

# ***Italy Hostage of the 3% that Pushed us into the Abyss***

di **Ida Magli**

[\*il Giornale\*](#) | Sept. 23rd, 2013

**I** think that today many Italians would like to write a confidential letter to Mrs. Angela Merkel – to the "woman" Angela Merkel – who is holding in her hands the political power and the present fate not only of the Germans, but of all those that are linked to the Maastricht treaty and to the euro.

Why would we like to write to the "woman" Merkel, rather than to the head of government of Germany? Because the euro, the Maastricht treaty and the "dictatorship of 3%" have brought terrible sufferings to those who are involved. Because the crisis that hit Europe is due to the Maastricht parameters and to its currency, directly and indirectly. Because suicides in France (how can we forget the 57 suicides of the managers of France Telecom?), in Greece and in Italy, have been caused by this crisis, as well as the thousands of unemployed, of failed entrepreneurs, of companies forced to close.

Dear Mrs. Merkel, please take a tour of Lombardy, which is the engine of the Italian productive economy, and you will see the results of the great market promised by Maastricht and its currency: the factories are all closed.

Please, do not believe the politicians who come to visit you, including the Italians, as Mr. Monti before and Mr. Letta today, with his ministers Saccomanni and Zanonato. They are all carrying the cross of 3% (percentage of debt on GDP), kneeling in front of this totem: you know very well that what they say is not true. It's been three years that they say "we are seeing the light at the end of the tunnel", and they say that not because the tunnel is really a tunnel, but because this is reality. If you listen to your heart, you will understand and feel how much despair is accumulated behind the rubble of every closed factory. Europe was in the midst of an industrial, commercial and cultural rebirth, when the

Maastricht treaty and the euro swept away little by little every hope of seeing a comeback of a large Italian and European market .

But above all, the soul of Europe – its true wealth – has been turned off. The soul of Europe was never put “on the market”; but the creativity, science, philosophy, art, music, poetry and culture brought with themselves also wealth and market, as a by-product.

The Maastricht treaty and its parameters are wrong. A single currency for different markets and different products will never work, as many famous economists said, including the Nobel Prize winner Amartya Sen. For people used to science, what counts are the results of an experiment. Well, let's consider the present situation of Europe as the outcome of this experiment: it is obvious that the calculations were wrong.

We are now in front of new martyrs: those who have sacrificed their lives and those who will have to make other sacrifices to stay within the sacred parameter of 3% of GDP, and to keep the euro alive. We are facing, in fact, the abandonment of all rationality, of every human possibility of doubt, alternative or choice; we are in front of a pure phenomenon of ' sacredness ': ready for sacrifice and ready to die, rather than giving up.

If you do not believe in the onset of the Sacred in a mercantile and financial scenario, then we are forced to think about a phobic disorder. When Mr. Saccomanni says that he will resign if Italy goes beyond the 3% of GDP, it is quite evident that we are out of the rational normality, and that the wardens of our economy suffer some kind of phobia. Dear economists and bankers, be brave, do not become desperate because of the parameters, after having imposed them on us as an infallible theological dogma during the past years. It is true that they are your creature, but everyone can make mistakes: as the old saying goes, what is important is not to persist in error.

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