I.

The Polish president vetoed the controversial reform that gave the government power to decide on justice issues. The European Union had already threatened to suspend the country's voting rights in the EU block.

Venezuelan government wants to create constituent assembly to rewrite the constitution. In this issue we analyze contradictory information on the Lisbon position regarding the application of European sanctions to Caracas.

The European Union has authorized Member States to restrict the sale of inflatable boats and outboard engines to Libya. This is yet another attempt to stop the smuggling of refugees across the Mediterranean.

II.

Welcome to the Europe Magazine,

In Poland, the president listened to the demands of the population and vetoed the reform approved by the lower house of the Warsaw parliament. A reform that allowed the executive to decide on matters of justice. More with the journalist Sofia Jesus.

Poland has once again challenged Europe. The lower house of the country's parliament approved a reform that gave the Polish Government
To decide on matters of justice.

According to a reform, the Warsaw executive would have influence in the process of selecting magistrates and in appointing presidents of the courts.

Brussels immediately threatened to activate Article 7 of the Treaty on European Union and to suspend Poland's voting rights.

Franz Timmermans, Vice-President of the European Commission expressed concern.

Franz Timmermans, Vice-President of the European Commission
Each law, if adopted, would seriously erode the Polish judicial system. Collectively, they would abolish any remaining judicial independence and place the system under full political control of the government.

Also thousands of people took to the streets of the capital and other Polish cities to protest against the approval of the lower house.

Manifestant (man):
The elections were democratic, but the government breaks the law, violates the

constitution and democracy in Poland is virtually dying.

The Polish government has underlined the importance of important measures to streamline the judicial system and fight against corruption in the country. Prime Minister Beata Szydlo even said she would not allow interference.

Beata Szydlo, Polish Prime Minister
We have the vision of change. That is why our work is fast and decisive. We will not give up the pressure. We will not allow the supporters of the foreign and Polish elite to intimidate us.

But yesterday the Polish president Andrzej Duda vetoed the reform. In a statement broadcast on television, the Head of State said that these laws would not strengthen the sense of justice in society.

On the phone from Brussels is Victor Ângelo, a resident commentator of Magazine Europe and an international consultant based in the Belgian capital.

Victor was waiting for this presidential veto?
VA: I think so, because the pressure of the street was enormous and, before the veto, the youth of Poland associated with the demonstrations which, until now, had not happened. Suddenly it became not only the most established part, say, of Polish society, but also the younger part to be against this attempt to violate the rule of law, ie pressure and messages from the street were very Strong. On the other hand, these messages were amplified by the position taken by the European Commission. Both the population of Poland, the rule of law and, above all, the European Commission are strengthened by this crisis with the Polish government.

ME: However, this is a new iron arm between Brussels and Poland.
VA: I think the Polish government will continue to try to implement the policy it has been following. They will continue to try to control Poland's justice system and will most likely find a cosmetic way to resolve the objections President Duda has raised and, in this cosmetic way, will try to show both the president and the European institutions that have done an effort to reshape legislation. But in fact I think this is an extremely reactionary government, it is a very authoritarian, very nationalistic government and will probably continue in the same line, albeit in a subtler way.

ME: And what does it mean to trigger Article 7. What is Article 7?
VA: Article 7 states that if a country is not within European democratic legality, it does not respect the separation of powers, individual freedoms, freedom of the press, independence of justice - and all this is happening at the moment In Poland in one way or another - if a country does not accept this, Article 7 provides for that country to be suspended from European political meetings at the highest level. Article 7 is a kind of political isolation from the government that is being called into question.

Mr. Victor, in relation to this subject, the rule of law should be one of the strongest brands in the European Union. What does this state of affairs represent for Europe?
VA: This represents a number of things, one of which is a growth of nationalism, that is, nationalist positions in several European countries and not only in Eastern Europe, but especially in Eastern Europe. On the other hand, in Eastern Europe, in particular, there is an authoritarian political culture that comes from the times of the communist regimes and that can not be ignored in any way. That is why we must combat all authoritarian attempts, whatever the inspiration of these theories. And, on the other hand, what we are witnessing, namely in Poland, is a very strong Catholic fundamentalism that marks, let us say, the way political life and state organization are viewed in the case of Poland.

