

Seventy years ago France and Germany decided to put their coal and steel in common under the sway of a Court. Since in those days both elements were the core of war, this devolution made it impossible a new round of mutual destruction. The Schumann declaration that followed was the first stone of post nationalism in our continent.

Yet, coal and steel are no longer the food of war. Nor is war in large scale a strategic concern. The challenge of our time is to engage the obsolescence of the paradigm brought about by the end of the II World War. According to it the US are 50% of the world wealth, Europe is but a heap of rubble, Russia a threatening Leviathan and China a misterious domain plagued by famines. The fact that all this is but a dream does not prevent it from having consequences. First and foremost to keep the world at large in unstable condition, Europe in the humiliating position of a protectorate, and the West, as such, in serious danger of lagging behind China.

Europe is the only global actor with the material and spiritual means to fill the gap between strategic reality and fiction. It is our chance to recover the scepter that we lost after two devastating conflicts and lead the world again, this time on the basis of respect of Human Rights. But to be up to the task we have to embark upon a process of devolving competences like the Schumann plan did. For to believe that a sovereignty limited to the boundaries of a European State Nation is real sovereignty is self-delusional. In fact, this understanding of power is the best tool to prevent our States to be really sovereign- as Schumann and Monnet understood only too well. Schengen and the Euro area were built upon this logic. The moment has come to give a step forward. Therefore and invoking the memory of the Founding Persons that paved the way for this our present endeavour, we suggest.

1.- Proclaim an Act of Devolution.

This Act will open a process of consolidation between our States. Its founding chapters will be.

A.- To define the external frontiers as a common asset. The European citizenship will be one for all its inhabitants. Their freedom of movement and establishment, personal and professional, is guaranteed without hindrance.

B.- The right of resistance and the freedom not to do are the cornerstones of the European citizenship.

C.- No citizen shall be forced or summoned to take arms. The European Army will consist of professional soldiers.

D.- The protection of the European citizens is devolved to the common authorities. Embassies shall cease to exist among devolved States.

E.- The expression of the European common spirit will be a Parliament. In a first moment the Parliament will consist of members chosen between devolved European constituencies in the proportion of 25%. In the next four Parliamentary terms the number of members of European devolved States will reach 100%.

F.- Europe shall have no official language. The passports issued by a common authority will recognize a "preferred language" of communication.

G.- Data, intellectual property, financial instruments, social networks and the edge of high technology are strategic assets to be regulated under a European angle. European Financial global instruments including swifts and others of similar nature will be created.

H.- The budget of Europe shall increase to 10% of the European GDP in ten years and the euro will be completed with a system of Fiscal Balances. The bailing out of devolved States is forbidden. An authority on Budget matters will establish compulsory goals and means to achieve them.

I.- These developments will be offered to all the European Union States. Those who will opt to remain outside will be treated with special regard in the hope that one day they will join the common sovereign space.

J.- At the end of the process Europe will become a full sovereign State and as such member of the International Organizations.

K.- As soon as the Act is proclaimed, Europe will start to negotiate a Treaty with the US, England, Russia Japan and China to acknowledge the formal ending of World War II. Before the negotiations begin, NATO is to fade away in the dignified manner that befits an ally and a friend. The compact will include a reshaping of the financial and economic instruments of global governance.

L.- European diplomacy shall strive to achieve a world without nuclear weapons. As long as this goal is not attained it will count among its arsenal weapons of such a nature.

Only the national States have the legitimacy to launch the Act of Devolution. The deepest and largest domestic agreement on the matter is to be the foundation of the compact.

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