I.

In Italy 5-Star Movement wins legislative elections, but majority failure. For now no coalition achieves results that allow to form government.

In Russia, Vladimir Putin says he has a ballistic missile capable of reaching anywhere in the world.

And still in this issue: Cold spell kills at least 60 people in Europe.

II.

Welcome to the Europe Magazine!

In Italy, the 5-Star Movement was the most voted party in the legislative elections. He won 32 percent of the vote and won without a majority. Together, the center-right and the far right have achieved a result above 5 Stars: 37 percent. As of the close of this issue, these were the results. The governability of Italy is again at risk, as the Antena 1 journalist Raquel Morão Lopes tells us.

[5-star movement, the most voted party, about a third of voters chose the party founded by comedian Beppe Grilo and now led by Luigi Di Maio, whose reaction to the first reactions was spread on social networks through a video.
Smiles and hugs are seen among the party leaders and shouts are heard in party moods. It was also on the part of the 5-Star Movement that the first reaction of the night arrived. "We are only going to note that it is clear that the 5-Star Movement will be the mainstay of this 18th legislature. If this data is confirmed, it will undoubtedly be a result that I do not hesitate to define as historical and extraordinary."
Bonafonte, the future Minister of Justice, spoke if the Movement came to power. After Di Battista, until now Deputy for the 5 Stars.
"Everyone will have to come and talk to us, and this is perhaps the first time that it will happen. Everyone will have to come and talk to us, and above all, this is the best guarantee of transparency for the Italian people, because the political forces will have to speak with us, using our methods of transparency, correction and credibility. "
In common, the conviction that there can be no government in Italy without the 5 Stars. However, the right-wing and right-wing parties that are affiliated to the EU have achieved a result above the 5-Star Movement alone and with a relevant fact: the Northern League, a very critical anti-immigration party in the European Union, gets more votes than " Silvio Berlusconi's center-right Italy, yet no political force, no coalition obtains a sufficient majority to form a government, that is to say, the situation of ungovernability in Italy is once again on the table.]

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

Victor, what are you going to do about this scenario?
This scenario is a very complex scenario and it will probably be very difficult to form government in the coming weeks. Italian President Sergio Mattarella will have a very difficult task, which is to try to create a coalition of parties that are very different and in an Italy that is divided in half. The northern part of Italy voted right and above all voted for the Salvini party, which is the Northern League party, and the southern part of Italy voted totally for the 5 Star Movement. Now a country divided in half is a virtually ungovernable country. The great solution would be to find a coalition between the 5-Star Movement and, on the other hand, the League, Salvini's party.

In relation to the winner Five Star Movement. What project is this?
This is mainly a protest movement, it is a movement of malaise, anti-system and traditional anti-politicians. In fact, these elections have clearly shown that traditional politicians are no longer convinced and that in reality people need other alternatives and certainly the 5-Star Movement is seen as an alternative party. But it is a party that was not made to govern, it is a party that was made to challenge the system, and it will be very difficult for this party to form a coalition with any other party, insofar as the 5-Star Movement does not have a proper has a program of protest, a program that is against the traditional way of doing politics.

However, the news has already been made that Matteo Renzi has resigned. Was it expected before the electoral defeat of the Democratic Party?
Yes, Matteo Renzi who had been two or three years ago prime minister and who was one of the great hopes of European social democracy ended his political career, at least for now, in these elections. Not only was Renzi one of the great losers of the Italian election, but he was also one more example of the fact that European social democracy at this time has extreme electoral difficulties.
Fortunately, in Germany, the Social Democratic Party has decided to join the coalition project and we will have good news, so to speak, from the German side in the sense that there will be a new government in the next few days.

