

EUROPEAN MULTICULTURALISM AT THE CROSSROAD: THE MULTICULTURALISM FAILED, OR THE STATE FAILED?

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***Abstract:** Multiculturalism is in fact today globalized world, but loses its original meaning of word. This cultural separatism can be hazardous to its explosiveness latent and unresolved problems of different cultures concentrated in large units becomes a sources of ideological, social and even the every day conflicts. It is politician responsibility to fix it if multiculturalism is not exactly by their imagination. Recent words that multiculturalism failed should be explain.*

***Keywords:** Multiculturalism, Ethnicity, Nationality, Migration, Xenophobia, Racism, Terrorism, Education and Social Programmes*

1. Introduction

Multiculturalism has changed its original meaning, both formally and substantively as well. The conceptual significance disappeared in current contact with ordinary people shortly in a few years. Multiculturalism is a word that is relatively often used but every user has watched this phenomenon pushed aside slightly from the real meaning. Moreover multiculturalism is in a close relationship to terrorism in the divers parts of the world in the last ten or twenty years. And both terms also have a close relationship to human rights which should be primarily taken care of a good policy and of the social policy in particular in each country in the modern civilized world. By the way it is quite important to know the global terrorism is known roughly ten or twenty years.

And it's not just a matter of our country which does not know exactly what to do if multicultural tendencies are too different from our expectancy because of lack of experience. It is a bigger problem in democracies of present Europe and the world known as the West. The last news from our nearest west neighbour forms the meaning of terms above in completely different light. Mrs. Angela Merkel has said recently the multiculturalism failed. Really? Has it been multiculturalism which has failed?

2. Formulation of the problem

2.1 A short history and origins of multiculturalism

The historically first concept of multiculturalism, according to some sources in Switzerland was the late fifties of the last century. The society in this country is created by the population of three major national-cultural-geographical units of the neighbours: the German speaking element has been given from the north and east from Germany and Austria, Italian influence has gone from south and from the west has

come French constituent. The Swiss confederation is known for its peculiarities, not only for its stable and transparent foreign policy, but also for its sophisticated domestic policy, where for instance such administrative officers must be trained for their work and their duty to be good in and speak fluently all three languages which are official languages in anywhere in the Swiss Confederation plus English language as contact language for foreigners. Furthermore good knowledge of languages means also good knowledge of geographical facts and other information about other nations. The level of democracy and governance reflects the attitude of multicultural coexistence.

According to other sources of the concept of multiculturalism was in the early sixties of the last century in Canada, where the original Indian population, descendants of settlers and new immigrants had to find a common way of coexistence. And development in this field and political organization in Canada would improve the French-speaking province of Quebec in otherwise English-speaking Canada.

Later, another source says the emergence of multiculturalism in the same period in the Anglophone countries, generally in relation to the cultural needs of non-European migrants. At that time culminated in the migration from non-European destinations within Europe. Multiculturalism is a phenomenon which exists as humanity itself. Just the term itself is tied up in the middle of last century when there was a partial remedy the damage and injustice to the original inhabitants of former colonies held by the world powers - especially Britain. It should be pointed out that multiculturalism was originally developed for genocide and terrorize the indigenous population in the former colonies and Great Britain as their share of the slavery apology until after 2000.

2.2 Historical background of contemporary consequences of multiculturalism

History of Europe is full of quite complicated turns in connection with multiculturalism. Every decade in 20th century has had some significant historical event which changed conditions for migration or even for mere travelling. Second half of 20th century is very significant for a forming present situation in our country and Europe at all. Both of World Wars started in Europe and changed every single condition for coexistence of nations and individuals almost everywhere in the world.

After World War 2, during the Cold War, the mere idea of possibility of free travelling or any free migration from (and back) our socialist country and the East Block as well, was associated with substantial repressions usually through criminal law and was often punished by imprisonment in all of East European countries.

Travellers and labour force can migrate over all Europe much more, simpler and safer than anytime before in the contemporary globalizing world. The free person movement has been the desirable phenomenon, and even codified as a right for citizens of Member States of the European Union. It should be also stressed it is mainly economic decision that makes the right of the EU citizens. However, it is very important social act and versatile opportunity that had been refused to East European people from purely political interests for many decades in the half part of 20th century.

