

FOR EUROPE FOUNDATION

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The great interview of Jordan Bardella

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Translate from French.

# Do you think that the European Union as you describe it can be reformed? In short, which are the instances to be deleted and those whose mode of operation must be reviewed?

As I said to Emmanuel Macron in the hemicycle a few weeks ago, their Europe is 60 years old, ours is 3000. Unlike France, the European Union as it exists today is an artificial construct kept alive by federalists increasingly disavowed by their people. All attempts to relaunch their project of a federal Europe are doomed to failure. Take the Conference on the Future of Europe, which is a fiasco and yet the conclusions were: ever more Europe, ever less nation. In my view, Europe will have to be reformed no longer starting from the Commission, but from the sovereign States which derive their legitimacy from the democratic process. Depending on their interests, we can consider strategic cooperation.

### What are the areas of activity in which this cooperation could bring added value? And how to implement it?

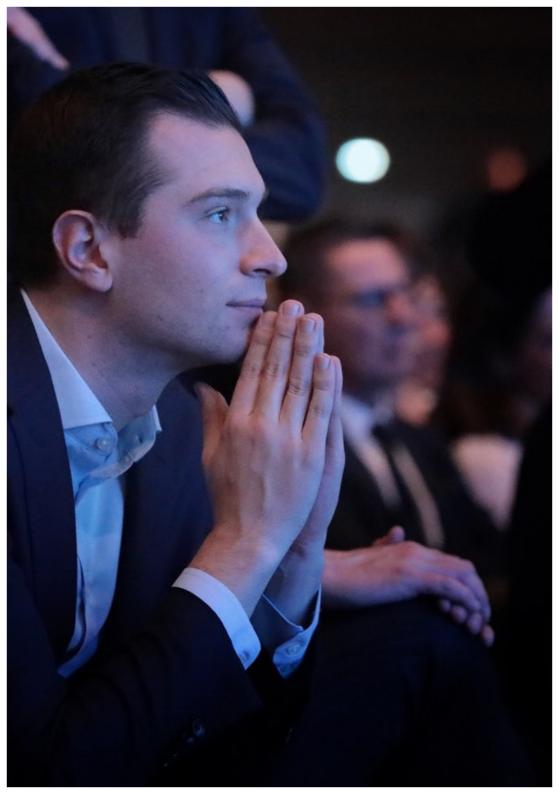
A certain number of fields deserve that we pool our talents, not to sell off our secrets and industrial know-how to other countries, but to add up skills. Macron thought he wanted to move forward on the Future Air Combat System (SCAF), with Germany in particular, but also Spain. As too often in our relations with our German neighbours, France finds itself the loser. In the same way, the idea of unified European defence, when we sometimes have divergent interests, is not desirable. On the other hand, we can reflect together on how to defend our borders. Frontex must no longer be a reception agency for migrants, but, on the contrary, Europe must do everything to prevent them from entering its territory.

Things have not changed since the migration crisis of 2015 and the immigrationist ideology has not been defeated...

On the contrary. The Marrakech Pact was a very clear signal of the will of the leaders to encourage migratory flows. In the process, the Migration Pact of the European Union, designed out of sight, increasingly imposes the idea that migration would be part of the destiny of Europe. This is further proof that the elites are "above ground" and disconnected from reality, because, at the end of the day, it is the French, from Clermont-Ferrand or Briançon, but also the Estonian or the Flemish who will see their way of life turned upside down. In an authoritarian way, the French government presented a plan for the distribution of migrants a year ago. The countries that are hostile to us have understood that migrations are our Achilles' heel and are imposing migratory blackmail on our peoples.

This is indeed a strategy recently carried out by the Belarusian Lukashenko, but also, in a more structural way, by Recep Tayyip Erdogan. Knowing that the latter multiplies the attempts at blackmail and the threats towards Europe, how should the latter behave with Turkey?

