Volker Pispers: "... bis neulich 2014"

Political cabaret, 3SAT TV 14.09.2014

Video: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OpFNlNK8j20

Here: transcription, translation, subdivision with titles, footnotes by Eulenspargel

- 2 <u>1.</u> CABARET & RELIGION
- 2 <u>2.</u> ECONOMY: WAGES BELOW THE EXISTENCE MINIMUM
- 3 3. POLITICAL PARTIES: LACK OF ALTERNATIVES
- 3 <u>4.</u> SENSE + SENSELESSNESS OF GERMAN FEDERAL ELECTIONS
- 4 <u>5.</u> THE MEDIA: KEEPING US BUSY #1
- 5 <u>6.</u> MIGRANTS AS SCAPEGOAT NUMBER ONE
- 7 7. THE MEDIA: KEEPING US BUSY #2
- 8 <u>8.</u> DEMOCRACY: WE ARE THE EXPERTS
- 9 <u>9.</u> POLITICAL LEADERSHIP QUALITIES
- 10 <u>10.</u> THE ROAD TO OLD-AGE POVERTY
- 13 11. THE UNEMPLOYMENT FIGURES FACT AND FICTION
- 15 <u>12.</u> WHY SHOULD MY BABBLE OF YESTERDAY BOTHER ME?
- 17 13. 40 YEARS OF SUCCESS IN GERMAN POLITICS
- 18 <u>14.</u> THE SYSTEM GOAL
- 20 <u>15. SOCIAL INSURANCE LIES</u>

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	CABARET & RELIGION
Cabaret, that's the place where you can let the criticism of your own lifestyle be slapped against your ears as in the church: "Goeth forth, sell all your possessions and give the proceeds to the Greeks". Now that would be christian-like, wouldn't it? To give your money to the poor. Luckily you don't take the religious stuff all that seriously. Because then we would all be moslems. Giving the poor your money is one of the greatest punchlines of all times . The colleagues have been on tour with that since 2000 years, also in the shire of Limburg ⁰ Cabaret is a kind of modern selling of indulgences. The bad left conscience out of the fire leaps when money in the Cabaret cash box tingles.	0) Limburg: Site of a church scandal. A catholic bishop (Tebartzvan Elst) recognized no bounds in building his luxurious new residence
And therefore you should keep all your Cabaret tickets . After the collapse of Capitalism someone may come to you and say "Well, and what function did <i>you</i> fulfill in that swinish system, eh?". I'm referring to that exploitation system in which we are currently living. It's obvious enough, isn't it? That job wonder Germany — where is it taking place? In the low-wage sector. Never before did so many people have a job as now. That's true. And never before could so many people <i>not</i> live from their job. I've always said "I can always find something that keeps me busy on my own". Currently one million germans are working for temporary placement agencies. Those people have	
no employer at all, they have pimps. And do you know these <i>top uppers</i> [Aufstocker]? These are the ones who have work for a couple of hours a week for a few Euros an hour. And if they have work for only 4 or 5 hours a week, then they are <i>not</i> classed as unemployed, they don't populate the unemployment statistics. They don't have a 35	1) top upper ~ Aufstocker: a person who earns so little that job centers 'top up' his earnings to the existence minimum; a subvention system
hour week, they don't even have a 35 <i>Euro</i> week, but they have <i>work</i> . And if they earn 35 Euro a week, they get the rest topped up to unemployment benefits (Hartz IV ²) level by the unemployment agency. <i>Top uppers</i> ! 1.4 million Germans work as top uppers! And if someone comes along and asks: what function did you fulfill in that swinisch system, what then? Then you will answer: One moment! You bring that big cardboard box with all the Cabaret tickets, and you answer: Here, bucko, I was in the resistance	2) Hartz IV : Since 2005 part of a reform that combined the former unemployment benefits for long-term unemployed and the welfare benefits, leaving them both at about the <i>lower</i> level of the former social assistance. "Hartz" was the name of the reform organizer.

movement.

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The interesting thing is that the population that is being fooled by its politicians doesn't defend itself. All over Europe people go angrily onto the streets to demonstrate. In Germany everything is at peace . I think here the deluded are already one step further. They have grasped that in this economic system protests bring nothing. The people don't even go to elections any more. A third of the population doesn't go to the polls. Why should they? Why should someone living off Hartz IV² go to vote? Ask him which he prefers: Black-Red? Black-Green? Black-Yellow? Red-Green? Red-Yellow? He will say: are you offering me shit in different flavours? Who created this Hartz IV? It wasn't the Liberals. It was *Red-Green*! Red-Green lowered the taxes for the rich, by 10%. Red-Green deleted tax on the sale of companies, brought the hedge funds into the country. And as the State almost went bankrupt they didn't raise taxes again but introduced Hartz IV to balance the budget! Red-Green has proven that the Liberals are not at all necessary for this whole neoliberal hogwash! And the voters have grasped this. In the Federal election 2013⁴ the Liberals were ousted right out of Parliament. Wasn't that a sensation? I couldn't believe it 'til the last minute. I must admit. I was shocked. That a Parliament without the Liberals is possible. On the election evening I had to suppress the one or the other tear. I stand by this. That I should live to see this day! But this election was a catastrophe – one third didn't vote. A further third indicated one week before the election, that they didn't know what to vote. When you walked around in the pedestrian zone with a shotgun and asked "What do you want – Merkel or Steinbrück?" Many answered "Oh, just pull the trigger".

POLITICAL PARTIES: LACK OF ALTERNATIVES

3) Political Party spectrum in Germany:

Black = Conservatives ~ Christian-Democrats (CDU)

Red = Socialists (SPD)

Yellow = Liberals ~ Free Democrats (FDP)

Green = Greens (originally ecological program)

New:

AfD = Alternatives ~ right-wing (no colour asigned, maybe Dark Black?)

In Bavaria and on Federal level solely in a fraction with the CDU: CSU = Christian Socialists ~ Conservative. Involved in a series of corruption scandals over the last few years.

