The ideology of Multiculturalism and Tolerance

Multiculturalismo, sicurezza sociale, migrazione e libertà
In joint cooperation with Baku International Multiculturalism Center, Azerbaijan University of Languages will be holding an international research conference on May 4th – 5th 2018 entitled “Heydar Aliyev: The Ideology of Multiculturalism and Tolerance”, dedicated to the 95th anniversary of the birth of the national leader Heydar Aliyev.

The conference will comprise of separate meetings held in different countries across the world, including Azerbaijan, Germany, Italy, Portugal, Russia, China, Moldova, Turkey and Georgia. Every participating country will be asked to summarize the content discussed during their meetings at the closing ceremony of the conference on May 4th and 5th 2018 in Baku.

The main aim of the conference is to globally promote the ideology of multiculturalism and tolerance and to present this unique concept to world citizens. The conference is dedicated to the 95th anniversary of the birth of the national leader Heydar Aliyev - the founder of multiculturalism and tolerance in Azerbaijan. A common platform is planned to be established in order to encourage the promotion of multiculturalism and tolerance among the universities participating in the closing ceremony. Within the framework of this conference that is to be held annually, it is planned to increase the number of participating countries and broaden the above mentioned platform. The conference will be held in Azerbaijani, Russian and English.

Participating universities are asked to join the plenary meeting by video conference the 8th April. For this purpose, we kindly ask all attendees to provide contact information of their IT Department so that all technical issues may be discussed and planned in advance.

Best regards,
Alessandro Figus,
ROUND TABLE
Roma, 18 April 2018

The Ideology of Multiculturalism and Tolerance”,
“Multiculturalismo, sicurezza sociale, migrazione, e libertà”

8.45 Registration of participants

09.15 WELCOME

NH Amb of Italy in Azerbaijan Dr. Augusto Massari
Dr. Felice Romano, president of Fondazione Sicurezza e Libertà and General Secretary of SIULP
Prof. Eng. Giovanni Betta, Rector of Cassino Southern Lazio
Prof. Vincezo Scotti, President of Link Campus University
Prof. Salerno Cataldo, President of KORE
Prof. Dr of Sciences Kamal Abdullayev, Rector of Azerbaijan University of Languages, Baku
Dr. Sandro Teti, Baku Multiculturalism Centre

09.45 Introduction of the round Table by Prof. PhD Alessandro Figus, Multiculturalism, nation and the uses of future

SESSION 1 part 1 – Starting work – Presentation proposal

10.15/10.30 Prof. PhD Azad Mammadov, University of Languages, Baku, Multiculturalism in Azerbaijan.
10.30/10.45 Prof. PhD Anar Baghirov, University of Languages, Baku, Multiculturalism and religion: the Azeri experience.
10.45/11.00 Prof. PhD Guido Amoretti, University of Genova, Psychological obstacles to multiculturalism: how stereotypes and mechanisms of defence may cause adverse behaviours to multiculturalism.
11.00/11.15 Dr. Andrea Pisaniello and Prof. PhD Alessandro Figus, Foundation Sicurezza e Libertà, Multiculturalism and Ostalgie,
11.15/11.30 Prof. PhD Nicoletta Varani, University of Genova, Transnational migration between rights and geopolitics
11.30/11.45 Academy of Sciences of Baku – Prof. Ilham Mammadzada-Multiculturalism in the context of philosophy
11.45/12.00 Prof. PhD Isakhan Valiyev, Head of staff of Knowledge Foundation under the President of Azerbaijan, Azerbaijan model of multicultural security: in the context of the fight against religious extremism
12.00/12.15 Prof. PhD Cecilia Costa, ECCLESIA MATER, Pontificia Università Lateranense and Roma TRE, Multiculturalism: compared concepts.
12.15/12.30 Prof. PhD Francesca Longo, University of Catania, The Ideology of Multiculturalism and Tolerance”, “Multiculturalismo, sicurezza sociale, migrazione, e libertà”
12.30/12.45 Prof. PhD Diana Spulber, International Institute of Management, Moldova, Multiculturalism a social challenge

13.00/14.30 LUNCH

SESSION 1 part 2 – Starting work – Presentation proposal

14.30/14.45 Prof. Stefano Mustica, Link Campus University
14.45/15.00 Prof. PhD Maura Di Giacinto, University Roma TRE, The Educational Dimension in Complex Societies: between history and topicality.
15.00/15.15 Prof. Adv. PhD Sylvie Jasseron, University of Nimes, France, Multiculturalism and tolerance: a permanent challenge for France
15.15/15.30 Prof. PhD Stefania Capogna, Link Campus University and Roma TRE
15.30/15.45 Prof. Zohra Alyieva, Academy of Sciences of Azb, Traditions of tolerance in Azerbaijan.

