

Project Group (Number and Name): Gruppe 11 / Name: Kreativer Gruppenname 11

Comment

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Comment:

European Sovereignty, just a dream or actually achievable? And what does it look like at the moment?

Human rights, democracy, rule of law and freedom, those are the core values the European Union wants to portray, however, not all of the member states always follow those, nor do all of the partners the EU is working with.

Currently, there are many problems the EU is facing and without a doubt, following these values is one of the biggest. When looking at Hungary, for instance, we can see how even member states can break the values, the law and the European treaty and still be a part of the EU. This also leads to the EU seeming divided and not strong within itself for the rest of the world.

It might as well sometimes feel as if Europe saw itself as some kind of superior compared to the rest of the world. Especially when looking at the current situation in Ukraine and the way Europe treats refugees from Ukraine it becomes clear that they are being treated differently than refugees from other, "non-white" regions of the world.

As a result of that it makes it in a way unreasonable for the EU to ask other countries to follow these values and makes the Union seem hypocritical in general.

But imagine the EU acting as a sovereign state, completely stable as an institution, would it actually do good for the world? Or might it lead to some form of imperialism of western values, talking and acting from a superior perspective, especially considering the rising patriotic tendencies in European countries.

A sovereign Europe needs its own, self-sufficient and renewable, sustainable energy market functioning without oil, gas from authoritarian countries, hence not continuing Europe's current hypocritical behaviour. There have to be proper treaties for global trade, especially when it comes to working with the Global South as an equal partner, not only on paper. The EU has to recognise the structural disadvantages centuries of colonialism have left behind. At this point, the core values of the EU can be taken into account again as well. A sovereign Europe should not tie their values up to other countries, but live them in such a manner that other countries are inspired and by themselves want to follow its example. Herefore, sanctions against countries not respecting human rights for example need to be enforced and cooperation with countries that do follow them needs to be enhanced.

In addition to that, Europe's military actions need to be clarified and rectified. Any intervention can only be possible with a UN-security council mandate and must follow very specific rules not to hurt civilians or other uninvolved parties.

So, do we have a sovereign and sustainable European Union at the moment? No. But is it possible in the future? When taking the right decisions and taking into account not only the eurocentric, but also the perspective of especially the Global South, while promoting European values and not committing an imperialism of values, then definitely, yes. The

European Union needs to find a way to strengthen itself from within, not by enriching oneself at the expense of other non-industrial countries.

Video Information

Title of the Video: 11_ *EUBackOnTrack.mp4*

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Music: *Eigen erstellte Musik mit Garage Band*

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