4) Federal elections 2013: Steinbrück = (Socialist) opponent of (Conservative) Merkel for the role of Chancellor. Result: Merkel won; Black-Red coalition. Opposition negligible.

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And since that election⁴ we know it for sure: *nothing* is possible without Angela Merkel. In this country politically you simply cannot get around Angela Merkel. So you should see it rationally. You have to accept the consequences. I propose officially that as long as this woman is alive we just dispense with this election stuff. Yes, I suggest, Angela informs us every four years with whom she intends to form a coalition. We vote in any case always in such a way that she can select her coalition partner at will. So we can save us the election campaign, which is in any case an insult for anyone who can

SENSE + SENSELESSNESS OF GERMAN FEDERAL ELECTIONS

count to three. Merkel is simply unbeatable. She's the Bayern München⁵ of german politics. Only without Pep^6 . But there's one super trick she masters supremely. And people always fall for it. When all stand before Merkel, rant and rave, are mad, talk incessantly against her, then Merkel simply turns around and says: they are standing behind me. How often has Francois Hollande found himself standing behind Merkel wondering how he got there? Merkel acts like a skillful magician. A magician distracts you with his yakety-yak from what he is doing with his hands. Merkel distracts you with her hands* from her yakety-yak. And the media themselves take care of the rest of the distraction of the populus.

- 5) Bayern München: one of the most successful soccer teams
- 6) Pep ~ Josep Gladiola: Bayern München trainer
- *)Merkel's hands Merkel has the habit of posing with hands forming a rhombus

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The job of our media is to occupy us. Not to enlighten or to inform us, but to keep us busy, because the German easily gets upset. That lies in his nature. And that has to be channeled. So that we don't get upset over things that could really be system-relevant we have to be presented with scandals. There is a whole palette of these, they are called up one by one. And the media probably also develop scandals consciously. For instance, at the moment we are almost into the influenza season. Only, this year they haven't managed to agree on an animal. How often have we been carried off by pandemics? Whatever has happened to the avian flu this year? Don't ask me, ask the pigs. And that this year's influenza saison has quasi fallen into the water was bad luck for the ADAC⁷. The vellow angels⁷ were all of a sudden the substitute swines. That was a scandal exactly after Angela Merkel's taste. You see, that's what our politicians love. A scandal where everyone can join in and get upset. The regulars' table boils over. And it's about nothing. Nothing at all. Nineteen million ADAC members only want one thing: breakdown service in an emergency. Whether of those 34,000 or 3,400 select their favourite car [by browsing manipulated ADAC evaluations], that's the famous sack of rice in China! Those people in the ADAC actually falsified statistics! I didn't even know that such a thing was possible! Those are the topics with which we are distracted. Scandals, scandals.

Food scandals are always very popular. There the German can become upset again and again. Nothing is eatable any more, he moans with a full mouth. Last year it was really bad. First the bio eggs of the hens that didn't get any bio meat to eat. Then that once a century scandal – remember that from last year? The scandal par excellence: horse

THE MEDIA: KEEPING US BUSY #1

7) ADAC = largest german automobil club, in 2013-14 involved in a series of corruption scandals, eg. falsifying statistics. Colour of the service cars = yellow.

meat in the lasagne! There the German was beside himself with indignation. Now you have to concede, the German is tolerant. He has no problem when someone taps his phone. It doesn't bother him when his emails are read. But *horse meat* .. in this *typically german dish lasagne* - there the party is over! There we have exceeded a limit! I can tell you, had the Americans been responsible for that, we would marched over, that would have been that. I asked myself, at 1 Euro 99, how come there is meat of *any* kind in the lasagne? Two years ago there was dioxin in the pork, remember that? Then they had to admit to feeding the pigs with sludge from the sewage. I asked myself, why do they bother to first press the sewage into the pigs, I mean the four-legged ones? Nowadays you can do the same with flavour enhancer. Dr Oetker* surely has some product on the shelf, with the vital vitamins B, A, S and F**. And you could bring it onto the market ideally under the brand 'KloFrost'***.

*) Dr Oetker = A nutrition producer

**) BASF = worldwide largest chemical enterprise

***) KloFrost: cacography of the BioFrost brand. Klo = dunny

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And another scandal, and yet another scandal. If nothing else helps, you have to watch this, if we *really* must be distracted because it's very, very bad, then they come with the migrants. That always grips, because [--] there all Germans have something to peck down on. Even the receiver of Hartz IV² has something he can look down on. It's the fault of the migrants! In Germany it must always be the fault of someone, that's an old tradition. And there are no longer sufficient Jews. And then, two years ago the Poles were suddenly allowed to freely choose their place of work throughout the EU - the transition period was over. And in March these articles in the papers, "Now the Poles are coming! Millions of Poles are standing along the border, pawing the ground, about to overrun us . . . ". But most of them appear to have run through the country and out on the other side - nothing much happened. This Spring it was the Romanians and the Bulgarians - another deluge! Crazy. And the CSU³ were beside themselves. The Bavarian Premier Seehofer declared "Whosoever cheats will be thrown out!". But no country in the world is prepared to grant the CSU asylum . . . Then I read that 25% of the Romanians that have come have an academic degree! And now I can understand the fears of the CSU. People with a *real* doctor title are coming – things are getting tight. The migrants are emigrants. 20% of the people that live and work in this country, and who pay their taxes, in contrast to Ulli Hoeneß and Alice Schwarzer⁹, have come from

MIGRANTS AS SCAPEGOAT NUMBER ONE

- 8) Beginning with the doctor title of the Federal Defence Minister Guttenberg (CSU) a series of plagiarism scandals came up involving the academic titles of politicians, mostly Conservatives
- 9) Ulli Hoeneß: manager of the premier league football club Bayern München. Convicted of tax evasion (38 Million euro at last count)

