



## **THE TAORMINA/ MESSINA CONFERENCE (ORGANIZED BY TAOBUK FESTIVAL AND VISION) – TENTATIVE AGENDA**

### **EUROPE IN A POST PANDEMIC WORLD – LOOKING FOR THE IDEAS TO KICK OFF A DEBATE ON THE FUTURE OF EUROPE IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2020**

The PANDEMIC “war” and the ensuing dramatic economic and political crises force us all at a crossroad of history. It looks increasingly that the only way to save EUROPE is to radically reconsider its nature, the method through which it is crafted, its institutions. Either we find the intellectual energy, the creativity and the moral commitment to radically reconsider the nature of the European project; or we need to compromise our “style of life”.

In a sense, the most important of the reforms that the European Union is promoting as a condition to access the NEXT GENERATION EU should be its own and the next months will be crucial to demonstrate to ourselves that we will not waste another crisis (after the financial ones in 2008 and 2012).

History teaches that after the global wars of the twentieth century, new “world orders” have been crafted: the one conceived in 1918 after the first conflict around the “League of Nations” was less successful than the one drafted in the years following the end of WW2 and culminated in the foundation of the UN, the IMF, the NATO and, ultimately, in Europe, of the European Economic Community (EEC) as the embryo of the current European Union.

We believe that time has come for a new start. Sixty-five years ago it was a conference in MESSINA to decide the creation of the institutions (the EEC and the EURATOM) which paved the way to the ROME treaty.

In 2020, Vision and TAOBUK is calling a two days meeting in TAORMINA (near MESSINA) where thirty visionary intellectuals, policy makers, journalists and historians will gather to discuss the method to build a Union capable to adapt to the complexity of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

We will then have not only experts and some of the greatest witnesses of the project, but also writers, artists, philosophers: they may help to remind that from KANT's vision of a Perpetual PEACE to the MANIFESTO drafted by Spinelli, Ernesto ROSSI and Ursula HIRSCHMANN in Ventotene, the idea of Europe has been made by values and pragmatism. The speakers will also reflect Europe's different cultural angles, different ages and gender: we believe that part of the problem of the debate on EUROPE has been that it has been delegated to specialists incapable to conceive a strategy and to engage citizens.

The discussions will be loosely inspired by ten ideas<sup>1</sup> crafted by VISION to trigger the debate and articulated in plenary sessions and three work-groups: European policy on global digital platforms; Clusters of multiple integrations: a new approach to the institutional question; EUROPE as laboratory to go beyond the crisis of liberal democracy.

The Conference will be followed up by two further events which will engage a wider audience: ERASMUS for all and active policies for a European DEMOS; a more pragmatic approach to the EURO.

The debate will aim to sketch a TAORMINA MANIFESTO and will be articulated as follows<sup>2</sup>:

### **FRIDAY MORNING 2<sup>nd</sup> OCTOBER (MESSINA)**

8:30-9.30 Welcome breakfast

9.30-9.45 Opening remarks - RECTOR University of MESSINA

9:45-10.15 Introduction to CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Antonella Ferrara (President and Founder TAOBUK - Taormina International Book Festival) – Francesco Grillo (Director Vision)

Stefania Giannini\*\* (Assistant Director for Education, UNESCO and former Minister for Universities, Research and Education in Italy) and Bill Emmott (Author of the FATE of the WEST and former editor of The Economist) (CO – CHAIRS)

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<sup>1</sup> VISION - EUROPE IN A POST-PANDEMIC WORLD - LOOKING FOR THE IDEAS TO KICK OFF A DEBATE ON THE FUTURE OF EUROPE IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY (19 MARCH 2020)

(at <https://www.thinktank.vision/en/magazine/the-future-of-europe/a-platform-for-a-21st-century-europe>)

<sup>2</sup> \* To be confirmed

\*\* By WEB

10.15-11:15 WHAT WENT WRONG WITH THE GREATEST POST WAR DREAM?

Paolo Gentiloni (European Commission for Economy and Former Prime Minister of Italy) – Giuliano Amato\*\* (Judge of Italy’s Constitutional Court, Former Prime Minister and Former Vice President of the Convention on the Future of Europe) – Sebastien Maillard\*\* (Directeur Notre Europe, Institut Jacques Delors) - Luciano Fontana\*\* (Editor of Corriere DELLA Sera) – Raffaele Stancanelli (Member of the European Parliament) – Maria Costanza CAU (VISION, Researcher)

Moderator: Nicola Saldutti (Corriere della Sera) - Q&A

Coffee Break

11.30-12.30 Introduction to the five WG (from the Introducer of each WG)

12.45 Lunch

## **FRIDAY AFTERNOON 2<sup>nd</sup> OCTOBER (MESSINA)**

14.30-15.30 TEN IDEAS TO TRIGGER A DEBATE

Francesco Grillo (Director VISION) - Romano Prodi\*\* (Former Prime Minister of Italy and Former President of the European Commission) - Mario Nava\*\* (European Commission DG REFORM – Director General) – Cleo Li CALZI (Docente Leadership Management, Università LUMSA)

