

UNITED STATES OF EUROPE GEOPOLITICAL RECOVERY PLAN OF A MEGA-POWER IN ADRIFT

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Abstract: For 500 years, geopolitical Europe captured almost the entire planet, then after the Second World War it gradually retreated until it saw itself on the verge of extinction, dividing itself between the American West (the new Europe) and the Russian East (Eurasia). After 1990, slowly and with difficulty the core of Europe is being reformed, territorially and numerically reduced, but still a financial and cultural force swinging between the abyss and brilliance. A 9-point plan put into practice could make this continent the core of the world again, based on diversity, multiculturalism, peace and prosperity.

Key words: decline, expansion, demographic, financial, economic

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INTRODUCTION

The fascinating continent of Europe, with a surface similar to countries such as China, the United States or Canada, disputed as being only a peninsula of the huge continent of Asia, was for almost five centuries the center of the world, being able to extend the period to over 20 centuries if we also include the rule of the Roman Empire. Mega and the only power of the world after 1500, several states in Europe expanded their territory until they came to dictate world politics in the most detailed decisions. The other continents: America, Africa, Asia, Australia and Oceania as well as Antarctica were traversed by the armies and researchers/scientists of Europe who, hurried by the metropolises left on the Old Continent, tried to poke the flag of the mother state everywhere.

These 10 million km² that Europe owns, they directly conquered at least 135 million km². The less than 5 million km² that were not direct colonists of Europe, represented points of no interest such as the Japanese islands, or were semi-colonies such as inland China, Siam (Thailand) or the high plateaus of Ethiopia.

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Including European economic momentum and technology were ahead of the rest of the world, and demographic strength was surpassed only by Asia. Everything was Europe, the entire planet had changed its geopolitical name to Europe, the languages spoken, the dominant religion, the lifestyle and the European white race, all were the head of the world and all that mattered on Earth.

But at one point, the Europeans who emigrated overseas, managed to form nations that began to accumulate wealth, appearing as small powers such as: Argentina, Greater Colombia, the United States, South Africa or Australia (Baker and Andrews, 2020). The United States began to self-govern, and the local tribes in constant struggle in the Japanese islands, together with the European danger appearing on their coast, led them to reassess the real enemies, merging and establishing a new local power (Friedman, 2020). But European dominance was still stable until the division of the world between the multitude of European mega-powers, led them to the First World War which ruined the continent. But World War II was downright terrifying, shrinking geopolitical Europe until it had no core (O'Neill, 2017). The loss of the colonies, with a territory devastated by the great wars and with two semi-European powers that drew the "Iron Curtain" through the center of the continent, geopolitical Europe ceased to exist.

From the west, the United States, which represented Euramerica, and from the east, Russia, which had become more Eurasian than European, annulled/confiscated through their presence and policy, everything that the European powers had done for so many centuries. The unprecedented development of the United States of America, Australia, Japan and the Asian Tigers, the states and the Persian Gulf, the reconstruction of Central-Eastern Europe according to completely different models than the Western ones, the growth of the population in the warm zone of the world - former European colonies, but also Islamist immigration, have made the return of Europe as a great power almost an impossible idea.

But then came the period 1960-1990, when France, Great Britain, the amazing economic recovery of part of Germany (FRG) and more recently Spain, as well as their consolidation within the small and tenuous slightly consolidated core called the European Economic Community (now the Union European), lit the light of hope (Dinan, 2014). The revolution that included the communist system and the disintegration of the USSR without a clear, stable and strong successor, Russia being too weak economically and demographically for this role, the failure of the Arab states south of the Mediterranean to gather into a united state, the decline Japanese economy after 1997 and the waters of the Atlantic Ocean that somewhat keep US influence at a distance, made Europe - an island of stability, in a world of chaos, with a large vacuum of influence around it.

But once again, similar to World War I and World War II, states began to assert primacy or mistrust. Germany is convinced that it will be the European economic engine, France wants the army and the administration at all costs, Great Britain seeing itself again in the situation of dictating its policy from the continent, leaves the European Union, Poland out of desperation not to repeat the mistakes of the last European conflagrations, allies with Great Britain and the USA against the economic rapprochement between Germany and Russia, Italy left to speculation - economic decay, and Turkey, still considered barbaric, waits increasingly frustrated at the borders of the union for over 50 years. It

seems that the power vacuum around Europe has been filled, but not by the countries of the continent. Russia with Chinese support dominates the east, Turkey is becoming more and more influential in North Africa, the US and China divide the Middle East and the US with the help of the three seas in central Europe to whom it promises military stability against Russia, as well as with the help of Great Britain in a re-formation of the Anglo-Saxon world, completes the picture of the centrifugal world in which the continent is located.

