



*Discours du Président à la réception CEBP  
mardi 13 octobre / ASP 17:30 heures*

Honourable members of Parliament, dear Presidents, dear colleagues, ladies and gentlemen,

It is with great pleasure that we approach you in the premises of the European Parliament, the stronghold of democracy in Europe.

The multitude of our bakery and confectionary products speaks for us. The presence of my colleagues from different European countries proves that Europe is made of different culinary cultures, specificities and adventures in taste.

Is there anything nicer than enjoying a Smorrebrod in the Scandinavian countries, dunking a loaf of ciabatta in olive oil and to take a bite of Spanish tapas garnished with herbs and spices?

Bread is different around Europe and, together with pastry, accompanies and rounds off every good meal.

Do you, dear MEPs, intend to force us to standardise, regulate reduce this variety to its simplest expression and its lowest common denominator? Do you want to turn it into industrial, insipid, anonymous and cheerless product?

I am convinced that rules must exist, that information must be shared. However, neither medical language nor the thinking of a pharmacist must invade our businesses and dominate in our shops.



« We European citizens are mature enough, you do not have to instruct us when, how much and what we should or would be allowed to eat », states my colleague Peter Becker.

For several years already, numerous confectioners like Hermé and Marcolini have been the frontrunners of a confectionary and chocolaterie that revisits its classics by making experiments with new ingredients like tea, flowers and spices, adding them to high quality chocolate made from the finest cocoa.

Communicate with the customer, rid the profession of the image of the baker sweating by his oven in the middle of the night, this is the leitmotiv of our trade.

The sector is showing good resistance, more so than butchery and this because of the great diversity of our regional products and the exchanges between professionals, bakers and confectioners alike.

Take a fresh look at our vocation with unlimited possibilities, at sector still generating new jobs. Young people who are courageous and ambitious should bear this in mind.

«Our bread is the envy of the world », writes J.P Crouzet, and it is our duty to promote that culture.

Let us all do what we do best, let the confectioners treat us with fine pastry, let the bakers bake the bread, but please, not the technocrats and the politicians.

Thank you for your kind attention.