Alice Schwarzer: feminist activist, accused of tax evasion

somewhere else. And with most of them it works splendidly. We must be thankful that they are here. And yes, a small proportion of the migrants causes problems. Quite right. You can say it out loud, it's no taboo subject, Mr. Sarrazin¹⁰. He had written that big book titled "Germany is getting rid of itself, the migrants are to blame . . . ". In his eyes all migrants are to blame. After the first book he wrote a second one, on the Euro crisis. Not many people have read this one, have they? But this second book is interesting, because according to Sarrazin the migrants are also to blame for the *Euro crisis*. But this time it's those migrants that remained in their home countries. A true German like Sarrazin cannot be fooled by foreigners, whether they come here or stay home. Sarrazin says quite clearly: The problem in Greece is the same as in the Berlin quarter of Neuköln¹¹ – insufficient true-blue Germans. If genuine Germans were present everywhere, then the economy would be in good shape and all these problems wouldn't exist. A german captain would never have gone down with this Costa Condordia¹². But there are simply not sufficient Germans in the world – we shouldn't have lost that war. No, that migrants cause problems is no taboo subject. Even the migrants say that themselves, that a small number of migrants cause problems. But also a not so small number of *non*-migrants cause problems as well. What's this talk about integration? Do you suppose that these neonazi baldies are capable of being integrated in this country? You will have to be satisfied if they would at least consent to wearing headscarves! But then they would be Bandidos, or what are these called again? Head scarf: that's also a topic over which the German can get upset. Headscarf! Here we have our "Oh, the women are being suppressed by the headscarf!". And that's something that the conservative politician cannot stand - when women are suppressed. He wants to free them from the headscarf. Brüderle¹³ would have loved to also free them from their blouses. The more free the woman, the better for all . . . Yes, some wear a headscarf. Must this be of interest for you? Hello: we have *freedom of* religion, don't we? I would prefer it if we were just free of religion. But we have religious freedom, meaning everyone is free to believe the poppycock that he holds for right. Religion is often a bit peculiar, have you noticed that? I was raised as catholic. As child I had to confess things that I had never done. As nine year old have you known what unchaste thoughts are? You were glad that the chaplain could help you out so well on that! At some stage you grow out of such things, you develop your own notions. Today,

10) Thilo Sarrazin: Berlin politician, wrote two nationalist, radical right-wing, anti-migrant books.

- 11) Neuköln: quarter in berlin with a high percentage of immigrants
- 12) Costa Concordia: Cruise liner wrecked in the Mediterranean. The captain jumped into a life-boat quite early.

13) Rainer Brüderle: Liberals politician (FDP), was accused of sexism by a number of journalists

some say that religion is for people that have an alcohol intolerance. You have catholic academics who hold talks explaining that homosexuality is curable with globuli. Sure, they ought to give these academics the giggle death. But that isn't done. The nonsense is endured. It's called *tolerance*. *Tol*erare means enduring, bearing. That has nothing whatever to do with finding something terrific [Toll finden]. You have arse-holes who claim to believe in God. And there are arse-holes who claim they believe in Allah. That has nothing to do with religion. An arse-hole is an arse-hole, that's it. But Islam threatens Germany, so, so. Who was it, that had beaten 100 people to death on the streets here over the last 20 years? Islamists or Neonazis? Does the answer occur to you murders and other activities of a neonazi group over a decade, and spontaneously, or do you work for the Office for the Protection of the Constitution*?

We have problems, but it isn't the *Islam*! We have too few teachers - that's a *real* problem. 10% of the class hours are cancelled! According to official data, each child misses a whole year over its entire school time. And that doesn't even take account of the replacement hours. Replacement hours are those in which the teachers stand before classes for which they are just as unknown as the subject of the lesson is to the teachers. We have too few nurses. Are you informed of the current situation in the hospitals, of the extent of the rationalization? Have a talk with the people who are employed there. You will get the creeps. We have too few geriatric nurses, we have too few policemen, and too few firefighters. It's burning at all corners of society. And we discuss about introducing car toll for foreigners, and about head scarves! Where am I? But that is exactly what the media are doing. That's exactly where they want to have us. There is no discussion on the central issues. Try to get an article about the situation in old people's homes published in the papers. They will tell you: Oh come now, we've already reported on that. And anyway you'll have enough time to concern yourself with old people's homes when you come to lie there. On the other hand, if you make it known that tomorrow, here on the largest square of the town, you intend to burn the Koran, they will send 20 camera teams. Then you get the full attention. When someone wants to burn the Koran, the journalist feels a duty to inform the public. Do you remember Terry Jones, this american preacher? He lived in the USA in a one-horse town so small that not even the Americans knew its name. He gathered a congregation of 50 empty heads around him. No-one would have taken any notice of them if he

didn't get the idea of burning the Koran in public. Immediately he had worldwide

*) Office for the Protection of the Constitution ~ Amt für Verfassungsschutz. Was sharply criticized by a parliamentary investigation committee for being "professionally blind" to the for general incompetence (NSU affair).

THE MEDIA: KEEPING US BUSY #2

attention. Just the *announcement* of his intention was enough to interview him from morning to night. CNN, the whole world got informed. Every evening my TV channel has 13 Minutes available to report on the most important items from around the world. Over one week they spent 2 Minutes every evening on Terry Jones. Today that's called Journalism. I had learnt to look away when someone masturbates. The media make a spotlight out of it! And then my programming of the crime thriller doesn't fit any more. Terry Jones. Would have been a classical job for the secret services to keep something like that secret. The CIA has already abducted so many people wrongly, Terry Jones would have made something good. I would have packed him together with a cigarette lighter, petrol canister and Koran, and would have left him on the market place in Kabul. And there I would have said: So, Reverend Big Lip, here is your target audience, the Lord be with you. There is a jackass in every village. Every family has an idiot no-one can do anything with. And each of you are right now thinking about a particular person . . . The married couple here in the front row are still discussing it. But I don't want to see such people in the news show!

