

A 'German Europe' Emerged from the Euro Crisis: A Study through the Portuguese Quality Press

Authors : Ana Luísa Mouro

Abstract : When the financial crisis exploded in 2008 in the United States, unleashed by the collapse of Lehman Brothers, and contaminated the economies of the European periphery, Germany appeared as the anchor of the stability of all European institutions and countries in difficulty. The solutions provided by the German government have triggered a deep political debate about the key position Germany has conquered at the heart of Europe - a new "German question" has been created. Some say Germany has achieved by peaceful means what was not able to get through military conquest - the domination of Europe - and many fear Germany's economic power. This debate about the new role of Germany in Europe has received special attention in the European media and Portugal has not been the exception. The present study has been based on the survey, selection and critical analysis of news reporting, opinion articles, interviews and editorials, published in the weekly Expresso and in the daily Público, between 2008 and 2015 (year of the 25th anniversary of Germany's unification). The findings of this study will show the paradox of German power and its relevance for Europe's future.

Keywords : Euro crises, German Europe, intercultural hermeneutics, Portuguese quality press

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