Let us remember the incident that occurred in the Mediterranean last June. As part of an international mission aimed at enforcing the arms embargo imposed on Libya, a Turkish frigate had an aggressive attitude towards a French ship by carrying out a radar illumination on three occasions, with Turkish soldiers in post. Need we remind you that a number of our leaders pleaded for Turkey's entry into the European Union?



This country is not geographically located in Europe, is not part of the European civilizational area and, due to its demographic weight, would send more deputies than France to the European Parliament. We must have a firm attitude towards the Islamist Sultan Erdogan, stop giving in to his blackmail and above all stop financing him!

#### Looking back, do you think that the exit of the Britishfrom the European Union was a good thing?

It's up to the British to say it, but obviously Brexit, which was supposed to bring them misery and calamity, did not work too badly for them. There has always been, among the British, an idea ofinsularity and empire. One, the fruit of its particular geographical position, and the other, which the European Union could sometimes compete with, made its membership of the EU a balancing act. The people have decided, that's fine. But this is not the solution that Marine Le Pen and the Rassemblement National advocate for France.

### Your opponents accuse Marine Le Pen of having evolved on the question of membership of the European Union and the euro...

The European context itself has changed a great deal. We were then isolated in Europe, but we have since established relations everywhere with European patriotic parties which, each in their country, are progressing and even are already in charge. This is the case in Hungary and Poland, but also in Slovakia, where the patriots are in government, in the Czech Republic or in Portugal where they are experiencing a very good rise.

### Let's go back to Hungary and Poland: what do the policies that are carried out there inspire you?

I defend the sovereignty of States, so I am always reluctant to interfere in the internal affairs of other countries. The European Union has made a specialty of dictating its internal policies to member states, and this is starting to legitimately exasperate leaders and peoples. Poles and Hungarians want to decide what is good for their country and its future, and want to see their identity preserved. How to prove them wrong?

The patriotic political forces are today divided within the European Parliament, between the member parties of Identity and Democracy and those who sit in the European Conservatives and Reformists. Do you have any hope that these formations can be brought together under the same flag?

United, we would only be stronger to confront the defenders of the federalist vision of Europe. I am optimistic to see this process, which began several months ago, come to fruition. This obviously requires discussions because, as patriots, our national interests or our assessment of certain issues may diverge at the margins. We are not obliged to agree on everything to work together, we must respect the specificities of each. But I know that we agree on the essentials, which is to restore hope to the peoples and allow them to continue proudly waving their national flag.



### Let's talk about you, Jordan Bardella: do you feel European?

Above all, I feel deeply French, the fruit of a heritage built over the centuries by our ancestors who combined genius, whether scientific, literary or artistic, with a way of life that is particular to us. I also feel that I am the guarantor of France's interests, within its borders of course, but also in Europe and around the world. I want our country to regain its greatness. However, this does not prevent us from feeling that we belong to the European civilization that we have in common.

### Precisely, what are the places in Europe that awaken in you such a feeling?

Allow me first of all to think that we each carry within us a rootedness. Mine is linked to the region where I grew up, in Seine-Saint-Denis, in Ile-de-France, where all the ravages of globalization are observed, starting with the consequences of massive immigration. I obviously feel this visceral attachment to our country wherever I am on French territory.

### You come from a new generation, since you are only 26 years old. Do you feel that there is support among the youngest for the ideas put forward by Marine Le Pen?

Marine Le Pen is popular among young people, the National Rally regularly comes out on top among young people, whether in polls or electoral results. There is a real awareness and a desire to put an end to several decades of political correctness and disastrous management which threatens their future as French people.

This should encourage us: this youth animated by national feelings, a phenomenon that can be observed in France but also everywhere else in Europe, will be the encourage us: this youth animated by encourage us: this youth animated by national feelings, a phenomenon that can be observed in France but also everywhere else in Europe, will be the lever on which to rely to save our nations. For many young people, Marine Le Pen embodies hope in this.



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