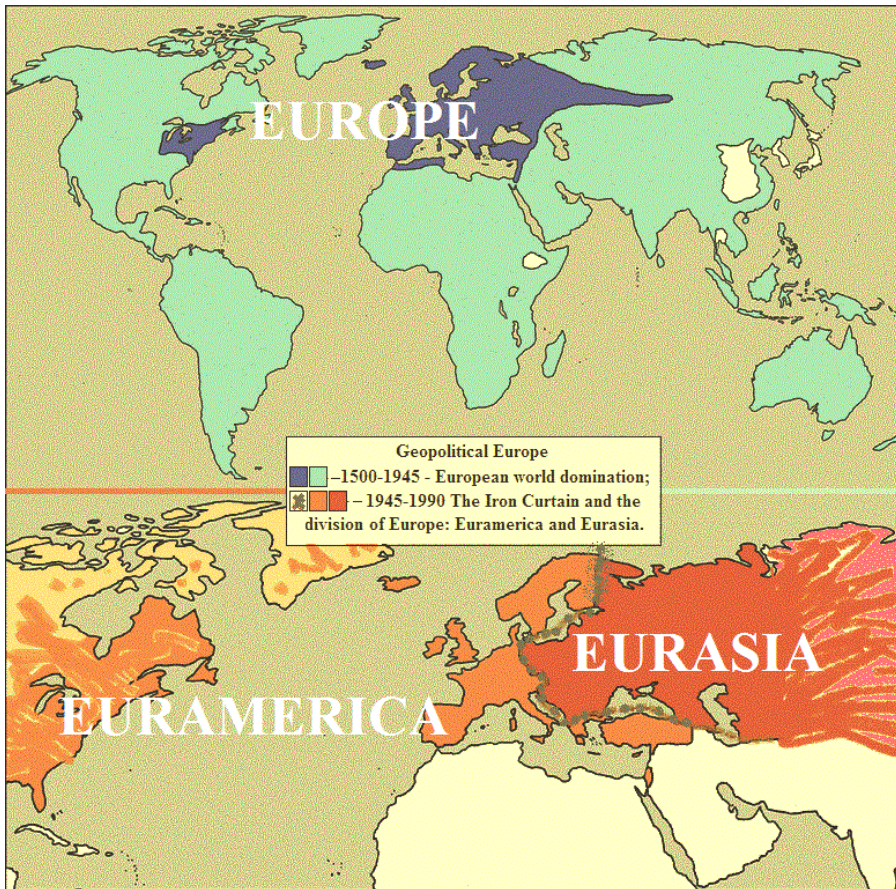


Figure 1. Geopolitical Europe, between world domination (1500-1945 period) and the decay after World War II (1945-1990)
Source: Adapted from: Darwin, 2009

Economically, Western Europe has US\$22 trillion nominal GDP, similar to China or the US, but divided between at least four major powers (Germany, France, UK, Italy) and over 20 other smaller powers, making external economic struggle difficult, against centralized and stable Chinese and American leaderships.

The demographic situation is even more difficult, of the 8 billion people on the planet at the end of 2022, the continent has only 0.7 billion, and without Russia and non-Western states even 0.5 billion, a population that has stopped growing for at least three decades, during which time Africa's population grew from 0.6 to 1.4 billion (data processed from: World Population Review, 2022).

RESULTS, DISCUSSIONS AND SCENARIOS EUROPE'S MEGA-POWER GEOPOLITICAL PLAN, IN 9 STEPS:

Step 1. Schengen visa and euro currency

Although it seems a minor problem for the states integrated in 2004, 2007 and 2013, in the process of completion, the fact that an obligation of accession, that the integrated states receive the status of the Schengen area within a maximum of 5 years after accession, in the meantime passing over 10, shows the lack of will for unity, which leads to the facilitation of the emergence of foreign interests within the Union. Similar to the situation of Turkey, which is still negotiating and renegotiating the accession file, a negotiation that spanned five decades, they put the attractiveness of Europe in a bad light (Redmond, 2007). The interests of the states already integrated within the European structures, against the states that request certain degrees of integration, the fear of Germany or France not to lose the reins of domination, the calculation of all policies only in the immediate economic interest of a small group of states, brings Europe into frustration, similar failure and discontent existing before World War I or World War II.

What chance does Ukraine or Serbia, not to mention Russia, have for European integration, as long as pro-European countries, numerically and territorially reduced, sufficiently developed and with an economy dominated by Western European influence, do not manage to overcome imaginary but immovable barriers imposed by the states already in the core of Europe? If the entire union is economically weaker than the powers of China and the USA, which are increasingly dividing the entire planet into two large spheres of influence, with what power can Europe emerge if it is run chaotically and fiercely, anti-expansion and anti -development? The consequences are already visible and are becoming more evident. Russia attaches itself economically to China, Great Britain to the USA and Turkey is barely reaching for the bell at the gates of the Union.

Step 2. The capitals of the European Union, from Brussels-Strasbourg-Luxembourg to Brussels-Prague-Bucharest

The current capitals of the Union are more Atlantic than European. Brussels, Strasbourg and Luxembourg were established as the capitals of United Europe while the continent was fragmented. Then they represented the center. They were between Rome, Berlin, Amsterdam and Paris, but now they are far into the west, unable to represent the real Europe as it is perceived as far as the island of Crete and the Ural Mountains.

Brussels is and can remain one of the three capitals. That is, the first, unchanged from the current situation. Here it is an amalgam, half German, but with greater influence, with a Dutch (Flemish) population and a language family it belongs to: Holland, Germany, Great Britain, Denmark, Sweden or Norway. That is, industrial Europe. The southern part of the city, Latin, with a French (Walloon) population from the same extended family from which it is also: Italian, Spanish, Portuguese and Romanian (Ginsburgh et al., 2017). Here is traditional, agricultural and touristic Europe. Brussels is also at the intersection of the great religions of the west, Catholic Christians in the south and Protestant Christians in the north (Delumeau, 2014). Most of the states of the union are of Germanic or Latin languages, with Christian, Catholic or Protestant religion. The

choice of the city as the European capital is special, pleasing to everyone, nothing to complain about. But the other two cities can no longer fulfill their given role for a long time, being in fact a replica also of the city of Brussels, but not-representative of the center and east of the Union where it has expanded in the last two decades and where are most of the states that aspire to this status.

