



To all national and European politicians: A desire, a request for a future of Europe and of all Europeans!

Dear ladies and gentlemen,

What does Europe mean to you? What meaning has the European Union?

It started with a few individual countries, coal and steel. But was the idea that has been growing over time not a union of peoples? Should not be war, death and misery of the past centuries banished from our continent? Haven't we fought in the past few decades for togetherness in Europe?

Through my parents I have my roots in two European countries. I could proudly say my fatherland is Greece, my mother tongue is German and I am a European. Until five years ago. Since I had, as many others, to experience that banks and their uncontrolled gambling paralyzed the economic system of Europe and States drove into bankruptcy. The banks were quickly rescued, at all costs. Countries that followed did not have much luck. First it was considered long, under what conditions a help would be at all possible. Then there were lengthy negotiations and ultimately an austerity policy was forced upon that weakened their economic power and the unemployment rate rocket upwards. Austerity against Euros. That weakened the euro and helped strong export-oriented countries to new records. National success at the expense of the less fortunate partner?!

Who needs still wage bloody wars when you can command strapped states to sell its ownership low? Who needs bullets when he has enough Euros? What a perfidious game?!

And although it became very rapidly visible that this kind of politics has its limits, it has been and will be continued. For most of the Saver-States that are always used as examples of success, it requires only small fluctuations to drive them back under the euro bailout fund. In other words, something that does not actually work is justified by something that is not true. Stability and successful management looks different to me.

It is incomprehensible how politicians who sit in a European Parliament can talk such negative about their European colleagues and demand the full surrender or to opt out of the common Union.

What spirit resides in an elected MEPs that comments contemptuously and arrogant on people from other Member States and heats in their own country a negative attitude towards them?

Can Heads of State and political leaders be so short-sighted and heartless and deny the people in the EU their help?

How can it be that the party membership outweighs solving problems? That borders on political religious wars in which the citizens of Europe are the collateral damage.

What is your imagination of a united Europe? The rich are allowed to stay, the poor have to go and the obedient be tolerated?

I had the fortune to get to know many Europeans between Helsinki and Valletta and Cork and Budapest. And although we all have occasionally at the beginning a little fear of close contact, I always met people. People who want to be perceived and respected. People who want a peaceful and trustworthy cooperation in Europe. People who trust you to do the right things for all of us. Of all these Europeans you've got a mandate precisely for this.

We all know that in the past mistakes has been and less beneficial decisions were made. We are aware that systems have to be reformed and reforms need to be carried out. But, people are suffering, not only in Greece, while you are debating behind closed doors on contracts, Euros and government debt and along the way rescue banks.

How much disregard and disrespect prevails in the minds of political leaders that fiscal objective has a higher priority than the destiny of men?

As Europeans, we have a lot to offer. We want to learn from each other. We want to exchange ourselves. We want to visit each other. We want to preserve our diversity and enjoy it every day. We want to celebrate together and cry together. We want a Europe without borders and without demarcation. We do not want problem debates and recriminations but humane solutions for our Community. We want a trustful European future for all the people who live here. We want, if you leave us as a compassionate people, instead of reducing us to a GDP.

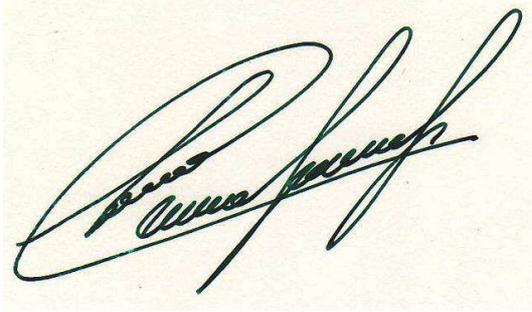
We are a large European family. You just have to give us the chance to live it. We do not always agree, and we may also argue, but we never lose respect for each other and we never hurt or insult each other.

Therefore, our desire and our request to you. If you step in future negotiations, please take the following with you and act accordingly:

**EUROPEANS ARE MORE IMPORTANT THAN EUROS!!!**

With this in mind you perhaps succeed, to find solutions, which fulfil the people and the EU objective. Give well-being and survival of people precedence over balanced state budgets. Set a mark for a common solidary future. Be an ideal, not a deterrent!

With European Greetings

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light-colored background. The signature is highly stylized and cursive, appearing to read 'Antonios Anastassatos'.

Antonios Anastassatos

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