Multiculturalism should be an example of smooth coexistence of different cultures on a small territory than is usual for the culture and environment that is significantly

different from the original. But it gives all of the basic conditions for life without conflicts.

Unfortunately, the opposite is often true. This is evidenced by almost daily reports from Europe, neighbouring countries around, and also from our country: xenophobia and ethnic intolerance of varying degrees is rising virtually in all European countries, including those that are historically the most tolerant and strifeless of them (e. g. Scandinavian countries).

Even though the European Union and all of Members of the EU individually give a lot of money on the fight against antisocial phenomena, the record is not adequate to the amounts spent on improvements of multicultural environment. However, the question remains what amounts of money are adequate.

Reports of large urban centres in Western Europe indicate that there is not being the day avoided more or less discrepancies between the different ethnic groups. There are problems in Germany with its almost traditional extremist waves paradoxically mainly from the east part of Germany, originally part of the Soviet zone, later from the socialist block. There are complications not only attacks against Turkish diaspora in the west part of Germany but they have had problems with Germans from East part, called derisively *ossies*, by West Germans. And Germany is not too different country from others in Europe. It can be there are different conditions, different historical line, and different ethnics but the same democracy and almost the same historical experience as any other country in west Europe. So what is so exiting with failing multiculturalism in Germany?

There is not too different situation in France. There have been huge problems with the Arab ethnic group from the North Africa mainly in the suburbs of Paris. The problems are more significant because of lack of willingness to cooperate with the state authorities that would like to help those people to better integration of ethnicity in the society. Especially, the Algerian Arabs in Parisian suburbs are well known rather than their unwillingness to cooperation by their truculent disapproval of integration in the official society. It looks like a *cul-de-sac* but it is very big problem for the official power to look for both sided mutual acceptable pointing departure for another way to integration of minorities.

The multicultural society in Great Britain especially in London can refer to specific situations. Great Britain has wide-ranging and the most colourful multicultural society which is concentrated in London or similarly in several of the biggest cities in the UK as Birmingham etc. There they have been problems among different ethnic groups. For instance it is not so long there were scuffles between east European migrants and unemployed youngsters in Dublin. However, Great Britain is from European countries with biggest ethnic problems comparatively quite calm multicultural society thanks to very good inner policy including peaceful multicultural coexistence. But it does not mean the British multiculturalism is without latent problems. There is bigger multicultural problem in Great Britain every five or ten years. The biggest proof of is very well known tragic terrorist attack often referred to as 7/7 in 2005 - it was five years this year. This attack was committed in London's public transport by four young Muslims from Birmingham. The four bombers were motivated by Usama bin Laden and anger of Britain's involvement in Iraq War.

There are many different problems in other countries in Europe. It is quite logic the south of Europe is flooding by immigrants, especially from non-Christian countries. Over the last few decades Italy has been transformed from a nation of emigrants to a target for mass immigration. Italy has problems with new migrant wave from Albania. There has been growing a level of very high criminality committed by Albanians especially in the north of Italy (e. g. Milano). But Italy has more different nationalities in its list of immigrants and it is natural peoples from North Africa, esp. Morrocans. But even from far off destinations as China etc as well. And everyone has to live with anyone else together in peace.

It is well known fact the European Union pays very good money to Moroccan politicians to eschew flooding south Europe by Moroccans especially to protect to Spain which is just 14 kilometres over the Mediterranean Sea to the nearest Moroccan beach in Africa.

But north of Europe is not hidden from multicultural problems with migrants. For instance Sweden has been known as calm country with peaceful inhabitants. But the extensive immigration from foreign countries outside Christendom promoted by the Swedish government outrun current tolerance of Swedish citizens to foreigners. The last news gives us a testimony that the broad Swedish tolerance and patience with unsuccessful integration is gone. The last news from Sweden is much more dramatic. We can clearly see on this example that the difficulties with multiculturalism are from Swedish government action: It is the same economical and political mistake that made German government in connection to Turkish workers in Germany in the sixties.