The city of Strasbourg is the second capital of the Union, where the European Parliament is located (most plenary sessions are held here) (European Commission, 2023). When she was elected, she represented the peace between France and Germany. Imagining the spirit of those times, in a Europe still haunted by the disaster of Franco-German hatred, it seemed that the peace of the two represented the tranquility of the continent. Strategically chosen, slightly to the east, also between Latin and Germanic populations, on the banks of the most important river of the Union at the time, represented by the Rhine (the Danube taking its place in the meantime), but on the left bank, in France, close to the Germans, but still in the state that won the war. It is also a deeply Catholic city, with 70% of the Alsace population having this religion (southern Germany also being Christian-Catholic), representing including Italy's share of the new European core, but without any English interest. With over 900,000 inhabitants, the urban agglomeration, the city reached the western European periphery, with the exit from the Union of Great Britain and the expansion to the east, being visibly biased in the distribution of decision-making power. Thus, to increase the European attractiveness, in the effort to spread the magnetism of the Union outside the integration area, the institutions in this city must be moved further east, representative in the new context but also what is hoped to follow. One could say that cities like Milan, Munich or Vienna would be auspicious, calculating their cultural past, but we would be perpetuating the current situation. Budapest has a somewhat singular status, while Warsaw would push another injustice, of the Poles on small territories that surround them, a phenomenon that is increasingly present with the economic momentum of this state and with the increasingly decisive role within NATO.

The city of Prague, the current capital of the Czech Republic, populated by Slavs, a family of Indo-European languages that also includes: Ukrainian, Russian, Serbian, Bulgarian and so on, and the Catholic Christian religion, located in the center of Europe on the same parallel as London or Brussels, with 1,3 million people (over 2 million urban agglomeration) and so much cultural potential, would be the ideal capital, making the Union the possibility of the Lisbon-Vladivostok dream. The very history of the provinces of Bohemia and Moravia that today make up the Czech Republic, the first with power that in the 16th century, under the leadership of King Podiebrad, still under the Austro-Hungarian Empire (the Austrian side) and often attacked by Prussia (another German province) made steps for what would have been the European Council (Artur, 2015). That approach would perhaps have saved Europe from the two wars and automatically, from the world decline that followed, the city can still be considered the peacemaker of Europe, most likely quickly receiving a large number of emigrants from Germans, Poles, Ukrainians, Serbs, Russians or Hungarians, once it would be called the capital.

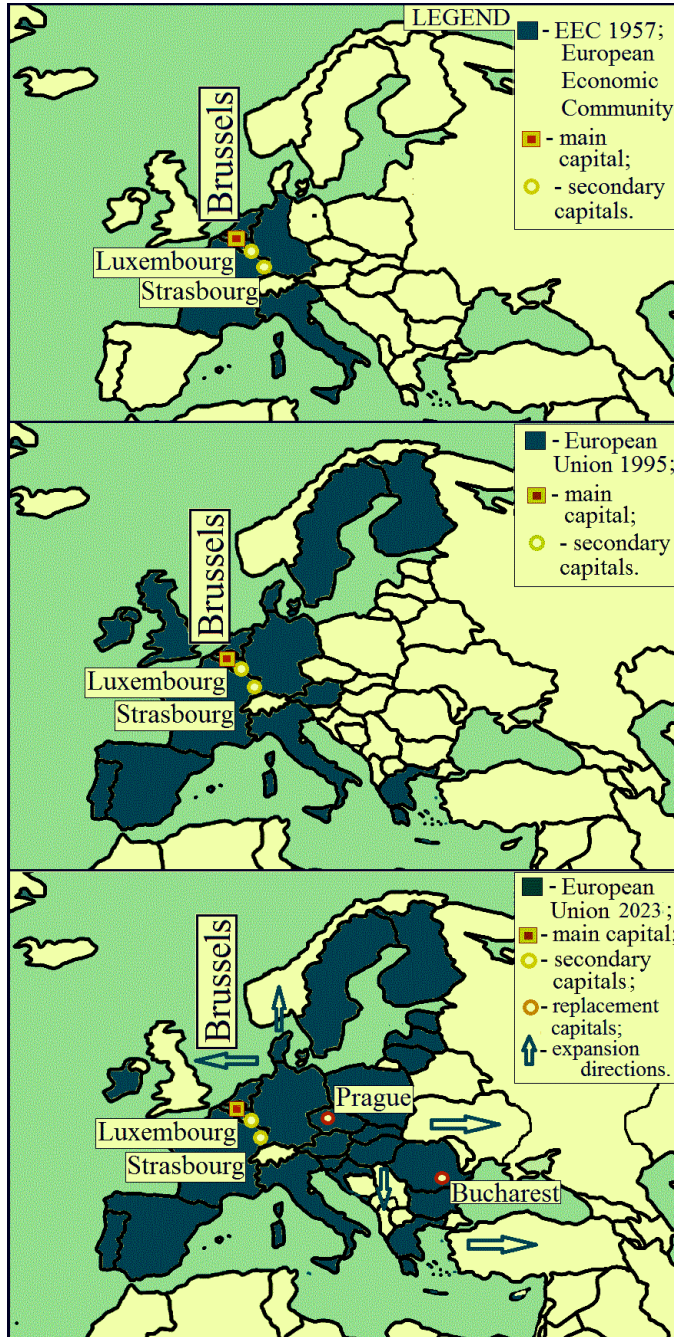


Figure 2. Expansion of the European core and administrative centers
 Source: data processed according to: Rusu, 2020; Buchsteiner, 2018

The third European capital is Luxembourg, a small town of only 0.15 million people, located in a state with 0.6 million inhabitants, populated, again, with French and Germans, automatically mainly Catholic Christians, but also Protestants. Same with Brussels, a Franco-German capital, but neither in

France (as Strasbourg is) nor in Germany. Again, Great Britain without any input, understanding the long English reluctance until this state ended up leaving the European Union in 2017, which, quite rightly, is only a Franco-German Union.

