

**DECLARATION OF THE EUROPEAN MOVEMENT IN ITALY
IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE DHAKA (BANGLADESH) TERRORIST ATTACK**

The European Movement in Italy expresses its solidarity to the families of the victims of the terrorist attack that took place in Dhaka on the 1st of July. Furthermore, it expresses its deepest condolences to all the victims of violence and prosecution perpetrated by those who – in the name of abhorrent interpretations of a religion – seek to override the fundamental principles of a tolerant, respectful, and intercultural society.

The European Movement in Italy shares Pope Francis' call for the affirmation of secular States determined to guarantee freedom of – any – religion, freedom of conscience, cultural expression, and education of both believers and non-believers.

Representatives of any kind of institution – being them international, European, national, part of the civil society, and of the religious organisations that belong to the Islamic culture, each at their level of competence – have the duty to take prompt decisions. They need to stop prosecutions and terrorist attacks using two kinds of instruments: the tools developed by intelligence, politics, culture and education with regard to the respect of fundamental rights, starting with human dignity, and – where possible and necessary – international police actions, isolating authors and instigators.

The Western World and the whole World are shocked by the horror that violence generates. And violence is fomented by global terrorism, while borders become useless, and new information and communication technologies are used to subjugate and manipulate many consciences from Asia to the Americas, from Africa to Europe.

The list of terrorist attacks perpetrated from 9/11 in New York to the recent attack in Dhaka is shocking. However, international organisations – from the UN, that lacks the power and the means to promote an effective action, to regional organisations such as the OSCE – have done little to break this chain of blood.

It is the opinion of the European Movement in Italy that the EU should have a central role in this play. The future of Europe, of the fight against terrorism, and of international safety are deeply connected. And in this context, a democratic and federal Europe could represent an example: it could demonstrate how politics can work in the citizens' best interest, reducing the rage that, especially when experienced by the emerging ruling classes in developing countries, contributes to strengthening terrorism. It could play a positive role in the regional conflicts that today serve as a seed bed for extremism and wars.

For the Western World, and in particular for Europe, two priorities should be followed: on the one hand, civil, social and cultural integration of all religion communities should be promoted, fostering the interreligious dialogue, together with those already living in the Western World. On the other hand, international relations with Countries of origin should be strengthened. For too long, support to oppressive and illiberal regimes that have fostered the growth of Jihadist terrorism and financed it have been tolerated and encouraged.

Following what stated, the European Movement in Italy:

- Believes that the Italian Government should take the initiative to re-open the project for a reform of the UN during the time it will serve as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council and in proximity to the appointment of the new UN SG.

- Condemns the recklessness of national governments. They have not activated the minimal instruments provided by the treaties – beginning with the Police and Judicial Cooperation in criminal matters, and the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) – and they have not promptly strengthened them after the Lisbon Treaty, even when their terrible limits have become clear.
- Reaffirm its request – to the Governments that will commit to this objective – to stop the intergovernmental negotiations on the European Public Prosecutor's Office. Lacking transparency and appropriate instruments, it would take care only of the offenses affecting the Union Budget. Instead, an enhanced cooperation procedure should be instituted to create a real federal Public Prosecutor's Office, meant to fight federal crimes such as international terrorism and organised crime. The Office should cooperate with a real federal Police and with a European Intelligence Agency that should immediately share information and means, and soon bring together national intelligence agencies. The proposal for an enhanced cooperation of this kind could be promoted by Italy, France, and Germany on the basis of the position expressed by the Italian Minister Andrea Orlando at the time of the joint contribution "A strong Europe in a world of uncertainties" by the French Foreign Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault and Federal Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier.
- Believes that prevention and protection based on judicial, criminal and intelligence tools are not enough. Coordinated actions of international police should be implemented: in those actions, both the increasingly integrated CSDP instruments and the political and cultural actions implemented to eradicate fundamentalism should cover a determinant role.
- Asks the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs, Security and Defence Policy to promptly propose a binding European mechanism to control State-to-State arms trade, in the framework of the EU's strategic priorities. It also asks her to present to the European Council and the European Parliament a list of Countries that support terrorist and jihadists organizations, asking the EU Member States to implement an arm-trade moratorium towards them.
- Lastly, asks to the European Commission to reactivate the "A Soul for Europe" programme, created by Jacques Delors in 1985 to foster the dialogue between believers of all religions and non-believers – on the basis of Articles 10, 17, and 19 of the TFEU and Article 10 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union. Furthermore, it asks the European Commission to suggest to the European Parliament and the Council to institute a week, dedicated once a year to the dialogue between secular and religious cultures, naming it after Averroes, the Berber polymath born in Córdoba and dead in Marrakech.

Rome, 5th of July 2016 – European Movement in Italy, Federal Assembly