

Death to multiculturalism – Freedom to capitalism

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Big words have been spoken during the last few months in the Federal Republic of Germany. So big, that there is no going back. In a country where, some five years ago, it was considered a capital sin to even point out a national flag on a private balcony (regardless whether if there was a wedding or a match involving the national football team), dilemmas are now publically burned – whether multiculturalism is on its death bed, or whether it had already died. Not only that, but whether it had gotten in that position because it refused to be grafted to the European Judeo-Christian branch. So what is happening in the land of Germany? Nothing that hasn't already started to happen in the Netherlands, Denmark, France, and, if you will, even in the very homeland of the melting pot – the USA. The global financial crises has shaken the concept of the European social state and has endangered the welfare or the mere illusion of it in which most of the Western European societies have been living in for the past forty years. The West, as the engine of globalization, has picked up so much speed that it's chasing its own back, and it is now, in the second round, colliding with the slow, incompatible, and consequently, in the western mind, retrograde eastern societies. Especially those that rest on different religions, where Islam is, in all things considered, the most imposing. The culprits for financial crises are sought everywhere, and they are the most easy to spot amongst those that are the most different, those who came out of sheer necessity to "to occupy space, to take jobs and social benefits and along with that impose their own system of values". Crisis kills tolerance, it dangerously simplifies the answers to inter-civilization questions and opens up the space for ultraconservative awakening. Furthermore, it provokes black and white answers on "our social values" and aliens continuously refuse to integrate and accept those values.

[The Sarrazin fuse](#)

Former Berlin Senator of Finance, Thilo Sarrazin, was among the first people in the top who gathered up the courage, out of those on top, to publically announce the defeat of the modern German multiculturalism. In the book "Deutschland schafft sich ab" (Germany Abolishes Itself) Sarrazin sets his theses as follows: German indigenous population is getting old, lower number of children is being born, and it is threatened by the white plague. Turks and other immigrants (Turks are here the focal point because the Turkish population in Berlin had surpassed 10% of the overall Berlin population long ago) are incomparably younger population with a high birth rate and relatively low education level. This is where Sarrazin, very selectively, of course, (ab)uses statistics, and calls upon the help of science in order to defend the thesis how immigrants are silently taking over Germany. As mainly those with lower education level refuse to integrate, in the long run, Germany is threatened by social and economical problems. Granted, Sarrazin was relieved from the position of the Executive Board member of the Deutsche Bundesbank and his book was very argumentatively critiqued by numerous intellectual strongholds, but it also had its ninth reprint in millions of copies. So, there are many of those curious about the book, and many followers. We are not even going to debate on the profits. It got to the point where, the Deutschlandradio (German national radio), a very serious media house, organized a panel on the subject – exactly what is true in Sarrazin's theses. As it happens, his theses are general places of everyday lives where confidential conversations over coffee are: immigrants live in the ghetto, they don't speak German well or they refuse to learn it, every other or third immigrant leaves school, etc...

However, from one debate to the next, it was becoming clear that Sarrazin was just the bravest among numerous like-minded individuals, and that he cannot be harmed even by a strong and synchronized intellectual opposition, that called his work pseudoscientific, racist, the new eugenics... Conservative politics carefully waited for the public reaction on the Sarrazin theses, and then, after seeing that Sarrazin was not burned at the intellectual stake, it simply, as only politics can, got heavily involved. Thus, the president of the Bavarian CSU, Horst Seehofer, has, in now well known seven points, stated, interrupted by a loud applause, how Germany no longer needs immigrants, especially not those "from foreign cultures like the Islamic

cultures". Three years ago the CSU suffered a historical defeat in Bavaria, and is now trying to get back through the big gates. Aware of the danger of these messages, President Christian Wulf (CDU) tried to soften the sharpness of the debate with his statement how "Islam is the integral part of the German society" during his official visit to Turkey. The Chancellor Merkel, who, in her own words says that although she may be entering the late season of her political decisions, but not in the late season of her political career, cannot see anything disputable in the fact that Islam is the integral part of German society, but is left with nothing else to do but to, during the elections in Baden-Württemberg important for the CDU, consolidates the voting body and publically confirms what that body wants to hear – multiculturalism in Germany has become seriously isolated, because the immigrants had failed to adjust.

[Why is the German message important?](#)

Is it possible to save the multiculturalism in Germany by putting it back into its demochristian frames? Critics say that it should not even be attempted, because Christianity in Germany is not a state religion, but institutionally articulated religious will of the individuals who, on that account, pay 450 million Euros of church tax annually. Only in that kind of an atmosphere, and it is similarly set in the Constitution, it is possible to go back to the dialogue that was started ten years ago by the "Green" with the thesis that Germany needs to finally accept the fact that it is an immigrant country and that the generations of immigrant children born in Germany during the past thirty and some years are no aliens; quite the contrary, they are German citizens of equal rights with their religious and cultural specifics. However, this is not about idealism, but about a relentless economic empire. For several years now, German industrialists and statisticians have been sending warnings of a dangerous unbalance in offer and demand of work force, due to rapid aging of the population. They claim that Germany is losing 400.000 jobs a year, and that, in order to maintain the course of economic recovery, it needs refreshment that can only be found in the imported work force. This concerns the loss of one percent of the Gross national product, and it needs to be reduced as soon as

possible. How? The Liberals require import of a highly qualified work force. Conservative base of the CDU and CSU would rather for the work immigration, if it needs to happen, to happen through a selective gate opening functioning on a principle – those closest to our values go first.

The crack in the ruling coalition is in fact the mirror image of division in German society. Why is this German debate important for the future of the EU, and with that, our future in Bosnia and Herzegovina? If multiculturalism is not possible in Germany; Germany that become a third economical force in the world in the years following the Second World War and the ideological division, and the backbone of the EU precisely through the openness towards the Gastarbeiters (guest workers; fresh work force and their ideas) that never returned home; then it is not possible in the entire EU. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, whenever we can, we pull out the only ace up our sleeve – multiculturalism – just to get the message now from the highest instances of European policies that it doesn't really exist. Even if this was just a harsh pre-election rhetoric, tactical diversion from the burning social issues, return to the right spectrum after brief excursions to the center, it is still too much. Primarily, because this is not just about rhetorical game with multiculturalism; it is about essential differences in views of the future of the EU, its enlargement, its social concept and civic spirit. The story of German multiculturalism is in fact an indirect message how all of us others and different have taken the European Multicultural paradigm too seriously. The Gastarbeiters are in fact just guest workers that should go back home one day. They should take back with them their culture and their habits. There is only room for those who are ready to be assimilated, and the room is running out.