The truth is that within the SPD there was this doubt. What led the German Social Democratic Party to vote yes.
Yes, for a long time, for several weeks, analysts were very undecided about what could be the result of the referendum within the German Social Democratic Party. But the truth is that the members of the German Social Democratic Party decided by about 2/3 of the vote to support the coalition government with Angela Merkel. The main reason they support this coalition government is that if they were again faced with an election, they would lose even more votes. That is, we would see a dramatic drop in the number of Social Democratic Party supporters and that is probably why the German Social Democrats supported the coalition
with Merkel.

III.

The Russian president has announced the development of nuclear arsenal capable of reaching anywhere in the world. Vladimir Putin says he has no intention of attacking anyone, as Antena 1 tells us.

[A military speech raising Russia's weaponry. Of the new cruise missile that will have no limit of reach and of unpredictable trajectory to the submarine drone that can cross intercontinental distances. In all areas, President Vladimir Putin has left technological advances and certainty that weapons will be produced in series. He also mentioned the strengthening of anti-missile systems in the face of a non-agreement with the Americans. Vladimir Putin is sure that there is new respect for the capabilities of the Russian military today, just look at military intervention in Syria. For almost two hours, much of Putin's speech to parliament has been about the issue of armament, but the Russian president says there is no intention of threatening anyone and he does not intend to attack anyone. That Russia is interested in cooperation with the United States and with Europe, even when the positions do not coincide, and that all the military arsenal you mentioned does not violate any international treaty.]

Victor, this two-week speech of the Russian elections, one of Putin's most belligerent in the Kremlin, in which he announces nuclear arsenal, how does the European Union look for this announcement?
With much concern. For many reasons. On the one hand, because this shows that we are again in an arms race. On the other hand, it shows that dialogue with Russia will continue to be very difficult, when in fact there is a lot of politicians in the European Union who would like to see the dialogue with Russia begin again. There is also a very great concern on the basis of the following: that the narrative that the Russian president continues to tell is a narrative in which the West appears as the wicked of the tape, ie the West - and in particular Europe - would seek to surround and strangle the Russia. And this type of speech is clearly not conducive to the good-neighborly relations that must exist between the European Union and Russia.

And will Russia actually have this missile that can reach anywhere on the globe?
Probably in computers and computer simulations already have. In reality there are those who doubt. I am of those who doubt, because this kind of weapons take many years to develop and need many trials. And the truth is that we have not witnessed in recent years trials of this type of weaponry. What we have seen in terms of the Russian army, for example in Syria or the last military exercises of Russia along the borders with the European Union, does not allow us to conclude that this type of armament already exists.

Victor, on the other hand we have another war, the trade war, declared by Donald Trump, that is how he defined on twitter, that he decided to apply a high rate on steel and aluminum that the European Union exports to the US. The European Union did not like it and promises sanctions. Let us listen to the statements of the European Commission spokesman, Alexander Winterstein.

Alexander Winterstein, European Union Spokesperson
We will not sit idly by while our industry is hit with unfair measures that put thousands of European jobs at risk. The European Union will react firmly and proportionately to defend our interests.

Responding to sanctions with sanctions is the solution and what can be said of this "trade war"?
Donald Trump's statement was very poorly received in Europe. European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker reacted immediately saying that Europe will also apply sanctions and even spoke of concrete products, notably Harley Davidson, American whiskey, Bourbon, and Levi's pants, that is , products that are to some extent symbolic in terms of what is imported into Europe. The message that Brussels wants to convey is: If Washington applies extra tariffs, Europe will also react in that regard. European exports to the United States of steel do not exceed 4 to 5 percent of total US imports, but it is the symbolic issue and it is the fact that when a state takes a certain type of measures in terms of impediments to imports, other states and in particular the European Union have the immediate aim of retaliating to show that such economic and commercial decisions are not acceptable.

In order to better understand the extent of this trade war, how can it affect the European Union's economy and the jobs of European citizens?
Here in Brussels it is thought that this was the first step that Donald Trump took. Next will come tariffs on cars and probably on European cars. And that is the great fear, because the car industry in Europe represents hundreds of thousands of jobs and the American market is an important market for the export of vehicles produced in Europe to the United States.