Moderator: Nicola Saldutti (Corriere della Sera) Q&A

15.30 Coffee Break

15:45 -17.15

Group 1. INFORMATION IS POWER. A POLICY ON GLOBAL DIGITAL PLATFORMS AS THE RAISON-D’ETRE OF 21ST CENTURY STATES

Introduction: Francesco Lapenta is the Founding Director of the John Cabot University Institute of Future and Innovation Studies and Mozilla-Ford Research Fellow and Carlos Moedas\*\* (former European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation and Member of the Advisory Board of the “Futures of Education” Initiative)

Chair: Paola Bonomo (Former Principal McKinsey, Vice Chair Italian Angels for Growth) and Alfio Puglisi (PhD Political Economy at KCL)

Discussants: Elvira Terranova

## **Group 2. THE NEXT GENERATION EU AND A PRAGMATIC APPROACH TO MULTIPLE INTEGRATIONS**

Introduction: Koert Debeuf (Director of the Tahrir Institute for Middle East Policy Europe)

Chair: Fabio Masini (Cattedra Jean Monnet for European Economic Governance, Roma Tre, Secretary of the European Federalist Movement) and Carmela Panella (Professor International Law UNIME)

Discussants: Cleo Li Calzi, Maria Costanza Cau

## **Group 3: EUROPE AS THE PLACE WHERE TO EXPERIMENT TRANSNATIONAL POLITICS AND THE IDEAS TO SAVE LIBERAL DEMOCRACIES**

Introduction: Sandro Gozi (Former Italy's Minister for European Affairs and MEP elected in France)

Chair: Kalypso Nicolaidis (Professor of International Relations and governing body fellow at the St Antony's College – European Studies Centre, OXFORD University) and Alessandro Morelli (Professor of Institutions Public Law, UNIME)

Discussants: Antonio Negro, Ruggero Aricò, Raffaele Stancanelli.

## **TRANSFER TO TAORMINA**

### **TAOBUK TIME**

Dinner: The European Dream (memories from the MESSINA conference)

## **SATURDAY MORNING 3<sup>rd</sup> OCTOBER (TAORMINA)**

8:30-9.15 Breakfast

9.15-9.30 Introduction to the second day. Stefania Giannini and Bill Emmott (CO –

CHAIRS)

9.30-10.30 EUROPE AS A VALUE BASED PROJECT

Xuē Xīnrán\*\* (Writer of *The Good Women of China* and Journalist), Matthew Caruana Galicia (Investigative Journalist, MALTA) and Claire Methven O'Brien (Strategic adviser, human rights and business and senior researcher, The Danish Institute of Human Rights)

Moderator: Laura Silvia Battaglia (Writer of *Lettere da Guantanamo* and Journalist) - Q&A

Projection of “Yemen, nonostante la guerra”. A Documentary of Laura Silvia Battaglia  
Coffee Break

11.15-12.15 THE POST COVID RECOVERY AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO END THE IDEOLOGICAL BATTLE BETWEEN ANTS AND GRASSHOPPERS

Introduction: Giuseppe Provenzano (Italy’s Minister for Cohesion)

Discussants: Franziska Brantner\*\* (Member of the Bundestag and leader of Alliance 90/ The Greens) – Stefania Baroncelli (Professor Public and European Union Law at Free University of Bozen-Bolzano) - Kalypso Nicolaidis (Professor of International Relations and governing body fellow at the St Antony’s College – European Studies Centre, OXFORD University) - Ruggero Aricò (VICE PRESIDENTE CONFINDUSTRIA ASSAFRICA E MEDITERRANEO)

Moderator: John Hooper (Italy and Vatican correspondent of The Economist)

Coffee Break

12.30-13.30 WG reporting (from Chairs)

13.30-14.00 Ideas for following up: Is there a method to a 21<sup>st</sup> century EUROPE? Hints for a TAORMINA MANIFESTO

Stefania Giannini and Bill Emmott (CO – CHAIRS) - Francesco Grillo (VISION) – Antonella Ferrara (TAOBUK)

LUNCH

15.00 – 16.00 EUROPE IN A NEW WORLD ORDER BETWEEN TRUMP, PUTIN AND XI JINPING 2020

Michele Geraci\*\* (New York University and head of Italy – China workforce), Xuē Xīnrán\*\* (Writer of *The Good Women of China* and Journalist), Elizabeth Strout\*\* (Pulitzer Prize 2009) - Moderator: Viviana Mazza (Corriere della Sera)

TAOBUK TIME

**SUNDAY AFTERNOON 4<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER (TAORMINA)**

16.00 – 17.00 ERASMUS, CIVIL SERVICE AND EUROPEAN MEDIA AS A LEVER TO EUROPEAN CITIZENSHIP

Introduction: Alexandra Borchardt (Head of Digital Journalism Fellowship Hamburg Media School, Senior Research Associate, Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism, University of Oxford)

Discussants: Natalie Nougairede\*\* (The Guardian and Former Editor of Le Monde), Lorenzo Fioramonti\*\* (MP and ITALY's Former Minister for Schools, Universities and Research), Annie Ernaux\*\* (European Strega Prize 2016), Francesca Pellegrino (Professor of European Law, Università of Messina)

Moderator: Antonio Negro (VISION) and Fabio Masini (Cattedra Jean Monnet sulla Governance Economica Europea presso il Dipartimento di Scienze Politiche dell'Ateneo di Roma Tre)