East Europe is not without problems with immigrations, multiculturalism and coexistence different nationalities in selected countries. To the east from the Czech Republic there are problems between Slovakia and Hungary because of the problem of Slovak Hungarians (Hungarian and Slovak) on the south of Slovakia. Moreover, a particularly significant media interest and staffed by Hungary to their uncontrolled growth Romaphobia and fascism.

Problems among majorities and minorities (or between minorities reciprocally) are very often not being notified because the parties simply do not report it - either they think it is not worth to report various verbal and minor physical attacks etc., or they are not offenses against cohabitation, and these are passed on orally within ethnicity to create the position of one others. Addresses up to the big unmanageable or overlooked issues, which will mostly be of interest to the media. Problems here arise on all sides by different cultures. For example in Great Britain which is largest multicultural country there are minor conflicts between Africans and Asians including Indians and Chinese but also between different ethnic groups of blacks themselves etc. Also East European minorities in Great Britain have problem with coexistence to each other such as the Poles and Lithuanians in London where are these minorities form the largest ethnic group from Eastern Europe.

But it is only Great Britain which has very good inner policy to migrants from different parts of the world and decade year long experience and relatively strict rules to avoid any problems which very above said in this text. It is also very important good solid economy which can help in any problems in social field on the local level or countrywide for peaceful coexistence.

Another issue is willingness of migrants to adapt themselves in the new conditions and accept the rules major community. But this process has to be not made ad hoc but responsibly prepared forward to eliminate any problems ort complications to minimum by every government on every level from central to local.

The following matrix clearly shows examples of possible attitudes of different well-known minorities/nationalities called diasporas in different countries in the contemporary world at the occasion to be integrated.

	<i>WILLING TO BE INTEGRATED</i>	<i>UNWILLING TO BE INTEGRATED</i>
<i>ACCEPTABLE TO MAINSTREAM</i>	<i>Chinese in Thailand</i> <i>Russians in Israel</i> <i>Mexicans in US</i> <i>Ukrainian in Canada</i>	<i>Amish in US</i>
<i>UNACCEPTABLE TO MAINSTREAM</i>	<i>Africans in Brazil</i> <i>Palestinian in Kuwait</i>	<i>North Africans in France</i> <i>Zionist in Palestine</i> <i>Chinese in Malaysia</i>

Source: Esmán, M. J. *Diasporas in the Contemporary World*. (p. 172)

2.3 The short history in context of multiculturalism in the Czech Republic

Although it seems from today's perspective, the Czech Republic has a relatively diverse and multicultural history and its geographic location is destined to multiculturalism: in the history our country met peoples from all corners of Europe, although mainly on the battlefield. Studies of the origin of citizens in different localities of the Czech Republic by DNA yielded conclusive evidence that any army left an indelible mark.

In modern times Habsburg government was a monarchy which in many ways resembled today's European alliance. Arising from Czechoslovakia the background was given the Czech Republic historically and not so bad how it can be seen now without emotions. The possibility of existence our nation in the multicultural society where was normal that everyone can meet other nationalities. Many experienced journeymen went on to look for work experience in anywhere in Habsbourg Monarchy to learn basic of languages. Also many monarchist officials worked throughout the monarchy – they had to know just the official language which was German. The

German influence was constantly in our country throughout history until the end of the World War II.

Czechoslovakia was established as independent Czechoslovakia with the major nations of the Czechs, Slovaks and West Ukrainians (Carpatho-Ruthenia) after World War I. At the end of the World War II, the Soviet Union occupied Carpatho-Ukraine and Czechoslovakia remained the main Czech and Slovak peoples. And there were lost two big nationalities in Czechoslovakia at the times up to the end of World War II: Germans and Czech citizens with German descent – they were the most significant ethnic minority and they were forcibly displaced from Czechoslovakia, and the Carpathian-Ukraine nation that was annexed by the USSR after World War II. There were almost erased another two minorities from Czechoslovakia – Jewish diaspora and Romany nation. The Romany and Jewish minorities both decimated the systematic persecution and slaughter in World War II lost too many of their members.

