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The European Union: Politicisation of Europe?

Counterproductive Effects of Egalitarian Paradigms and Foreign Hidden Agendas paralysing Europe.

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Introduction: A quick reminder from the memories of an attentive observer:

Already after WW 1, but, moreover, after WW 2, numerous structures have been thought, discussed and some eventually been implemented, such as the "*Counsel of Nations*", and the "*Montan Union*" as well as the "Efta" and "Council of Europe" as the first steps towards Europe's political union as a "*United States of Europe*".

In this trajet, foreseeably, many hurdles had to be overcome: When in the "*European Economic Community*" France often tried to dominate the course of all matters according to its own national interests, the membership of Great Britain appeared of interest. Great Britain was grateful, at least briefly, because it actually has been "bailed out" by the EEC states. Waves of Crisis were going high, also then. And the community has proven the value of coherence while conserving diversity as part of the cultural riches as Europe's major strength. Otherwise, how could Europe continue to successfully sell its industrial products in a much poorer world?

Also, inside Europe the enlargement had opened new opportunities: British Car manufacturers, as far as already parts of international conglomerates could gradually become better and manufacture not only for the British Islands and Britain's former colonies. With Spain and Portugal, additional markets, both for northern products and as manufacturing locations were added, while the cohesion also supported the smooth transition from the long time of fascist regimes of both Salazar and Franco. Regimes doubtlessly supported by the USA.

In the process, the increasing political integration, far beyond merely economic questions of exchange of goods and protection of farmers plus the mutual financial support, has found its expression in the elimination of the term "economic" from the name: The "*EEC*" was turned into the "EC", the European Community. In this time, in Great Britain, after increases of petroleum prices had turned North Sea Oil into an economically viable source of income for Great Britain, the Netherlands* and Norway. Now England, which before had lived on the backs of its internal colonies (Wales, Ireland, Scotland etc) and then on its farer away colonies in Africa, Asia, Australia, New Zealand, and America, and suffered after their release to freedom, until bailed out by Europe, again had a "foreign" source of income: North Sea Oil. Consequently, the British policies and stances against continental Europe and the European community turned into an even more egoistic pattern than before. Coinciding with the take-over of Margaret Thatcher of the British reigns, who implemented "Reaganism" in Britain and tried to influence Europe in the same way, the staunch rejection of the

elimination of the term "economic" from her talking about Europe, in the public perception was the first "official" Euro-hostile stance inside Europe.

*(The funny near-elimination of Germany from the Oil-Fields in front of it have been noted just with a smiling shrugging of shoulders. If one would apply the same rules for the continuation of borders from land into sea for Germany, it would have a giant part.

If one then would compromise with the neighbors and seek a "middle way", it still would have a greater part of North Sea Oil...)

As we know now – not only, but very comprehensively presented and documented – from the books by William F. Engdahl, already a decade before, deliberately USA-influenced moves in international politics had been aimed at stopping Europe's (and the rest of the world's) economic progress and independence. The most publicly noted intervention probably was the induction of OPEC to suddenly rise prices for raw petroleum extremely drastically. What was presented as an intervention by the petroleum exporting nations in their own interest, in reality was a planned blow to economic development, especially in Europe. A blow into which the oil exporting nations could be induced, because, as a synergy, it offered them advantages, too.

Ever since, what may apparently be "dressed up" as a "benevolent" move towards Europe, may well turn out as a hostile embrace. Here, when interpreting actions (or abstention from actions) by foreign parties, one must never forget, what all came out long after the facts over decades presented to us differently: Pearl Harbour and the entry of the USA into WW2, the origins of the Vietnam War, the "reasons" for the second US war against Irak, and so forth.