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That is what the media do. They play games with us. They use topics - the Arabic Spring is a marvellous example. At first all were completely enthusiastic - the Arabic Spring! Look, the Arabs have grasped that democracy is the only viable way of life. They are throwing off their shackles. These gorgious pictures - pushing the dictators into the sea! As the first people began to jump in after them in order to swim over to us, the enthusiasm began to suffer a bit. Yes, we Germans are the first that know how nice it is when walls fall. But we have also witnessed who comes climbing over the rubble afterwards. Since that time we are able to differentiate between the auxiliary verbs: People should be *permitted* to travel, but not be *able* to travel. The enthusiasm over the Arabic Spring waned rapidly. They were all liberated but they didn't convert to Christianity. No-one here could understand why they stayed moslems. And then came the first free elections. I think first of all in Tunesia. And they elected predominantly muslim parties! Moslems vote for muslim Parties! That baffled our papers. You could read headlines like "Are they really mature enough for democracy?". Of course not. No more than the Bavarians are! What's that got to do with democracy, when they elect a party that *they* consider to be the right one? Democracy is when you vote for what the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* considers to be right. *That's* democracy. You have to

DEMOCRACY: WE ARE THE EXPERTS

make a distinction. It's *we* who are the good guys. *We* know what democracy is, and what it isn't. Egypt, that was once such a lovely country for a holiday trip. Now the Coptic Christians are being hunted down. That would never have happened under Adolf, erh, under Obama! You allow these Egyptians a free election and what do they do? They elect Mr. Mursi as President – an Islamist! You have to let that melt on your tongue. An Islamist, that's a terrorist who has just been too chicken up to now. The population as a whole didn't like Mursi. Even those who voted for Mursi were disappointed. And I said at the time "Boys, welcome in democracy!". But then it turned out that democracy in Egypt is far more advanced than ours. Yes, if your vote turns out to be a mistake, then you don't have to wait four long years to correct it, no. You simply call the Army and tell them: Could you drop by and arrest Mum²² - it can't go on like this. Imagine we could call the Bundeswehr and say: Could you arrest Merkel, the way it is now makes no sense. The von der Leyen¹⁴ would immediately answer "Yes, of course, where should I hang her?". Nothing is ever left hanging on the von der Leyen.

14) Ursula von der Leyen: Currently Defence Minister. Ambition to succeed Merkel as Chancellor??

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Merkel has developed a very individual style. You have to acknowledge it. If someone says something that doesn't suit her, then she does *not* say "That's stupid, I see it differently", or "How did you arrive at that?". No, Merkel's response would be "That is not my *ductus*". Her counterpart cannot even be cross. You can't be angry with a person who has a *ductus*. In the end it's one of those women's matters. The *ductus* of the Chancellor can be quite stunning. On the day following the nuclear catastrophe in Fukushima, Merkel sat in the press conference and said verbatim "On such a day you cannot say that the nuclear power stations are secure, they *are* secure". Steinbrück⁴ would not have survived a sentence like that. In this country there are only two people who are allowed to contradict themselves within a single sentence: Merkel and Beckenbauer¹⁵. They are idols, they are allowed to do that. Beckenbauer is the first worldwide recognized mind prosthesis carrier. He's the man for whom the saying "What you don't have in your head you have to have in your legs" was invented. One of the biggest trash-talkers that was ever allowed to stand in front of a ball. Here the latest from Qatar - you know, the World Soccer Championship in that Emirate, the desert Championship. There are these reports that the stadiums are being built by slaves. Already 160 deaths, inhuman conditions. Questioned on this, Beckenbauer said "All

POLITICAL LEADERSHIP QUALITIES

15) "Emperor" Franz Beckenbauer: a manager, former football coach, former player

poppycock! People have no idea what they're talking about". He had been in Qatar several times and had never seen a slave. The people there run around freely. For a proper Emperor a slave without an iron ball attached to his ankle *is* no slave. This is the intellectual level to which the German looks up to. Franz is loved, like Merkel. 70% find Merkel good in every opinion poll over the last 8 or 9 years. Or is the ADAC behind this? There was a legendary poll in which 70% found the government shitty, and 70% found Merkel good. In the same poll. I'm quite sure those were the same 70%. They see no connection between Merkel and the government. The German can distinguish between such things. Later on he will say "If Merkel had known that!". She cannot know everything, otherwise she would have a different expression on her face. Merkel is no actress. No, they just don't tell her everything. As previously with Honecker 16. They renovated only the *one* street, drove Honecker along that street and told him: This is what it looks like everywhere, you don't have to lose time to check it all. Up to the end, Honecker believed that the DDR was about to overtake the BRD (West Germany). That's how they do it with Merkel - they simply don't tell her the

16) Erich Honecker: Last Head of the DDR State Council

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truth.

And so Merkel stands before the Bundestag¹⁷. In a household debate a couple of years ago she said, with her face beaming "Germany is in good shape, this is a reason for joy". And in the whole previous week we could read in the papers that 25% of the people in this country must reckon with old age poverty - according to the official statistic of the Ministry of Labour. They didn't even tell Merkel that! Otherwise she couldn't have spoken that sentence. On every Cabaret evening at that time I worked out for the audience that not just 25% will be affected by old age poverty, but 40%. And hardly 8 months later the Ministry of Labour discovered it as well, and made an official announcement. I suspect they weren't able to procure the Cabaret tickets earlier. Not that I'm misunderstood: we are talking about old age poverty from 2030 onward, i.e. a number of people in the audience today can lean back in their seats and relax - the mercy of an early birth, also has its pleasant side. Yes, if you are already retired then you have your pension. Previously, people went into retirement and received 60% of their last net wage. For this approaching old age poverty we must thank the Red-Green pension reform of 2004. Everyone complains about having to work to 67. Much worse