SESSION 2 – Open discussion

15.45/16.00 Special remarks
16.00/16.30 Round table Open discussion
Psychological obstacles to multiculturalism: how stereotypes and mechanisms of defence may cause adverse behaviours to multiculturalism.

As an undeniable matter of fact, each culture has its own peculiar traditions, customs and habits, sometimes different from others sharing the same environment. In fact, the acceptance of different cultures may therefore meet some resistance, i.e. culture differences may be seen as major obstacles in the acceptance process for part of the dominant culture, also causing an increasing fear of being overpowered. The object of this paper is not dealing with anthropological roots and sociological reasons causing adverse behaviours in the multiculturality process but it will focus on the psychological aspects that may push respectable people to take on xenophobic attitudes and behaviours. Underlying the psychological reasons involved in xenophobic behaviours has not to be intended as an apology of such kind of behaviours, but only as a way of understanding their deep motivations in order to neutralise them if possible.

Multiculturalism and religion : the Azeri experience.

Azerbaijan is one of the cradles of human civilization. Its constitution clearly separates religion from the state and all confessions can be professed freely. While this is all achieved thanks to the politics of multiculturalism and its ideology proclaimed by the national leader Heydar Aliyev, Europe has been having a profound crisis in this regard since 2010.

This article aims to study Azerbaijan's experience in multiculturalism and the coexistence of religious confessions in a multiethnic country, the institutional structures favoring the politics of multiculturalism, as well as the legal basis that regulates the relations between the state and religions.
This essay of a theoretical nature focuses on communication as a bridge to interculturality. The reflection develops through some key words that are at the center of the objectives for sustainable development that the UN countries have established to achieve by 2030. Through this argumentative path, which develops starting from the key concepts that drive the conference: social security, migration and freedom, we come to propose a critical reflection on the relevance of an ethical and responsible communication, based on the principle of non-violent communication, designed to counteract any form of 'passive violence' present in the act of communicating, with intent to favor the intercultural meeting and the construction of an inclusive social systems. The conflict, in all its forms, finds a field of culture in the subtle violence presents in all those ways of inauthentic and axiomatic communicating, incapable of listening to oneself and to others.

The basis on which it can be build a comparison between different cultures must have as a premise the desire to move from multiculturalism to interculturalism in order to determine an empathic and shared social space whose foundation rests on that existential condition which is the awareness of “being-in-a-common-world”, as Edith Stein used to say. Precisely from the necessity to challenge the problematic knot, never completely resolved, of the relations between cultures, it must be assumed the comparison between concepts, which provide an outstanding approach to descend into the “common world”. Often a point of understanding can be found commencing from terms of great importance for all human thought - ranging from the concept of faith to that of knowledge; from the body to the soul; from reason to truth, from person to power - in order to foster the attention to the uniqueness of every cultural expression and, at the same time, can reveal similarities and convergences between different communities.
Recent historiographical studies, both national and international, have shown that the varied migratory phenomenon and its outcomes are deeply dependent on the geographical contexts of departure and destination, the historical periods in which they occur, the age of the protagonists and all the other variables that insist on the migratory phenomenon, whether this is female, male or family migration. Starting from these premises, the present essay illustrates some thought-provoking issues that emerged from a previous research I carried out on social history of education themes which, focusing on a gender and inter-generational perspective, investigated the experiences and representations of migrant families living in Italy. Starting from the accounts and narratives concerning the experience of motherhood and paternity in «migration», gathered during the research, the contribution intends to enhance the strategic role of education and training in managing the challenges offered by the educational, social, cultural and relational complexity that is an outcome of migrations, of cultural pluralism and increasingly multicultural and multi-ethnic social contexts.

The centrality of the educational dimension as an indispensable intervention strategy in the matter of reception and security is aimed at promoting and fostering effective integration paths; an educational dimension that, addressing children, families, teachers, educators/operators, company managers, public administration, police forces, etc., is increasingly committed not only to describing the complex processes that determine the migratory phenomenon but above all to investigate in depth its impact on an educational, social, cultural and relational level and to create integration and inclusion programs and projects able to combine hospitality with security in order to significantly and effectively intervene, and affect, in the territorial contexts for which they are intended.