When it comes to Europe and disturbing the progress of European unity, the outright US-pressure, to allow former East-Block-Countries rapidly into the EU, is such a fact serving, among other purposes, the deceleration of Europe's unity. Here, president G. W. Bush's comments insisting that his grateful allies from the East, small as they are in population, "one country - one vote" in the EU may have been one more "stupid" expression exposing the strategy out in the open. What must worry much more, is that European politicians have not spoken up against such interference. And those who have done so, outspokenly taking a firm stance, miraculously have been killed: Olof Palme, Anna Lindh are examples with strong similarities to the killings of the Kennedy brothers and Martin Luther King in the US. Sweden as the police-state it is, and the actions from there, also in the business world, namely as far as the taking over of utilities all over Europe, merit closer attention: Who is behind "Vattenvall"? But also in Switzerland: Who is behind the uprising from nothing behind the Blocher family? Who finances what why like this? Why is the daughter, too, now aiming at entering politics? Such questions are to be raised. Signs have to be read – and not judged. Rather, all possible interpretations need to be "held open", until one knows with absolute certainty, which interpretation of the signs is right. This often only becomes clear, when a multitude of signs are read – and over time. Remembering previous camouflage moves of politicians in all countries may help, not to "fall" prematurely for any explanation given by anyone, less the "press".

This "cognitive openness" is a matter widely explained in previous occasions under the topic "Semioses, SignProcesses - Semiotics applied regarding Economy and Politics." Those papers also explained, why predicting the "Crash" early in 2008 for "the weeks before the US presidential elections" was nothing special at all: For the open eyed reader, it was all in the newspapers. And there often the small notes mean the most. Especially, when they regard astonishing content, which – surprisingly so – despite explosive content, has no follow up at all.

Interpreting the meaning and future consequences of facts observed, however, is one of the most important obligations of leaders, namely of entrepreneurs. Here "scenariotechnique" is the method for the creation of own strategies. All news fit the scenarios as significant puzzle-pieces.

And businesses (as well as regions and nations) prosper best, if their leaders are avid observers and

thoroughly prepare their organisations for the future already clearly visible in the facts. With the above reminder regarding the history of the European Union's development, in theory everyone should be able and instigated enough, to look behind the curtains of verbal camouflage, also, regarding the current "negotiations" regarding a so called "free trade" agreement. between the USA (not: the NAFTA) and the EU.

Who needs additional reasons for critical observation, should read the chapters in William Engdahl's books regarding the massive interventions in capital markets eventually stopping Mexico's high-flying economic and social development under president Salinas de Gortari. Like in Mexico and everywhere else, counterproductive interests and how they are enforced, follow similar patterns. The fact, that in these views even the US-government is seen more as "a puppet on the strings" of behind-the scene leaders must not disturb, but open eyes to more and different scenarios. And to the fact, that theories have reason to exist, but no further importance. Much more important is, to understand, what really helps real economy, and, thus, countries, to be independent and self determined, and what instead is counterproductive to Europe's role as example for others, to follow their different own roads, based on the diversity of their identities, cultures and resources. Thus, understanding the deeper roots of the crisis, and, thus, correcting economic theory is at least as important as opening eyes for ongoing sabotage and the hidden agendas behind its agents and tools. After all: It is not only US-oligarchy, which is against the concept of peace being - finally - the new normality in the world...

Close critical observation and understanding which destructive or at least paralysing objectives are behind foreign norms, rules, movements and moves counteracting against Europe's role as example for the world, will help Europe. And it should lead to a new politicisation while seeing clearly, which games are played and now labeled as ongoing negative "politicisation of Europe".

The term "politicisation" describes the more or less intentional instigation of political debate about a topic. In the case of "Europe" this term applies to the generation of controversy about Europe as a community relying on mutual support rather than on conflict for the resolution of past, present and future conflicts. It may therefore be appropriate once more argue for applied semiotics:

In the case of Europe, and – more precisely – of the European Union, one can observe, how the external enemies of Europe and its role as peaceful example and success story for the world are orchestrating a barely hidden "concerted action against Europe's standing united. And how internal agents of the interests behind such hidden agendas are playing into the hands of counterproductive interests, which can rightly be called as sabotage of Europe and its sobriety and strengths in international matters.

The paper briefly resumes historical and economical facts as well as widely spread paradigms in order to shed a light behind the camouflage of developments doing harm not only to Europe, but to the world. However, to Europe, in order to mislead the world.

The paper recurs to semiotic analysis and interpretation of facts and developments as signs and in doing so extrapolates an earlier paper under the title of "*semioses regarding politics and economy*", in its days early predicting and explaining the roots of the financial crash of 2008 into present and future, in order to outline sustainable measures leading Europe into a stable future of self determined independence and convincingly strong prosperity based on values in all their diversity.

