

ECSA WORLD- NEWS

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Editor
Enrique Banús
Writing and Design
Carla Rabell

ECSA World
Legal Address:
c/o Ryckvelde vzw, beweging voor
Europees burgerschap
Sint-Baafskerkstraat 7/0001
BE-82005
Sint-Andries, Brugge.

Tel: +32(0)50352720
Fax: +32(0)50371101

www.ecsaworld.eu
ecsaworld@gmail.com

Dear presidents, dear colleagues, dear friends:

Two personalities with high relevance in the field of European Studies are in the core of this issue: Professor Malcolm Anderson, our first President when ECSA (without any addition in the name) was established and he was appointed. He was at that time President of UACES, the ECSA in Great Britain. We met him in February in Paris, in a "café Parisien" close to the Tour Eiffel and Les Invalides, both severely guarded by the military forces like so many other places in the French capital. Antonio Papisca, our second interlocutor, was waiting for us in his office at the University Padua, a university established in 1222; his motto also today is "Universa Universis Patavina Libertas". Two European cities as frame for two talks on the history of ECSA two protagonists from the beginnings.

Best wishes,
Enrique Banús

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THE ORIGINS AND HISTORY OF ECSA

Antonio Papisca

(ECSA World President between 2002-2004)

"We tried to foster, to facilitate the university cooperation among the professors, to focus on European integration, the role of Europe in international relations"

The different talks during the last months related to the history of ECSA, about which we are publishing in the news- letters, are bringing to the fore a mosaic of information, with some common approaches in relevant points but also



Antonio Papisca, Professor of International Protection of Human Rights and International Human Rights Organizations and Peace in the Faculty of Political Sciences, University of Padua (Italy) and Enrique Banús, president of ECSA World

with specific accents and perspectives. In that sense, the conversation with Antonio Papisca, adds new insights to the first time of ECSA but also to previous efforts for involving the University in the European integration process. Antonio Papisca expected us a cold and rainy day at his office in Padua; Marco Mascia, his successor as Chair of the Department of the University Human Rights Centre and the current President of the Italian ECSA, was taking place at his computer and helped looking for a document Antonio was mentioning, adding concrete information (a date, a name), bringing to the fore an aspect of the history.

At the beginning of the talk, Antonio Papisca, who was ECSA World President during one mandate (2002-2004) wanted to underline that ECSA World was in fact a very relevant initiative by the Commission -mainly by Emile Noël and Jacqueline Lastenouse, with the decisive support by President Jacques Delors, as we knew from previous interviews-, but that there were some other initiatives coming from the universities themselves, also elder than the establishment of ECSA World.

In that sense, some lecturers and professor at different European universities have been aware of the European relevance of their mission. In that sense, Professor Papisca presented a more detailed panorama of three Italian initiatives in which he was immediately and decisively involved.

On that way, Former ECSA World president proposes to take into account some initiatives which prepared the establishment of ECSA.

First of all, he mentioned the MIUE, which is the acronym of the Movimento per l'Integrazione Universitaria Europea, which at the beginning of the 70's in a certain sense advanced the experience of the Bologna process. "We thought at the time - indicated Papisca- that universities should integrate among themselves, keeping different identities". He brought to the fore as one of the initiators Luigi Lombardi Vallauri (Roma, 1936), "a great philosopher of Law", professor in Florence, now emeritus. But Antonio also mentioned the famous professor Antonio Truyol y Serra (1913-2003), an international lawyer at the Complutense University in Madrid. So, the cross-border character of this initiative becomes visible. About Truyol y Serra, Antonio commented "he went two times to Italy by train because he didn't like plane".

The other experience was, according to Antonio Papisca's explanation, the SEPERI (Société européenne pour l'étude des relations internationales). "It was an attempt, a tentative, to establish a European university association, to study international relations from the European perspective". It was created by Marcel Merle (1923-2003) in France; professor Merle, coming from the field of Public Law, taught Political Sciences first in Bordeaux and then at the Sorbonne University in Paris. But Papisca underlines the role of the Louvain-La-Neuve University with professor Jean Buschman, a prominent member of the Union of Federalists.

Antonio Papisca recognises that he himself "personally played some concrete role also in SEPERI, and in the MIEU". And he described the intention of the professors involved in those initiatives as follows: "We tried to foster, to facilitate the universi-



ty cooperation among the professors, to focus on European integration, the role of Europe in international relations and so on”.

Finally, Antonio mentioned an Italian initiative for which he was immediately responsible: “the establishment in Reggio Calabria in 1971 of the Istituto Superiore Europeo di Studi Politici. I started this European Institute on Europe, with the cooperation of the European Commission. The European Commission generally played a major role the underdeveloped region in Reggio Calabria. And another major role was played by the archbishop of Reggio Calabria, Monsignor Giovanni Ferro (1901-1992). He was my tutor, let me say. So, we organised in the Reggio Calabria in the beginning of the '70s many meetings focusing on European integration, with also foreign participation”. There also Jacques-René Rabier played a major role.

At the end of the talk, we left Antonio’s office with some documents and a lot of new information, and shortly after the interview an envelope with more documents arrived.

