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**EIN joint seminar with Instituto Francisco Sá Carneiro and the Konrad Adenauer Foundation on:
"The Future of Europe"
Oporto - Portugal**

Panel 4 - Populism and Nationalism across Europe

Chair: Duarte Marques, Vice-Chairman of the Instituto Francisco Sá Carneiro (IFSC)

Speakers:

Federico De Montalvo, Professor at the Universidad Pontificia Comillas ICAI-ICADE, Madrid

Angelos Chrysogelos, Academy Senior Fellow at the Europe Programme Royal Institute for International Affairs Chatham House

Florian Hartleb, Managing Director Hanse Advice - Doctor of Philosophy - "Left and right populism"

- Populism poses a threat to representative democracies, the only workable regime model that preserves the rule of law, a free market economy and human rights. In spite of using traditional democratic methods, populism movements are still anti-system. In addition, they both bring the false idea of returning to pre-1945 sovereignty models, promising to take back control over politics.
- The economic crisis has caused a disruption between freedom and inequality. It has caused a lack of confidence in politics. In fact, the political powers have been favouring the economic power against the social power. This attitude of governments has provoked a weakness of the states, and a division between states and society.
- This disruption can be observed through low electoral participation and a low affiliation to traditional parties. The confidence in these parties is the lowest ever, though the general interest on politics has been rising. This more educated, more informed society has interest in politics, however tends to favour direct democracy models. In addition, there is a high volatility among voters.
- The people want stronger leaders, not to change the system. The 21st century politicians should bring moral and feelings back to stage, leaving technocrats to their supporting role.
- It is of the utmost importance to reinforce our collective identity while fighting populism. In order to do so, the European Union member states should rethink the way the traditional political parties have developed in the last years. In the same way our cultural identities are enhanced, the other aspects of our political life should go forward in integration, making the EU more like a State, and giving the perception it exists for people's best interest. The EU should be less technocratic and leave little room for public debate.
- EU's citizens must understand that the nation-state cannot protect them any longer against globalisations; the security of external borders, internal security and the presence in the international trade.
- Politics did not cope with the media revolution we have been facing in the last few years: politics have changed, politicians don't. In this quest against populism we must be careful to distinguish between popular and populist politicians: we do need the first ones.
- Trump was elected not because he was a populist but because he was an opportunist. He managed to tackle the extreme left at the same time he addressed normal republican's preoccupations.