

Movimento Trieste Libera - Bewegung Freies Triest - Gibanje Svobodni Trst – Free Trieste Movement – Speech of the press conference held in Vienna on September 9th, 2014: **FREISTAAT UND FREIHAFEN TRIEST, ÖSTERREICH UND INTERNATIONALE GEMEINSCHAFT – THE FREE TERRITORY AND FREE PORT OF TRIESTE.**

Ladies and Gentlemen, welcome to the Press Conference of the Free Trieste Movement - Movimento Trieste Libera we hold in Vienna to talk about the Free Territory and Free Port of Trieste, Austria and the International Community, in this room of Café Griensteidel dedicated to Karl Kraus.

My name is Paolo G. Parovel, I am a journalist, writer and political analyst and I am here as spokesman of the Free Trieste Movement, for which I direct the press.

The Free Trieste Movement – Bewegung Freies Triest is neither a separatist or nationalist organization, it does not destabilize international balances, nor does it have territorial claims.

The Free Trieste Movement is the main political organization of the citizens of the Free Territory of Trieste, which consists in the city and international Free Port of Trieste, as well as five smaller Municipalities, it exists since 1947 as a sovereign State and ex-officio member of the United Nations, under guarantee of the Security Council of the United Nations, and it currently is administered through a special trusteeship mandate..

Since 1954, the administration is entrusted to the Italian Government, which exercises its role of Provisional Government of the Free Territory of Trieste in a conflict of interest with its role as Permanent Government of the Italian State.

So, the Italian Government suffocated the economy of the State and Free Port of Trieste, to favor the economy and the ports of the Italian State. By doing so, it does not only damage Trieste, but the entire International Community as well, as it holds special rights on the Free Port.

Also, the development of the international Free Port of Trieste is essential for the economic stabilization of weak areas in South-Eastern Europe.

Because of this, the Free Trieste Movement demands to the Security Council of the United Nations and to all States concerned to invite the Italian Government to respect its trusteeship mandate and, otherwise, to assign said mandate to an Authority of the United Nations, or to the Government of a State that has no conflict of interests with the Free Territory of Trieste

For example Austria, which has created Trieste and its Free Port through half a millennium of common history, or neutral Switzerland, which holds important rights as for the Free Port of Trieste, or else to the United Kingdom and the United States, as they both have already well-administered Trieste from 1947 to 1954.

We offer to Austria, to other Countries of *Mitteleuropa* (Central Europe) and to the whole International Community the reactivation of their economical rights, as well as their rights

concerning maritime traffics, trades, enterprise, bank and insurance services within the Free Port of Trieste, which is the only one with an international, maritime Free Zone across Central-Eastern Europe, the Mediterranean Sea and the routes for Suez and Gibraltar.

All we ask in exchange is the political and diplomatic attention, as well as that of the Press, needed to grant the independence and economic rights of the Free Territory and Free Port of Trieste, for the interest of everybody.

Since a long time, international observers ask what kind of technical problems cause the under-use of the international Free Port of Trieste, while anywhere else in the world Free Ports keep developing more and more.

Yet, there are no technical problems. All that we have is a political and diplomatic deception: the administering Italian Government does illegally act as if the Free Territory of Trieste were under the Sovereignty of the Italian State and, by doing so, this State is suffocated by heavy, illegal taxes and does not apply the international norms concerning the Free Port.

Through this deception, the administering Italian Government and the Italian State subtract to the States of Central European hinterland and to the International Community their very rights on the Free Port of Trieste: the right to use the free port for their ships, goods, enterprises and banks; the right to exercise a direct control on its administration; the right to register in the Free Territory of Trieste ships flying their flag.

The States holding the right to register their in the Free Territory of Trieste are Switzerland, Austria, Hungary, Czech Republic and Slovakia.

The States holding the right to exercise a direct control over the administration of the international Free Port of Trieste are France, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Russia and other successor States of the USSR, Slovenia and other successor States of Yugoslavia, Italy, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland, Switzerland, Austria and Hungary.

All States in the World, including China, India, South Korea, Brazil, South Africa, have the right to use, freely and with no discrimination the facilities and Free Zone of the international Free Port of Trieste.