THE ROAD TO OLD-AGE POVERTY

17) Bundestag: Federal Parliament

is that the pension *niveau* is being lowered year by year until 2030. People who retire from 2030 onward will receive only 43% of their last net wage. It's clear that the pension formula is so complicated that you can't do the calculation yourself. But you can take the 43% as a rough estimate. Now, just make a quick check of 43% of your last net salary to see if you could continue to live with a roof over your head, or if you should concentrate on eating. I don't know how high the wages and the pensions will be in 2030. By then the wages could rise. But my experience tells me, when wages rise so also do the prices. That means purchasing power remains constant. So we can use the figures of today - then we know what we're talking about. Today, poverty is defined thus: a single person is considered to be poor if he has less than 850 Euro a month available income. So, from 855 Euro upwards you already belong to the middle class. I love statistics! Yes, somewhere there must be a border, and a narrow miss is also not on target. Hartz IV²: Hartz IV consists currently of 401 Euro handed out monthly and in addition a tenancy subsidy, all in all slightly over 700 Euro. As pensioner you don't get Hartz IV. If you are old and needy then you receive something officially called *Need*oriented Basic Security [Bedarfsorientierte Grundsicherung], often referred to as *Creepy* [Grusi]. That's a little less than Hartz IV because in old age you don't eat so much any more. Therefore "need-oriented". At the moment this Basic Security lies at 698 Euro monthly plus/minus 3-4 Euro depending on which Federal State you're in. So, now let's take a current normal gross income: 2000 Euro. As single person you take home 1400 Euro. Now calculate 43% of 1400 Euro and you arrive even without a pocket calculator at *Creepy*. Now I only have to mention that 40% of the employed in this country earn 2000 Euro gross, or less. And now you know that later on 40% are going to enjoy old age poverty. I worked that out in 20 seconds with information that you can google in 10 seconds. Back then, the Ministry of Labour took 8 months to find out that not 25% but 40% will be affected. As they anounced this, Merkel stood in the Bundestag¹⁷ and declared "I am leading the most successful government since . . . ". They again didn't tell her the facts! Do you know who was head of the Labour and Social Ministry at the time? Naturally Ursula von der Leyen¹⁴. And do you know what she said on the subject of old age poverty? Verbatim: "What's all this talk of old age poverty? The people have their Riester pension". Yes, we have a so-called Riester pension¹⁸! Of what use is that for anyone? Red-Green constructed the Riester pension

in such a way that, when you receive your *Basic Security*, the Riester pension is offset against it. At this point the glas drops out of your hand, doesn't it? Together with the Riester pension that you built up by decades of contributions you arrive at the *Basic Security* level. *That* is the Red-Green Riester pension law. Now the question pops up: Isn't von der Leyen aware of this? In this case she is intellectually a sister of Beckenbauer¹⁵. That is the *friendly* supposition. Because the alternative is that she knows it. What she is in that case I'm not permitted to express openly on stage. You have to construct it yourselves. It includes the words "hole", "dumb", and "arse". That's where I would have liked to see a committee formed to investigate whether von der Leven knew it or not, Ladies and Gentlemen. That would have been an interesting topic. The Riester pension is the biggest stupefaction of the people that was ever organized in this country, and it was done by *Red-Green*. We shouldn't forget that. Those who earn 2000 Euro or less and "augment" their pension by the Riester option (i.e. pay in extra to Insurance firms) land in the *Basic Security*. Those who earn 2000 Euro or less and *don't* "augment" their pension by the Riester option *also* land in the Basic Security. The population that chose Riestering pay in lifelong for nothing. They Riester completely for the arse. And that arse has a name: Walter Riester. One of the biggest worker betrayers that the SPD has brought forth. And of these there are quite a few. Walter Riester, the badly jointed floor tiler. The Consumer Product Testing Group [Stiftung Warentest] has computed fairly quickly after the introduction of the Riester pension where the tax money that we blow as subvention into the Riester pension lands. That's the bait for us: Riester pension, you have to do it, you'll get a couple of hundred Euro as grant, it's free! Ever thought about where the State gets this subsidy money from? Could it be taken from the taxes you pay? Well, we didn't really want to go into so much detail, did we? The German can differentiate that. The German recognizes an evil State that takes everything away, and a good State that gives him gifts. And these two States have *nothing* to do with each other, Ladies and Gentlemen. The Riester pension participant sees nothing at all of the billions that are being blown into the Riester pension every year. That money trickles away totally into the pockets of the Insurance representative in the form of acquisition and commission fees, or into the pockets of the Insurance Group. The TV program *Monitor* reported on this some years back. During his term as Minister, Walter Riester himself profited personally from the Riester pension by holding lectures on the subject, for which he was paid a few

18) Riester pension: Privately financed (Insurance concerns), subventioned additional pension scheme. Propagated as compensation for the worsening of the standard state administered pension system. Named after the former Minister for Work and Social Benefits (SPD).

hundred thousand Euros. As Minister, if you have nothing better to do than nosepicking, then you go and hold some lectures. You are probably aware of the standard rate for advanced hogwash spoken by SPD deadheads: 10,000 Euro an hour -Steinbrück in the banks, Riester in the Insurance companies. From what money do you think the Insurance companies paid Riester? From your Riester contributions! You still believe that you are saving up for your old age . . . From your contributions they make Bunga-Bunga in Budapest. The Riester pension is a complete mockery also for people that earn more. Insurance brokers have provided me this information. Also in that branch you get forthright people who refuse to sell such products. If, in 30 years from now, you want to get exactly the sum back that you have paid into your Riester fund you will have to reach the age of at least 85. Because you cannot bequeath it. You can't have "a bit of" Riester. Either you reach 85 or the others have won. It's the nice bet you agreed to. If you want to get back your contributions with a return of 3% then you must decide to reach the age of 95. I find that a little *ambitious*. If you want to get back what you paid in with compensation for inflation, then your family name must be Heesters¹⁹. It's all a gigantic swindle, organized by Red-Green and defended by them until today. They are still not prepared to dissociate themselves from this disgrace. On the contrary, they continue to call on people to put their money into this private, capital-based old age pension scheme. And in case the minimum wage does come along one day - it's certainly not going to apply for all, and not come immediately - but, let's assume: 8 Euro 50 an hour, [--] how can Riester contributions be paid? Do you know what 8.50 Euro means for someone who has to work for it? We're talking about 1050 Euro net a month for a single person. You're at a loss to decide what to do with all that money, aren't you? And when someone comes and recommends you to also sign a contract for a capital-based old age pension from this income, Ladies and Gentlemen, then we need a superlative for the word arse-hole. I propose officially the term Social Democrat. This *Volksverarschung*! I can understand that the papers publish promotion for it. And who's behind that? Banks and Insurance concerns. The ones that profit from the whole scheme.

