

# More Controls - Less Freedom

by Ida Magli

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It's been several years that euro-american politics is following a path that is the opposite of any reasonableness. Starting from the Twin Towers attack of 9/11, the declaration of war of the United States against Terrorism has never changed, as far as the diagnosis and the instruments of this battle are concerned. It seems impossible to admit the evident mistakes of interpretation that have been made, or to look for other ways of finding a solution.

Europe, on its side, blindly followed the Americans, with the only exception of France, that made a small initial attempt of dissenting from the common line of action. Being part of an alliance should also mean to give a critical advice or to make different strategic proposals. In Europe - and in Italy even more - the analysis of islamic terrorism always developed in a deeper way. There is an evident contradiction between what the politicians say about the existence of groups of "fanatics" and "rogue-states" and what is evident both to scholars and to simple citizens: how enormous for the West is the muslim problem.

What has been preached and what has been done is very contradictory. The European Union was founded on the idea of "equality" and "goodness" of all men, canceling the borders of the Nations and between Peoples, granting the free circulation of people and goods. But at the same time, an unprecedented system of control and identification was imposed over the single citizen: fingerprints, biometric profiles and so on, the same things asked for criminals. As a matter of fact, democracy and freedom of each individual became a pure appearance. Democracy is founded on the value-power of the Word of the citizen who "votes". If he is deprived of the right of affirming his name and his identity, he is not an "individual" and not a "citizen" anymore. He cannot say any more: "I am". Power is totally overcoming him, because he is not able to verify what the Authorities are affirming about him on the basis of the technologies.

So we have an irrational mechanism (but maybe it seems irrational only to those who are *not* aspiring to power) which allows the Politicians to widen enormously the territory and the mass of People over which they are ruling. To do so, they just have to write their will on pieces of paper called Treaties: such as the Schengen Treaty, after which they were able to say out loud how free is an Europe without borders. But at the same time they made themselves sure to "possess" the identifying data of all the citizens of the Union; the first result was to make life much easier for those entering Europe clandestinely.

It is useless to say that terroristic attacks gave the better justification for all measures of controlling the movements of the single individuals that have been applied; they became more and more invasive of privacy, like the "body scanner" of these last days. The Italian authorities approved this system, following the Americans, but this is a very grave decision. First of all, the "body scanner" is a terrible instrument, which offends the Person. It is clear that it was invented and prepared a long time ago, and this makes us think that undoubtedly some "terrorist attacks" are happening at a suspiciously right time. And in any case we keep following the footsteps of the american politics - that is far too expensive with too little results - instead of giving advice about more rational and different strategies. Terrorism is the rebellion of the islamics against the supremacy of the West, and will never end, no matter how many "wars" or "peace missions" will be made. It is important to start thinking about this fact. Europe and Italy must tell Obama, a man that with all evidence is inexperienced, the first words in this sense.

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*(traduzione di Marina Mascetti)*