

La voce di Maria Dolens

MENSILE DELLA FONDAZIONE CAMPANA DEI CADUTI



At the Colle di Miravalle two flags have made their appearance fifteen years apart from each other.

First, in 1975, that of the State of Israel, on the occasion of an international ceremony in memory of the fallen of all wars. Second, in 1990, that of Palestine, officially raised during the visit of the then Minister of the "Authority", Ziad Ali Khalil AbuZayyad.

Since those dates, the Bell of the Fallen has welcomed delegations and hosted events promoted by both. To mention a few, a celebration of Yom HaShoah (with which the victims of the Holocaust are honored) and a concert by the famous singer Noa from the Israeli side with the visit of the Mayor of Beit Jala, a town in the West Bank as an example of successful civil and religious coexistence from the Palestinian side.

Nobody pretends to say that in relation to our Foundation, the much-invoked principle of "two peoples and two states" has already been applied. At the same time, in a period in which the troubled geographical area has once again resulted in a scene of conflict culminating in a high number of victims, any positive symbolism, however minor, may serve to contradict the judgment of the disconsolate British diplomat according to whom "never in the history of humanity have so much time and effort been devoted to a peace process, obtaining so few results in return".

This is certainly not the moment to deal with the historical reconstruction of decades of armed conflicts, interspersed with numerous attempts at intermediation by the United Nations and other multilateral organizations, promptly thwarted by subsequent clashes and violence.

In summary, the assessment recently reaffirmed by the President of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Chamber of Deputies appears to be fully acceptable, regarding the extreme difficulty in reconciling "two rights" and not, as happens in other crisis situations, "a right and a wrong position".

In this second case, the "corrective" measures of the international community would logically be directed towards the party at fault, to induce it to withdraw from unacceptable behavior.

But, in concrete terms, how can you mediate Israel's right to provide security of its citizens quickly and effectively with the right of the Palestinian people to form an independent state entity?

Two objectives, fully legitimate, today rendered impossible by almost insurmountable obstacles. On the one hand you have the Hamas statute contemplating the destruction of the Jewish state and on the other hand, the deliberate, massive settlement policies promoted by Tel Aviv in areas historically destined for the establishment of the Palestinian state.

To be continued on page 7...

IN THIS NUMBER

- 02** Interview with the economist Adalgiso Amendola
- 04** Happening at the Council of Europe. The right to information and artificial intelligence
- 05** Happening at the United Nations. Goal 8 of the 2030 Agenda
- 06** The «Human Rights?» exhibition. Work in art
- 07** It happened today. The Order of Malta at the Colle

Marcello Filotei (Editor)
marcello.filotei@fondazioneoperacampana.it

PEACE BELL FOUNDATION OF ROVERETO

Colle di Miravalle - 38068 Rovereto
T. +39 0464.434412
F. +39 0464.434084
info@fondazioneoperacampana.it
www.fondazioneoperacampana.it

Enrolled at the ROC, an Italian association for journalists specializing in Communications n. 35952

DESIGN

OGP srl - Agenzia di pubblicità
www.ogp.it

INTERVIEW WITH THE ECONOMIST ADALGISO AMENDOLA ON GOAL 8 OF THE UN 2030 AGENDA



Adalgiso Amendola is an economist, a veritable expert who teaches at Salerno University and looks at things with the watchful detachment of science. On July 17, he will be at the Bell to discuss Goal 8 of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development, that which pursues “lasting, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all”.

A noble intent, but is it realistic?

To understand the nature of this goal we need to start from the prologue which states that the real challenge for humanity in the near future is to defeat poverty.

And can it be done?

Partially. The main difficulty lies in the fact that the prevailing economic model, born of the *deregulation* policy of the 1980s, is centered on financial capital. Objective 8, on the other hand, focuses on work. With regard to economic growth and employment from 2015 to today, with the obvious exception of 2020 plagued by the pandemic, some results have been achieved, albeit with numerous differences from country to country. The balance may be considered moderately positive. But if the ambition is to truly build a more equitable world in which there is indeed decent work for all, it is legitimate to express some doubts regarding its actual feasibility. The 2030 Agenda specifically identifies a series of policies that would be useful to implement, but there is no systemic assessment of the radical changes that should be made to the market economy model of our times: the so-called financial globalization.

What might realistically be improved in this situation?

The measure of achievement of the 17 Objectives, in turn divided into specific targets, may be calculated on the basis of indicators developed by the UN Headquarters or by national and supranational entities. The European Union, for example, through Eurostat, draws up an annual report on this subject, which, in the case of Objective 8, measures economic growth using the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) *per capita*, i.e. evaluating how much material wealth produced annually in a country affects every citizen on average. If on the one hand this reduces the obsession with the GDP growth rate, on which the assessments of economic trends are generally based, in contrast it does not faithfully reflect the idea of sustainable development to which the Agenda aspires. It would have been better to refer to the Human Development Index, an indicator proposed by the UN that brings together not only material wealth (the GDP, in fact) but also the possibility of access to education and health care, life expectancy and the degree of income distribution among individuals. However, it must be taken into account that each indicator in itself is necessary, but not sufficient. They need to be evaluated as a whole.

