TWT Gazette

We are all losers

100 years after the start of WW I especially in Europe it seems that lessons learned tend to be forgotten

2014 should have been a year of earnest commemoration, reflection and recognition of mistakes in Europe made 100 years ago. Instead it looks like politics is eager to again choose confrontation over good reason and common sense. 100 years ago in essence the egocentricities, ambitions and jealousies between the leading and related royal families in Europe were the cause for the worst combat involving military and civilians eventually becoming labeled "World War". At the end of it the majority of people in the world but especially the people in Europe were convinced that such misery may and will never be repeated again. Too big were the casualties and horrors experienced on all sides. Not even 20 years later the Spanish Civil War broke out and became the advent of the next World War. It eventually started again on false pretext, made today's chronological distinction between WW I and WW II necessary and led to even more casualties and horrors in Europe and elsewhere than imaginable after WW I. Robert Schuman in 1950 finally defined practically the European Idea, which via different stages developed today's most prominent representative of Europeanism, the European Union. It's original and core element is integration. People who cooperate and mutually benefit from their cooperation will not wage war against each other. Europeanism does not end with today's European Union achievement and structure. The logical long-term development goal is to integrate Eurasia into one community of common values such as individual freedom, justice, social responsibilities and peace. True, many of the prominent values in question are so called western values as they geographically origin in the west from ideas around the

revolutions in North America and France. More important and probably better termed they are general human values which cannot be monopolized geographically or by groups. Most important is their common undertone of tolerance. Euroscepticism is legitimate. Not all and everything the European Union today stands for and involves in is successful, great and just. European integration however has one most precious real achievement: Peace for almost 70 years. 100 years after Sarajevo as triggering event for WW I it seems that politics in Europe is in danger to leave the successful path of fair partnership and integration goals replacing it with expansionism more driven by economic than integrating philosophies thus developing smaller thresholds for confrontation of all sorts with easy calls for resort to military interventions. Compared to Jean Monet, Robert Schuman and other original representatives of Europeanism European politicians increasingly seem to trade esprit against pure lip services. Considering, that 100 years after the beginning of WW I Europe has allowed not only fighting to break out in Ukraine but toys anew with an East conflict should make Europeans to think seriously about their positions regardless if they are in Western or Eastern Europe including Russia. Too often it seems that positions are again defined more by vanities and jealousies than true values. History shows again and again all around the globe that it is easy to create conflict and to enter military action but it is so much harder to stabilize, pacify and maintain peace. The recent MH 17 tragedy potentially bears qualities of Not that Sarajevo incident. nowadays it would lead directly to declarations of war but looking at the repeating blame game without good reason one can only recommend all stakeholders to cool down and to think first more about own responsibilities than pointing fingers first at others. Politics in Europe 2014 made all of us already losers by divestment of trust and effective dialogue. Dirk P. Schneider

July 2014 Issue 1

Index

1

2014 - We are all losers 2014 - Wir sind alle Verlierer

About/Über

TWT

Trans World Technologies (TWT) is a commercial network with contacts and project experience in many countries around the globe

Besides consulting, project development and foreign marketing support TWT is working on analysis, studies and articles concerning current economic, technological and political topics

Consulting, Interest Representation, Trade and Systems are typical fields of TWT work

TWT- Teaming Partner, Outsourcing Services, Technologies, International & Intercultural

Independent

With core competencies
Energy, Environment & Life Sciences
Research, Development und Production,
Infrastructure & Construction
Mobility, Aviation & Space
National Security

TWT International c/o
TWT GmbH Trans World Technologies
www.twt-international.com
contact@twt-international.com