

FONDAZIONE ITALIANA EUROPA POPOLARE

Manifesto

The *Fondazione Italiana Europa Popolare* was established in response to the yearning to live the ideals of European Popularism, in order to rediscover and actualize political popular culture as well Christian-Democrat culture. The culture perspective that inspires us is deeply rooted in the rich tradition of Popularism and draws inspiration from the Social Doctrine of the Church, constantly re-interpreted according to the signs of the times. We intend to promote a vision of society and politics based on the principle of subsidiarity, solidarity between the members of the community, on a conception of democracy capable of enhancing the full participation of people and groups. Our inspiring principles are:

- **Active Participation** of citizens to the life of the nation for an ever greater involvement of individuals and of intermediate bodies in the pursuance of the common goal;
- **Equality** meant as the basic criteria of preliminary conditions, linked to a system of social care not only intended as an aid tool, but also as a means to decrease inequalities caused by economic, cultural, family, ethnic or territorial factors;
- **Laity** of the State and of the political sphere which must nonetheless avail itself of the religious sphere as the basic element of the individual respecting all confessions, ensuring freedom of worship and expression and at the same time rejecting all attempts of manipulating faith in order to gain power;
- **Economic Democracy** seen as the affirmation of the primacy of the human person on production systems; to enhance, also through forms of participation, work as well as profit and to guarantee a true space of action for intermediate bodies;

- **Education** intended as the basic dimension for the development of the individual and of society, through a vision which promotes innovation and quality, as well as teaching and research;
- **Cooperation and confrontation** with the major families of liberalism and democratic socialism in the wake of the De Gasperi tradition also in terms of new political and organization terms;
- **Dialogue with other cultures, religions and civilizations**, which stems from the communicative elements linked to the quest for truth and from the authenticity of this quest seeking the encounter with others and the promotion of the human family, aware of its identity, history and of the existence of non-negotiable values;
- **European Unity** seen as the strategic horizon of peace and democracy which can be realized with internal and international political proposals for the creation of a Union capable of rediscovering the true value of the contribution of the peoples which it is composed of seeing in all of its citizens the primary resource for its development.

The *Fondazione Italiana Europa Popolare* intends to be a place for debate, confrontation, incentive and planning for free men who will be encouraged to commit themselves in initiatives aimed at reaffirming the meta-political values which pertain to European Populism. Along the way the Foundation may become something more, capable of going also “beyond”.

In line with the spirit of dialogue which it is born of, the *Fondazione Italiana Europa Popolare* promotes cooperation with other foundations, institutes, research centres and associations operating in Italy and abroad with the aim of implementing cultural initiatives as well as proposals related to the themes of its Manifesto. A special attention is given to Europe-inspired forms of cooperation