I.

G20 will meet from Friday in Hamburg. It is a face to face between Germany and the United States in discussing issues such as climate change.

Lower House of the Czech Republic approves use of firearms by civilians. We look at this measure that defies Europe's arms control rules.

And still in this issue: Italian government says it has reached saturation point and threatens to close the doors to more migrants.

II.

Welcome to the Europe Magazine.

The 20 most industrialized nations in the world will sit at the same table in Hamburg, Germany, starting Friday.
This will be the first time Donald Trump will meet with Russian President Vladimir Putin since winning the US presidential election last year.
But the summit should be marked by the confrontation between Germany and the US-led leader in the discussion of issues such as climate change, global trade and the reception of refugees.
German Chancellor Angela Merkel has met with European countries that have a seat at the G20 to prepare the strategy for Hamburg. There has to be collaboration, she said.

Angela Merkel: Once the United States has decided to withdraw from the Paris Climate Agreement, there are clearly zones of divergence. But the United States is an important part of the G20 and we have to do everything we can to collaborate with them, not to highlight differences.

Merkel wants climate change to be one of the main focuses of the meeting. Germany is expected to have two strong allies to fight global warming, India and China. Also with the union of the European bloc. Emmanuel Macron, the French president, once again underlined the importance of combating climate change.

Emmanuel Macron: Much of Europe and its coherence are at the same time expected. On the climate, we will clearly reaffirm our strong commitment to the Paris agreements, our desire to move forward, in the hope that everyone will be aware of and can follow us.

The G20 summit runs from Friday to Saturday and promises to be a very hot date ...
This is at a time when temperatures in Europe are also above average.
With us on the telephone, from Brussels, is a commentator resident of Magazine Europe, Victor Ângelo, international consultant based in the Belgian capital.

ME: This is the first international forum after Donald Trump's announcement about the US exit from the Paris Accord. Victor, what can Europe do to ensure that the Paris commitments remain?

VA: The EU with Germany, in fact, wants to play a leading role in implementing the Paris Agreement and we will be attending both during the G20 summit and in the next 12 months during the German presidency, We will be seeing a very active Europe on climate change.

ME: And who still has doubts about the role of man in global warming? Does this position still make sense?

VA: I think at the moment no one serious, even Donald Trump, can defend and defend that position. In fact, the American position coming from Donald Trump is not that they deny the issue of climate change, but rather that the Paris Accord is a bad agreement given the economic interests of the United States. Therefore, the opposition from the American side is an opposition of the economic type but not a scientific opposition. I think from the scientific point of view it is now quite clear that the environment is being heavily influenced by the consumption, the people and the way in which certain countries have industrialized very quickly, especially on the basis of the massive use of coal.

ME: During this summit, other issues will be discussed, some of which are controversial: global trade, the reception of refugees. And what role does the G20 have at the moment in defining the major international policies?

VA: This G20 of 2017 is the G20 of divergences. We're going to watch a fractured G20. On the one hand, Europe, on the other hand the United States, with great differences, not only in relation to the climate, but for example also in relation to international trade. But also a G20 of divergences between Europe and Russia, ie we can not expect this G20 to advance much the global agenda, but nevertheless it is important that the leaders meet and that despite the differences, despite the very different way Of how they see their international interests, can discuss these issues among themselves and probably the periodic meeting of the leaders will little by little overcome some of the divergences. But at the moment we have a global situation and, in particular, at the level of the most important countries on the world scene, a global situation that is extremely divided, very fractured and likely to give the European Union greater visibility, more active performance And of course set the agenda.

III.

And in the Czech Republic, the lower house of parliament has agreed to change the constitution to legalize the possession of firearms by civilians. National security is one

of the reasons advocated by parliament. The measure, however, challenges Europe's arms control rules. More with the journalist Marta Melo

The constitutional amendment will give the Czechs the right to use firearms during terrorist attacks.
The proposal, approved by a large majority, will now be appreciated by the Senate, where it is also expected to be approved.
The amendment challenges the European rules of European arms control, which prohibit the use of certain types of semiautomatic weapons by the civilian population.
But the Prague government argues that this is an important step in the fight against the Islamic state. He says that it is important for citizens to have the means to defend themselves against a possible threat.
Milan Chovanec, the country's interior minister, said citizens should not be unarmed at a time when European security is at risk.
The European Commission agreed to restrict the rules on access to firearms in December and in April these provisions were approved by the ministers of the member states' internal administration. The Czech Republic, Luxembourg and Poland opposed the agreement.
This year, more than 800,000 firearms were registered in the Czech Republic, a country with 10.6 million inhabitants.

ME: Victor, what does this change mean?

VA: I think it's more of an affirmation coming from an Eastern country than they want to be different from the rest of Europe and that they are deeply nationalistic, that is, we are increasingly seeing a situation where we have, On the one hand, Western Europe in which there is a great harmony with respect to the basic values of human rights, democracy, governance and on the other side of the former Eastern Europe, the old Europe of the Iron Curtain which is still very marked by Questions of nationality, for reasons of ethnic purity and to some extent divides Europe.

ME: We have the example of the United States, where there is a culture of use and possession of a weapon by civilians, moreover, approved by law. But the day before, an article in The Guardian said that the number of firearms victims involving children who accidentally fire in the United States is higher than the number of victims of terrorism in the country. Does such a change make sense?

