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How much is that enlightenment and culture?

A day like any other. A bit cold, unusual for May. At least not as we usually remember. So, while thinking about the next section, looking for ideas among the old records and essays, I realized that I do not know what to write because, again, if I continue with the story of madness on European margins, majority will not be satisfied, and yet, for something else at the moment I had neither the will nor the time. And the time was what I lack the most.

And so, as every time when ideas and inspiration are not exactly on my side, I decided to do the only thing that was left. Stop thinking about everything and started doing something different. Daily things. Ordinary. Indeed, so common that I did not even know how it looks like. Because, like it is above-mentioned - I do not have time.

I started walking down the street, the one in the nearby, because I did not want to waste my time on long walks (again time!). Besides broken branches, leaves on asphalt and some strange color of the sky, in those rare moments in which I did not do absolutely nothing except walking, (it is presumably called „walking“ when

somebody is wandering aimlessly and without ideas), I could hear the voices, a few quarrels, and curses related to another improper parking, or a car passing through a one-way street in the wrong direction ("*who is she/he to tell me how I drive in the wrong direction, she/he has to change direction immediately ...*"), etc. And yes, garbage. Trash everywhere, around, behind, next to the container (and there was probably something in the container).

It reminded me of the random conversation I had led with random companion during „intentional“ trip: in some countries people sort trash and prepare it for recycling. Interesting. I asked myself how much would it take for all of us. Not in order to learn how to recycle, but to persist in it. And what can help us to sustain. Higher penalties? Maybe, but that should not be the rule. European Union directive? It should be interesting. Not because it is a topic of this column, but because it is our common goal. Conscience? I should not like to talk about it. I am not sure how well we used to be trained in order to become environmentally conscious.

So, easy walk through the winter day in May led me to shopping. Completely accidental. And unplanned. I did not even enjoy it. I stood in line and waited to pay. Then I payed. But still waiting. Something was missing. „*Plastic bags are now charged. If you do not have an old one, you must buy this...*“ And then it all started happening again: the cold, walking, branches, ecology...

If we start thinking about recycling as of the boring things, and if we find waste disposal difficult („why shoul I think about it when she/he will never do so“), then surely we are not on track. It maybe sounds insignificant now, but we shall be faced with the similar order once. And then it will become the rule, which has to be respected. Conscious will not be important anymore, because we shall have to fight for „European“ awareness.

Therefore, if we are already thinking about huge projects, law harmonization, *acquis communautaire*, and madness on European borders, it will be also good to deal with things that seems to be irrelevant. Save this column somewhere you can easily find. If you decide to save it in the plastic bag, do not forget that you can use it more then once (not ony throw it away). That enlightenment is not expensive, really. And means more. Even one small step for eco-future. For us and for humankind (after all, we are not alone).

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