According to data provided by the United Nations, the United States is the country of the world that hosts more immigrants, while India is the nation from which it emigrates more. Italy does not appear in the top ten of the countries with the greatest immigration, while the United Kingdom, Germany, France and Spain are listed. How to reconcile a rise in immigration with the preservation of solidarity within the population that enables the welfare state to function.

One of the main topics on which the political debate is focused in view of the last Italian elections of 2018 is certainly immigration, but also this is, and has been, a current topic in other countries in Europe. In an increasingly globalized world one wonders about the goodness and adaptability of the policies implemented so far with regard to immigration. We discuss about their reconciliation with a world that changes and looks at a society that should be based more and more on multiculturalism and tolerance.

The problem is how to reconcile a rise in immigration with the preservation of solidarity within the population that enables the welfare state to function. A new design of the concept of nation is drawn, and the uses of future, often we are not optimistic about our immediate prospects.
Ostalgie is coming from a German term referring to nostalgia for aspects of life in East Germany, and not only. It is a new multipurpose and new expression related the German words Nostalgie (nostalgia in Italian) and Ost (East). Its anglicised equivalent, ostalgie (rhyming with "nostalgia"), is also sometimes used. The collapse of Soviet Union and the Berlin Wall demolition, was the concept guarded concrete barrier that physically and ideologically divided Berlin from 1961 to 1989 but especially divided West and East European countries. The Wall was constructed by the German Democratic Republic (GDR, East Germany), starting on 13 August 1961, the Wall cut off (by land) West Berlin from virtually all of surrounding East Germany and East Berlin until government officials opened it in November 1989. Its demolition officially began on 13 June 1990 and finished in 1992 and coincides in some generation from the Warsaw Pact countries, formally the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance with URSS of the birth of "ostalgie", that it goes against with modern principle of multicultural society and globalisation of the world. It is also an interesting picture of two different time, the first in 1957 with EU-6 and today with EU-27 and will refer to the phenomenon "ostalgie" (only DDR or more?).

We would like to consider a deep analysis of social and political society before and after the time considered and will be possible to involve several countries as Italy, that was part of EU-6 and is part of EU-27, and ex-URSS, or countries influenced by URSS. At the eighth congress of the communist party Lenin recognized the right to self-determination of the populations of the empire and promised them significant concessions, although its final intent was to reach the true dictatorship of the proletariat which would have rendered the ethnic-national distinctions useless.

The Soviet Union became the incubator of new nations with the dissolving of the Russian nation in the Soviet state. Does the “ostalgie” refer to the USSR, is this compatible with multiculturalism? Is it compatible with that plurality of tending different cultures that coexists in mutual respect and which implies the preservation of their specific traits by rejecting any type of homologation or fusion in the dominant culture?

The history of France is marked by the confrontation of the religions and even, by the religious wars. In 1801, then in 1905, two legal texts of major importance allowed a pacified cohabitation of the religions. However, in 21th century, one attends in France with a phenomenon of tension of the population in front of multiculturalism. For twenty years, difficulties have emerged, born from the presence on the French soil of various cultures and various religions associated with phenomena of immigration and delinquency. However, the governments remained passive, and preferred to deny the reality of the difficulties.

Today, the population translates for its fears in an electoral vote extremist. “To live together” became true political problems whose governments seem to have taken tardily conscience.
This contribution aims at identifying some factors that can contribute to the debate on the “rise and fall” of multiculturalism as it is animated since the middle 2000’.

Multiculturalism, intended as the legal and political accommodation for ethnic diversity, emerged in democratic countries as an alternative for replacing older forms based on racial and ethnic hierarchical mechanisms. However, since the middle 2000’ the last events in Europe, namely the so called “migration and refugee’s crisis”, challenged the multiculturalism either at theoretical level and at policy level. The rise of populist political parties and movements in Europe and the reassertion of some notions as nationalism, “nativism” and unitary citizenship in the political debate have the result to decrease public support towards multicultural approach. Moreover, populist rhetoric considered the inclusion of ethnic minority groups and migrants into the social policies as the main source of social problems as poverty, unemployment, segregation, increase in crime rate, terrorist attacks.

