



International Paneuropean Union

F-67000 STRASBOURG

@: international.paneurope@gmail.com

Letter to the Paneuropeans

Dear Paneuropean friends,

Since our General Assembly in February 2020 in Strasbourg, we have been going through an extraordinarily painful period.

Starting in China, the Covid-19 pandemic has spread around the entire globe.

All of Europe fell victim to it, with grave and lasting human consequences, as well as those relating to our healthcare systems, economies and societies. Without a European health policy, this pandemic was treated by EU governments in a diverse manner of often contradictory national policies, and this continues to be the case.

This is a tragedy for all Europeans and, tomorrow, Europe will not be the same Europe of the past anymore.

We Paneuropeans, faithful disciples of Richard Coudenhove-Kalergi and Otto von Habsburg, have to be pioneers of the Europe of the future.

Today's Europe, founded 63 years ago by the Treaties of Rome, has progressed a lot, but with the essentially same way of institutional functioning.

And from experience, we Paneuropeans know today that none of the peoples of Europe want to see their nation, built by its history and culture, disappear. At the same time no nation is ready to leave the Union, as have the British, not even those that in course of their internal elections manifest their national preferences to the detriment of the application of certain common rules.

The pandemic has shown our weakness and our dependence on foreign suppliers, first of all Chinese, for the production of materials and medicines crucial for our health.

We have also become dependent on Chinese and American corporations when it comes to the use of communication technology and digital commerce.

Despite President Trump's remark about the uncertain perpetuity of American military presence in Europe, the majority of European countries, being members of NATO, continue to put their faith solely into this organisation for securing their borders and ensuring their territorial integrity. Even so, the politics of the previous democratic president should make those people think, who believe that guarantees from the past will simply return after the November 2020 US presidential elections.

On top of health and security dependencies of Europeans, we also have others, notably food related, even though the European Union could be completely self-sufficient in this field.

Faced with the progressing and aggravating Chinese-American conflict, Europe could fall victim to it, if it doesn't prove its capability of protecting itself.

This European dependence on the rest of the world isn't inevitable.

We can already rejoice in the economic and financial decisions taken in July by 27 governments of the European Union. And it is necessary and urgent that they continue this route that shows initiative and solidarity.

The European Union itself, and particularly the Baltic countries, are under threat of the Russian President, who shows nostalgia towards Stalinist imperialism. In addition, President Putin continues to show the will to physically eliminate his political opponents, as he has proven when sending his military forces to Georgia and Ukraine, and while continuing to support the autocratic President of Belarus, who wasn't democratically re-elected.

The permanent and conflict-ridden instability in the Middle East is also a risk for peace in our neighbourhood.

But the most serious and immediate is the conquest attitude of Ankara in the East Mediterranean, where the neo-ottoman politics of Erdogan are an attack on the sovereignty of member states of the EU. Likewise, he wants to impose Turkish influence over several South-East European countries.

It has become clear that neither China with its "silk road" and influence on our strategic economic sectors, neither Russia nor Turkey, through their respective political, military and religious interference are not supportive of European independence. And neither is the military industrial and technological complex from across the Atlantic.

Finally, in Africa, the Islamist terrorism, the demographic growth and political instability will all cause continuous and growing migration towards Europe, which is still incapable of implementing and respecting a common and restrictive policy, faced with anarchical immigration.

Nevertheless, the union of Europe and all its peoples remains the only chance at preserving the ancestral values of our civilisation.

For this, it is upon us as Paneuropeans to be at the forefront of a truly independent and unified Europe.

With all confidence, dear Paneuropean friends, whatever circumstances we may experience, I will be with you in this peaceful and exhilarating fight.

Alain Terrenoire
President of the International Pan-European Union

Paris, September 4th 2020