

EUROPE'S CULTURE and NATIONAL BORDERS: WILL CONTRADICTIONS EVER BE RESOLVED?

A scrapvalue oceanliner loaded with African migrants applies for entry in a UK channel port. Refused, it sets course to Belgium which attempts in vain to send the ship back across The Channel. Stranded, the passengers had to be eventually debarked creating a national emergency. European solidarity became overstretched – even Italy refused to cooperate – and political turmoil in Belgium led to break-up of Belgium. This rang the bell for the final death throes of the Union and its global promise.

But is this really what we want to happen or will Europe choose cooperation and leadership?

The European Union is set up with the aim of ending the frequent and bloody wars between neighbours, which culminated in the Second World War. We Europeans benefit from each others capacities through cooperation. Therefore the Union. However, the UK's position on membership has become a big and complicated issue with far reaching spill over effects. An outcome may not issue desintegration of the UK and of the Union.

To secure Europe's future, the area of prosperity we live in, we must understand the nature of it. Historically, culturally, and economically, Europa consists of different countries, with certainly last but not least the UK with security on both sides of The Channel intertwined. EU's territorial integrity is threatened and safeguarding it is top priority. Without each other, security and protection will be affected, as well as economies.

Europe, don't let the UK struggle with its political identity and discord, it is also our struggle. Can we extend a hand? Send a message, irrespective results of consultations, to speed-up policy-formation together with the UK towards unifying legislation concerning matters that only can be resolved on a continental scale. The UK, as one of the continent's liberators of a dictatorial movement where opposition was not allowed, is needed to play a firm role in areas where they excel, for their own interest as well as Europe's.

On both sides of The Channel, there's momentum to make choices and to decide, also concerning overlapping pressing issues in several areas. Forget prerogatives, provide expanding window of opportunity and let the UK their role in Europe.

Together in good faith and a look to a different future from now, we can cooperate with their defense-, intelligence-, and immigration capabilities. This could be a starter and example for other supranational initiatives such as common policy-formation on social-, energy-, and climate change issues. Moreover, English universities belong to the top of global academic education, which can play a primary role in common policy-formation.

Too much is tilting to remain in stalemate. Debates and decisions about how to shape our common future rise far above British Parliament's mandate. About results achieved and how to continue our European journey, we need European cooperation, leadership and European society involved.

In Europe arised cultural, ethical and moral values ever to spread there and which can be considered as our European identity to engage. But working together to achieve common goals, Europe will have to take into account sovereign states' own national character. Only the embrace of Europe's culture and identity and let grow it leading, national borders will fade.

It's time to define and explain Europe's role and position, time for reliable and complete information about Europe's raison d'être and added value. Time to make clear what the Union can't and will not do, because member states are able and want to do it by themselves.