

21st June 2018 at 2:17 pm

Humanity places itself in an uncomfortable situation: constant wars and violence, the prevailing culture of individualism, fragmentary and short-term thinking, populism, obscurantism, political revisionism, identity politics, return to ethnic nationalism, reinforced by the use of abusive language via social media. Moreover, the liberal order is in danger, there is considerable disinterest in cohesion and community spirit, there are several serious internal and external threats and citizens are looking for a compass.

Considering this, there remains an urgent need for:

- on the one hand international organizations, international law, supranational organizations, such as the European Union, institutions and NGOs, each with their objectives for the common good and
- secondly, involvement and active participation by citizens in the development and decision-making of our European society.

Reportedly, Romanian delegation members drank after the Congress of Berlin in 1878 such good champagne that they went to reflect. "Well, we got a country. What now?" That question, incidentally, caused many more intellectual foremen from the 19th century.

I regularly think of European history, especially from the 18th century: the many wars, The Enlightenment, the revolutions, the intellectual, literary, artistic, social movements, the industrial revolutions, the unique great minds and binding personalities, the congresses and the redrawing of Europe, the decolonization, the welfare state, the European unification, the great recession, the refugee crisis, .....

It is excellent to be human, a skill that helps to survive, to flourish, to form meaningful relationships and to find happiness. Europe began a civilization ideal that created the largest area in the world with common prosperity and long-term peace. That must remain the challenge and spread widely, not the use of the language of hatred and fear, oppression, intimidation, aggression, threats and violence. We ourselves can shape our lives, we have to take care of the values ourselves.

This freedom of choice, together with the corresponding responsibilities, is the dignity of man.

The age of prosperous years has made us forget a lot. It is always important to experience insights, sincerity and inspiration. It gives us wisdom about the directions that we can best follow in life. Through education we can strengthen the liberal order, bring more ethics into our lives and systems, try to develop cohesion and community spirit and embed a broad category of ethical philosophies, which affirm the dignity and value of all people and that make clear the difference between good and evil.

This can only be achieved if the human being recognizes obligations towards himself, the family, the society and the state, towards fellow human beings and the earth and wants to commit to a greater purpose and greater truthfulness.

That is all beautiful, but what can I do? What do we want? What is possible? And how to achieve goals?

Since Sir Winston Churchill's famous words "This is not a Movement of parties, but a movement of people", there are initiatives, conditions, actions, efforts and dynamics to focus on a more integrated Europe and to develop and to adjust policy:

- recent times, Macron wants much more Europe, while Merkel is careful and economical. And Rutte, always for economic interests, speaks a little more about values;
- created by the spirit of the times because of events in, around and coined on Europe, there has recently been the creation of a grassroots party, who wants to transnationally pursue a new political way, believing democratic decision-making with regard to its own political agenda, not in the style of classic doctrines;
- and at the same time, through human inspiration and commitment, the influence and importance of and attention for various citizens' movements with European ambitions has increased.

We must come to an agreement to build Europe with each other, with involvement and active citizenship, by working together in social domains, by voting, knowing the politicians, and participating in a political party. In this way we take care of the improvement of the community.

The momentum to breathe new life into the idea and project Europe is there. The time to be dissatisfied and to complain can now be exchanged for active citizenship. We should find a way to live in a disordered world, a world that we do not understand well and should head for community experience, a meaningful European identity.

This calls for self-conscious citizens, who shape the future, a common destination, based on enlightened thinking that is the key to the development of people and society in order to walk the path of a state of prosperity, happiness and / or a successful status in the best possible, fair way.

[www.feelingeurope.eu](http://www.feelingeurope.eu)