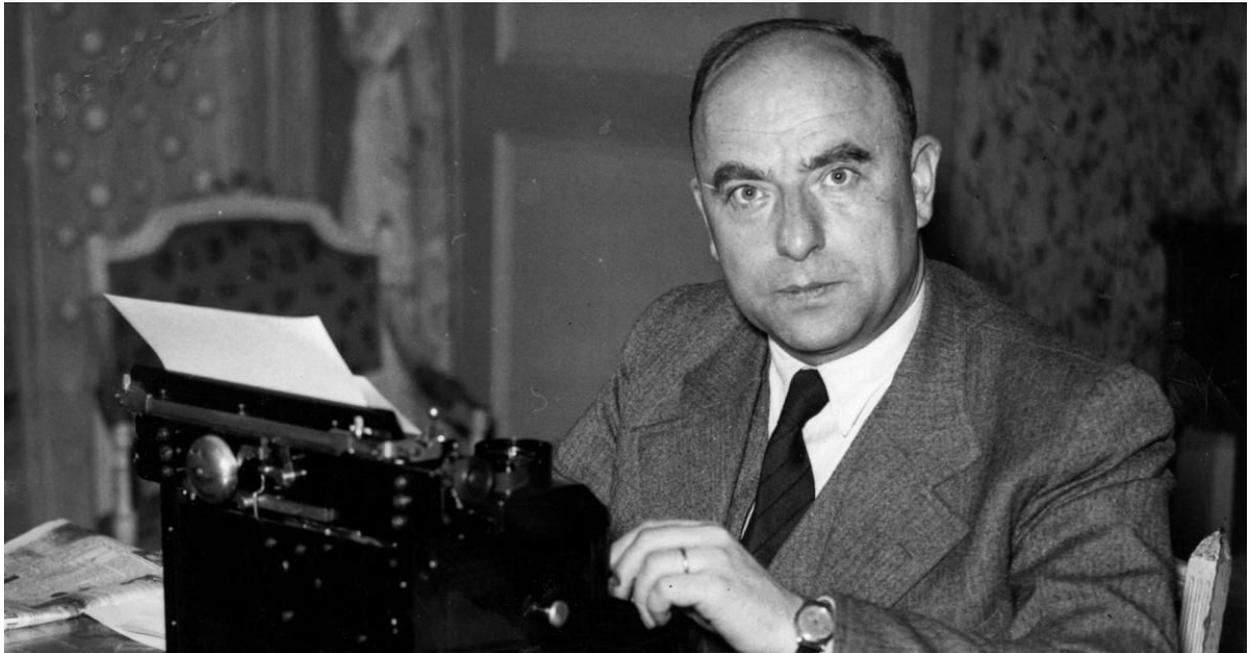


THE MANIFESTO OF SOLIDARISM

by

DR. OTTO STRASSER



Translator's Note

The *Manifesto of Solidarism* (*Manifest des Solidarismus*) is taken from the end of Dr. Otto Strasser's work *Deutschlands Erneuerung*, published shortly after the end of the Second World War. The ideas expounded within this short document are thus only the barest outline of the content contained with the rest of the book. Many people on both sides of the political spectrum today, especially online, talk about Otto Strasser and his ideology, yet many seem to be ignorant of what he actually believed and advocated for. This is one of the many reasons why I have decided to help bring the *Manifesto of Solidarism* to the English-speaking world for, as far as I am aware, the first time ever. I do not seek profit or even recognition for this translation and only wish to spread information for those curious. German words included within brackets are words where I feel my translation of the German equivalent was imprecise in exact meaning. I apologize for any mistakes in translation or clunky-sounding phrases., I am not a native speaker of German.

The Manifesto of Solidarism

I.

The selfishness of classes and nations has plunged the peoples of Europe into the greatest hardship and their history –

Solidarism, the solidarity of the classes and nations of Europe alone is their salvation!

II.

Capitalism, “class-rule from above” indeed allows people a high amount of personal freedom – denying them, however, economic security, without which personal freedom has no foundation;

Communism, the “class-rule from below” does allow people a high amount of economic security – denying them, however, personal freedom, without which economic freedom has no purpose in life –

Solidarism alone allows people personal freedom and economic security, the two most essential requirements for inner order and outer peace.

III.

Only through the overcoming of the class-economy of capitalism and the class-economy of communism by the national economy [Volkswirtschaft] of Solidarism is the *general welfare* ensured – not by the dictatorship of money, not by the dictatorship of the proletariat, but rather through the solidary action of all individuals and status-groups.

IV.

Solidarism frees the *farmer*, this foundation of every healthy nationality [Volkstum], from the interest-slavery of capitalism – without, on the other hand, leading him into the state-slavery of communism.

Solidarism makes the farmer into the hereditary owner in fief of the nation, with exemption from any mortgage-burden and interest-payment, compared with an annual lease-performance to the nation which gives him his property in faithful and ensures it.

V.

Solidarism frees the *worker* from the wage-slavery of capitalism – without, on the other hand, leading him into the state-slavery of communism.

Solidarism makes the worker into the equal joint owner of his factory with the same rights to administration and profit.

This *deproletarianization* of the workforce corresponds in its importance and impact to the erstwhile abolition of serfdom – both proceeding from the realization “possession makes free!” [Besitz macht frei!]

VI.

Solidarism ensures the middle class the free and independent existence which capitalism threatens more and more and which communism entirely destroys.

Solidarism has the largest possible number of independent livelihoods as its goal and it achieves this goal in the middle-class through a guild-system which combines the guarantee of a sufficient customer base with a constantly high commercial performance.

VII.

Solidarism frees the *businessman* from the pressure of finance-capital – without affecting him in his position as an economic leader.

Equally alongside the staff and state, the businessman is recognized by Solidarism as a vital factor in the national economy [Volkswirtschaft] and his initiative and pursuit of profit are as necessary of driving forces of the economy as the performance of the state and the planning of the state are.

VII.

Solidarism rejects the weaknesses of the liberal party-state as much as the terror of the totalitarian dictatorship – be it the dictatorship of a person, class or a party.

In contrast, Solidarism proclaims the modern democracy of the *corporative self-administration* [ständische Selbstverwaltung], which – combined with the federal constitution and decentralized administration – is the best guarantee for the construction of a real people’s state.

IX.

Solidarism rejects every claim to power of one people [Volk] over another and proclaims national freedom and equality for all peoples, no matter what size or strength.

Solidarism especially strives for that solidary collaboration for the peoples of Europe in a *European federation* which alone can ensure the existence and future of Europe in its national diversity and cultural greatness.

X.

Solidarism is pervaded with the idea that all economic and political reforms must remain sterile if they are not animated by a new spirit.

Solidarism, therefore, combines the rejection of the demon of materialism with the declared belief in the spirit of Christianity which must be made effective and lived.

National character [Volkstum] – in all of its manifestations – and *Christianity* in its comprehensive unity – those are the sources from which Solidarism develops:

The salvation and rebirth of the West.