

ALCIDE DE GASPERI: EUROPEAN FOUNDING FATHER



Alcide De Gasperi is recognized by all as founding father of Europe, but his enlightened action in favor of European unification is little known outside of Italy.

Yet at the beginning of the Fifties of the '900 the leader of Trentino, a border man and a Catholic able to overcome the dogma of the closed national state that had led to the two great world wars, was the most tenacious assertor of the construction of a European federation, as a response to the problem of peace in Europe and Franco-German reconciliation. At the time of the transition from the European to the world system of states he rejects the obsolete power policy to embrace a policy of integration, with permanent international bodies not only of occasional arbitration, but endowed with supranational powers.

In the European federation he identifies “a myth of peace”.

He sees the limits of functional integration and strongly supports the creation of a European political community, as a framework in which to insert the nascent communities.

In a Europe that is questioning its future, reflecting on De Gasperi means rediscovering the founding values of the process of European unification, the ideals that have accompanied it, the historical reasons of which it was an expression.

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