Let's take a concrete example.

The targets to be achieved are defined by taking the development of each country into account. It would be unrealistic to use the same criteria for all. In many areas of the planet, especially those which are less developed, even in the presence of some significant improvement, *per capita* GDP, employment and the quality of work are still very far from a minimum threshold that could be considered adequate in industrialized countries. Of course, if we start from extremely difficult economic and social conditions, even a small step forward leads to an improvement, which however cannot be considered sufficient. Some might observe that the exploited workers in some African countries are a little less exploited than before, but nevertheless remain very far from having a decent job and full recognition of their rights.

Are economic differences around the world widening?

The risk is there. Obviously this does not depend on the failure of the 2030 Agenda, which is in any case yielding results, if only in terms of greater attention to the need to correct the many imbalances present in today's world. It is the very functioning of the system of financial globalization that creates the economic and social conditions that contribute to increasing inequalities between nations, geographical areas, social groups, and in recent decades, for the first time in more modern history, even within industrialized countries.

A structural problem?

Somehow yes. The basic idea on which the system is based is that an increase in inequality in the early stages of development favors growth. In the long run, in fact, spillover and overflow effects should be generated: the wealth accumulated by the major players in the economy would end up "dripping" on the less well-off classes, improving the overall level of living conditions and reducing inequalities.

The pool is for a few and the splashes that come after each dive are for many. But does it work?

This view of things, also based on statistical evidence from the 1960s and 1970s, is not confirmed today, especially in developing countries. However, the idea that inequality should be accepted as a side effect of growth still remains widespread and is at the origin of the belief that a model focused on competition and financial capital can favor the increase in overall wealth and, consequently, the well-being of all.

However, it seems that this "transitional effect" is proving to be permanent.

Over the course of the twentieth century, we felt that we were moving towards a more equal world. And this, especially in the golden years of the second post-war period, took place in most industrialized countries, for example with the improvement of the living conditions of what was once called the working class. But this trend proved to be only temporary, because since the end of the 20th century and especially in the last twenty years, the globalization of the economy and the increase in the return on capital have considerably increased the gaps between rich and poor, eroding the role and the economic conditions of the middle-class.

Does money make more money than work does?

The concentration of income in very small portions of the population has increased. Today a manager may earn up to 100 times more than an employee of the same company, which was not the case in the past. The difficulty of intervening in these imbalances also depends on the fact that, as the Nobel Prize winner Joseph Stiglitz explained, this type of gap, for example in wages, reflects mechanisms that are in essence efficient from the point of view of individual companies. Managers, for example, receive part of their earnings based on the share performance of the company they manage. Their commitment will therefore be aimed at increasing the value of the shares, even at the cost of undertaking high-risk development policies, which could generate contagious instability. In particular, when the financial system collapses somewhere in the world, crises of a global nature may be triggered, such as that from 2008-2010, which started in the *subprime* mortgage sector in the US and ended up with the banking system and then the real sector crashing in all industrialized countries.



Adalgiso Amendola

Round-table discussion on work

In July 17, a panel discussion on Goal 8 of the United Nations 2030 Agenda will be held on Colle di Miravalle, inviting countries around the world to work for inclusive economic growth and decent work for all. Together with Foundation President Reggente Marco Marsilli, a group of experts will address the subject from different points of view in order to ensure a historical, legal and eco-

nomical vision. Of the 10 taking part in the discussion the following will be present: Alessandra Pietrobon, professor at Padua University, Elena Dundovich, who teaches the history of international relations at Pisa University, Gianluca Alberini of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and Adalgiso Amendola full professor of economics at Salerno University who has presented his thoughts in these pages.

HAPPENING AT THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

The right to information and artificial intelligence

Nowadays, the use of artificial intelligence (AI) and the massive digitisation have a more significant impact on our daily lives than ever before. Never before have we had such easy and rapid access to so many sources of information, but without being sure of their authenticity. And never before, in an era plagued by a global health emergency, can quality information save people's lives and, on the contrary, misinformation do great harm.

