

WORK PROGRAMME 2013

Notre Europe – Jacques Delors Institute extends its existing work programme through 2013 focusing on themes relating to the European decision-making timetable which are currently the issue of ongoing or emerging debates.

Much of this work bears the mark of the many tensions of different kinds currently crisscrossing the European Union, but all of it is designed to clarify the issues underlying that tension, to allow people to get a better grasp of the rationale espoused by the national and European players involved, and to offer analyses and submit proposals aiming to consolidate and deepen the European integration.

The institute's work is broken down along three major axes: "European Union and citizens", "Competition, cooperation, solidarity," and "European external actions", as illustrated in greater detail below.

1. Deepening European political union

The functioning and pursuit of European integration is of greater relevance to all of Europe's citizens and political players than ever before: it is on the basis of that belief that our work projects for 2013 focus primarily on two crucial issues from the point of view of politics, the institutions and the citizen.

1.1. European elections and national democracies

Notre Europe – Jacques Delors Institute is getting set for the **European elections** in June 2014 by analysing, in particular, the role played by the **political parties** (primaries, platforms) in the construction of a **European public space** and by identifying the **major internal and external issues** around which the election campaign for 2014 is likely to be built, as well as the **major projects** for deepening the European integration.

It continues its work on the democratic dimension of EU life by focusing on the role of **national parliaments** and on the **European side of national elections** (especially in Italy and in Germany), as well as on developments in the way **public opinions** view the EU.

And lastly, *Notre Europe – Jacques Delors Institute* pursues its "**citizen dialogues**" involving a broad audience (comprising, in particular, members of civil society, social actors, educators and young people), whilst analysing the implementation of the **European citizens' initiative**.

1.2. The "European Federation of nation states": the situation today and future prospects

In a context marked by major debates and projects relating to the deepening of European integration, particularly within the framework of the **euro zone**, *Notre Europe – Jacques Delors Institute* produces analyses and recommendations concerning the organisation of **political and institutional differentiation** with the 27-strong EU, while taking the development of **Franco-German relations** into account.

It also endeavours to clarify the scope and meaning of the "**Federation of nation states**", a concept popularised by Jacques Delors, with particular regard to the **repartition of competences** between the national and European levels, and by pursuing a series of "**country analyses**" exploring the way in which the EU is perceived by its various member states and their citizens.

And lastly, it expands its analysis of the balance of powers among the **European institutions**, while simultaneously extending its work on the functioning of those institutions (the ECB, the Court of Justice and the Court of Auditors).

1.3. Other projects relating to politics, the institutions and the citizen

Notre Europe – Jacques Delors Institute' work programme for 2013 also addresses two other topics of major importance relating to politics, the institutions and the citizen.

1.3.1. European citizenship and identity

Notre Europe – Jacques Delors Institute plans to pursue its anthropological analysis by endeavouring to identify the way in which the debt crisis and the European measures that it has elicited have altered the **perception of the EU in certain countries**. It also focuses on the cultural dimension and the perceptions harboured by the peoples of Europe, through projects addressing the circulation of **European cinematographic works** within the EU and beyond, as well as by contributing to the launch of a bi-media review analysing European issues through **photography**. And lastly, it continues to contribute to the collecting of testimonials from **European migrants** in an attempt to explore the way in which immigrants view their national and European identities.

1.3.2. Freedom of movement and border control

Notre Europe - Jacques Delors Institute also addresses issues connected with the EU's internal free movement area and with its external border control, another area marked by major tension among the countries of Europe. The institute endeavours to take part in debates concerning the **Schengen area**, focusing on the implementation of the regulations allowing citizens to exercise their **right to free movement** (in particular with regard to their access to social rights in other EU member countries). It also analyses the organisation of external border control, as well as plans to harmonise **asylum policy**.

2. Bolstering the European economic and social community

The massive economic and social crisis that has struck the countries of Europe has prompted *Notre Europe - Jacques Delors Institute* to focus on three issues which are of fundamental importance in pursuing the European integration in 2013 and beyond.

2.1. Towards a budgetary, economic and banking union

Notre Europe - Jacques Delors Institute continues to analyse the current economic, social and political crisis and the practical scope and importance of the **dialectic between solidarity and control** forged to address it, with particular reference to plans for a budgetary and banking union.

It explores in greater depth the conclusions of the **"Tommaso Padoa-Schioppa Group" report**, focusing in particular on the implementation of a **cyclical adjustment fund** within the euro zone and on the topic of **public debt mutualisation**.

It also endeavours to analyse the effective strengthening of coordination with the **EMU's economic pillar** (the European semester, the budgetary pact, the euro plus pact, a budget for the euro zone and so forth) and the best conditions for reconciling effectiveness and legitimacy in this field with regard to the spheres of authority exercised at the national level.

