



Experience with David Sassoli

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I would have loved to join You today but unluckily I could not, hence I decided to record this brief video in order to share with You the amazing experience I did thanks to the Politics for Unity Movement. In fact, on May 9th, 2021, on occasion of Europe's Day, together with other youths coming from all over Europe, I had the incredible opportunity to interview Mr. David Sassoli, former President of the Parliament of the European Union.

Mr. Sassoli dedicated us a good portion of His afternoon, in order to discuss with us the main challenges of our times and to seek for solutions setting out anew from the core values and principles of the Union. What struck me the most during our talk was His humbleness and empathy: at first, I thought interviewing such a distinguished political figure would feel uneasy, but He immediately made me feel comfortable and created a familiar and easy-going atmosphere, even if through the screen of His pc.

He started off telling us He was willing to listen to our questions and concerns, which He deemed way more precious than any rhetorical answer. The intergenerational approach He pursued, His deeply rooted faith in multilateralism as well as His strong belief in the need of synergical efforts between citizens and institutions showed clear evidence of His personal commitment to build a more just and philanthropic society, hence showing what a careful and dedicated leader He was. Throughout the whole conversation, what came to light the most was the importance of promoting and acting accordingly to essentially humanitarian values, apart from any political view and divergences.

I remember thinking I had in front of me a real, proper leader, considering that He himself did not speak from the heights of His challenging and prestigious office, but as a very down-to-earth citizen. He stayed with us in spite of our technical problems at the beginning of the interview, even though that was such a harduous day for Him and the whole Union, in view of the intense diplomatic tensions that had arisen in the few days prior to the interview.

His humbleness and his charismatic kindness truly, truly inspired me: indeed, I got to meet a Man, a person performing His duties and ready to listen, to encourage, to give hope and to



learn from everyone else, ready to take accountability for his own actions. I wish more political leaders would be like this, for it is exactly what we need in times of uncertainty and struggle.

As He said during His inauguration speech as the President of the European Parliament back in 2019, He stressed again the need to foster dialogue, to relaunch our integration process without ever neglecting our differences, and to safeguard and promote our core values of freedom, dignity and solidarity. He believed that Europe has yet a lot to tell and accomplish, and that it will be possible only together, with ambition and compassion.

The grief and disorientation following His departure definitely proved His legacy of love. One of His quotes that I will forever cherish and carry in my heart is the following: “Believe in yourselves, do your part and let go of the rest”, and today I want to encourage You all to do the same and to conform all your efforts in that sense. I am excited for You all attending and fulfilling together this wonderful project and can not wait to be updated about the interesting topics You are discussing about! I send You all my unity and wish You a nice continuation of Your day. Best wishes, ciao!