In order to tackle the most pressing challenges to freedom of expression, including the decline in the safety of journalists and the impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and of massive digitalisation in the media and information environments on freedom of expression, European Ministers responsible for Media and Information Society agreed to carry out a number of priority actions. At the conclusion of a Council of Europe Ministerial Conference, a Final Declaration and four resolutions were adopted, covering areas where the Organisation will focus its efforts to protect freedom of expression in the next years: digital technologies, safety of journalists, the changing media and information environment, and the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Jointly organised by the Council of Europe and the Cypriot government, the ministerial conference brought together over 40 ministers and State secretaries, and 350 participants from national governments, international organisations, civil society, media and academia.

All actors engaged in the design, development and deployment of digital technologies and AI tools for the creation, moderation and distribution of online content to develop reg-



ulation - including through legally binding standards where appropriate - were involved in the conference. The ministers pledged to create the necessary regulatory conditions for ensuring that automated processes for creating and disseminating news, including through tools such as Natural Language Processing, robo-journalism and algorithmically prepared newsfeeds, be used in full respect of the right to freedom of expression. They also called on all actors to pay more attention to marginalised groups structurally excluded from receiving news and at risk of receiving a less diverse information offer.

Recalling that violence against journalists and other media actors constitutes an attack on democracy, the ministers pledged to make this problem a political priority and expressed serious concern about the prevailing impunity of such attacks. They invited the Council of Europe to carry out a comprehensive campaign at European level to promote the protection of journalism and the safety of journalists, in order to enable them to pursue their mission to inform.

Giuseppe Zaffuto, spokesperson for the Council of Europe in Italy

On the rotating presidency

The "Voice of Maria Dolens" publishes a section dedicated to events in the Council of Europe in each issue. In June, in particular, it reported on the passage of the rotating presidency from Germany to Hungary, which was completed in that period. It seems superfluous to emphasize how the publication intended to satisfy a need of a mere informative nature, without entering into considerations of merit on the program of activities of the new Presidency, considerations that are not its responsibility and which are subject to the evaluations of the appropriate bodies in Strasbourg.



Never before have we had access to so much information whilst being so unsure of its authenticity



HAPPENING AT THE UN

Goal 8

Two coffees. One is an expense of two euro if we are sitting at a table in the city center, irrelevant in the budget of a Western family. For half of the world population, on the other hand, it constitutes the earnings of a day's work and is a figure which is certainly not enough to escape poverty.

On the same planet there are those who can have breakfast at the bar regardless of how much they spend and those who must organize lunch and dinner with the same money. According to the United Nations, "a prolonged lack of decent job opportunities, insufficient investment and under-consumption lead to an erosion of the basic social contract at the foundation of democratic societies, in which we must all contribute to progress". It usually happens when everyone takes care of their own garden ignoring that of their neighbor, or worse still by removing the water from others which is basically the most common behavior adopted in recent centuries by those who could afford it. For this reason, Goal 8 of the UN 2030 agenda, which focuses on the right to work, is one of the main challenges of our times.

The creation of "quality" jobs should be the priority of the world economy, but so far growth and dignity have not gone hand in hand. It took strikes, demonstrations, protests and deaths to get a working schedule that didn't eat up the whole day. Other battles have been fought to ensure acceptable safety conditions, but from this point of view we are still far behind and there is a long way to go. It is about fostering sustainable growth by creating the conditions that allow people to have quality jobs, an indispensable prerequisite for a dignified life.

The data reveals that we have not yet reached this goal. Global unemployment is on the rise with over 2 billion people living on less than \$ 2 a day and before 2030 we need to find 470 million jobs for those who will enter the labor market. Each country will have different parameters, of course, but it is important that development is widespread and proportional.

“

Global unemployment is on the rise and over 2 billion people live on less than \$ 2 a day

”

For this reason, the first point of Objective 8 emphasizes the necessity to "support *per capita* economic growth in accordance with national conditions and in particular an annual growth of at least 7 percent of gross domestic product in developing countries". But there's more, we must also "progressively improve global efficiency in the consumption and production of resources and try to disconnect economic growth from environmental degradation".

“

Decent work for all and environmentally friendly growth are the challenges of our time

”

Protecting the environment is essential, but it is not enough because while we enjoy an espresso spending the entire pay of a twelve-year-old Indian who in the meantime is perhaps sewing the shoes with which we will go on vacation, there are still those who are subjected to forced labor. Slavery has been abolished but not eradicated, human trafficking still exists, child labor shows no sign of subsiding and to all of this is added the recruitment of child soldiers forced to fight wars that they cannot even understand. "Protecting the right to work and promoting a healthy and safe working environment for everyone, including immigrants, especially women and precarious workers" means a better life for everyone. It also means watching the European football championships without being tormented by the doubt that the ball kicked elegantly into the net was sewn by a Pakistani under-aged and underpaid by a multinational.

Development, security, dignity, the environment and solidarity are closely linked. On paper you have 'work' but in reality you have 'peace'.