Semioses regarding politics and economy – or, according to the audience addressed, viceversa: Semioses regarding economy and politics – regard the explanation of developments, and how they are predictable. Predictable, if one sees the signs and conserves due "cognitive openness" towards all possible interpretations of "signs" incidentally captured or principally observed. Observing signs may

not be what all people regard as a prerequisite of survival and, moreover, of lasting success thanks to thus sustainable actions – and deliberate non-actions. This can not only be observed in human groups and societies, but in animals; e.g.: herds of deer or similar. Not much goes wrong, if the less observant follow the lead of those who indeed don't rest unless they know for sure, that a sound or smell means nothing bad, and that all are safe. In case of doubt, it is better to expect the worst – and to prepare for it. And over time, those who lead their flocks and herds most effectively out of imminent threats, result as the most highly estimated leaders. After all: Life has always been and will always be life-threatening.

If constant observance and sober analysis and judgement as prerequisite and basis for sound competence justifying leadership is no longer the common case in many a human community, this alone can be judged as a strong indicator of severe problems and increasing threats.

This is, why the German author Karl May can be regarded of so great importance as a teacher of "applied semiotics". Of course, Umberto Eco, with his narrations may serve the "high end" market of non-theoretical lessons regarding signs and their interpretation better. But to the flock he may appear too distant. Also, he wrote less books. Thus, Karl May, with his reiterated, ever-repeated quintessence of: *"Don't interpret any sign the way you prefer to see its meaning confirmed"* as well as: *"Don't overreact towards enemies. There is always a second occasion."* to the common people can be regarded of much greater educative value. Only that he and his books are not en vogue any more. Now: *"Cui Bono?"* – Whose interests does that serve? And which are the "paradigms" leading to the current fashions as "trends" – the opinions induced and possibly orchestrated by leaders lacking the competence for the competences (the powers) they hold? Thus, which are the assumptions and prejudice vested in "scientific" camouflage, repeated through the media as if they were facts, effectively misleading the world?

As we have in other occasions named some of the most gravely misleading "generally accepted scientific opinions" (paradigms) regarding economy, and their suffocating if not outright sabotaging effects on what has been called, since the artificial financial crash of 2008, "real" economy – and as we also have already delved into both the "intentional" errors paralysing science through erratically limited scientific theory, and into the proven ways out of crisis, and how to establish and conserve stable economy, in this paper, limited in size, we can focus on the abusive promotion of counterproductive opinions, measures and rules – and what they lead to.

When calling this a "semiotic" paper, we however also should briefly clarify, that semioses are not limited to theoreticians of semiotic theory. They also do not need any semiotic terminology. Semiotics are just about the interpretations of signs. And as many a truth is not univocal, the individual diversity of conclusions is no deficit. Rather, like flocks of deers rushing to rescue in different directions, also based on their location and other differing boundary conditions and contexts, the most important matter is thorough observance, sober analysis and shrewd conclusion leading to individually fitting actions, or better: Reactions. Reactions to the observed. Swift, but tranquil reactions to the anticipated and therefore understood, thanks to the preemptive thinking and understanding of all possible scenarios. One may not know, early on, which scenario shall prevail. But the understanding of the possibilities allows to read the signs.

And to act early on. So early, that others may mistake it for "setting the trend" rather than just reacting much earlier than most others... After all, is there any more sound methodical basis as prerequisite for a "strategy" being called just that: Strategy, than scenario techniques? And: What else is strategy than sound preparation of hearts, minds and souls – and of having all tools and measures prepared – for any thinkable future to come?

Now, where is this preparation, this strategy, for Europe, as a whole and for every part, every group and region and every company and initiative, in order to prevail, as the sum of all individual

successes? What else is "the" economy, the "real" economy, than the sum of all single successes and its benefits shared within the respective society?

Well, here we refer to our definition of "economy" and our additions to economic theory, as well as to the "proof" delivered much earlier in the concepts and methodical "recipies" implemented in Euskadi, the Spanish Basque country, for its turnaround after being granted limited autonomy following Spain's liberation from fascism and its entry in the EU.

