

## **Democracy and federalism. Let's federate the federalists**

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**By federalizing Europe America becomes Europe's little brother**

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Federalism is a source of four things that people appreciate. In the first place because it makes something disappear that we (almost) all want to see disappear, namely nationalist-driven wars. Secondly, because it gives us back something that was destroyed by the advent of intergovernmental control systems after the Second World War, namely sovereignty at home. Thirdly, federalism is the best constitutional and institutional foundation for democracy, for European citizenship, for European prosperity and security. And fourthly, no longer a pawn in the geopolitical game of the powers, but a center of power in the evolution towards a multipolar world order.

We know the United States as a large and powerful country. It is powerful thanks to its federal structure, but is it also large? Look at this table, which lists the countries or states of the EU and the US in terms of population, from large to small. What does it look like? The United States has considerably fewer inhabitants than the EU. California - the largest American state - is ranked 6<sup>th</sup> in that list and is more than half smaller than Germany. The US has seven states with a population in excess of 10 million, while the EU has ten countries in this category.

From this point of view, the US is not a large one at all. If you imagine the EU being governed on the basis of a federal constitution and being able to develop decisiveness, then America will simply be Europe's little brother.

Countries of EU and States of USA qua inhabitants (> 10 million)

Source: US/Census Bureau; (2017) Eurostat (2018)

Country/State	Number inhabitants *1.000	EU/VS
Germany	82.521	
France	66.989	
United Kingdom	65.808	
Italy	60.589	
Spain	46.528	
California	39.536	
Poland	37.972	
Texas	28.304	
Florida	20.984	
New York	19.849	
Romania	19.644	
Netherlands	17.081	
Pennsylvania	12.805	
Illinois	12.802	
Ohio	11.658	
Belgium	11.351	
Greece	10.768	
Czech Republic	10.578	
Georgia	10.429	
Portugal	10.309	
North-Carolina	10.273	
Total EU 28	511.522	
Total VS	325.719	