemitism, anti islamism are in the lift. Nationalism is back as well as the fear of a flood of barbarian violence. Might Europe yield to fascism again?

It is not altogether impossible when one considers the willingness of the British to re negociate their presence in Europe which can only

weaken the European cohesion. Poland, Hungary and a few other countries are undoing democracy within their borders and open the way to soft fascism which contrary to communism is not opposed to new forms of ultra liberalism.

« Soft dictatorship » is in the pipeline and it is calling for still more autonomy in the name of national sovereignty.

It is going to be either make or break and it cannot be both.

If we want more prosperity, more security through police cooperation (a kind of European FBI), more fiscal harmony, more transparency we need more Europe and not less Europe. After 60 years of common policy, still more member states make unilateral decisions that are undoing the European philosophy of cohesion.

We are witnessing history: everyone is seeking the kind of Europe that is most convenient to them without realizing how difficult it has become to tackle the challenges of the future without this community of values and interests. It is high time for a European revival. And that can only come from the European public opinion. But there is no such thing as a European public opinion.

Therefore it is urgent it were created.

But that requires the equivalent of an opinion Big Bang.

And that can only come from Europe's youth. The only question is how. The only answer is through Eyes of Europe.

Marc Guiot, 2-2-2016, Brussels