

Europe is in the throes of two simultaneous crises: on the one hand, it is suffering from a political crisis, a crisis of leadership, one that has led to constitutional failure; on the other, it is suffering from a loss of identity, a phenomenon that results in cultural relativism. Marcello Pera, Speaker of the Italian Senate and Professor of Philosophy of Science at the University of Pisa, delivered a conference entitled "Strength of Identity" during the course of the FAES Campus 2005, a paper which the FAES Foundation is now publishing.

Also known as the co-author of the book *Senza Radici* ("Without Roots") alongside Cardinal Ratzinger (today Pope Benedict XVI), Professor Pera urges European culture to proudly recall and reaffirm its origins and its universal democratic principles: freedom, equality and tolerance. In this respect, Europe must recognise the intrinsic value of a civilisation, Western civilisation, that has given the world so many universal ideas. "Europe must be aware of the moral superiority of a series of values that have prevailed over centuries and that have produced beneficial results wherever they have become established".

Marcello Pera

Strength of Identity

# Strength of Identity

Marcello Pera

Introduction by  
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