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Europe has to be fundamentally reorganised – spiritually, culturally, economically, and politically. Without such a turn Europe will fail and its effective structure will collapse.

Considering the future of Europe there are five essentials absolutely necessary to overcome the actual troubles:

- (1) Democracy: Citizens' participation in political decision making.
- (2) Welfare: Social security and humanitarian standards for everybody; the fight against poverty as a general social task.
- (3) Education: An efficient education system as the main pre-condition for Democracy and Welfare and vice versa.
- (4) Regionalism: The European regions should become the main layer of European policies constituting a profound federalism respecting the rights of minorities.
- (5) Subsidiarity: The principle of subsidiarity should become the main guideline for European policies.

All dogmatic ideologies or illusions about Europe, such as

- the idea of a centralised “United States of Europe”
- a currency union with quite unequal social systems
- borders without controlling (Schengen) in a situation, when organised criminality blossoms; etc.

should be abandoned.

Europe will flourish, when its complex *history* and the cultural *diversity* of its regions are respected and brought together in a creative, cooperative, and peaceful way.

“Next Europe” should become a “Europe of Regions”.
I plead for a “EUROPA DER REGIONEN”.