

# ***And now islam becomes the Symbol of Europe***

by Ida Magli

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Talking about what was decided by the European Council gives an odd feeling: most of the Italians do not know of the existence of an institution with such a pompous and impressive name, and for sure they do not know anything about its purpose. The European Council is the offspring of a nebulous idea of Europe proposed by France and the United Kingdom immediately after the Second World War: it dates back to 1949. Its members are the Foreign ministers or the deputies of almost all the European States, even if they do not belong to the European Union. The European Council is one of many international Organizations which exist just on paper, and drains huge amounts of money without having a precise duty.

This is why every now and then the European Council remembers that it has to prove its existence, and comes on stage with some kind of weird ideas. This time it is a Contest for "*the most beautiful mosque in Europe*". We must acknowledge that nobody is better than the European Council in the sensibility towards the most important problems that worry the european peoples - who lavishly finance this Institution.

Is there a Country in Europe that today does not consider the building of mosques one of the most difficult problems to solve? Well, the European Council decided to put its weight on one pan of the balance, and we are curious to know which State suggested such an idea. The message was: "*Dear european citizens, now we will show you how to solve this problem. And we tell you out loud that if you have even the smallest doubt, you are completely wrong. Mosques must be built and there is no reason to consider them alien to the christian imprint of the european*

*landscape, as somebody dared to say".* This Contest for "the most beautiful mosque" proves it: from now on, the Islamic imprint will officially be the distinguishing feature of the New Europe.

This is a very heavy and cunning action against the uneasiness that so many citizens feel towards the excessive Muslim presence, something that is very difficult to express because of psychological and cultural reasons, more than for political ones. These reasons cannot be concretely estimated, but they deeply concern people who never get any support from their political or religious leaders. And Italy is the more tormented country, as far as this situation is concerned.

Italians love very much the Italian landscape with all those bell towers; their history is marked by the Catholic festivities, the Christian Art in all its forms, from music to painting to architecture. Italians severely blame the Church for its many flaws and defects, but this does not mean that they do not respect the Church. On the contrary, this shows how much they care, what the Italians always wanted the Church to be, how they are convinced of the need of its transcendence, more than the Church itself.

Today, Italians feel deserted and betrayed because of the continuous preaching in favor of the acceptance of immigrants, most of which are Muslims; their presence affects not only the religious aspect of life, but also the whole Italian civilization, with its sensitivity towards Beauty, towards the artistic representation of the Gospel, and also towards Jesus, who - as a poet - was loved even by the greatest atheists of Europe.

We do not want to finance with our taxes this Competition decided by the European Council.

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*Traduzione di Marina Mascetti*

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