VA: There are two questions here. On the one hand, the Czech Republic is one of the safest countries in the European Union. The Czech Republic has a very low crime rate. There is, in principle, a history of terrorist attacks, namely connecting the issue of weapons possession to the question of terrorism or the question of people's defence is 1 1 ELO that has no justification. On the other hand, in European culture there is no way to face the weapons that exists in the United States. The truth is that the EU, through the Commission, since 2015 has insisted enough that the acquisition of firearms

become increasingly difficult. The Czech Republic does not accept this directive and is currently in a drift, let's say, to arm the population, which is simply a way to accentuate the importance of the security Agency and, on the other hand, to some extent, to give more authority to power in Prague, that is, allow the power in Prague to tell its citizens: look, we do not accept everything in Brussels On the contrary, we are very concerned about your safety and, therefore, we have decided to amend the law and allow each of the peaceful citizens of the Czech Republic to have their own weapon.

Me: The EU restricts the size of civilian weapons as a counterterrorism measure. What answer can the EU have with regard to this issue?

VA: I think that again the EU must be very firm and has to remember not only the directive adopted in 2015, also remember the democratic culture that exists in Europe and in particular the institutional culture with regard to the defence and security of people. The defence and security of people is made through the police institutions and they are several and in these countries, notably in the Czech Republic, they are strong institutions. You can't be the citizen, every citizen on his own, to deal with his own safety, because that, incidentally, we note in the United States, this takes sooner or later pure and simply to anarchy and deaths in many more than what would happen if people were not armed.

iv.

And in Italy, more than 10000 migrants arrived in the country last week. Rome has already made an ultimatum: threatens to terminate the ports to non-Italian boats with migrants rescued in the Mediterranean. Rome says it's reached the saturation point. He complains of lack of European solidarity.
Europe has already asked Italy for more time to discuss this ultimatum.
Dimitris Avramopoulos, European Commissioner for Migration, pointed out that Europe is ready to increase support for Italy, including financial assistance if necessary.
The UN has already called for international solidarity with Italy. The ransom and reception of migrants cannot be an only Italian problem, the organisation said.
Since 2014, they have entered Italy, by sea, more than half a million migrants. In the first semester of this year, there was a 14% increase in the same period of 2016.
According to a European Union plan drawn up in 2015 in two years, some 160,000 asylum seekers should be replaced. But the number of people already redistributed is short of 22000.

Me: Victor, are we going to talk about the Italian government's decision first? Is that understandable?

VA: to a certain extent, as far as Italy is at the moment the only EU country receiving hundreds or thousands of candidates for refuge or migration. On the other hand, Italy has not had support from other EU countries in the sense of treatment and reception of

these people, and finally there is a very important political aspect. Italy recently had-about a week or two-municipal elections. In the municipal elections, all the mayors who were in favor of the migration lost the elections. And this sends a very serious warning to the government and in particular to the party that is in the government-to the Democratic Party – that if there is not a very firm stance on the issue of emigration, they will lose the legislatives that will take place this year or in the first trimester of 2018. Losing the legislative means or the return of Berlusconi or even worse, the victory of the extremist Italian parties. And that would have a very big impact not only in Italy, but throughout Europe. So the issue of emigration is a very important issue in Italy, it is a social issue, it is a political issue, but it is also a question that threatens the relationship of Italy with the rest of the European Union.

Me: What should be done to reverse this situation?

VA: The issue of emigration is again this week the most important issue, the most urgent issue in the European agenda. The question is, on the one hand, on the control of the Niger border with Libya. Niger is a reasonably functioning country that is willing to cooperate with the European Union, but it is also a very fragile country in terms of military capacity, in terms of the capacity of security, in terms of administrative capacity. It was therefore essential to prevent these migrant candidates from continuing to use Niger as a corridor to reach Libya and then from there to reach Europe. And, on the other hand, it is crucial to continue to insist on development programmes, notably in West Africa, namely Senegal, the Gambia, Guinea, Sierra Leone, throughout West Africa, in programmes that develop these countries and create jobs. Because if we check out what demographics of the people crossing the Mediterranean, we see that most are young men of the masculine century who, pure and simply, have no job.

Me: And now before finishing and changing theme. He died last Friday, Simone Veil, an icon of the struggle for women's rights. Great figure of French politics, survived the Holocaust and advocated in 1974 1 draft law for the decriminalization of voluntary cessation of pregnancy as a minister of health. It was also the first woman to chair, between 1979 and 1982, to the European Parliament. He died at 89 years. Was it a woman in front of your time?

VA: Yes, Simone Veil was an example of what it is to be a woman with ideals and what it is to be, at the same time, a woman capable of combining political life with family life. She had two children, always maintained a very strong, very united family life, and at the same time a constant presence in the French political scene and in the European political scene. We must also take into account that Simone Veil came from a European minority, who was the Jewish minority, who managed to overcome this minority origin to always be remembered as a European citizen and not just as a French citizen of Jewish origin. She made it, on the one hand, to show that it is possible to be European when sharing and combating certain democratic values and respect for human rights and, in particular for women's rights, and has also succeeded in showing that Europe

should build on the basis of equality of men and women. And she was certainly a pioneer in this great fight that continues, which is the fight for gender equality.

V.

Victor Angelos on the phone of this Brussels. And before you finish, a cultural note.
In the weekend they went to the streets of Madrid over 2 million of people to participate in the march of gay Pride 2017.
We take advantage of the event to suggest the exhibition queer British Art from 1861 to 1967.
The exhibition can be translated as "British gay art" and presents work related to LGBT identities. It marks the 50 years of decriminalization of homosexuality in that country.

"Queer British Art" explores the way artists expressed themselves at a time when established assumptions about sexuality and gender were being questioned and to undergo transformations.
The exhibition includes painting, drawing, photography and film and addresses themes such as hidden desires, the challenge to conventions and the conflict between private and public life.
The works of artists such as John Singer Sargent, Dora Carrington, Duncan Grant and David Hockney can be seen by October 1st at the Tate Britain Museum in London.
We'll be here till next week!

[Technical Sheet]

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