The institutions of this city must be moved. The landmarks being the same, a city to serve the interests of an extended, much extended Union. It could be Helsinki, but the city is too far north, and like Budapest, too singular in representation. In the south, Rome already has representation in Brussels, Athens, like Rome too south, would be a constant problem in expanding the union between Islamic states like Turkey. Kyiv, Lvov and even Minsk would be considered a continuation of Slavic domination, although all three are Christian-Orthodox (perhaps less Lvov which is somewhat Catholic). Between these, between Cyprus, Greece, Turkey and perhaps further south, Israel, Egypt on one side and north, with Ukraine and Russia, between Cape Roca (Portugal) and the Ural Mountains (Russia), the city of Bucharest, also located on the side Central European, Latin-speaking like the French, Spanish and Italians, Latin alphabet like the rest of the West, but Eastern European religion (Christian Orthodox), this city of over 2 million people would be ideal to take over the institutions of the third capitals of the European Union. Luxembourg's institutions are reduced in importance at the level of the union (the Court of Auditors, the Court of Justice, the European Commission - certain Directorates-General) (European Commission, 2023), but their relocation to the east, south-east of Europe, to the lower Danube basin, near the Great Black and at the end of the extended East-European Plain (which includes European Russia, Ukraine and the plains north and west of the Black Sea), there would be a wave of hope towards the entire east and south-east side (Georgia, Russia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Turkey, Syria, Israel and so on), making United Europe much more attractive.

Step 3. Real economic plan to save the south: Spain, Italy, Portugal - where the core of Europe conducts its major activities.

The states in the south, the southwest of the continent, represented the core of Europe for almost two millennia. Here existed the Roman Empire, Venice and Genoa and later, Portugal and Spain territorially divided the entire planet through the Treaty of Tordesillas, in the year 1494 (Luraghi, 1971). After this triumph, the problems continued, the central place returning to Western and Central Europe. At present, although economically integrated into the Franco-German financial life, the states of the southwest suffer from the loan policy so promoted by Paris and Berlin. The crisis of the identity of a United Europe has made the powers that make it up to start the fight for dominance, although in its entirety it is a boat that sinks easily. It's like the richer US state of New York trying to borrow the state of Texas or Florida, hoping that they will fight together against Chinese economic expansion. Within Europe, a fight was launched "which of the states should be pushed first to the abyss", without considering that from the start it is a losing method. French and German banks in particular (often with branches in Switzerland or other tax havens), although they got rich with fictitious loans and unnecessarily granted to Southern or Eastern Europe (example: Greece, Italy, Romania and so on) failed to save the parent economies where they come from. Similar was the crisis of health loans, which led in 2021 to the indebtedness of a part of Europe (same as in 2008) for expensive and unnecessary vaccines, in the order of billions, which would have been sufficient

for the entire planet. Imagine a pool table on which the balls are evenly distributed, and someone (in our case Germany and France in particular) lifts the table, tilting it, so that all the balls are only on one side of it. But their number remains the same. This is the case of the European Union in the two crises, from 2008-2012 and 2019-2023, when inside there were huge redistributions of wealth, but in its totality, the Union is the same.

The calculation of interests strictly at the European level, similar to the period of the great world wars, led to the neglect of the international situation. A weak Europe also makes Germany or France weak, even if they have more power within the union. Only with the Union in full economic momentum and the enlargement process, does it give weight to the global negotiations pursued by the states that make it up. The real economic growth of Romania, Italy or Spain automatically helps the Western European multinationals and Europe as a whole, the real economic union being mandatory.

A first measure is financial stability and the launch of economic growth. A clear plan of real loans, money going into infrastructure, industry, manufacturing centers and supply chains, with local patrons. It would be done with little effort, far below the value of the useless loans from the pandemic period, so the pro-European feeling would be at its peak in this space, involving all the states of the Mediterranean Sea and with waves of interest and aspirations towards the Latin states from all over the world, including a rapid increase in the interest of Latin American and Maghreb workers in the southern European labor market.

Step 4. The demographic problem

After restoring confidence in the Union, achieved by implementing the first three steps, comes the moment of demographic organization. The Union is declining demographically, but like debt, it is states within the same area that are being emptied of population to fill the need for workers from elsewhere in the same area. Workers from Eastern Europe migrate to the center, west, north and southwest, and more recently, migration has also taken the route from the southwest to the west. Generally, the labor requirement averages from one to five million people, depending on the periods. Only the nearby states from which residents migrate to Europe have a cumulative annual increase of over 50 million people. Egypt and the Maghreb are growing by 3.5 million people annually, the Levant (Palestine, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon) by one million, while the populations of Turkey and Iraq are growing by 2 million annually. If we digress a bit, South Asia, which is an increasingly preferred flow, is growing by 22 million, while Sub-Saharan Africa is growing by 28 million, with an annual increase of at least 40 million by 2050 (data processed according to: Worldometers, 2022).

The problem of Europe is serious, the aging of the population and the decline have made this continent, which was a demographic nucleus, now only a space specialized at the highest level, but with few and elderly inhabitants. If in 1900 Europe had 28% of the world's population, today it has less than 10% and in 2050 it will decrease to 7%. Also, in 1900 it had four times more population than the continent of Africa, but it demographically reached Europe in 1995 (700 million people), currently having almost double that is 1.4 billion people, and in 2050 it will have 2.5 billion and in 2100 maybe over 5 billion, reaching seven or eight times more population. It is understood that Europe's great

chance is to preserve and increase the number of specialists and the high quality among workers, to survive as a great power in the new demographic context. Immigration is already underway; it remains for the states forming the Union to develop a clear plan of the reception criteria.

