

## 11.11.2016 Trump President A rather ill-inspired democracy!

Make America great again! From the 'Greatness of France' to 'Greater Hungary', and from 'Eternal Spain' to a United Kingdom that is now prouder than ever of its colonial past, the underlying motives that have inspired the peoples in the western democracies over the last decade are starting to cause considerable concern.

The surprising result of the American presidential election is indeed consistent with a succession of election results since 2005, which, in addition to the French referendum that has said no to the European Constitution Treaty, are proof of a rising ideology based upon conservatism and a hankering for a 'glorious' past, colonial for some, economic for others, and even military. These successive elections well and truly convey the message that there is a wish to return to a position of dominance, to once again be in control of the driving forces of the global economy, and to reap their rewards to ensure an amply privileged standard of living.

The western democracies, Europe and North America, effectively account for 12% of the global population enjoying 50% of the GDP of the entire planet. We might as well refer to them as the privileged of this world! This imbalance, which stems from the industrial revolution and the transfer of wealth acquired across the colonial empires over more than one century, has started to even out as a result of a surge in the development of the 'emerging powers', i.e. Japan and South Korea two generations ago, China, India, in the East, Russia and Eastern Europe, Brazil and Mexico and South America for the current generation.

This economic globalisation is making the fortunes of the most privileged social class within the western democracies, the City traders and the giants of the internet, the luxury industry and oil magnates. Their incomes grow exponentially as the world grows, and their wealth is on display for all to see, and fuels networks of corruption, tax fraud, embezzlement, to the distaste of all honest people. At the same time, entire sections of the population suffer a drop in status and are even ruined when their jobs are transferred to China or Mexico, whose cities are suffocated by a few densely populated conurbations, and whose countryside has become devoid of any human life, either to make way for giant ultra-mechanised operations, or to make room for speculative tourism, or even simply to give way to the desert and to abandonment.

Migrations are a sign of these growing imbalances, especially given that people are migrating in greater masses than ever before due to the wars that are throwing the Middle East into a state of unrest. The local populations experience this immigration as a direct threat to their well-being - or at least to what is left of it - either due to competition on the labour market, or competition for the manna of social security benefits, which an economy in crisis is finding increasingly hard to fund.

The Trump vote is the vote of unease, and this unease has now gained the upper hand in numerous western countries. Perhaps this will also be the case in France next May, because the dice have been cast. Anyone certain of their prediction would indeed be a clever person. This uncertainty is already a victory for those, who, barely six months ago, no-one even thought would do better than just achieve a 'good score.' They can now go on to win, and the Austrian election on 4 December will be the next in a series of elections that could turn into a nightmare for the supporters of conventional democracy.

After the sham primary elections and biased content that overexpose candidates with manifestos devoid of any new proposals, the election itself will lead to new frustrations. How to rekindle hope in the democratic model? Finding the right answers is becoming a matter of urgency!