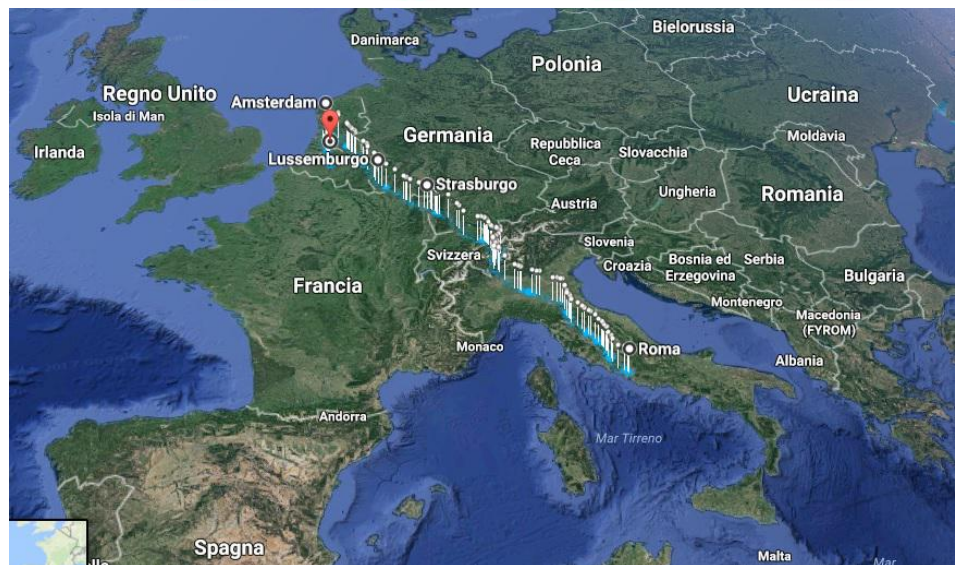


My hearth for EU hearth My travel for EU travel

50 years of treaties - 60 years of coexistence

On bike from Rome to Brussel June 19th - July 6th 2017



PREMISE:

On 2017 we will celebrate the sixtieth anniversary of the Rome Treaties, the birth of European integration. The vision of the founding fathers of European integration carried the rejection of the war, the dream of a common home in which peace and prosperity would have been built through cooperation between countries that for centuries had led war each against

another. Such a process, one of a kind, collects elements of common history, art, culture across past centuries, and gives shape to the successive decades, generating a new narrative and a new geography. New milestones arise on time line, as such as symbolic and gravitational hubs on European map, marking the steps of a ever deeper integration, which leads to common market, to single European area, to new communitarian institutions. Across the decades 22 more States join the project, in the hope to better their living conditions, human rights, the good functioning of their democratic institutions. The present challenge lies on the necessity to relaunch such a dream, the daring vision of unity in diversity. The sense of belonging to EU needs to be fed anew by elements of pride, common experiences, shared symbols and stories. A renewed spirit of unity and solidarity is needed to face the present challenges.

Cycling endurance enterprises are a powerful mean to attract interest and passion, for the symbolic meaning of the travel, the dimension of the physical and psychological challenge, the spirit of exploring continents on the saddle of a bike. Several times they are ridden with the aim to support some social or humanitarian cause. See for example the ride around the world of Juliana Buhring, ridden to raise awareness and money for the children living into sects; the US ride of Paola Gianotti in favor of a project for Uganda women.

On account of all this, here is my

PROPOSAL

I will ride my bicycle from Rome, where the first Treaties were signed, to Brussel, head office of European Commission and of other important communitarian institutions. I will go through Strasbourg, one of the seat of European Parliament; through Schengen, crossroad town between France, Germany and Luxemburg, where the agreement on free-movement for citizens were signed; through Luxemburg, seat of the European Court of Justice; through Maastricht, where the Treaty on European Union was signed; through Amsterdam, where the Treaty amending the European Union was signed; through Rotterdam, hometown of Desiderium Erasmus, which inspired the most loved and known European program for the youth.

My motto shall be: MY HEARTH FOR EU HEARTH - MY TRAVEL FOR EU TRAVEL, meaning that I will dedicate my effort, my challenge to myself, this sportive and human adventure, to the European dream. The beating of my hearth during the race will be dedicated to increase the EU hearth, its capacity to attract sympathy, emotions, passion. To its mission to be a significant and consistent actor in the field of peace, human rights, equality. My long travel across the EU will become a symbol of the EU travel toward the future, to sustain the hope of a fruitful travel toward a deeper integration that will support all EU citizens, all EU territories, and be a landmark for world peace and prosperity. My path will touch spots full of significance, as the Rhein valley, Alsace and

Lorraine. Along the path I will be able to collect proofs of positive EU impact on the life of EU citizens and on the territories. The freedom of movement, the support to local economics, to agriculture, to historic patrimonies. The defense of environment, the contribution to building of material and digital infrastructures. I will plan the track in order to meet the largest possible number of elements testifying the positive impact of European measures and interventions. For each of them I will create a mini reportage for web and dedicated social networks, with images and hashtags. At the end of the travel all the material will be made available for consultation on a map open to contribution from other citizens.

EXPECTED OBJECTIVES:

- I. Increase the knowledge of EU actions and measures in favor of territories, of local economies, of patrimonies;
- II. Promote the image of EU as area of free movement, democracy, opportunity;
- III. Attract through a sport enterprise the attention of young people and public opinion to EU values of peace, human rights, freedom and equality;
- IV. Show the EU potential in terms of development, integration, job opportunity in particular for young and disadvantaged people;
- V. Draw attention to environmental issues and the need for dedicated policies;
- VI. Stimulate a sense of emotional belonging by sharing an adventure live;

TIMELINE

March	Preparation of path, material, equipment, logistic of the travel;
March/April	Individuating spots to cross and formats for web and social network reportage;
April/May	Launch of online project, creation of the sharing platform;
19 th June	Starting from Rome;
September	Re-launch of collected material, report and start collecting contributions for the map of positive impact of EU on citizens' life.

STEPS

June 19th: Roma

June 20th: Acquapendente

June 21st: Greve in Chianti

June 22nd: Bologna

June 23rd: Verona

June 24th: Ora

June 25th: Innsbruck (A)

June 26th: Kempten (D)

June 27th: Tuttlingen (D)

June 28th: Strasbourg (F)

June 29th: Pont de l'Amitié (F)

June 30th: Schengen (L)

July 1st: Luxembourg (L)

July 2nd: Sankt Vith (B)

July 3rd: Maastricht (N)

July 4th: Amsterdam (N)

July 5th: Rotterdam (N)

July 6th: Brussels (B)

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