Since multiculturalism is to be considered as a live option for maintaining democracy in the Western countries, a process of re-reframing multiculturalism is needed in order to offer an explanation of multiculturalism as a model for democratic politics, effective social policies and citizenship approach based on the respect of human rights.

Globalisation is considered to be reinforcement the ideal of multiculturalism and promote the education and the learning system of world society comprising of variety and diversity of social-cultural groups. Given the historical evidence globalisation in the sense of connection with cultures and nations all across the world is very experienced in Europe and by European culture and society. The difference at present between the “North” and the “South” of the Globe got thinner over the improvement of technology, the technological advancement, and other mechanism applied for the people interaction, however the innovation ensure mutual coexistence between people of various dissimilar background. The learning system is integrated in the new society that seems have formed with the globalisation and the use of new technology, today it is impossible look to the future without new form of education and innovation.
Azerbaijan is one of the centres of multiculturalism in the world. There are deep historical and cultural roots of tolerance and multiculturalism in our country. Various religious and ethnic groups have coexisted and cohabited in Azerbaijan in peace and harmony for centuries. This longstanding multi-ethnic, religious and cultural diversity is now being preserved and developed by our state. The political will of our National Leader Heydar Aliyev ensured restoring the traditions of tolerance and multiculturalism in Azerbaijan in early 90th of the last century both politically and legally. Thanks to the wise policy of Heydar Aliyev, protection of these traditions has been made one of the top priorities in the country, which is a towering beacon of multiculturalism and tolerance in a region full of identity conflicts, hate and intolerance. We strongly believe that Azerbaijan represents a success story in multiculturalism and we are open to share this story with the rest of the world.

In recent time the problems of multiculturalism are in the focus of attention of philosophers, politicians and culture researchers. Therefore, the need in comprehension of this theme by social sciences researchers and begin with philosophers makes itself felt. This conditions considering the notion «multiculturalism» in different discourses. Thus, multiculturalism may be undergone philosophical analysis in the political aspect and in the context of post-modern presenting one of the forms of analysis of current social phenomena. Because both these measurements considering the notion from the standpoint of identity and policy describe manifestations, indicators of post modern. The interdisciplinary analysis of multiculturalism is important and necessary in the force of that it not only transfers these issues into the rank of philosophical - metaphysical categories, but at the same time actualizes them from the political and sociological points of view.

Today’s situation of multiculturalism implies dialogue, while multiculturalism is considered a new philosophy of interaction. In such a case bounding multiculturalism with post-modern corresponds to pluralistic vision of post-modern characterizing post-modernist thinking on the whole, and as a result meeting its value orientations. Therefore, multiculturalism is polysemantic phenomenon and despite its being discourse itself, may be considered in different discourses.
Multiculturalism in today era is facing to a deep crisis. The uncontrolled immigration the bombing the foreigner’s criminality and the emphasis in worse light that is given from mass-media to this fact is worsening. Checking the news and the archive of newspaper it can be affirmed that since the 2010 multiculturalism start to be seen as a fail of EU policy.

This work purpose to analyze a theoretical framework of multiculturalism with a particular attention to educational process, to analyze the state of art in Educational System of different Countries, and finally to analyze how Educational process can contribute to Multiculturalism as a social challenge.

The complex of the problems, perspectives, processes of interaction and the social construction of forms of living together more or less conflicting, and/or open and aware in the society of immigration, presents a series of questions to the social sciences, and geopolitics, calls to reflect on these issues both on a regulatory level, as well as of the empirical investigation. A first definition of theoretical and empirical migration is useful to clarify the scope of this phenomenon, is that it highlights the complex nature and the composite, which is the result of a flowers, variety of factors, economic, geopolitical social, cultural and psychological: migration can be considered as “social facts” total as well as the facts of geopolitical. This is because they stem from, and at the same time to trigger, a complex of social relations that involve migrants, non-migrants, those who can become it, the society of arrival and departure, the transnational space of the relations between societies, between groups, individuals, States.

The author notes that Azerbaijan's multiculturalism is related to the historical traditions of the Azerbaijani people, after restoration of Azerbaijan's independence, a legal basis for its evolution and development has become one of the main directions of state policy. Explains the essence of multicultural security. It mentions about religious extremism that can seriously damage multicultural security and tolerance, and informs about Azerbaijan's experience in combating religious extremism.