Table 1. Population evolution in Europe and in the countries from which immigrants arrive
Source: data processed from: Worldometers, 2022

No	Continents and States:	Population 2023 (million inhabitants)	Population growth / decline 2020-2030	Immigrants (+) / Emigrants (-) 2020-2030
1	Europe	749	- 6	+ 12
	E.U.	447	- 3	+ 8
	Germany	84	- 1	+ 4
	France	65	+ 1	+ 2
	Italy	60	- 1	- 1
	Romania	19	- 1	- 0,5
2	Africa	1.425	+345	- 5
	Egypt	107	+ 18	- 0,4
	Algeria, Marocco, Libya and Tunisia	103	+ 13	- 1
	Nigeria	220	+ 58	- 0,6
3	Asia	4.740	+ 333	- 17
	India	1.415	+ 124	- 5
	Pakistan	232	+ 42	- 2
	Bangladesh	169	+ 15	- 3,7
	Nepal and Sri Lanka	52	+ 5	- 0,5
	Vietnam and Philippines	215	+ 21	- 1,7
	Iraq, Afghanistan and Yemen	115	+ 27	- 1
	Turkey	86	+ 4	- 2,5
4	Latin America and the Caribbean	668	+ 52	- 4

Among Europe's obligations is to maintain the number of workers on the market, to increase the incoming population, skilled and specialized workers as well as certain ethnic and religious preferences in order not to endanger the current structure and avoid chaos. The states around the Mediterranean tend to receive emigrants from South-Saharan Africa, Latin America and South and Southeast Asia, avoiding the Arab-Islamist population from North Africa and the Middle East, but this is preferred in Central Europe and North.

After establishing the criteria for the reception of immigrants, the number can be increased, the European Union being obliged to host at least 2.5 million more people every year, generally double what the United States receives, while a union extended to all of Europe, would be able to receive over 4 million annually, strictly from outside the continent, avoiding the current practice of walking the same European workers.

Step 5. First Expansion: The Old Western World

We are in a financially consolidated Europe, with economic growth, full workforce, economic return of all developed states in the west, north and economically revived south, with three capitals stretched far to the east, between the Atlantic and the Black Sea, the Union becoming attractive. For each step, between one and three years are required for completion, with the possibility of overlapping. In such a situation, Russia would court Germany and France to export more raw materials, Turkey would want more integration, the US would want more economic relations, and China would work unhindered to prove that it deserves to enter the dynamic market of the new relaunched Europe, thus the Franco-German dream of domination would be realized, without the current strategy of deindustrialization, depopulation or borrowing of certain states within the great European family.

In this context, the inhabitants of the developed states of the West, who looked reluctantly at Brussels, Strasbourg and Luxembourg, will now have a different approach. Thus, the Union as a whole sends an offer to reintegrate Great Britain, as a whole state (England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland), receiving rights equal to those of France and Germany, receiving the role of main maritime defender of the continent and directing the fleet maritime EU worldwide, with the states of the union relying on its influence for the stable, maritime reception of raw materials and immigrants from all over the planet, a tactic that would benefit everyone. In the same wave of Western integration, Norway and Iceland should be included, the adoption of the Schengen visa for Ireland and the euro currency for Denmark and Sweden, canceling their reluctance, strictly through the power of the dynamic Union example.

Step 6. Real economic plan to save the East: 10 (states integrated in 2004) +2 (Romania and Bulgaria) +1 (Croatia) + Greece.

We have Europe with healthy economic growth, without the demographic problem, the problems of the supply of raw materials, the embarrassing influence of the USA through Great Britain or China through Italy. Europe no longer has second-rate states, with the second speed or the various names received over time, states that sought relief in external economic and military partners.

After the expansion of the euro currency and the Schengen visa to the east, as well as the two (more symbolic) capitals, now an economic measure is also needed. A concrete, stable and peaceful plan to build nuclear power plants and highways, mainly with cheap energy and fast infrastructure (Badar and Kozma, 2020). The European advantage is total economic growth itself, the possibility of putting more euros on the market without causing inflation and even the growth of Western, Italian, English or Dutch companies for ports, French for nuclear power plants or German for highways, measures that will strengthen the core and make the more Europeanized periphery. This plan would include the 10 states integrated in 2004 (Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Slovenia, Malta and Cyprus), the states of Romania and Bulgaria integrated in 2007, Croatia integrated in 2013, but also Greece.

Step 7. Second Expansion: Christianity

We have the picture of an increasingly powerful Europe, which in less than a decade is on its feet, negotiating on an equal footing with the US,

geopolitically attracting the Islamic world and peacefully influencing Russia, which increasingly prefers to send its diplomats to Prague or Bucharest in the place of Beijing, which aims to seize Siberia. Diplomatic seriousness and economic dynamism, pouring over the borders of the union an increasing attraction, becoming a mild variant in an increasingly fierce fight for Sino-American world domination.

The large number of Hindu Indians, South-Saharan Christians and Muslims or Islamist Arabs, all of whom arrived by the millions, are accustoming the big cities of Europe to multiculturalism. But until there is a greater general acceptance of the foreign population, as well as its integration, there is naturally a first expansion to the east, also in a Christian and slightly semi-Christian spirit, targeting two areas. The Western Balkans in their entirety: Serbia, North Macedonia, Albania, Montenegro and Bosnia-Herzegovina, while Kosovo will probably have a special status with a multi-ethnic Serb-Albanian leadership of stability, in "exile", perhaps in Prague . The second area covering the former USSR states, including: Ukraine (what remains of it), Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and offers for Armenia and Belarus. In the same way, leaderships of stability, multi-ethnic for the semi-independent territories such as: Transnistria, Zaporizhia, Kherson, Lugansk, Donetsk, Abkhazia, Adjara, South Ossetia and so on, the center being most likely also in Prague, to the detriment of Bucharest.

