

FROM OUR PASTOR

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Sabbath Greetings to Everyone!

The fallout from the Brexit vote continues in both directions. While several additional European nations are planning similar votes to leave or remain in the EU, a core led by Germany, are discussing plans for the EU combined military force.

This week the European Union foreign affairs chief, Elmar Brok, urged the economic and political bloc to go ahead with plans to create an army. The German politician told Die Welt that EU countries need to cooperate more closely on issues of defense, and suggested the EU needs a military headquarters.

Breitbart.com author Virginia Hale reported Mr. Brok's statements: "We need a common (military) headquarters and a coalition (of EU countries) acting in accordance with the permanent structural cooperation of the EU Treaty. From such a group an EU army could eventually arise."

Stating that a united EU army would make European foreign policy much more effective, the foreign affairs head said such a force would: "strengthen the role of Europeans in [global] security and defense policy, make Europe able to better fulfill its responsibilities in the world and also achieve more synergies in defense spending."

Amidst the turmoil at the EU, Germany is being recognized as the core of the new Europe, both financially and militarily. Chancellor Angela Merkel has been calling for a much larger Germany Army and that, "Germany should substantially increase its defense spending to cope with "external threats," Merkel also warned last week that, "Berlin can't count on the US, and the EU is incapable of defending itself. The chancellor maintained. "It would be no good in the long run if Germany expected others to bear the burden of defense."

The idea of a serious European army is not new, but is gaining strong support due to recent events. In 2015, EU Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker called for the creation of a united European arm, which he said would be aimed at "detering" Russia and strengthening the alliance. "With its own army, Europe could react more credibly to the threat to peace in a member state or in a neighboring state," he said, adding that "a common European army would convey a clear message to Russia that we are serious about defending our European values." (RT.com 06/22/2016).

In Daniel chapter 2, the foundational chapter of God foretelling future world events, the ten toes of the image seen by the King in his dream are described as a "mixture of iron and clay." Iron and clay do not naturally combine, so must be forced together by outside pressure. The toes of this image represent the ten nations that will be forced together in a final government to be very dominant for a few years before the return of Jesus Christ to establish His kingdom here on the earth. Notice the number of toes or nations is ten, not twenty-six. The EU as it is currently configured was destined to fall apart and be replaced by a ten nation group that is much more powerful and coherent. It is taking place as we speak. Don't be surprised if, after a few more nations leave the EU, a new group of ten is formed almost overnight.

Keep in mind Luke 21:36, "Watch and pray always that you may be accounted worthy to escape the evils coming at the end and to stand before the son of man."

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