A Euro-Mediterranean Community for a new Golden Age

Executive Summary

And suddenly everything is different! With the Arab revolutions we are entering into a new era while the European Union itself is facing huge challenges. This is the time to innovate! Diplomacy, economy and society have to be rethought to respond to the aspirations towards a new development model, the strengthening of the rule of law, a regional economic integration in a new framework. In addition to 'partnerships', a 'Euro-Mediterranean Community', limited to Countries having embraced real democracy and a peace agenda, should be launched.

Indeed, the visionary response to the Arab Revolutions by the Europeans should stress that 'what has been making the difference' in leading Europe to peace and prosperity has been the setting up of 'Institutions' to take initiatives (the High Authority and later the Commission), decide (Council and Parliament), secure the enforcement of the rule of law and protect citizens (Court of Justice in Strasburg and Luxemburg). The Community would have a High Authority (three men and three women), a Senate and a Council of Ministers to deal with "four baskets matters", while the European Union would keep its European Council, its Commission and its European Parliament. A specific Court of Justice of the Community would be established in Strasbourg next to and working with the European Union and Council of Europe Courts of Justice. The Community would have Mediators in the field of armed conflict, water management, human rights and associations' rights.

The Euro-Med Community would have its headquarter in Istanbul (or Jerusalem) ¹- Tunis and Strasburg while the EU would keep its headquarters in Brussels, Luxemburg and Strasburg. In addition to the differentiated approach proposed by the 'Partnership for Democracy and Share Prosperity' open to all Mediterranean Countries, a 'Community of the EU with Countries of the Mediterranean Region' committed to peace, human rights and sustainable development would have four 'baskets' to address: (i) Peace and Human Rights, access to information, right of expression, participation and justice (ii) Green Economy², water, energy, food, green and connected cities (iii) Integrated Economic Region³ (iv) Youth.

A **Diplomatic Conference 2012** of the Countries bordering the Mediterranean Sea , the Arab League, the African Union and the EU with participation of Russia, the United States, China and Japan should design the Community new institutions. This Conference should be prepared by:

- > **A Civil Society Conference** (inspired by the The Hague 1948 Conference) to shape a roadmap for each basket
- ➤ **A Financial Conference**⁴ to get the public and private financial institutions, including Sovereign Funds, to agree on the financial support to a Marshall Plan⁵ in support to the baskets implementation.

The Mediterraneans as the Europeans or Mankind are in front of a 'great transition' and a 'transformation agenda' for several reasons and from a political, economical and ecological point of view. With a Euro-Med Community, Mediterraneans and Europeans have again the chance to lead the 'global great transition' by example, building a new 'community of values and rights', beyond cultural diversity, to secure prosperity for all and move gradually and peacefully to a new mankind era

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³ As proposed by the European Roundtable of Industrialists (ERT)

¹ Jerusalem should – under specific conditions - be offered to become one of the headquarter of the Community designing new institutional relationship between Countries with the support of Religions Leaders and Businesses.

² Rio +20 Agenda. See UNEP report the Green Economy.

⁴ Prime Minister Papandreou and the EIB hosted by 2011 a similar conference on climate change and the Mediterranean region.

⁵ As suggested by Prime Minister Zapatero.