MOVIMENTO EUROPEO CONSIGLIO ITALIANO

CALL TO MOBILITY: #WeAreEurope

To respond to Donald Trump's project and Vladimir Putin's imperialistic aims, it is no longer enough to sound the alarm for sleepwalking Europe. It is in fact the entire international order that suffers from increasingly unbearable limitations and flaws.

It is necessary to call to all the squares of Europe those who share the added value of the process of European integration, such as the world of school, research and university; the voluntary sector; local and regional authorities; culture and art; the world of agriculture attentive to the value of natural resources; the world of law; active citizenship; workers protected by European interventions in the social dimension; the world of production guaranteed by market rules; small and medium-sized enterprises, crafts and the social economy; areas defended against the effects of climate change.

It is necessary to call to all the squares of Europe those who suffer the damaging consequences of the costs of non-Europe, telling them forcefully that there are public goods that can only be guaranteed by a more united, more democratic and more solidarity-based European Union, and therefore with a European government accountable to the European Parliament; by the elimination of the power of veto; by a common foreign, security and defence policy at the service of peace and multilateralism; by social progress; and by a federal budget with real own resources that will take charge of European public goods dedicated to solidarity and not to the production of weapons.

These goods concern in particular:

- The promotion of health and free access to knowledge,
- The protection of female and male workers favoured by a solemn commitment to quality work, with a European labour statute and the full implementation of the European Charter of Fundamental Rights, for whom the absence of a common industrial policy has not ensured adequate competitiveness in the globalised world,
- the protection of the populations of inland areas to which cohesion policy is still inadequately addressed,
- the support for farmers, entrepreneurs, and citizens who are victims of flooding and deforestation due to delays in the ecological convergence of society, the progressive decarbonisation of production, and the definition of a grand plan to combat climate risks,
- The protection of legal immigrants who have become undocumented due to slow and uneven labour market procedures that create unacceptable discrimination,
- The protection of the defenders of fundamental rights and representative organisations of civil society, of those who fight for an open and free society for all together with those who create opportunities for citizens participation,
- The defence of citizens living in countries where the fundamental principles of the Rule of law are violated by affirming the intangibility of the principles and values of democracy.

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TO WHOM WE ADDRESS OUR APPEAL

Demonstrations for Europe in all member states are possible and necessary if they will ensure a broad mobilisation of European citizens that will give a strong signal that the majority of public opinion is ready for structured and permanent actions to obtain from European and national institutions and European parties the defence of the patrimony of Community achievements, the elimination of the costs of non-Europe and a commitment to social progress and to a reform of the European Union according to a constituent democratic project, method and agenda. This signal must be translated into a European manifesto for a united, free, just, peaceful, and democratic Europe.

We propose to choose as the slogan of these demonstrations: **#WeAreEurope** declined in all the languages of the European Union.

We will be in the squares of Italy, and we have proposed to the International European Movement and its members to mobilise to be actively present in the squares of Europe for a free, just, peaceful, and democratic Europe, and we invite them to actively participate:

- The students and teachers of the Erasmus programme as a symbol of European identity,
- The young people of the European Solidarity Corps and the European Voluntary Service as a symbol of Europe fighting for peace,
- Consumers protected by European rules,
- Local and regional authorities supported by the economic, social, and territorial cohesion policy,
- The mayors of European cities of culture and twin cities,
- The network of Fringe Festivals and street artists,
- The agricultural world attentive to the value of natural resources and food quality,
- The researchers interacting with the Horizon programme and EU research policy,
- The national judges who protect people's rights by applying the European Charter of Fundamental Rights while respecting the primacy of EU law and the lawyers who invoke it in court,
- The initiators of European citizens' initiatives and petitions to the European Parliament who have used and intend to use these instruments of participatory democracy,
- The citizens who participated in the Conference on the Future of Europe and who were and are active participants in the transnational panels,
- The beneficiaries of the European Ombudsman's action,
- The workers in companies made competitive by European investment,
- The workers of enterprises in the digital world and those protected by European interventions in the social dimension,
- the companies protected by the European label,
- The inhabitants of areas protected from the effects of climate change,
- The world of culture that recognises itself in a common European identity,

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THE REASONS FOR MOBILISATION

Michele Serra - first in his 'Hammock' entitled 'Say something European,' then in his newsletter in Il Post and finally on 28 February in an editorial in La Repubblica with the title 'A square for Europe' - launched the idea of a demonstration for Europe in all major European squares.

This is not the first time that Europeans have mobilised for Europe because.

- six hundred thousand citizens participated at the turn of the 1950s and 1960s in the European People's Congress promoted by Altiero Spinelli after the fall of the European Defence Community and the 'mockery of the Common Market', as Altiero Spinelli called the Treaties of Rome,
- one hundred thousand people took to the streets of Milan in June 1985, mobilised by the federalist force and the trade union organisations, to show their support for the draft Treaty on European Union approved by the European Parliament on 14 February 1984, with a popular participation whose objective was then betrayed by the governments that preferred the more modest Single Act to that far-sighted project, defined by Altiero Spinelli as 'a mouse hatched from a mountain'.

Many Europeans then took to the streets in Nice in December 2000 to express their support for the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, which represents the highest expression of the values of the rule of law adopted by the European institutions thanks to the determination of the representative organisations of civil society and workers.

European demonstrations for peace and against a senseless war were there at the time of the conflict unleashed by the United States against Iraq with the 'old Europe' of France, Germany and Benelux opposed to that war and the Anglo-Italian-Spanish coalition following George Bush, but this did not create a solid and structured European peace movement over time.

The many initiatives of trade union organisations can now converge on the issues of a European welfare, economic democracy, intergenerational and gender solidarity, but also the inclusion of workers from third countries (economic migrants and asylum seekers) in the world of work.

Called upon by Greta Thunberg, we have witnessed for months in many European squares the mobilisations of young people for the future of the planet (Fridays for future). But they must combine the defence of the environment with a common message for a democratic Europe that decides, and today they would be even more necessary to organise an insurrection against the attempts to demolish the European Green Pact.

Rome, 4 March 2025 - Approved by the Board of the European Movement Italy