Malcolm Anderson

(President of ECSA between 1987 and 1996, the first and longest mandate in the history of the association)

Malcolm Anderson is Emeritus Professor of Politics at the University of Edinburgh. He was Professor of Politics at Edinburgh from 1979-1998. Being the President of UACES he was appointed as the first President of ECSA, that in the beginnings was known as ECSA Eu-

rope and then became ECSA World. He is a well-known expert, among other topics, in French politics, and therefore, it is not surprising that -together with his wife- he spends every year some of the winter months in Paris. We maintained some contact via e-mail and he agreed to have a talk in the French capital. Not knowing personally each other, he proposed to meet in the terrace of a brasserie at the corner of avenue La Motte Picquet and avenue Suffren. He would seat in the terrace and read the Financial Times. With these indications there is no problem for establishing the contact. With a cup of coffee -and a breakfast for Carla, who just arrived from Barcelona and is taking care about the registration and the notes- we start talking about this first Presidency.

But before anything else, he asked if he should talk about “the official history” or about “the real history” of his professional life (it has to be said that Professor Anderson is a character using a certain irony, which he also applies to himself).

At the beginning of the eighties, Anderson started being head of Department in the University of Edinburgh, because his predecessor (a constitutional lawyer who was in favour of British entry in the European Union) died. The unit Anderson took over was very close to the Commission and to all the Secretary and Director-Generals there, “they would accept an invitation to come to Edinburgh – without question”. From this moment, Malcolm became close to Émile Noël, the “absolutely key” to expand the competence of the Commission into as many areas as possible. He was “a European catalyst”. The reason for Malcolm to be invol-



ved into the Commission was clearly him, along with Jacqueline Lastenouse. So, around 1985 there was, thanks to Single European Act and the Schengen Agreement, the end of one of the periods of Euro-stagnation. Émile Noël saw it was a good time to make an initiative. The university elites were aware in detail of what was going on, and that this was happening thanks to the Directorate-General of Information. There, Jacqueline Lastenouse had been active in this field, of liaising with higher education already for many years. A first preliminary to further initiatives in the field of European studies, more precisely in the field of European Community studies, was to get the specialists together, that is, to bring together the national associations. Therefore, Malcolm was involved really in the planning of the setting up of ECSA.

And how he became president? Malcolm confessed that he was just imposed to be president of ECSA (ECSA Europe) because the commissioners wanted him. He was the "obvious candidate"; at that time he was also involved in UACES and just because ECSA Europe was formed by the presidents of the national associations, so it was a confederation of the national associations, and he was appointed as President. For Malcolm these years were definitely influenced by Jacqueline Lastenouse and Émile Noël.

Prof. Banús asked Malcolm how he would describe their roles and personalities. He was so clear in marking the difference. "Noël was not very outgoing. He was an absolutely brilliant drafter of texts. He could transform a document very quickly, an incoherent one into one which made sense and had a clear point and people could understand it". And therefore in any initiative, like the Jean Monnet initiative, "Émile's drafting skills were very, very important indeed". But also his political standing. He became a member of the European Coal and Steel Commission, and then a founding member of the bureaucracy of the European Economic Community. And therefore "he knew everybody, he had good relations with virtually everybody and he was really an intelligent man, he was very bright". For Malcolm, he was really "the person who oiled the wheels and who kept things as calm as possible".

On the other side, Malcolm's image of Jacqueline Lastenouse is about someone very active, who has what the Americans would call a "can-do" mentality – let's get on with it". And let's get on with it quickly. In other words, Anderson added, she got around internationally a

lot, and not only in Europe, but outside of Europe, and made contacts with people and attracted interest and loyalty. So, she was very effective and continued to be so. Anderson said that of course she belonged to the first generation of Commission officials who were very committed to what they were doing, which "you would never think of in the way that many of us normally would". For Malcolm, unfortunately, the nowadays situation of the Commission is very pessimistic because "people of the early days are always looking for how to overcome problems, how to build on what they'd got, on what they had already achieved, and create a federal Europe". And of course this tended to become eroded, it was already eroded in the 1990s, and now that mentality is literally gone.

Anderson confessed that he also became president of UACES although he has never been a specialist in the study of the European Community's institutions. Actually, as we said, his expertise was focused in French politics and not in EEC issues at all. And then he became involved in other things, particularly the study of frontier regions and then police corporations. And it was only really in the late 80s that he engaged in a search which was directly relevant to the European Community and that was a project on the European police cooperation, which was completed in 1993. So he became president of UACES because people came to find him, and said, "would you be president?" because they couldn't find anybody else – "which is typical of academic life" – Anderson added smiling. And there were two situations that speed up the creation of this association he presided. On the one hand, the propensity from British universities – as distinct from other European universities – to drive initiatives related to European studies fields, and "think in terms of how do we organize ourselves to do this without intervention from higher authority". On the other hand, it also influenced the troubled relationship there was between Britain and Europe. So, for Malcolm Anderson, those were the two main reasons that made that people who had for one reason or another "European or extra-British interests" want to participate in UACES.

"In my own case, my own professor at that time, who was rather anti-European – in the sense that he didn't like foreigners across the channel – he saw that something interesting was happening across the channel, in the sense of particularly France and Germany came together, and wanted this looked at and I was the only person around to do this".