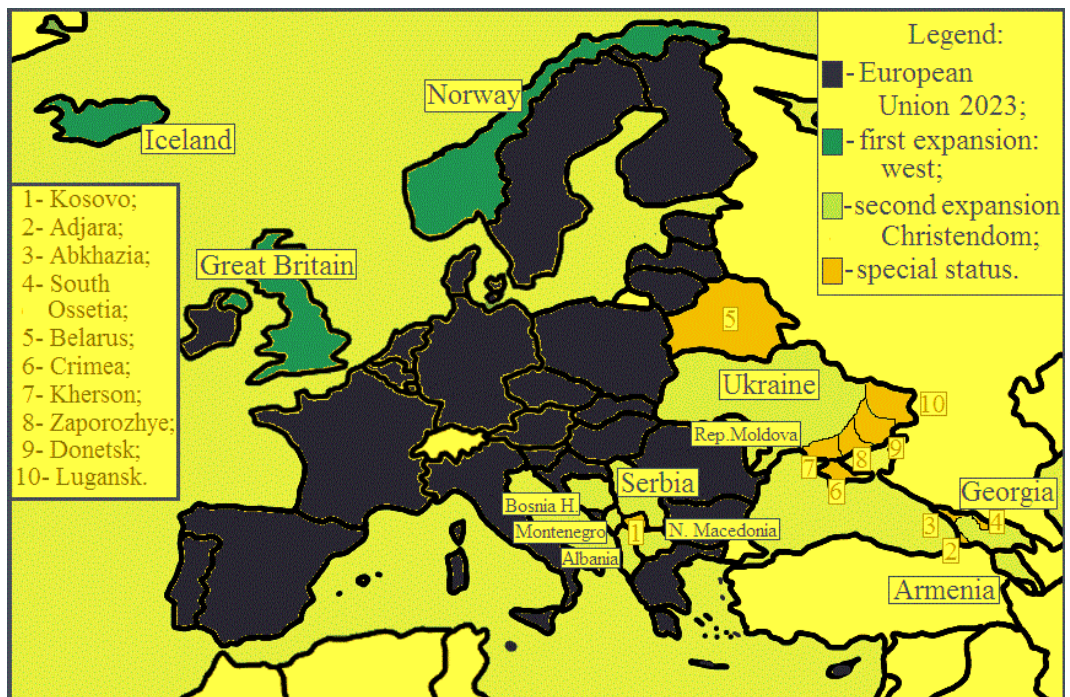


Figure 3. Extension I and II Scenario proposed by the author

Step 8. The Third Expansion: Islam and Arabia

In total after no more than 15 years from the start of the plan's implementation, the world being in a dizzying dynamic in which Europe does not

want to lose its place at the table of mega-powers, it would be one of the strategic leaders with cultural appeal, calm and gentleness, between the belligerent USA, an overly aggressive China and an excessively slow India.

Providing a major influx of Christian immigrants arriving from Africa and Latin America, Buddhists and Hindus from Southeast and South Asia, and with a strong Islamist minority in major Western cities and Balkan states, the union may now become interested in Islamist countries, with an increasingly stable population and from which emigration is no longer a defining problem.

Completing the idea of Eurabia, the influence of France, Spain and Italy, the waters of the Mediterranean that unite commercial and reaching the natural border of geopolitical Europe which is represented by the Sahara Desert, the union can extend to any territory with an outlet to the Mediterranean Sea. The third expansion would be appropriate to finally include Turkey, but also Azerbaijan, having for Nagorno-Karabakh an Armenian-Azeri leadership in Prague, the state of Morocco (so attached to European ideas, with 5 million emigrants on the northern continent), Tunisia with its citadel Carthage and the holy land of Christendom - Israel. Depending on the situation at the time, similar status is given to Northern Cyprus, but Lebanon and Palestine could also be included.

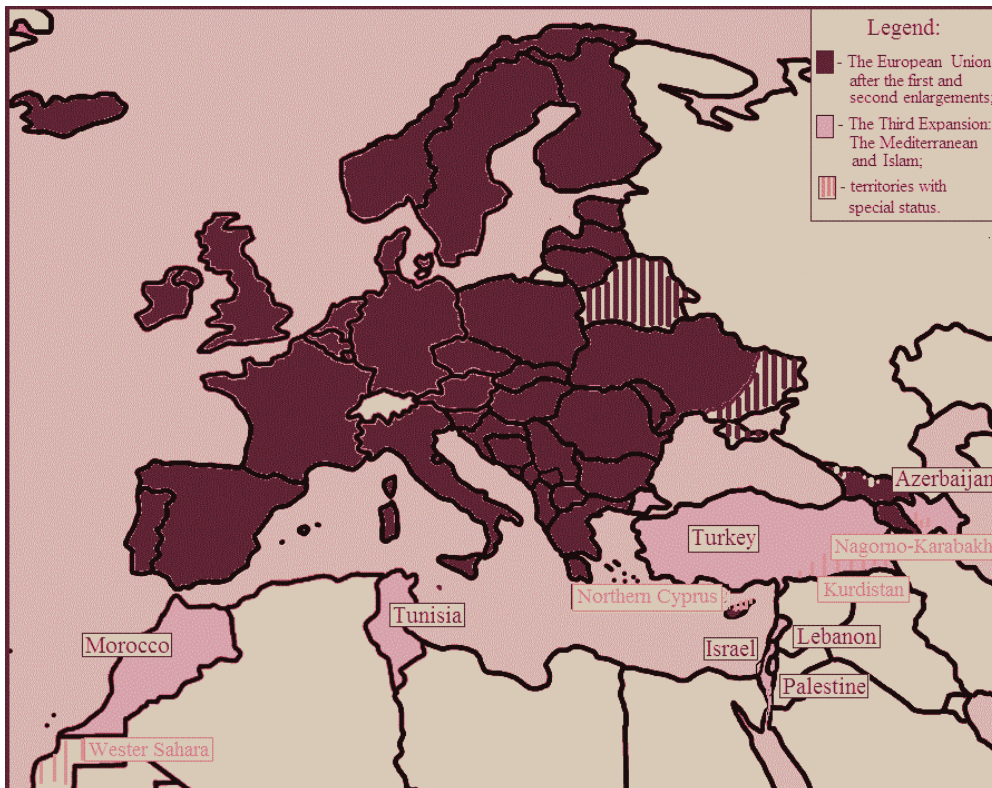


Figure 4. Extension III
Scenario proposed by the author

Brussels' reluctance and fear of failure have kept Serbia or Turkey at a distance from integration, resulting in external powers such as the US, China or

