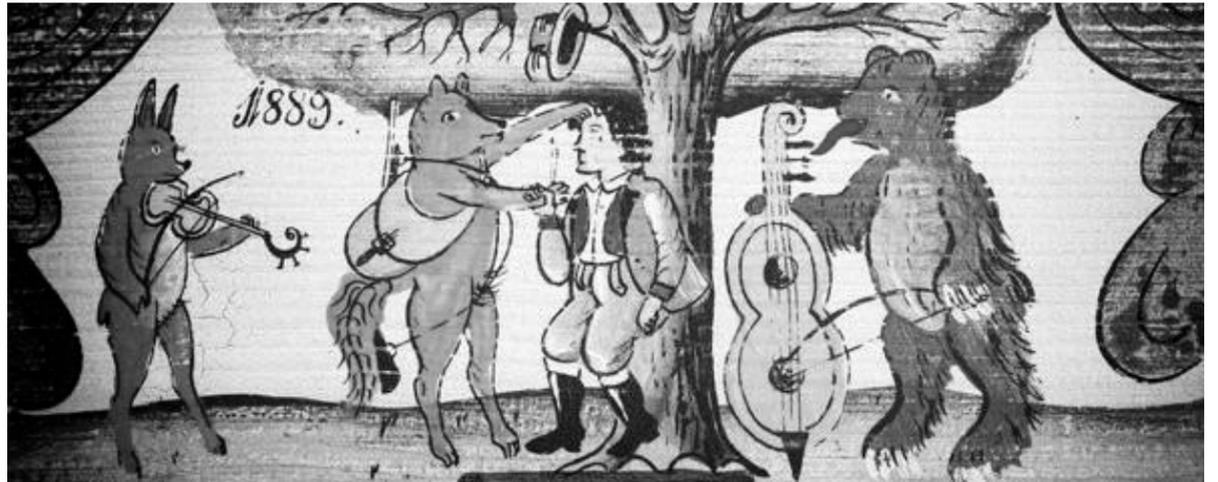


To understand Donald Trump & Roseanne Barr you have to check out what just happened in Slovenia.

Nothing unexpected happened in the Slovene elections: although the anti-immigrant nationalist-populist Slovene Democratic Party (SDS) of Janez Jansa emerged as the strongest single party, the ruling centre-left coalition got many more votes. After a protracted bargaining, this coalition will probably continue to rule and, through its lack of vision, corruption scandals, and so on, make it sure that Slovene Democratic Party will remain a convenient “fascist” threat, a scare ready to be evoked every four years in order to blackmail the majority of voters to elect the same “anti-fascist” pseudo-left.

So let's first take a look at the ideology of SDS. Two years ago, a text appeared in *Demokracija* (25 August 2016), the SDS weekly, written by Bernard Brscic, one of its main ideologists. He wrote: “George Soros is one of the most depraved and dangerous people of our time,” responsible for “the invasion of the negroid and Semitic hordes and thereby for the twilight of the EU... as a typical talmudo-Zionist, he is a deadly enemy of the Western civilisation, nation state and white, European man.”

His goal, Brscic went on, is to build a “rainbow coalition composed of social marginals like faggots, feminists, Muslims and work-hating cultural Marxists” which would then perform “a deconstruction of the nation-state, and transform EU into a multicultural dystopia of the United



States of Europe.” Furthermore, he wrote, Soros is inconsistent in his promotion of multiculturalism: “He promotes it exclusively in Europe and the US, while in the case of Israel, he, in a way which is for me totally justified, agrees with its monoculturalism, latent racism and building a wall. In contrast to EU and US, he also does not demand from Israel to open its borders and accept ‘refugees’. A hypocrisy proper to Talmudo-Zionism.”

The populist revolt across Europe has been triggered by the fact that people trust less and less the Brussels technocracy, experiencing it as a centre of power with no democratic legitimisation. The result of the Italian elections last week marked the first time in a developed western European country that Eurosceptic populists came properly to power.

There is little doubt that issues of the largely ignored working class are driving both Euroscepticism and support of Trump in the US, with global ramifications. Consider the current uproar in the US over the abrupt cancellation of ABC's hit TV show *Roseanne* because of a racist tweet by the show's star Roseanne Barr. In a column titled “With Roseanne Barr gone, will the US working-class be erased from TV?”, Joan Williams argues that the left should finally start to listen to the white working class. The cancellation “deprived American television of one of the only

sympathetic depictions of white working-class life in the past half century – in other words, since television began,” she writes.

Williams unambiguously supports the exclusion of Barr on account of her racist tweets – but she adds: “Virtually all Americans born in the 1940s earned more than their parents; today, it's less than half. The rust belt revolt that brought both Brexit and Trump reflects rotting factories, dying towns, and a half century of empty promises. Those left behind are very, very angry; Trump is their middle finger. The more he outrages coastal elites, the more his followers gloat they got our goat. Finally, they are being noticed.”

And it is crucial to read Trump's tariff war with the closest allies of the US against this background: in his populist version of class warfare, Trump's goal is (also) to protect the American working class (and are metal workers not one of the emblematic figures of the traditional working class?) from “unfair” European competition, thereby saving American jobs. This is why all the protests of public officials and economists in EU, Canada and Mexico, as well as the countermeasures proposed by them, miss the target: they follow the WTO logic of free international trade, while only a new left addressing the concerns of all those left behind can really counter Trump.

And this brings us back to Slovenia where nothing special happened, where the same battle rages as all around Europe: The Slovene Democratic Party –SDS – also portrays itself as the defender of ordinary working people against the corrupted, non-patriotic elite. The problem of Europe is to remain faithful to its emancipatory legacy threatened by the conservative, populist onslaught – and only a renewed left can do it.

In Slovenia, a new party called simply Levica (Left) also entered parliament this time around with almost 10 per cent of the votes. This party is for the time being the only glimmer of hope: it is the only actor on the political stage which escapes the vicious cycle of the anti-immigrant right and the pseudo-left, these two hands which, as in Escher's famous image, permanently draw each other as a scarecrow to justify their own existence.

-Slavoj Zizek



YOUR MONEY? YOUR LIFE? OR NEITHER?

Find out what you can do to stop paying for war:

NATIONAL WAR TAX RESISTANCE COORDINATING COMMITTEE

PO Box 150553, Brooklyn, NY 11215 · (800) 269-7464 · nwtrcc@nwtrcc.org · www.nwtrcc.org



CHINUTAUQUA
NATURAL FOODS

Open Mon-Sat 9am-7pm • Sundays 10am-5pm

Organic Foods • Vitamins • Herbs
Body Care Products

(707) 923-2452

783 Locust St. Garberville, CA 95542



Open Daily
9:00am-10:30pm

923-3913

Big selection of
Liquor, Beer & Wine
Great Burgers, Pizza,
Sandwiches & Chicken

3262 Redwood Drive, Redway

Whitethorn Construction

Retail Lumber & Building Services

Garden & Building Supplies



Sustainably Harvested Hardwoods

‘Those who contemplate the beauty of the earth find reserves of strength that endure as long as life lasts.’

-Rachel Carson

(707) 986-7416
545 Shelter Cove Rd.
Whitethorn CA 95589