III.

And in Venezuela, the situation in Caracas continues to be iron and fire. The Government wants to establish a constituent assembly to rewrite the Constitution. Opposition and security forces
Have made Caracas a real battlefield.
The intention also generated strong opposition from Washington and Brussels.
According to news published by the Spanish newspaper El País,
Portugal would be the only one of the 28 member states of the European Union to
Express their intention to vote against the imposition of sanctions on
Venezuela.

But the Lisbon Foreign Ministry denied the news. Portugal did not oppose, Augusto Santos Silva assured, for the simple reason that the issue was not discussed among the Member States.

Federica Mogherini, the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Policy and Security, said that there were sanctions against the Caracas regime. And President Nicolas Maduro did not like:

Nicólas Maduro, President of Venezuela.
Federica Mogherini, the chancellor of the European Union, came today to give orders to the Government of Venezuela ... Insolent! What do you think, that we are still in 1809, when we received orders from the European empires?

Maduro insists on convening the constituent assembly. He argues that this is the only way to help the country overcome the economic and political crisis.

ME: Victor, it makes sense to go ahead with sanctions against Venezuela. And what reading is it that makes the news contradictory about the position of the

Portuguese government on this matter?
VA: I think that the EU has to make a stand on Venezuela, on the one hand because relations between Europe and Latin America are important, both for Europe and Latin America, and these relations must be based on the International laws and, in particular, respect for democratic values. The adoption of sanctions against Venezuela would not be an exceptional case. The EU has approved sanctions against other states that do not follow the democratic regime, do not respect the values that correspond to human rights. It would therefore be possible and would be acceptable to some extent for some kind of intelligent sanctions, that is to say, selective sanctions aimed at certain personalities of the regime and that in no way could call into question the political situation that is already enough complicated.
With regard to the Portuguese position, it is a very difficult position, since Portugal has a large colony of Portuguese and Portuguese descendants in Venezuela and these Portuguese have been in a relatively difficult situation, since many of them lived in economic conditions Are clearly targets of attacks, whether political attacks or criminal attacks. The obligation of the Portuguese government is, above all, to protect the rights and lives of these people.

ME: In general, what is the effectiveness of economic sanctions against a state that is in crisis?
VA: If sanctions are made intelligently, or what we call smart sanctions, if they are sanctions targeting certain regime personalities, they have some impact. On the other hand, if, in addition to sanctions aimed at personalities, there are certain types of very selective economic sanctions that target strategic aspects of that country's economy, such as in the case of Venezuela, if these sanctions relate, for example, to equipment In the area of oil extraction, it is clear that this has a political impact. In fact, the latest example of a positive political impact on sanctions concerns sanctions against Iran. Iran was forced to negotiate a nuclear agreement on the grounds that the sanctions were having some impact on the conditions Of the people of Iran and, in particular, the economy of the regime, which is the economy that serves as a pillar of support for the continuation of Iran's political elite. Hence sanctions can have a positive effect, there have also been examples in the past Of sanctions with negative effects, is evident.

IV.

UNICEF argues that the new code of conduct for NGOs helping migrants across Europe "could endanger many lives, especially children."
And while discussing this new code, the European Union has authorized Member States to restrict the sale of inflatable boats and outboard engines to Libya. This is yet another attempt to stop the smuggling of refugees across the Mediterranean.
News from Pedro Galinha.

UNICEF joins a chorus of criticism that opposes the creation of a code of conduct for

NGOs that assist migrants.

The aim of this code is to regulate rescue operations in the Mediterranean, where the Italian coastguard, European border patrols and NGOs assist migrants arriving at Board of vessels.