Russia having support right on the coast and inside the union, all of which culminates in the current geopolitical decline. Tens of millions of Europeans travel annually to: Turkey, Morocco, Tunisia, Lebanon, Israel or Palestine. Workers from these countries traverse Europe returning home to implement what they saw on the Old Continent. The endless discussions in which Turkey has nothing to do in Europe, but Israel must be defended at all costs, in which Italy should give up the poor south that endangers European wealth, not even Romania or Poland they have something to do at the table with the Franco-Germans, the Nordics to govern themselves, and the English have never been convinced Europeans, all this shows that Europe from the mega and the only world power, expanded geopolitically to the level of the entire planet for more than four and a half centuries, has now come to wonder if the real Europe should not be declared only in the city of Brussels and its outskirts.

According to the new forecasts, India will quickly surpass the economy of Europe, and Africa will have several times more population, the USA is growing much faster economically and China with its 1.4 billion people (3 times the population of the EU) has proven its primacy in the world, the claims of the Europeans to plow imaginary demarcations of the most European of the Europeans, seem that they can no longer continue. The risk is imminent, and peace with Great Britain and implicitly with its influence in the commonwealth (Grimal, 2003), the inclusion the fertile fields and specialized population of the east, and the riches of hydrocarbons and solar energy around the Mediterranean, are the great saving grace of maintaining the Union as a mega-power.

Step 9. Fourth extension – optional: Leaving Europe: Eurasia, Euro-Mediterranean or Eur-Atlantic

Like a balloon that we inflate and can get bigger and bigger, but with the same amount of rubber, so Europe could expand, with roughly the same population, but with bigger and bigger areas. That depends a lot on the steps implemented so far, on the possible ethnic tensions following the migration to the continent of a number of 40-80 million non-Europeans, the expansion from the Slavic world of the eastern steppes and the Islamic South Mediterranean world. If it will cope, if it rejects the influence of external powers and if it can become an attraction for the other states.

There are three possibilities depending on the way of development since that date. An extension would be Atlantic, perhaps English Belize increasingly squeezed between the Spanish states on the Isthmus of Panama, perhaps English and Dutch Guyana and Suriname, if they feel the heavy breath of Brazil and Venezuela making territorial claims. It can also be about Canada, so extensive and rich in resources, but still insufficiently populated (the area comparable to the USA but with a population of only 10% of that of its only neighbor), which has close plans to unite with Great Britain and in present. The list could go on, especially resource-rich states that prefer the protection of a world leader like the enlarged Europe, which does not dominate with multinationals and militarily as the US does, nor drains resources by needing it for its own industry, as it does: China, India, Japan, Vietnam, Nigeria and so on.

The second possibility is Eurasian expansion, including Russia, perhaps Kazakhstan, which see themselves threatened by the growing Chinese takeover. Russia has always dreamed of this, there are leaders on both sides of Europe (Eastern and Western) who see the whole Union, necessarily extending between

Lisbon and Vladivostok. This action would suddenly triple the area of the Union, with a territory almost unpopulated but rich in resources. If Great Britain loses its influence within the Union, if the integrated Islamist states already bring serious instabilities and, instead, Slavic Prague and Orthodox Bucharest increasingly influence the policy of the community bloc, together with the outbreak of mutual Russian Chinese mistrust regarding dominance in Siberia, may bring this plan to fruition faster than we imagine.