Unfortunately, we did think, but not take the time to proactively invite and also implement due research closely observing theory, measures and results, when we did implement our proposals. As the most important key to economic success, we have long established and pronounced entrepreneurship, uniqueness and innovation. Thus, in order to differ from what is already known, innovation is the single most effective (and, if done well, *efficient*) prerequisite and measure. Only that the competent "just do it" without much fuss or theory; while those, who theoreticise about it, partly out of desire to understand it, and to teach it, without themselves being able to do it, talk about it, "like cows talking about climbing trees. Just that cows know, that they cannot climb trees." Here there may be, with all respect, a slight parallel with all other theoreticians – also of semiotic theory: When terminology is more important than content and its easy explanation to everybody, this is a good indicator for exclusive rather than inclusive use of language. If a group uses uncommon language, in order to have others follow them more religiously than out of self reflected conviction, then a super-imposition of own self, or a guild, over others, rarely is far... Only that in democracies the "others" are the sovereign.

Again: About these others – and democracy really serving societies as a whole, without abuse of majorities for dictatorship – we need not repeat in this paper, what has been outlined in a paper titled: "rethinking democracy". With qualitative diversity as key to prosperity in mind, we must not overlook that serving all minorities means serving not only the vast majority, but all.

The concept of Europe as a large Confederation of diverse regions, the disrupting borders of which, in most cases cutting through ethnicities and cultures while forcing together others, which better are allowed to stand in their own roots, is the concept of "Euregio" and has been a topic already mentioned as the necessary primary goal, with "Convergence" as a secondary aspect. After all: Also in the USA an identical home in New England costs up to eight times what it would cost in Texas. And two to four times the Texas-price in, say, the Carolinas.

Quantitative criteria are not all. And where the egalitarian concept leads a people and its economy can best be observed by looking at the US GNP and the US external trade ballance of the last six decades. – The USA truly would need a "Bilbao Effect" themselves. And they have and could put to better use the tool, which influenced the concepts leading to the turn around of the Basque country: The "Small Business Act". But, who is against it, is also clear.

Thus: "Cui Bono" after thousands of years remains a valid question to be asked rather more often than less. But the topic of the US External Trade Ballance, and how that can be so strongly negative over more than half a century, without the US being bankrupt, leads to yet another aspect to become a topic of a brief paper soon. But hopefully also for international research.

With the reasons for critical observation clear, observers can recognise by themselves, with "own independent competent thought", the counterproductive interests, outright sabotage – and its agents and tools. Will this lead to different election-results? It may be doubted.

And also, there is no time to be lost waiting for that to happen. Rather, who understands, should act.

Without many words. Just do the right things, which in the scenarios observed will serve the individual interests and strengthen the private initiative and the cause for which one is responsible. That is enough: Being successful, more successful than others, and thus able to create more jobs, pay them well, while continuously investing, without relying too much on external sources, into additional research and development of function, productivity and market understanding, thus into more and stronger "USPs" will always also serve the community, region, country, Europe and the world. also as example of what can be achieved, if one does not follow the Lemmings and their focus on merely quantitative criteria, but recognises values and their diversity.

With this focus, and by recognising and circumventing destructive paradigms, the foreign rules, movements and moves counteracting against Europe's role as example for the world eventually will not work out. Because others can only exercise power over independent countries, if the people in the countries, and their leaders, are stupid enough to follow misleading paradigms serving the barely camouflaged hidden agendas.

The politicisation of Europe (and other world regions), thus, should be turned into a never ending multitude of success stories harvesting on diversity and its appeal for those in mind: Target groups in their diversity. Being different is natural, and, thus, an equal fundamental right for everybody and every group, ethnicity, culture and region. Thus, by everyone being oneself, such being will lead to having. Because being does not come from having. It works the other way round.

Literature:

The "surprising" results, and the question, why, what in parts contradicts prevailing paradigms, has worked so well, has led to the publication "Sustainable Management in times of potential Economic Downturns. That publication extensively analyses economic theory and adds conclusions so far unseen, while also criticising scientific theory overly focusing on quantitative aspects alone, while disregarding qualitative information. This being identified as the "key" promoting crisis rather than prosperity. That publication by the author is completed by a long list of recommended

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