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Culture in Europe-Building

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The discourse on “European culture” turns around a dichotomy: on the one hand the awareness of the fundamental unity of European society and civilisation; on the other hand the concern for the differences between its constituent national identities. To cope with this contrast, the unity of European civilisation, its common history, is seen to exist despite the differences, as well as by virtue of its multifarious roots, and the multiplicity of its traditions which had become a common heritage through the sedimentation of ages. This conception of European culture as *unitas multiplex* is at the base of a recent European cultural policy.

Maria Grazia Melchioni Professor of History of International Relations and Jean Monnet Professor of History and Politics of European Integration at the Faculty of Economics of the University of Rome “La Sapienza”.

She has delivered lectures and has participated in international seminars at the University of Lausanne, University of Tübingen, University of Hamburg, University of Budapest, Russian Academy of Sciences in Moscow, University of Paris I, University of Kaunas, University of Malta, University of Aix-Marseille I, University of Rostock, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences of Beijing, Fondazione Europea Dragàn, Moscow State Institute of International Relations and Mgimo University of Moscow.

As President of the European Centre of Excellence Jean Monnet-Luigi Einaudi, she has been the Co-ordinator of international and interdisciplinary research programmes on "European identity at the end of the XX Century" and on "Trans-Mediterranean relations at the time being". She is a member of the Scientific Committee of the “Fondation Jean Monnet pour l’Europe” of Lausanne and a member of the board of editors of the collection “Studies on the History of European Integration” (Franz Steiner Verlag, Stuttgart). She founded the Oral History Society, and since 2006 the Director of the “Rivista di Studi Politici Internazionali” (RSPI- nuova serie).

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