[Titles]

A united Europe today and in the future - is the message of the Rome summit on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the European Union

Terrorist attack at Westminster in London - in this program, we analyze the impact of these acts of violence on Europeans

Also featured in this issue are the controversial statements by the President of the Euro group on the indebted countries of Southern Europe

[Titiles]

Welcome to Europe Magazine,

The Heads of State and Government of the European Union celebrated last Saturday the 60th anniversary of the Rome Treaties. The summit resulted in a declaration calling for unity among the member states, as Andreia Neves, the correspondent for Antenna 1 in Brussels, tells us:

RM – Andreia Neves:
" The Heads of State and Government signed a statement saying that Europe is stronger. Together, more together, in the areas of defense, security and social rights. For Europeans, but also for those who seek Europe as an ideal, for those who want to live in the peace that Europe celebrates 60 years ago.
The declaration of this summit leaves warnings. You have to act. It is time to show people that institutions work for them, which are not limited to forums for political discussion, that want to guarantee them a safe home, where employment is a priority, where the gender equality that Portugal wanted to include in the text Is desired.
And now that they want to do more to 27, it is discussed how fast they will do it. In the statement, it is assumed that some may go faster than others, but as long as everyone follows the same path and provided that those who arrive later are not excluded. "

At the summit, the Italian capital hosted protests in favor of and against the European project.

On the phone from Brussels is Magazine Europa's resident commentator, Victor Ângelo, an international consultant based in the Belgian capital.

RM – Victor Ângelo:
" I think the Rome summit and the declaration that was adopted at the end of the summit are positive. The 60th anniversary of the European Union has strengthened, so to speak, the idea of unity and it is remarkable that everyone has signed the declaration. And the declaration goes towards further integration, that is, the deepening of the European Union; It goes also towards different speeds, but all in the same direction, which is important - it is not just a matter of going off at different rates; It is a matter of which, in spite of everything, everyone keeps the same course. And finally, it combines the '5' scenario, which had been presented by Jean-Claude Juncker, which was to do more together, with scenario '3', in which he proposed to make more who is willing to do more. "

What European Union can we expect for the next 60 years?

RM – Victor Ângelo:
" The horizon that left Rome is a horizon, especially for the next ten years. And it is a tenet that focuses on four main areas: security, prosperity, the social field and protection of citizens in social matters, and the issue of the European Union's international performance. The four areas are well defined. We really need to show European citizens that the internal security and the external borders of the Union work. We need to continue to insist on Europe's economic growth and prosperity as an area of economic and social well-being - and this brings us also to the question of social protection. And, on the other hand, it is clear that Europe must play a more active role on the international stage. "

The elections in France are approaching. The far-right candidate has in recent days made very critical statements about the future of the European Union - said that the Union will be destroyed, promised a referendum on the departure of France from the bloc ... The need for unity that the Heads of State and Government spoke last weekend may be at risk with what to do in Paris ...

RM – Victor Ângelo:
" The truth is that if Marine Le Pen wins the presidential elections, the European Union will face a very difficult period and probably Marine Le Pen will do everything in its power to destroy unity among

European countries. The European Union could be deeply threatened with the election of Marine Le Pen. And so at this moment, in terms of concerns in Europe, preventing the National Front candidate from being elected in France is the top priority. Marine Le Pen represents not only a retrograde idea of what European nations are, but it also represents the extreme right, fascism, the return, let us say, of what Europe was between the two great wars, namely the Europe of the Europe of fascism, nationalism and struggle between the different European peoples. "

At this point, it seems to you that the chances of Marine Le Pen becoming president have increased or decreased?

RM – Victor Ângelo:
" I think it would be a mistake to think that Marine Le Pen can not win the election. At the moment, Marine Le Pen presents himself to the French electorate with a washed face. She does not want at all to be said to be a fascist, she does not want at all to be said to be of the extreme right, and to some extent she has managed to present herself as a candidate for normality. When in fact Marine Le Pen is by no means a candidate like the others. Marine Le Pen is a dangerous candidate. It is a candidate that would mean not only the end of Europe but the end of peace as we have known it for the last 70 years, and it would mean, above all, a return to extreme nationalism and a closed Europe, a Europe that would now be in Contradiction with economic liberalism and the international exchanges that characterize the wealth of Europe. "

Europe has once again been the scene of terrorist acts in recent days: precisely one year after the bombings in Brussels, an attack in London that left five dead and about 40 wounded.