In the light of the code proposed by Italy and other European countries, NGO boats would be prevented from entering Libyan waters for rescue work. They also could not establish telephone calls or issue emergency signals to indicate the location of migrant boats on board and in difficulties.
Meanwhile, the European Union has also authorized the Member States to restrict the sale of inflatable and motor boats to Libya. This if there are reasons to believe that these will be used by traffickers.
Since the beginning of the year Italy has reached about 80,000
Refugees and migrants. Only in the last five days of June were
11 thousand Since 2000, 2000 people have been killed. The vast majority came from sub-Saharan Africa and embarked on the coast of Libya.

ME: Victor, does a code of conduct make sense for NGOs?
I think so. I think it is important for NGOs to have a set of rules within which to act. It just all depends on what kind of rules we're talking about. If the rules are rules that allow states to enforce certain international principles, and in particular questions of sovereignty, but do not, on the other hand, question humanitarian operations, it is clear that rules can be accepted in this situation.

ME: And is this a ban on the sale of boats to Libya by the EU a sign of despair?
VA: This is a sign that at the moment the situation is out of control. The European Union has managed to form about 133 Libyan coast guards, at present there are 75 coastal guards from Libya, but the reality is that this way of doing things, that is, the formation of this type of personnel, does not respond in any way A problem that is extremely complex and goes far beyond Libya. My suggestion has always been that much more needs to be done in the South, in Niger and in the countries of West Africa, because that is where the networks of human traffickers are. Difficulties in terms of economic and social development, and in particular employment. And it is these issues that push more and more young Africans into emigration and into the extremely dangerous crossing of the Mediterranean.

V.
Victor Ângelo, resident commentator of Magazine Europe, based in the Belgian capital.

And this week we leave you movie suggestions. The list is from the BBC, which has selected five alternative films, out of mainstream.

(Starts trailer of Baby driver)

We started with Baby Driver.
Name in Portugal: High Speed

It's a film by Edgar Wright, a story that mixes music, cars and steals.

Baby is Ansel Elgort, a specialist in driving escape cars after assaults. Meet the woman of your dreams, Debora starring Lily James. It's the possible escape ... to leave behind the life of crime.

Baby Driver has a strong male cast, also features Kevin Spacey and Jamie Foxx.

(Trailer All Eyez On Me)

All Eyez On Me tells the story of American rapper, actor and poet Tupac Shakur who died in 1996 at the age of 25.

The film traces moments of the personal and artistic life of one of the most influential voices of hip hop of the twentieth century, including the time when he served time for sexual abuse.

Tupac interpreted the so-called "gangsta rap," a genre that boasts violence.

"All Eyez on Me" is a reference last album edited in life by The film is signed by Benny Boom. Demetrius Shipp Jr. is Tupac.

(It Comes At Night)

It Comes at Night is a psychological thriller that tells the story of a man who isolated his family in a remote home away from a virus that is killing humanity.

Everything begins to be called into question when they host another family that arrives at the place. Distrust, paranoia, sinister forests are ingredients of the film with Joel Edgerton, Kelvin Harrison Jr. and Christopher Abbott in the cast.
The story was written and performed by Trey Edward Shults

(The Beguiled)

And the new film by Sofia Coppola, The Beguiled .... Is happening during the American Civil War ... A boarding school for girls from the south of the country receives the visit of a wounded enemy soldier and that will fiddle with the balance in this feminine enclave.

Colin Farrel is the soldier, Nicole Kidman, Kirsten Dunst and Elle Fanning some of the names of the women's group.

The Beguiled is a remake of the movie War Ritual of 1971 that counted on the action Clint Eastwood.

The Big Sick

And the BBC's latest suggestion is a comedy. "The Big Sick," Pakistani actor Kumail Nanjiani plays himself, although not all fiction.

This is the love story between Kumail and the American Emily Gordon, played by Zoe Kazan.

The Kumail family does not approve of the relationship between the two. He wants him to choose a marriage of convenience with someone from the same culture.

The Bick Sick is from director Michael Showalter.

We stay here. See you next week.

[Datasheet]

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