In the past decades, the International Community has left the issue of the abuses committed by the administering Italian Government against the Free Territory and Free Port of Trieste frozen, in order not to affect the strategic balances of the Cold war and, then, the problems of stabilizing former Yugoslavia.

But these stages of politics have ended since a long time, being substituted with the new necessity of the economic stabilization of South-Eastern Europe and, as for this, the Free Territory and Free Port of Trieste play a key role.

Even the issue of former "Zone B" of the Free Territory entrusted to the administration of the Government of former Yugoslavia has been solved in 1991-92 through the international recognition of the sovereignty of the new, independent Republics of Slovenia and of Croatia.

This is why the Free Territory of Trieste has no territorial claims against Slovenia or Croatia; rather, it has a strong interest in cooperation among the Free Port of Trieste, the Slovene port of Koper and the Croatian port of Rijeka.

Because of this, it should be clear to all States holding rights over the Free Port of Trieste as well as to the whole International Community that all abuses committed by both the administering Italian Government and the Italian State against the Free Territory and Free Port of Trieste shall end, as these have no political-strategic justification.

The legal status of the Free Territory and Free Port of Trieste is that established with the Treaty of Peace of Paris of February 10th, 1947 between the Allied and Associated Powers and Italy, as well as by an additional, executive instrument, the Memorandum of Understanding of London of October 5th, 1954, which has converted the entrusted military administration in an entrusted, civil administration.

Both instruments, the Treaty and the Memorandum, which are in force as well as parts of International Law (and within the very Italian legal system) recognize the Security Council of the United Nations as direct guarantor of the Free Territory of Trieste and of its international Free Port.

So, the restoration of legality within the Free Territory and Free Port of Trieste can be requested to the Security Council of the United Nations by three international subjects: each Member State of the United Nations, the sovereign population of the Free Territory of Trieste, as individuals or associations.

On June 18th, 2013 the Free Trieste Movement, representing a significant number of citizens of the Free Territory, has notified to the administering Italian Governor, the bodies and authorities of the Italian State as well as the Security Council and other bodies of the United Nations a first “**COMPLAINT AND NOTICE OF DEFAULT**”, and, after this, it sent to the Security Council further acts as well as the first part of a petition, signed by 15.000 citizens.

The Italian Government has no valid legal arguments to answer back and it does not seem to realize that it is also in the interest of Italian companies restoring the correct Trustee Administration over the Free Territory and Free Port of Trieste, which is a source of international wealth.

So, yesterday, September 8th, the Free Trieste Movement has notified to the Italian Government and is now sending forward to the Security Council of the United Nations a “**NOTICE ACT**” to require the immediate enforcement of international laws and rights of all other States over the international Free Port of Trieste either by the Italian Government of a new, entrusted administrator.

By holding this Press Conference in Vienna, the Free Trieste Movement assigns right in the hands – and via Email – to the Austrian press, to the correspondents of foreign press and of the Embassies of the States involved both documents> the “Notice Act” and the “Complaint and Notice of Default” which clarify the situation of the Free Territory and Free Port of Trieste.

We chose Vienna for historical, practical and strategic reasons. The historical reason is that Vienna has remained the historic and moral Capital of Trieste since 1382 and even after 1918.

The practical reason is that Vienna is the core of the axis of Baltic-Adriatic and transsiberian traffics, whose natural, Mediterranean terminal are the three ports of North-Eastern Adriatic: Trieste, Koper and Rijeka.

The strategic reason is that the Government and State of Italy are attempting to divert these axes of traffic from Trieste, Koper and Rijeka to the whole system of ports of the Italian peninsula.

This diversion must be prevented, since it would harm severely the economic – thus political – stabilization of South-Eastern Europe, as well as enforcing all illegal activities of international, organized criminality within Italian ports.

From a strategic perspective, this is danger that must be immediately understood in Washington, Brussels and within the United Nations but even and first of all by Austria, Slovenia, Croatia and Hungary.

At this point, Karl Kraus would have said that there is nothing to add, if this is not enough.

Trieste thanks all of you for your attention, and we are ready to answer to all of your questions.