19) Johannes Heesters: a dutch-born actor, died at 108

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The newspapers are a part of the rogue system we have, they contribute to the enlightenment. Like the public broadcasting newscasts that take us for a ride from

THE UNEMPLOYMENT FIGURES - FACT AND FICTION

(On politics in Germany)

morning to night. And then these glaring lies every month: the unemployment statistics. Three million unemployed - that's what they hammered into us for so long until all believed it! Only three million without a job, super! [--] One of the stars of the Greens in Baden-Württemberg is the Lord Mayor of Tübingen, a Mr. Boris Palmer. In an interview he said "If we were to take back the Hartz IV² laws, then we would again have 5 million unemployed as in the time before those laws". 5 million is what we have today, you eco-Brüderle¹³! What on earth has happened to the Greens? When I listen to Özdemir²⁰ and close my eyes, I hear *Rösler*²¹. The Greens now tell me the same bullshit that the Liberals have bashed my ears with over 20 years. I can understand what the old people meant with the saying "That's the same in green". Three million unemployed, that's the official figure from the statistic. But there are a further one million people without jobs. More exactly these are not unemployed, they just don't have a place of work. That's a difference! These people are in *vocational retraining*. One million Germans are permanently in vocational retraining! There was a time when they were included as part of the jobless figure. Now they are *outsourced* from the statistic. We have 3 million unemployed and 1 million without work. And if you are 58 and have no job then you are *also* not included in the unemployment statistic. For the unemployment agency you are neither dead nor retired, you are in the realm of shadows. And people who are registered as unemployed and are (officially) ill are also excluded from the unemployment statistics - for the week in which they are ill. Ladies and Gentlemen, we have no money to pay teachers and nurses. But we have enough to pay people to remove the ill from the unemployment statistics every week! So, Mr. Palmer, now let's come to the top uppers [Aufstocker]. Do you want to tell me that someone who works for 4 hours a week is employed? Those are jobless that have been retagged! That's just cosmetics. 1.4 million top uppers are actually people without jobs. So, there we have our 5.5 million unemployed. And we can continue with the contract workers [Leiharbeiter] who, thanks to Red-Green, are contract workers in general permanently. One million people work for a lower wage than they would be entitled to if they were fixed employees. And on top of that we have all those marvellous new insurance-liable jobs [versicherungspflichtige Arbeitsplätze] that are being advertised. Large numbers in this category have been created. 6 million people have a full-time job and have a gross income of less than 10.000 Euro a year. They are the ones who work

- 20) Cem Özdemir: Chairman of the Greens
- 21) Philipp Rösler: Former politician, 2011-13 Chairman of the Liberals (FDP)

for 5-6 Euro an hour. 833 Euro gross a month for a full-time job. That's not enough to have to pay tax. But they have to pay contributions to social insurance. That's the nice thing about this category - being *liable for social insurance*! From 833 Euro, 20% is deducted for unemployment, old age pension, health and health-care insurance. We are now talking of altogether *13 million* people^{21a} whom we cannot offer any jobs that provide an income higher than Hartz IV²! Good, that's a *reason to be joyful* . . . In this country 25% of the economically active part of the population has no work from which they are able to lead a decent life, let alone raise a family. [Merkel's address to the state of the nation:] "I lead the most successful federal government since . . . ".

21a) See below for a comparison with official statistics

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And nobody pulls Mum²² out of there and says "*Wake up*, *wake up*!" She has no political concept that she stands for. Name one single topic of any substance for which Merkel said "This is what I stand for and it's what I will fight for". Doesn't exist. Nowadays this is called "pragmatical". Yes, flexible. She could perform in any vaudeville as contortionist. Those are the people who can bend themselves to such an extent that they can lick themselves on the arse. It's ingenious.

Do you remember the *capitation fee*²³? That was discussed in the Conservatives party convent in Leipzig. Capitation fee - it was examined from all angles, the only sensible system. But the concept could not be sold to the population. Merkel then did *not* say "Now listen a moment, the facts are such-and-such, and our thoughts on it are so-and-so". What she *did* say was "Let's forget it, we'll do something else". Join me, I'll follow you.

Lower secondary school²⁴! Lower secondary school is essential, she told us interminably. In the second last Conservatives party convent she abolished this school. Conscription²⁵! Without conscription there is no military service fairness. In a thrice she let the Defence Minister (at the time Guttenberg) abolish conscription. Minimum wage! Do you remember the patter: *A minimum wage destroys jobs*. For how long did we hear this? 15 years? 20 years? In each and every talk-show some Conservative mutant repeated ad infinitum: *A minimum wage destroys jobs*. And? And now they are in the middle of introducing a minimum wage^{25a}. And what of it? Who cares?

WHY SHOULD MY BABBLE OF YESTERDAY BOTHER ME?

- 22) Mum ~ Angela Merkel
- 23) Capitation fee ~ Kopfpauschale: a health insurance scheme in which the contributions are independent of income.
- 24) Lower secondary school \sim Hauptschule: lowest grade under the three types of secondary school: No 1 = Gymnasium, No 2 = Realschule, No 3 = Hauptschule.
- 25) Conscription: universal compulsory military service
- 25a) Oct 2014: The ink on the minimum wage law draft has not yet dried, as the prognosis for growth of the economy is clouding in a

The only real issue is to get elected. Within this economic system the ideology is free, as long as the rich don't suffer any substantial damage.

