

Communication and spreading of the proposal

The proposal should be forwarded -from those who share the idea- via email to the U.N. address indicated on the website. All those who agree should send it, via email, to their friends and acquaintances as well, so that they too, can eventually do the same, and send to those institutions, to those representative bodies, to those political parties and to those cultural and/or humanitarian associations who, according to them, could be sensitive to the initiative.

The following text can be used, and edited if necessary, to send an email. Click on the text to select all, then copy and paste on a new email message.

Introduction

One of the aspects that characterises the present situation of world politics is the loss of authority of the United Nations Organization, which is not always able to perform in a rapid and efficient manner the functions and work which it deals with. Its actions, in fact, reveal in many cases to be problematic, clumsy or delayed.

In the light of this scene, it could be useful - even to make the tasks of the U.N. more efficient – if the organization equips itself with a moral representative body, without political power, and able to support the work set up as a point of reference for national parliaments, as well as to favour the practice of democracy even in those countries which do not adopt this at present, or adopt a democratic form of government in a hesitant way and with some reservations.

My Proposal

To achieve this objective, I propose the constitution of a “World Parliament”. Such a parliament should be elected by all the citizens in the world through regular elections. The candidates should be chosen among those people who have concretely distinguished themselves - that is through their work in the social, political, sanitary, religious, educational and cultural field - in the various countries in which they have lived and work, not considering their nationality of origin. Every country should elect a number of representatives proportional to its population. The candidacy should be free and proposed by citizens’ associations. The members of the World Parliament should then elect a “Council of Ten” with only administrative and managerial duties.

The “World Parliament” should only have an advisory role on ethic, social and political problems concerning the interest of humanity as a whole and could be consulted by at least a third of the members of each country or by the same representatives of member states of the United Nations Assembly on those issues. The “Council of Ten” would have the task of collecting the applications issued and send queries to the single components of the “World Parliament” who, continuing to normally carry on their usual activities in their own countries, should answer the Council by email in a brief time delay.

Then the Council itself should take the responsibility to send the given answers (indicating the percentage) to whom had asked this advice, as well as to make the answer public through the mass media.

As the “World Parliament” is an advisory organ only, and without any effective political power, its activity would not run the risk of entering into conflict with other activities and decisions of the United Nations or Member States: it would constitute only an ethic reference being questioned only on matters of real interest for humanity.

The “World Parliament” should assemble - in different seats - in a plenary sitting once a year to favour the reciprocal understanding of its components and to draw up a planned report on the state of the world. “The Council of Ten” could then be summoned in an extra-ordinary sitting to discuss any particularly serious situations which need, according to the opinion of the same “Council of Ten”, an urgent announcement discussed by the parliament.

Right from the first assembly the “World Parliament” should draw up a “Charter of Values” coherent with that which inspires “The United Nations Organization”, so as to better define and communicate its aims and the limits of its actions.

The cost of organizing the “World Parliament”- which would be modest because limited to the salary of the “Council of Ten” , administrative costs and the refund of expenses of the members for their participation in the project –would be met by the United Nations, which would be the first and irrevocable sponsor of the initiative.

In the case of some countries not wishing to participate in the project, only the delegated members from countries taking part would participate , although the possibility would remain, for those who initially did not join, to do so in the future, or in the next elections which would be held regularly every 5-7 years.

All the voting would be carried out and paid for by the States who have joined and should be controlled by officers of the U.N., which could in any case decide to offer its own economic contribution and logistic support for the organization of the elections in those countries where their governments make the request.

Reasons for the proposal

In an historical period of growing globalization and in which the prestige of the United Nations, as well as the efficiency of its actions, result rather weakened, the urgency shows itself for the voice of all people to be heard more directly on general issues of interest. To recur to a parliament in which persons who enjoy the trust of the citizens of the world can express themselves, could result useful to set up an ethic reference, a spur and a warning to activities carried out by governments, if only to spread among all the populations the trust in democratic values. In fact, so as to be able to participate in the project it would be necessary to organize the elections, this circumstance would mean the possibility to make various governments face the historical responsibility of an eventual resignation while the memberships of governments not accustomed to consult its own citizens could open up new frontiers able to advance their political institutions towards more democratic solutions, so as to protect fundamental rights of every citizen in every state and to favour the sharing of some fundamental values among the member populations who have joined the project.