



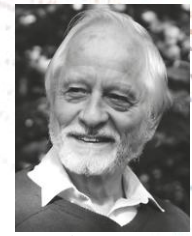
Canopy of Prayer

January 2017 · #013

Dear praying friends in Europe –

Perspectives 2017: The wind of change is blowing all over the world and dark clouds of possible tempests are rising on the horizon everywhere.

So it is necessary to listen anew in this situation to what Jesus says to his disciples of all centuries: “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me... And behold, I am with you every day, to the end of the age.” I am sure, if we open our spiritual eyes, we will see these words become true in 2017. We will see where the Kingdom of Heaven grows and how the kingdoms of the world are shaken. And you and me will see it and feel encouraged because we feel it's true: “I am with you to the end of 2017!”



Ortwin Schweitzer

2017 Perspectives

Donald Trump and the new US administration have produced two totally different reactions in America and throughout the world. We as “Canopy” will react to this new situation in giving nos. 13 and 14 respectively to each side. We will begin with the disapproving side, and next time we will listen to the approving voice. It is necessary for both sides to listen to the other side and to pray and so come closer to understanding God's perspective.

The essence of politics

2017 will show an undisguised exposure of egoism in all its variations and its fatal consequences.

It is normal for every country to look out for its own interests first. But the essence of “politics” is to respect and take into account the interests of the other nations as well and so try to create a balance of interests.

Leading nations like USA, China or Russia especially have a responsibility to keep things in balance internationally. But this balance is in danger in 2017 from all 3 global players.

The essence of the activities of the new US administration

It looks as if the new admin of the USA is leaving behind this sense of political responsibility. The *political* rules are replaced by the rules of the *free market*. These rules have one clear target: (1) “Make profit!” and (2) “Eliminate your competitor, if you can.” This is not (Christian) ethics, this is sheer Darwinism.

Therefore (1) all free trade treaties get cancelled to split the group of partners. (2) Bilateral negotiations are offered. This means (3) that the USA as an economic giant negotiates always with weaker states. I expect to see the results already in 2017: (4) ruthless negotiations and extortions. See Mexico!

Please also pray for

- the EU summit on Friday 3.2. in Valletta/Malta (without GB)
- the peace of the USA particularly through the first 100 days of this new administration.

Donald Trump promised: “America first” and “Good deals”. Sure, he will get them.

It will affect Mexico and Canada through NAFTA; it will affect the countries bordering the Pacific through TTP. And it will affect Europe.

Europe 2017

2017 will probably be the hardest period for Europe since WWII.. The new US administration is likely to accept Crimea as a Russian territory if they get enough in return. At least a cancelation of the sanctions has already been mentioned. There will be serious discussions in the EU following such an act of the USA with incalculable consequences for the unity of the Union.

Another danger for the EU in 2017 are the elections in Holland (March), France (May), and Germany (Sept). In all these countries the populists are strong. If the Front National succeeds and Marie le Pen wins the presidential election the end of the EU has come. If Angela Merkel loses her chancellorship the EU is lost finally.

Prayer

- We know and proclaim: “For Yours is the Kingdom and the Power and the Glory, for ever and ever!” There *alone* is power and glory!
- Pray for the kingdom values in the political world: truth against falsehood, a sense of responsibility against egoism, consideration against extortion.
- Let us say “yes” before God to the unity of the European nations in peace and do bless Europe, including Russia.

We give thanks for the European Court of Human Rights decision this week on surrogacy; recognising the value of each human life and that contracting couples have no right over a child conceived by others for money.