THE "HUMAN RIGHTS?" EXHIBITION

Work in art

Why work? What makes it unique among human activities? The republic in which we live, for example, has considered it a founding value, an inviolable right and a status through which participation in the political, economic and social organization of the country is achieved. It could be considered a kind of doorway to citizenship. It must also be for this reason that the United Nations has included it in the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development. There are not many objectives indicated by the UN, seventeen to be precise: the eighth is work, but not just any job, a decent one.

This year the Campana dei Caduti Foundation has decided to dedicate the annual exhibition "Human Rights?" to this theme. This is the fifteenth edition and so far it has taken place twelve times at the Colle. The artistic director Roberto Ronca, who attended the inauguration last June 5 together with the Vice President of the Foundation Lorenzo Saiani and the president of the Apt (Trento Tourist Board) Giulio Prosser, has selected artists from all over the world, so as to be able to enjoy many different points of view, also directly linked to cultures far from ours. Until 5 October, 141 works from 29 countries can be admired. All information is available on the website and on the social networks of the Foundation and the International Association of Plastic Arts Italy (Aiapi) which is collaborating for the event.

It is nothing new that art reflects on this theme, nor that work can be scarce, extremely difficult, poorly paid or unsafe. Telemaco Signorini's nineteenth-century weavers probably did not return home after eight hours, and neither did Jean-François Millet's gleaners, with their backs bowed to symbolize the fatigue of life in the fields. And the two peasants in Vincent Van Gogh's "The Siesta" may also be sleeping in the bright yellow of the wheat, but what effort did they make before that? Artists have always wondered about the



Luna Miscuglio, «Riquadri»

meaning and significance of work for they have represented it, idealized it, denounced it, illustrated it like historians, studied it like economists and analyzed it like philosophers. But we cannot stop doing it, because in every age things change and above all because each of us has the right to something more, to something that only beauty can give us: the possibility of understanding things not only with the mind but also with the gut. And sometimes we have to be ready to take a punch in the pit of the stomach.



Nicla Ferrari, «Work»

IT HAPPENED TODAY

The Order of Malta at the Colle



05 July 2015: The flag of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta is hoisted at the Hill and the bell rings its hundred strokes of peace.

To be continued on page 1...

At the beginning of the 90s with the Madrid Conference and the Oslo Accords, ratified in Washington by Rabin and Arafat under the smug gaze of Bill Clinton, the aspiration of one side to live in safety and of the other to obtain a homeland had seemed closer than ever to realization. In retrospect, it must be admitted that it was due more to a combination of favorable factors (including the interpersonal aspect) than a convinced sharing of paths and objectives. Today the Israeli government, which has faced four elections in two years, is desperate for stability, to which the presence of an Arab party and the absence of representatives of religious movements could hopefully contribute, within the new variegated government coalition. On the other hand, concern is raised by the fact that the decline of the "moderate" Abu Mazen is accompanied by the growing consensus reported, especially among the younger generations, by the messages of Hamas and by the unequivocal terrorist matrix.

In order to overcome this impasse and to promote the necessary stability, a decisive and broader mobilization of the international community is an absolute necessity, capable of involving not only the United States and European countries but also, through the Arab League, the countries of the area. Through the recent "Abraham Accords" - one of the few positive legacies of the Trump administration - a number of these states (United Arab Emirates and Bahrain) have entered into formal relations with Israel, but at this point it appears essential to convince more radical supporters adopting a position of ostracism of the need for negotiations (primarily Iran, Saudi Arabia and Syria among others).

According to reports from the area, a further, small encouraging sign of willingness to dialogue seems to come from below, from the two communities, through the increasingly widespread appearance in public places inhabited by Israelis and Palestinians of the words both in Arabic and Hebrew, "we only have this house, let's live in it together".

While waiting for events to unfold, it is certain that the flags of the State of Israel and State of Palestine will continue to coexist peacefully at the Miravalle Hill. It is our hope that the one hundred daily chimes of "Maria Dolens" will favor the spread of this reassuring image of coexistence in other geographical settings, helping to ensure that today's exception becomes tomorrow's rule as soon as possible.

Reggente Marco Marsilli, Foundation President



IT HAPPENED TODAY



July 17, 1986: Youths from 30 nations participate in the Peace Ceremony for the "Lions Camp 1986"



01 July 2008: Inauguration of the "Peace Walk", a path that connects the Ossuary of Castel Dante to Colle Miravalle through 5 commemorative works dedicated to men who have committed themselves to non-violence (Aldo Capitini, Mahatma Gandhi, Nelson Mandela, Martin Luther King and Giorgio La Pira)



July 20, 1963: The Mayor of Rovereto, Maurizio Monti, and representatives of the Foundation Board and the War Museum visit the Capanni foundry in Castelnovo ne 'Monti (RE) to assess the progress of the recasting work on the Bell