

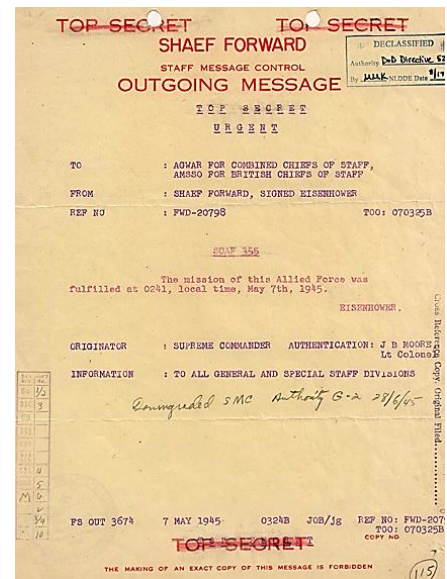
## THAT's WHY FREEDOM and HUMANISM ARE THERE!

Early May is a period in which sovereign states yearly commemorate the liberation of occupiers and dwell on the efforts that have been made regarding reconstruction: in the Netherlands Liberation Day, and Victory Day in Europe (8th) and the Russian Federation (9th). Within such a context it is clear freedom can only truly be felt and lived, when absence of an ability to act or change without restraint is experienced. Both the philosophical freedom (consciously, in a well balanced matter and with self control in a given constructive direction) and the political freedom (the right or the capacity of self-determination as an expression of the individual will) were confiscated.

Freedom however, is a basic need for the people and they will always crave for this. Self-determination, individual sovereignty, or autonomy is genesis and inextricably bound to man. But freedom is never absolute, is voluntary and not to force mandatory.

*What is freedom for?' (Luther)*

With freedom, I think of 1) the past: the commemorations of the victims who succeeded to combat and to change extreme political systems with violent dictatorial regimes into environments with free societies, 2) the present: the improper use of freedom, the effort to preserve and maintain the great good and 3) the future: developments with respect to worlds, where humanity is connected to supernatural, transcendental, or spiritual elements, which elements are used by people as means to rule.



I also think of symbols that stand before that: the painting 'La Liberté guidant le peuple', representing a woman personifying the concept and the Goddess of Liberty, as well as of the liberty statues in New York, respectively Budapest, symbols of freedom and as a sign of welcome, respectively in commemoration of those who sacrificed their lives for the independence, freedom, and prosperity of Hungary.

Can there or does liberalism and freedom exist in a sovereign state with autocratic style of governing? What do these centristic ruled countries deliver to the people? What if 'The 4th political theory', a political ideology which integrates and supersedes liberal democracy, Marxism, and fascism, shapes the future? Which way will the world go?

History shows oppression, intimidation, warfare from whatever kind of ideology or religion turns once into a quest for freedom and democracy, which both are interconnected to each other. Longstanding attitude to life of Western societies is an excellent example in this respect. Due to these values, opportunities for self-development increased exponentially and a lot of significant progress has been made, albeit that usually there must be limits because on individual and institutional level inner autonomy and discipline are not always balanced. This however, is duty of education to guide and the responsibility of the individual itself.

If today, as alleged, there is so-called democratic degradation, then this is only a temporary hollow rhetoric and only of interest to those who wish to benefit from it. Freedom and liberalism are powerful world values and driving forces for economies, movements and trends in the humanities and attitudes to life which, although not admittedly facilitated by every country, certainly flourish the broadest need of the people.

*'What is cannot come-to-be (since it already is), while nothing can come to be from what is not'* (Aristotle)

An example of such an attitude to life is humanism, a philosophy of life, a cultural ideal in which knowledge and civilization are inextricably linked and that puts people first. Carefully and conscientiously dealing with others, the world and yourself, preference for critical thinking and evidence, in doing good, justice and the use of reason is the message. As such, we eagerly need this attitude to life if we want to continue to live together civilized. Not merely one 4th political theory, one predominant religion or one languorous thirst to democratize and liberalize the whole world, but living with FDR's four essential human freedoms and mutual respect for each other's way of life.

The great majority feels happy with the liberal or liberal conservative order. And if not, then there is freedom not to be liberal. And if there is actual injustice, there is the possibility to make use of the rule of law.



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