On another front we have another declaration of war, this time from Brussels and has to do with cyber security. The European Union wants to tackle the proliferation of illegal content on the internet. He gave instructions to remove this type of content, above all related to terrorism. The measure is valid for giants like Facebook or Google. What risks of cybersecurity does the European Union face in this globalized world? We even have the recent attack on the Ministry of Interior in Germany.
We have two types of situations here. On the one hand, the use of platforms such as Google or Facebook to propagate extremist ideas and especially the promotion of terrorism. It was the kind of problems that the European Union tried to address this week, that is, to make it possible for different social platforms to control and prevent extremist propaganda, terrorist propaganda or racism or false information or the promotion of hatred. But beyond that, there is another question that is the issue of espionage. And that's what happened last week in Germany. A hostile nation attempted to enter the computer systems of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of the Interior and sought to extract as much information as possible, including information on German policy, as well as information on NATO and European Union positions.

These are not individuals, they are not young, hackers, this is very well-structured, well-funded organizations that can only be in the hands of, say, extremely powerful countries. And at the moment, the countries that are the most attacking and most trying to do espionage in the European Union are, on the one hand, Russia, certainly to a great extent also North Korea and also, there is growing concern about Chinese espionage.

But still in relation to the question of content, this raises another important question, which has to do with freedoms, with freedom of expression. How can you combat this situation without, at the same time, being censoring?

It is very difficult, because often it is not very easy to make the difference between what is propaganda, for example, racist, and what is just the citizen's comment. But the truth is that many extremist movements have taken advantage of social platforms to promote their ideas and also to launch false information.

IV.

In Europe at least 60 people died due to the cold spell originating in Siberia. The majority of the victims lived in Poland. More with the journalist Lina Ferreira.

The cold spell caused by frozen air masses originating in Siberia and Scandinavia has already caused at least 60 deaths in Europe. In Poland alone, 23 people lost their lives, most of them homeless. Here temperatures dropped to minus 15 degrees.

The "Beast of the East", as it was baptized this wave of cold, has wreaked havoc a bit throughout the European continent. Roads were blocked, airports canceled flights, schools closed their doors and some regions ran out of electricity. In the United Kingdom, the army was called in to assist the relief teams.

According to AFP, seven people died in Slovakia, six in the Czech Republic, five in Lithuania and five in France. There were also loss of lives in Romania, Spain, Italy, Serbia, the Netherlands, Norway, Slovenia, the United Kingdom and Sweden.

There are 60 dead in Europe last week. Most are homeless. What is needed to stop this situation?

The issue of the homeless was a much debated issue, notably here in Brussels, because

several local governments in Belgium decided to compel the homeless to collect shelter. And some of the homeless thought it was a violation of their rights and freedoms. But the truth is that there are many homeless people and it is also true that this prolonged cold, in bad weather, has an impact on the health of people and especially on those who are on the street without any kind of protection.

And it is also true that at this moment the cold in Europe no longer does what it did in the past. I remember reading in history that in the time of Louis XIV, for example, in January 1709, there was a similarly cold spell with the same kind of temperatures, the ones we had last week. At that time, in the temple of Louis XIV, because of this cold spell, 600,000 French people died. In other words, this clearly shows that the situation has changed completely, but it also shows clearly that there are still people living in extremely difficult conditions, cold is not only an issue in relation to the homeless, it is also an issue in relation, for example, to people who have very little economic means, particularly for the elderly, who live on very small and often people do not have the economic means to warm up and end up being in an extremely difficult situation that endangers their survival.

V.

And before we finish we leave our cultural suggestion for this week.

"Encontros" is the name of the exhibition that brings together about 50 works of the Nobel Prize in Literature Günter Grass.

The literary work of the German will be mixed with painting and sculpture.

It is an exhibition to see in the House-Museum Guerra Junqueiro, in Porto, until September 23. We'll be back next Tuesday. Until then.

[Datasheet]

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