Therefore, in the period between the end of the World War II and the end of the Cold War, the society in Czechoslovakia, later in the Czech Republic was unusually ethnically homogeneous, and by the historian development was so artificially created and has become an unprecedented phenomenon is also undesirable, because the ethnic purity of the Czech Republic has alienated people from other nations, no wonder Czech citizens do not tolerate and respect ethnic differences so widely and failed to adequately adapt to the changing conditions of coexistence of multiple cultures in one state.

Moreover, the so-called Victorious February in 1948 establish the forty years future of building our state department as an unventilated building, from which it was almost impossible to travel and if so only after a very strict office procedures.

3. Multiculturalism at the Crossroads

Current issues of multiculturalism are most apparent in Western countries, and this can be seen especially in its major cities forming large agglomerations. The most of the major complications arising between the majority and minority based on nationality and in large urban areas are often problems among minorities themselves as well. At this stage, I see three important historical moments guiding the multinational multicultural societies in Europe in recent time:

The first is the end of the Cold War and the fall of the communist empire in Central and Eastern Europe in 1989. This event is related to the opening of borders in Eastern Europe and the most of the former Soviet Union countries and this is associated to uncontrolled work and social migration in contexts.

The second point is true and important historical milestone in the 21st century, the 11th attack on the WTC September 11, 2001 in New York that awakened the whole of Western civilization to realize that making cultural differences between ethnic groups, nations, or in this case existing civilizations is an error, which is probably a reflection of hateful intolerant structures.

A third peak is, albeit somewhat less strong than the previous point, the attacks on public transport in London in July 2005.

The two countries (US and UK) were hit by bomb attacks in their cities. It should be noted that both of them are multi-ethnic world's major centres and they have over two hundred different peoples and nationalities in their territories both of them. All of ethnic groups and the administration must deal with everyday problems of everyday life very often enhanced by the cultural differences of people.

A very important factor in this field is an educational process at all levels. Yet education is not just one, but one of the major solutions, which is closest to prevention. Education in itself could not eliminate all conflicts. The point is that there are always people who will seek support for their claims and beliefs but educated population can find your own answer sooner than extremists. Education can help with a fight against terror faster and deeper than guns. Similarly education can avoid societies from current problems with religion or cultural habits which is not so good known to other societies.

4. Conclusions

This contribution does not look for motives of coexistence different nationalities in one society together to be called the multicultural society. The primary intention of this contribution is to show that any modern society in any state or region of Europe can not live without multiculturalism and multiculturalism can not be left to live spontaneously in any country in Europe without conscionable and fair care from the first moment. Every government or state authorities have primal responsibilities to take care about calm and peaceful coexistence. Anyone can not avoid to be part of multicultural Europe. Even in so ethnically clean countries as the Czech Republic can not be apart.

The Czech Republic is in the middle of Europe, and hence it should appear in the significant area of multiculturalism with very high probability. There are some ethnic communities in our country that are followed up by Czech citizens with a suspicious interest, which has its roots in prejudice. It would certainly like to be refuted by contemporary politicians, but they forget their historical context and trying to honestly explain their future. Many opinions on the Internet, which are mostly hidden behind certain anonymity, are an eloquent testimony of what people really think. And it's not just about the hidden anti-social contributions and ideas hidden in anonymity - is to feel free from fear, which stems from ignorance and total failure of political work with the present population.

Similar situation is not only in the Czech but in different variations everywhere in Europe. It is only one way to make our worlds better - sensitive social policy in multicultural relations can achieve very significant, but not too fast results. It must be every day patient and well thought out work for well educated and very conscionable street workers and social workers. I rely on my long experience of staying in the UK, which is considered the most multicultural country in Europe Union. It is of course due not only historically but also geographically - the position of London and its transport capabilities will determine the multicultural privileges associated with migration. It has always been easier, cheaper and more effective to keep care with prevention.

The Angela Merkel's statement which has claimed that multiculturalism failed have been spread over all Europe in recent days. If any government, state organizations or

institute can fail it is possible but multiculturalism can not fail. Multiculturalism is a phenomenon which simply exists or not.

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