The best example for Merkel's changeability is the European politics. Look at what the iron lady has done. As the crisis began in Greece she said "They will get no money, the Maastrich Agreement forbids it. We are not allowed to provide anything at all - not a single penny". Each country has to solve its own problems, alone. Then, as it was too late, Merkel pulled off that number with the 10 billion Euro credit. And the Euro countries realized that the dimension of the crisis was so big that there was no alternative to a common effort, a rescue package was essential. Then Merkel said "Never". Do you remember? "A rescue package is out of the question. Only over my dead body!" It occured to some people, this could be organized. [Then it went on] "OK, we'll make a rescue parachute if I can decide which colour it has. And while we're at it, let's double the size". For Merkel it doesn't matter.

Another good example is nuclear energy. Half a year before the catastrophe in Fukushima Angela Merkel had extended the lifespan of the existing nuclear reactors in Germany. After monthlong discussions she said "We have examined it from all angles". She said verbatim: "We have the most secure nuclear power stations in the world. Nothing at all can happen, we can let them run longer". Six months later came the Tsunami in Japan. Then Merkel said this legendary sentence "On such a day you cannot say that nuclear power stations are secure, they *are* secure". She could have said "You can't say what I said half a year ago, you can say it". She could also have said just "Bzzzzzht . . . ". Then Merkel inaugurated a moratorium, do you remember that? A moratorium, her second biggest trick. In Latin it translates to *nothing*. But it impresses the barbed wire owner enormously: a moratorium with ductus! Then Merkel waited for the outcome of the stress test for the nuclear power stations, and that [test] was an election in Baden-Württemberg. A few weeks after Fukushima there was an election in Baden-Württemberg. Had the voters left the Conservatives in office, the nuclear power stations would have again been declared secure at the latest one day after the election. The moratorium results must have already been ready in the drawer. As instead the Greens came to power, Merkel noticed that you can't win elections with that topic. So she made one of her big about-turns, and ordered all of the older nuclear stations be shut down, from one day to the next. But without having a lawful basis. She remembers that from the DDR Politbureau. Today the power station operators are sueing the State

bit according to the standard prognosticators, and promptly the first Conservative 'towncryers on duty' are calling for putting the minimum-wage thing on ice so as not to endanger the economy.

because of lost profits, successfully. That will cost us taxpayers billions. And then Merkel said: We are going to carry through an Energy Transition²⁶, and justified this with a single sentence "I have completely new thoughts on nuclear power generation". A half a year after having examined everything, she thought about the matter anew. You are aware that Merkel had studied physics, aren't you? At the University they also didn't tell her everything, did they? Now, whatever you may think about nuclear power, what ought the Conservatives do when Dr Angela Merkel develops completely new ideas on nuclear power generation? Should they get the old physics books down from the shelf? And behold: airplanes, power station, gravity . . . shit! No, Merkel doesn't really see the power stations as being less secure than half a year before Fukushima! Her only fear is the meltdown in the ballot box. That's all she is interested in. She has no personal conviction. And in two years when people in this country start complaining that the price of electricity is too high, then she will say "Well, I have a couple of old nuclear stations standing around, maybe if I think about it . . . " She governs us with empty phrases and tells us what we want to hear. In her mind she doesn't commit herself to anything. We get phrases like "On this question we must find a common solution, on this question we must demonstrate unity". Very nice in the New Year speech "That will be a difficult path, we face big challenges, this is going to be a Hercules task". Placards of the last election told us "Growth needs vision". Everything just variations of Bzzzzzht . . . Bzzzzzht . . . Also very nice, the poster reading "Solid finances are important". Good shoes too . . . Make the test: when Merkel is interviewed on TV, simply turn off the sound and concentrate only on the face of the Chancellor. At some point your vision becomes misty, and you are involuntarily reminded of that dog in the Loriot sketch²⁷: *Hoho-hoho-hoho* . . *Hohoho* . . *Hohoho* . . *Hohoho* . . Bzzzzzht . . . Nothing will ever change, Ladies and Gentlemen.

26) Energy Transition ~ Energiewende: transition to an energy portfolio dominated by renewable energy, energy efficiency and sustainable development. The final goal is the abolition of coal and other non-renewable energy sources.

27) Viktor von Bülow alias "Loriot": a comedian, humorist, cartoonist, film director, actor and writer. Cartoon sketch "Bello, the talking dog"

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Conservatives, Socialists and Greens, and now also the right-wing Alternatives³. I call it all together the Unity party. And we've shuffled these 5 parties, except not yet the Alternatives, ever again into a new government. Over the last 40 years. Since 31 years I have been making Cabaret on always the same issues: the pension system, the health system, the state debt, unemployment, taxation fairness, the education system. These are central themes in a society. I was never so hot on the ADAC⁷. Show me only *one*

40 YEARS OF SUCCESS IN GERMAN POLITICS

area where these 5 parties have improved anything for the greater part of the population. Should we begin with the pension? No, better not. We could lapse into weeping. We can also leave out education. What about the health system? There we've had one reform after the other. The health system: *century reforms* have piled up there. Where has an improvement emerged? In the hospital, in the surgeries, for the doctors, for the patients? Has anything improved for the staff? In the care homes? In the old age homes? Where can we find improvement of any kind? You have to help me - you are the ones that elect them all the time. How about the unemployment figures? Do we now have fewer jobless than 30 years ago? We're talking about the politics of CDU/CSU, SPD, FDP and the Greens. Do we have more - or less - state debt than we had 30 years ago through the wise household politics of these parties? What's with taxation fairness? How often have they promised to make the system more just and more transparent? Help me, I'll give you 6 weeks time for your research. And you may also avail yourselves of the scientific services of the Federal government. Nothing changes, Ladies and Gentlemen.