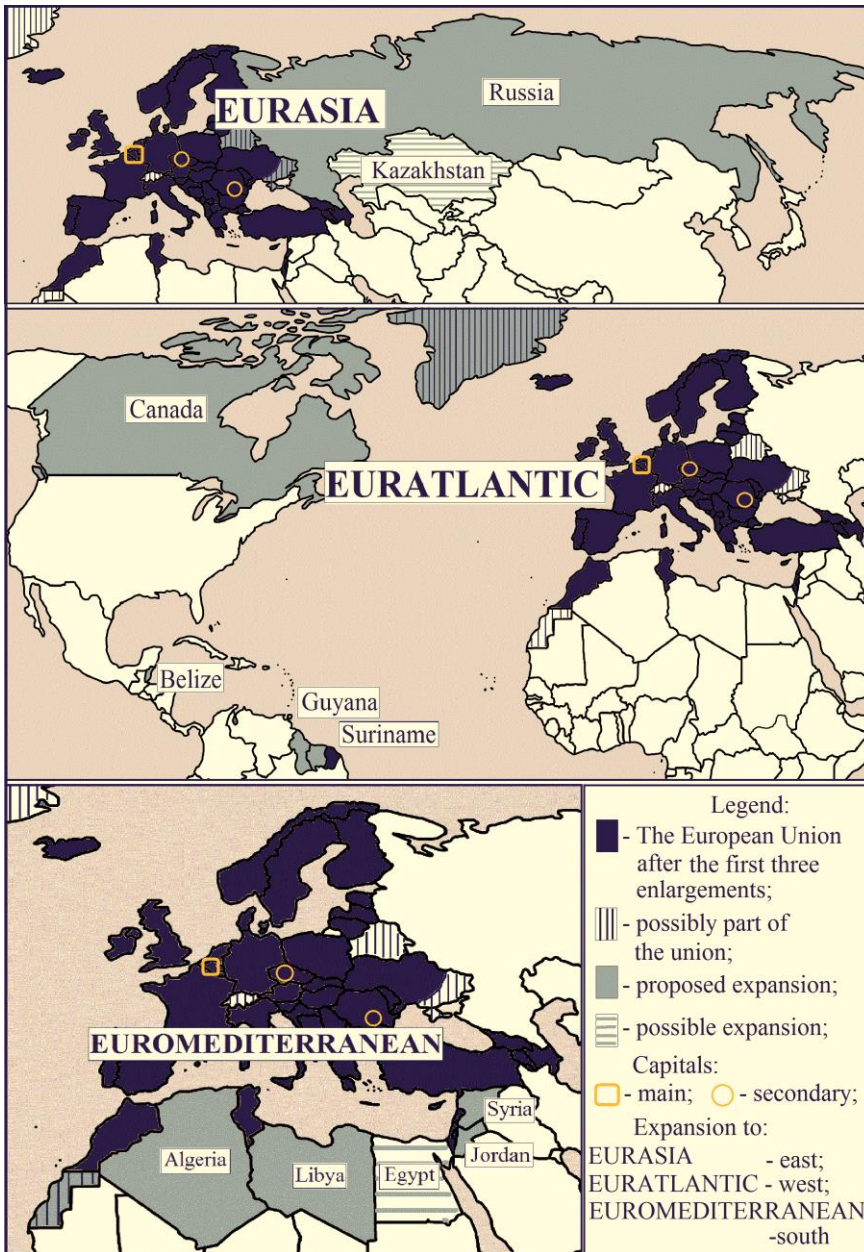


Figure 5. Extension IV
Scenario proposed by the author

A third possibility, not to be neglected, is the restoration of the Roman Mediterranean or Eur-Abia, increasingly present on the lips of French and Italian diplomats. North African states have declining population growth rates, while the sub-Saharan black population is experiencing a massive population explosion, putting pressure on the north. A recovery of the US within the Americas, or at least North America and the Caribbean, the growing influence of China and India in the Middle East and sub-Saharan Africa, as well as an increasing aggressiveness of Russia, could push the Union southward, bordering on the Desert Sahara. Algeria and Libya are very large and desert states, with many opportunities, with a natural border to the south, but sparsely populated and with the beginning of demographic decline. Also Syria, and this sparsely populated one would connect Israel and Jordan (implicitly also the Red Sea-Indian Ocean) and Turkey, and from here to all of Europe.

They seem phantasmagorical, but you can try. Egypt, with 108 million inhabitants, so stable in migration and great civilization of the world, always with a beneficial influence on European culture, but never trying to conquer the continent, gave an example of constant superiority. Currently in exceptional relations with the Islamic world, but also with: Israel, the USA, Russia, France or China, it did not cause large migrations even during the fall of the Mubarak regime in 2011, although the country was in total chaos, and the population of this state grows annually by 2.0 million inhabitants. It is a good example, of the one that really represents the "scarecrow of the states in northern Africa", which, approached differently, can behave differently, and this state with a wide outlet to the Red Sea and from here to the Indian Ocean (what will become the coastline his, the new world demographic center), this, once integrated, would bring together the great cultures since the formation of modern humanity, completing the ring of states surrounding the Mediterranean.

CONCLUSIONS

It is certain that Europe has potential, being a cultural territory of great proportions, considered "the open-air museum of the world". Its economic power equals that of the US or China, but its lack of military endowment, lack of typically American aggressiveness and hard-line approach, or increasingly Chinese-style greed, make it an attractive force for all of Europe, Africa, Atlantic Latin America, or the western half of Asia.

With a stability and enlargement plan, Europe can curb the process of decline and mistrust triggered especially after the crisis of 2008, the increasingly pronounced demographic decline after 1990 and the territorial reduction after 1950.

Although they wanted a constructive plan presentable to the entire European community, the 9 steps are transformed into a plea for the Franco-German tandem so dominant in the current European context, being those who, with some calculations on small areas, wanted primacy in a world restricted strictly to central and south-western Europe, without taking into account the current economic, military, decision-making and financial expansion of the USA, the military return and pool of vital resources - role held by Russia, the emergence of what we could call the Islamic sisters or tigers of the Middle East: Saudi Arabia, Iran, Turkey and Egypt (perhaps Pakistan) increasingly powerful economically, the African demographic explosion and the economic boom in East and perhaps South and Southeast Asia (China, South Korea, India, Vietnam, Malaysia, Indonesia).

They are increasingly stronger economically and demographically, which does not leave too much room for maneuver to the current form of Europe, Russia controlling Ukraine and easily also the economy of Serbia, Hungary, Austria and Germany, China increasingly settling in Greece or Italy, the USA breaking the west (UK) and even the center of the continent (Poland, Romania and so on) while Islamist and African states are poised to dominate the labor market and soon politics in the big cities. The problem of migration, demographic decline, external influences, the debt crisis and enlargement are solvable problems of the Union. Following the nine steps, Europe will have economic growth, demographic growth, will be expanded in the spirit of a great Eurasian power (if it will include Russia), Euratlantic (if it will include Canada), Euro-Mediterranean (if it will include the southern and eastern littoral of Mediterranean Sea), being a natural protected territory, with borders such as: the Atlantic Ocean, the Arctic Ocean, the Sahara Desert, frozen Siberia, the Caspian Sea and the Arabian Desert.

It would include a habitable surface of approximately 10 million km² (as much as the USA or China) plus unpopulated territories, represented by: northern Scandinavia, perhaps Greenland and Canada, or the Sahara or Siberia, with a population of 800 million, with access to three oceans and a mild, tolerable climate for the most part. Not a desert like America or Oceania, no extremes like hurricanes or earthquakes, but not in a space crisis similar to South, Southeast and East Asia, with a slight population increase, but not a demographic explosion similar to sub-Saharan Africa. A civilizational, cultural, gentle and multi-ethnic power, as it has been defined since its formation.

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