2.2. The Single Market twenty years on

20 years after the "Objective 1992" established by its Founding President, *Notre Europe - Jacques Delors Institute* pursues the projects that it began in 2012, especially in an effort to better assess the **economic impact** (growth, jobs), the **social impact** (purchasing

power, social rights) and the **fiscal impact** of European economic integration, while simultaneously submitting recommendations in connection with these three sides of the problem.

It also tracks the adoption and implementation of **Single Market Acts I and II**, devoting particular attention to the **network industries** (the energy industry in particular), to the major **pan-European infrastructures** and to the implementation of **regulations governing competition**.

2.3. "Social Europe", the situation to date and future prospects

Notre Europe - Jacques Delors Institute analyses the impact of the crisis, of the austerity measures and of reforms in the governance of the EMU on the **European social model** and on the **repartition of competences between the national and Community levels**.

It also deals with **social competition and convergence** within the EU in an effort to clarify the scope and importance of these two phenomena and, working in conjunction with the social actors on the European stage, to identify **factors and projects liable to improve the social dimension** of the EU.

At the same time, it pursues its work on the European activities being undertaken by the **players in the social and solidarity-based economy**.

2.4. Other projects relating to the economic and social dimension

Notre Europe - Jacques Delors Institute' work programme for 2013 also focuses on two other themes that are important from an economic and social standpoint.

2.4.1. Spending together after 2013

In the context of the implementation of the conclusions reached in the negotiations on the financial framework 2014-2020, it aims to contribute to the debate on the modalities for **reforming the main policies funded by the Community budget** (with particular references to the CAP, to cohesion policies and to mobility schemes). Policies for **rural development and agro-environmental schemes** receive special attention in the context of a broader debate on the role of farming and rural life within the EU. And finally, *Notre Europe - Jacques Delors Institute* continues its work on **other forms of financial Europeanisation** (joint spending, enhanced cooperations, loans, guarantees and so forth), assessing their potential for development.

2.4.2. The “European energy community” is now

Notre Europe – Jacques Delors Institute deepens its analyses and recommendations regarding a “European energy community”, in particular with regard to the implementation of a fully-fledged **internal energy market**. It puts the member states’ national energy policies into perspective while also insisting on the need for a common approach in an attempt to reduce the risks caused by **energy dependence on outside sources**. In parallel, it seeks to contribute to the implementation of the European project for **energy transition by 2050**, in the spirit of the “competition, cooperation, solidarity” triptych.

3. Europe, a player in its own neighbourhood and on the global stage

Jacques Delors has always stressed that forging a European common foreign policy would require lengthy political and intellectual maturation, and that it was necessary first and foremost to focus on “common actions” over only a few key issues, with particular emphasis on the EU’s action in its immediate neighbourhood. The *Notre Europe – Jacques Delors Institute*’ international work programme for 2013 continues to plough that dual furrow.

3.1. The “neighbourhood”, priority number one

Notre Europe – Jacques Delors Institute conducts analyses and formulates proposals designed to promote a strategic vision of the EU’s relations with its neighbours as a whole.

It develops comprehensive projects addressing, in particular, the improvement of **commercial integration** with the southern and eastern countries, and the “**Eastern Partnership**” forged by the UE.

It also focuses on more sectoral issues, such as the establishment of a **Euro-Mediterranean energy community** and the management of **migration flows**.

And lastly, it imparts a fresh boost to its work on issues regarding the **EU enlargement process** ahead of Croatia’s planned membership.

3.2. Global issues, common vision

Notre Europe – Jacques Delors Institute seeks to help in forging a **European strategic vision of the primary global issues** currently facing the EU member countries (economic competition, energy and the climate, migration, security and so forth) and to produce analyses and recommendations relating to the way in which external policy is coordinated in several crucial areas (**trade, energy, defence**).

It acts, in particular, in the framework of the “**Think Global – Act European**” initiative by mobilising a network comprising some fifteen European think-tanks which produce pan-European analyses and recommendations addressed to the leading European and national decision-makers (the European Council, the European External Action Service, the European Commission and the European Parliament). It also relies on **collective input from European figures** concerned to boost Europe’s influence at the international level.

3.3. Other projects relating to the international scene

After analysing the practical scope and importance of the principle of **solidarity in the energy sphere** enshrined in the European treaties, *Notre Europe – Jacques Delors Institute* endeavours to expand its work in order to address other areas in which the EU needs to make an effort to open up or to consolidate its access to external markets (for instance **in the field of agriculture**).

It also deals with the development of other regional integration processes and the nature of the relations that those processes establish with the EU, but also with each other (for instance, by looking at regional integration agreements in Asia and at the blueprint for a transatlantic free-trade area). ●

With the support of:



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