



MASTER REGIONE PUGLIA IN “REGIONAL PUBLIC MANAGEMENT”

Seminar on European Integration – College of Europe, Bruges (Belgium)

Closing Conference – Djver, 30th March 2007

Ladies and gentleman,

Before starting my short speech for the conclusion of the intensive seminar on European Integration here at the College of Europe, let me ask you one minute of silence remembring Mr. Beniamino Andreatta, dead in Bologna last Monday 26th of March, after seven years of coma.

I also would like to give you a short biography of Andreatta and the letter wrote by Mr. Guido Bertolaso, the head of Italian Civil Protection.

Andreatta was my Minister during our humanitarian missions in Bosnia Herzegovina on 1996 and 1997.

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Thank you

Dear students and friends, we, because I've lived with you for 8 weeks, we are completing an important part of the Master but also a very important part of our lives.

In my opinion you must be proud for have become students at two of the most important « schools » in Europe and, of course at the first College at the european level as the College of Bruges is.

During these 8 weeks in Parma and Bruges I hope you have acheived the awareness that Europe is part of our lives both social and professional but also, we all hope, big part of your future life as regional civil servants in Puglia or wherever you will serve.

Let me underline few points I hope you have already clear in your minds

- 1) Europe in the most important challenge of the new millenium. If europeans, both Institution, Member States, Regional Authorities and citizens understand that an United Europe is a necessity and a hope, I believe, as Mr Vittorio Prodi said last Wednesday at the European Parliament, we all lead mankind to a brand new culture of sustainability, peace and prosperity. But we all need to work hard on it.
- 2) For haveing succes in Europe it is necessary working together. Alone noone goes anywhere. This is more truth for Italy. Italy must learn and move as a « system » and you must have clear that also your success depend on your capacity of working together, supporting each other and create large consensus on what you are doing.



- 3) « Civil servant » means that you « serve » a Community, you work for the growth and the prosperity, for the justice and the social promotion of the population managed by the Public authority who will employ you. Don't forget this ever !
- 4) Regions around Europe are growing for influence and responsibilities and they need a new ruling class able to bring together local and national matters inside European politics and policies,
- 5) The Master you are attending to is the first experiment in Italy and these 8 weeks of « Europe » are the first experience ever made for future Italian civil servants and young managers. I'm proud to say that, for this project, it is the first time that the College of Bruges and the College of Parma are working together providing an integrated scientific programme on European integration. I hope there will be other occasions, but for now, you guys are the first.
- 6) I would like also to underline that, after closing such an important window, another one opens for you both during the stages and, in September, during the project works. Formez is working hard for giving you good chances, it will be up to you to be able to get them as best you can.

Concluding these few words I'd like to thank all of you for the enthusiasm and the professionalism you put in these 8 weeks.

I would like to thank all of my colleagues who attended our seminar as tutors and secretariat in Rome.

Let me thank Mr. Rosario Maiorano and believe me, without him there would be no Master in « Regional Public Management » at all !

I would also thank Peter and Ruth, and all their colleagues (Annelies is fundamental...) they were fantastic, providing us with organization, professionalism, and friendship.

And at the end, let me thank a special person who allowed us to realize these three weeks at the College. Mr. Marc Vuijsteke, the General Director Development Office at the College.

Marc accepted the idea of the intensive seminars applied to our Master in five seconds not only on 2002 when we met for the first time, but also last October during a five-minute phone call !!!

He is a part of the European earth breathing with the college for long time, helping generations of young Europeans to love Europe wishing to be protagonist in this great adventure.

So, dearest Marc, thank you from me, from the staff and from all the students for letting us be involved in the great history of the European College here in Bruges.

Marco Iachetta