A 52-year-old British man used a car on the Wesminster Bridge to try to run over people there. Then he hit the fence of the British parliament building, got out of the car and killed a policeman with a knife, before being shot down by another agent.

The self-proclaimed Islamic state claimed that the attacker, Khalid Masood, was one of his soldiers.

Londoners took to the streets the day after the bombing for a vigil in honor of the victims, and many gathered to help the family of the stabbed policeman. This is what the journalist of Antenna 1, Nuno Carvalho tells us:

RM – Nuno Carvalho:
" A row of candles lit across Westminster Bridge reminds us of the victims of the bombing this evening.
The dead and wounded were honored at the end of the day at a public session in Trafalgar Square, which brought together many hundreds of people. For the rest of the night, hundreds more have passed the square, in vigil, with candles and posters against terrorism, including many elements of the Muslim community in London.
In Birmingham, the city's main mosque, one of the most important mosques in the country, issued a statement condemning the barbarous and ruthless attack. And a Muslim organization is calling a peace vigil for tomorrow in Birmingham.
In a few hours, the British public has donated more than 380,000 euros to the family of the agent who died stabbed in the account opened by the police association."

Also last Thursday, in Antwerp, Belgium, a car came at high speed on the main pedestrian street of the city. The suspect, 39, carried several guns in the vehicle and was eventually arrested after a police chase. The alleged attempted attack did not cause any casualties.

Days before, in France, at Orly airport, a man tried to attack the military in charge of the surveillance on the spot. In the end he was shot down by the authorities.

Victor, what impact have these actions of violence had on Europeans?

RM – Victor Ângelo:
" I think we continue to have a relatively peaceful Europe. That is, despite what has happened in recent days in London and the attempt which took place in Antwerp, Belgium, the truth is that European citizens view terrorism with some serenity. One does not live in a climate of panic, on the contrary. Feeding the panic would give a victory to terrorist organizations. I also think that the response of the police authorities and the information and protection systems of the States is much more effective. At the moment, the police are working much better in relation to the prevention of terrorism and that is one of the points that people understand. And so, to a certain extent, the fear, the fear, is very punctual. There is only fear, there is only fear, when we are on top of the event, but in reality, after the

event, people return to their normal life and, in fact, this is the best answer to the question of terrorism. It is also true that an act such as the London act, which took 82 seconds to complete, was then broadcast on television and other media for 48 hours. There was a huge amplification of a terrorist incident, [an incident of] low-cost terrorism, as they now say. Now this is to favor, let us say, the appearance of new solitary wolves. "

The United States and the United Kingdom banned the use of tablets and laptops on flights from certain airlines departing from mostly Muslim countries. How do you rate this measure?

RM - Victor Ângelo:
"I think the measure taken by the United States, and imitated by the British, is excessive. There is at present no justification for people not being able to carry their computers, their tablets, or even their cameras in the booth. The control systems that exist in airports are perfect enough, they are sophisticated enough to check whether these machines, whether these devices have a problem or not. We can not succumb to this 'all-security' mentality, that is, everything must be subordinated to security measures. Because if we get the situation of these, soon you can not travel, or else you have to travel in bathing suits. "

The British Government has regretted that the British secret services can not access the Watsapp messages of the alleged terrorist. Is Europe expected to change in terms of access to private information for citizens as a way of allegedly protecting them better?

RM - Victor Ângelo:
"To a certain extent, there is enormous pressure on the part of the police and, therefore, also on the part of politicians with regard to access to private communications of citizens. And this climate which seeks to nourish and that the media has contributed to amplify, is favorable, so to say, to all kinds of interference in the private life of citizens, and in particular in their communications. I think we should avoid overkill. Any kind of exaggeration is, after all, a victory for terrorist organizations. "

Eurogroup President Jeroen Dijsselbloem is at the center of the controversy after he told a German newspaper that southern

European countries can not "spend their money on alcohol and women" and then go for help.