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They are chained to this capitalist value system. We are sitting in a train that is hurtling towards an abyss. If we are honest, we know what the abyss looks like. It looks like the United States of America. That's Capitalism in its final stage. You can go there and inspect it. But you mustn't just look around Manhatten or Disneyland, you should also go to the outer districts of New York or Los Angeles. You might not come back, but you are at least informed. The USA is a completely desolidarized society. The rich have entrenched themselves in special quarters with access codes and security personnell. They have their own Universities, their own hospitals, own schools, kindergartens. Since the last financial crisis the middle class has dissolved. They now need two jobs in parallel to be able to live. From the third 8-hour job onward you also don't need a roof over your head, then you can really save money. The lower third of the society is sitting completely in the dirt. They are either homeless or exist in town quarters to which police don't have the guts to go to. The only socio-political measure is to lock away. In the USA more people are incarcerated per capita than in any other country on earth, including North Korea and China. And despite the fact that so many people are locked away in the USA - they have private prisons as a business model, you can make real money with that - the main cause of the death of young Americans is murder. Every

THE SYSTEM GOAL

year over 30,000 Americans are shot on the street. That's over 80 a day. 80 dead a day, in Irak they call it civil war. That's what it is in the USA too. Capitalism in its final stage is civil war. But it's not the poor fighting the rich. It's the poor shooting themselves with weapons that the rich have sold them. Just like we do it in Africa. That is Capitalism: divide and conquer, dividend et impera. 95% of the american media are in the hands of five rich families. They have drawn the barbed wire so tightly over the heads of the people that these even reject politicians that try to provide them with a health insurance. And it's towards this desolidarized society that we are heading. And our politicians say: we can't stop the train. We might answer "Couldn't we just move the tracks around a bit, a little course correction?" Merkel then says "The direction is without alternative". Aha. We can't stop the train, we can't change its direction, what's the point of going to elections? Oh, I remember now, we are allowed to replace the train driver. Every 4 years. That's delightful. And you have to admit, the media always work hard on it. Every 4 years they organize a "direction definition election 28", on a single track. If we get to feel really rebellious, then we could replace the train driver, and tell him: "stay on target, and step on the gas".

What we really have to do, is to stop the train. Stop it, and discuss how we actually want to live. How do we want to live in this country, how in Europe, how do we want the world continue on? What do we really need, what not? Do we need banks that achieve 26% return on investment? Should it be possible to earn more money with money than with work? This all needs discussions. But you can't lead them in a moving train! You have to stop the train. But against the will of the train driver you can only do that by pulling the emergency brake. And the German doesn't want to do that. An emergency brake is too incalculable. The coffee can spill onto the trousers, anything can happen. Then better to stay with the abyss. There the German knows what's coming, it's a sure thing, well-defined. And in any case 80% of the newspaper readers hope that they are sitting in the last wagen, that will remain hanging at the abyss edge. And people come and say: Where's the alternative? Yes, the alternative. The alternative could be an interest-free economic system. That's all been scrutinized by people. You can check it out on the Internet. But you will have to search for it on your own. You have to google. Such ideas you have to google. In the papers you will find nothing on them. You need to inform yourself via the Internet, before that also gets blocked. Democratic socialism. What's with that? Has never been tried out. Although it's even

28) Direction definition election ~ Richtungswahl

included in the SPD party program, but right at the back, with invisible ink. Naturally we have to admit that the word Socialism is dead. Here in western Germany you won't get anywhere with it. We simply cannot forget these terrible pictures as the Wall fell - these downtrodden, through Communism broken human beings, these slums with tents as far as the eye could see. In the cities, these homeless waiting in endless queues in front of the soup kitchens to get one warm meal a day. People without health insurance, people without teeth. Those were images! Oh no - from the USA... Beg your pardon, I got a bit confused. Homeless without teeth was USA. DDR was without bananas. Sorry, sorry. We want to stay fair. Mr Gauck²⁹, I would like to talk about the economy. What do you think - could it be, that for 50% of today's US Americans the standard of living of the DDR citizens of 30 years ago would have been paradise on earth? Including the educational prospects for their children? What do you believe, Mr Gauck, are the pensioners in Greece today better off than the pensioners in the DDR of 30 years ago?

Wouldn't that be an interesting discussion? But you can forget it. I know, as soon as you utter the word Socialism, everybody in Germany says "And what are the employers going to say?". And that's a good question. The German has a job from which he cannot exist. But he can lose even this job. When you're in the Colosseum and have nothing, you want to at least *belong*. In which function doesn't matter. Social is what brings work. Gives you the impression of feeling needed, at least as feed for the lions. We are ruled by generation of fear, Ladies and Gentlemen. By fear.

29) Joachim Gauck: Currently german President; elected by Parliament

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How do you get people to pay into this imbecile Riester pension 18 ? In that you inject them with fear about the so-called *pension gap* 30 . This is done systematically. The pension-gap is a chimera. The only sensible scheme for the majority of the population is the levy-financed (pay-as- you-go) old-age pension system.

[...] For the following \sim 5 minutes, see the program text of 07.02.2011 #8 Social insurance lies.

SOCIAL INSURANCE LIES

30) Pension gap \sim Rentenlücke: difference between the last net income and the pension

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21a) In Germany in 2013, 12.845 million Persons (16,1% of the population) lay below the risk-of-poverty threshold*. *Without* social transfers it would be 24,4%.

*) set at 60 % of the national median equivalised disposable income (after social transfers).

In 2006 it was 10.232 million (12.5% of the population). An increase of 29% in 8 years.

See the German Federal Statistics Office:

 $\underline{https://www.destatis.de/DE/ZahlenFakten/GesellschaftStaat/EinkommenKonsumLebensbedingungen/LebensbedingungenArmutsgefaehrdung/LebensbedingungenArmutsgefaehrdung.html}$

or Eurostat: http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/statistics/search database

Tables by Themes

- -> Population and social conditions
 - -> Living conditions and welfare
 - -> Income and living conditions
 - -> Income distribution and monetary poverty
 - -> Monetary poverty
 - -> People at risk of poverty after social transfers (t2020_52)