



Triest, May 7, 2013

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

**Ref:** - the world must know: the issue of the Free Territory of Trieste as an International Nation and its socio-economic potentials.

In the era of globalization, right or wrong as it may be, there are some realities in contrast to the increasing world crisis, which is spreading from the most developed countries, that can change current economic and commercial assets in favor of many regions and nations of Central Europe and of the world.

One of such realities is situated in the heart of Europe, that is the northernmost point of the Mediterranean Sea. We are talking about the great economic, commercial and industrial potentials of the **Free Port of Trieste (F.P.T.)**, which is part of the **Free Territory of Trieste (F.T.T.)**, both founded by the UN as independent states with their own statutes, but connected by socio-economic functions (see attached geographic map).

Historically in 1719 the emperor Charles the VI established a free port in Trieste, granting the city complete market autonomy, ensuring stability without requiring taxes. Those privileges endured during the reign of Empress Maria Theresa and were reconfirmed and improved in 1891 by Emperor Franz Joseph.

The United Nations Security Council Resolution 16 adopted on January 10th 1947 legally established and approved the Free Territory of Trieste and the Free Port of Trieste. The three statutes denominated Attachments VI, VII and VIII were later included in the Treaty of Peace with Italy signed on February 10th 1947 that marks the borders of this extraordinary International Nation. This nation was set up after the end of Second World War as the main concern and wish of the winning party was to guarantee a peaceful coexistence between people and the free international transit of goods through the port of Trieste, and not the nationalistic issues, that were overcome with the establishment of the Free Territory of Trieste, as an **International Nation that belong to everyone**. This International Nation, administered by Allied Military Government under the United Nations protection, lasted until 1954. The treaty and the Attachments were drawn up clearly and in detail, are particular in the way they show the administrative, legislative and legal way to **rebuild and reform** this new nation, which is a **delimitarized tax free zone under the role and protection of the United Nations!**

Unfortunately the former Allied forces started to divide Europe in two ideological blocs with different political views, that is the communist and capitalist ideology already in 1948. Following the Memorandum of Understanding of October 5th 1954 the territories under military administration of the Protection Allied Forces for the Free Territory of Trieste were **temporarily** (see article 1) entrusted to Italian and Yugoslavian civil administration (see article 2), the last one was succeeded by Slovenia and Croatia in 1991. In 1975 Italy and Yugoslavia signed an almost secret bilateral treaty to annex the temporarily administered zones of the F.T.T. Since then nobody wanted to raise the issue of the Free Territory of Trieste, divided into 3 zones, that were still temporarily administered by Italy, Slovenia and Croatia respectively, and still subordinated to the before mentioned International Treaty of 1947; therefore the territory is just apparently subordinated to Italian, Slovenian and Croatian territorial and political sovereignty.

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Unfortunately the “cold war” and nationalistic tensions were the reason for failure of political and administrative realization of the Free Territory of Trieste and the reason for constant decline of local economy in the territories administered by Slovenia, Croatia and Italy. Since 1989 the ideological contrasts have been overcome, therefore there are no more political, strategic and military interests that for decades had blocked the territory’s economic development. The port (with 17 metres deep sea bottoms!) is lacking infrastructure and does not guarantee equal access to Trieste’s commercial transit way for the international and Central European commerce, as is common in other ports of the world. Within the port **EVERYONE** can legally establish new industrial, shipyard, commercial and storage activities with the opportunity to enlarge the facilities both on land and sea. Not to underestimate that a completely renewed international free port, both for the administrative, logistical part and the modern infrastructure for loading and unloading goods, would be in line with the most important ports of the world, contributing to the economic development of all countries. The Free Port of Trieste included in the Free Territory of Trieste would be a unique and new example of peaceful coexistence and economic, social and cultural growth, as well as a meeting point for many nations.

The Free Territory of Trieste today has approximately 315,000 inhabitants; its territory 738 km<sup>2</sup> wide, spreads from the mouth of the Timavo river near Duino-Devin (zone A) and the river Mirna near Novigrad (zone B), including the Port of Koper (Slovenia) (see attached map). The most widely spoken languages are Italian, Slovenian and Croatian; the citizens are multiethnic and multicultural, mixed between Slovenian, Italian, Croatian, Austrian, Hungarian, Slovak, Czech, Greeks, Jews, Russian, Chinese etc. The inhabitants are “cosmopolitan”, as citizens of the only International Nation.

In crisis time nobody can allow itself unproductive public assistance, therefore Trieste fights to get back its legitimate welfare, economic and commercial Mittel-European role, inherited by the Austro-Hungarian Empire, that the United Nations well understood at the end of the Second World War. That would establish a sea traffic flow between Africa, Asia, America and Europe essential for the international and Central European economy. Starting a constructive discussion at a diplomatic level, presenting the issue of the Free Territory of Trieste to The United Nations (as the U.N. already replied by letter ref. PO210P1 of May 20th 1983 see the attachment), would lead to an international political unblocking for the benefit of everyone.

The Free Port of Trieste cannot on the basis of:

- article 21 of the Treaty of Peace with Italy 1947;
- articles 3, 2, 18 and 21.2 of Charter of the Free Port of Trieste- Attachment VIII of the Treaty of Peace with Italy 1947;
- article 10 of the Italian constitution 1948;
- article 6, paragraph 12 of the Italian law about the reorganization of ports n° 84/1994;
- article 5 of the Memorandum of Understanding signed in London on October 5th 1954;
- and obviously on the basis of the International Treaties signed by the state of Italy;

be administered by Italy, **therefore the Free Port of Trieste and the Free Territory of Trieste must be given back to the international community.**

Therefore the Committee for the Free Port of Trieste, by means of the International

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Commission for the Free Port, the United Nations Security Council and the respective foreign ministers of the United Nations Member States, has been for a long time resorting to tools of the International Treaty **to legally reestablish** the already established and recognized Free Port of Trieste that also includes the Port of Koper, whose integrity, independence, protection and demilitarization are ensured by the United Nations Security Council. The Committee has already formally reported the international community (U.N.-United Nations) everything that has to this date blocked the social and economic development of this International Nation, unique in the world, that unfortunately the local politics wants to destroy, depriving the city, the nearby countries, Europe and the whole world of a great opportunity.

The Committee for the Free Port of Trieste is also setting up the legal bases for the international companies interested in establishing their businesses and offices within the Port of Trieste and the Free Territory of Trieste.

The Committee for the Free Port of Trieste is available to everyone this letter is addressed to, for any initiative, meeting, interview, conference which would serve to inform local population and the whole world about the great economic, commercial, social and cultural potential offered by this territory.

The Committee for the Free Port of Trieste is available for an open, direct and constructive dialogue for mutual collaboration with the European Union diplomacy and with every United Nations state member, aimed at re-presenting the issue of the Free Territory of Trieste to the United Nations Security Council (see the attached letter), as an International Nation that must belong to everyone.

For the General Assembly of the Committee F.P.T  
Thank you for your attention and kindest regards  
Erich Ferluga  
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Please, if it's possible, answer us in English, German or Italian language

For more informations:

COMMITTEE FREE PORT OF TRIEST

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