Portugal has already requested the removal of Dijsselbloem, as the journalist Pedro Galinha of Radio Macau tells us:

RM - Pedro Galinha:
"I can not spend all my money on alcohol and women and then I ask you for help."
These were the words that generated a wave of criticism.
Jeroen Dijsselbloem was elected President of the Eurogroup in 2013. At the time, also the finance minister of the Netherlands replaced Jean-Claude Juncker, the current President of the European Commission.
Composed of ministers from the Member States belonging to the Eurozone, the Eurogroup is an informal body that meets once a month and has as its main task to ensure the coordination of economic policies between the eurozone countries.
The President is elected for two and a half years. Its main functions are to chair the group meetings, publicize the results of the discussions and represent the Eurogroup in international fora.
Dijsselbloem's words were considered by many to be racist or xenophobic and opposed to northern Europe to the south, but the Dutch Finance Minister later claimed that it was misinterpreted.
Portugal did not hesitate to ask the dismissal of the person responsible. "

Victor, these statements pointed to a certain bad relationship between the North and the South of Europe. Are they deep tensions or not so much?

RM - Victor Ângelo:
"I think the statements of Dijsselbloem were utterly unacceptable statements. They are not just unfortunate statements; Are statements which can not in any way be accepted. And they can not be accepted because, on the one hand, they give rise to old prejudices - and we know that Europe has lived centuries of stereotypes and prejudices, and this has led to conflicts between European peoples - and, on the other hand, what Dijsselbloem said To feed the divisions in Europe, to give arms to the populists, to emphasize again the idea that we have a Europe of the rich and a Europe of beggars, a Europe of winners and a Europe of miscreants, and this is by no means the image That Europe must project, nor is this the reality. The reality is much more diverse and there are hard-

working people everywhere in Europe. And there are also extremely innovative and very advanced people in many corners of Europe.

Recently there was a MEP who made unacceptable comments about women and was eventually suspended. What should happen to Jeroen Dijsselbloem?

RM - Victor Ângelo:
"The situation is different. The Polish MEP who made the utterly silly statements about men and women is an individual with a very small power, an absolutely marginal individual in European political life; While Dijsselbloem is a man who weighs heavily on European politics. He is the President of the Eurogroup. The Eurogroup brings together all Eurozone member countries; Is the group that coordinates economic and financial policies; And the president of that group is an influential person in European politics. What will happen, and what will surely happen, is that Dijsselbloem will not continue to lead the Eurogroup. On the one hand, because his party was defeated in the elections that have just taken place in the Netherlands, but also because the European countries have to show clearly that they do not accept a Eurogroup president who makes statements that are not well thought out statements and Balanced. "

Who is better positioned to replace him?

RM - Victor Ângelo:
"The replacement of Dijsselbloem is a complicated matter in that he is at present one of the only European leaders who comes from the socialist family - so it would be necessary to find someone who came from the socialist family, at a time when the Socialists And the social democrats of the different European countries are at the bottom, at a time when, in most European countries, the socialist parties are not in power. There is talk of a candidate coming from Spain, who is the Minister of Economy, Luis de Guindos. He is a good minister of the Economy, already had competed to the presidency of the Eurogroup; Simply Luis de Guindos comes from the same family of Juncker, Donald Tusk, etc., ie, would strengthen the center-right in European politics. And right now, rather than reinforcing the weight of the center-right in European politics, it is crucial to strike some political balance and find someone who comes from the left, from the center-left. At this time, there is still no name on the table. It will all depend a little on what will happen in the elections in France and Germany. Probably, until there is a clarification of the elections in Germany, there will be no changes at the level of the Eurogroup. "

Even last week we were talking here about the need to improve the credibility of the European institutions ... Was this a blow on the way to that goal?

RM - Victor Ângelo:
"This was especially a problem for Mr Dijsselbloem. The statements made were very much associated with him. And I think that is the way to talk about it. That is, try to avoid making a relationship Between the declarations of Dijsselbloem and the credibility of the European institutions. I think that the Eurogroup remains an informal institution, but a weighty institution, an influential institution, which has worked reasonably well; Who despite the difficulties and contradictions managed to solve the problem of Ireland, managed to solve the problem of redemptions in Portugal; Gave aid to the banking system in Spain; And, on the other hand, has been monitoring the Greek crisis with some difficulties, but stemming from the fact that the Greek crisis is a very deep crisis. "

According to the most recent OECD data on alcohol consumption in the world, it is in Lithuania that most drink alcoholic beverages. This is followed by Russia, Belgium, Austria and the Czech Republic. Portugal is in 16th place.

Alcohol consumption is defined as the annual sales of pure alcohol in liters per person aged 15 years or older.

According to OECD data, less alcohol is consumed in Portugal and Spain than, for example, in France or Germany. Alcohol consumption in Italy, another southern European country, is behind countries such as the Netherlands.

See you next week!