

Presentation

“The way in which we are being told about economic, social and even political issues offers us very little opportunity to understand what is actually being said to us. And lesser still about the events that are hurting us.

A neo-Newspeak has silenced us. Why are we told over and over again that unemployment is unacceptable but allow it to persist? Why are we told that work is our destiny but have failed to attach to it any real value for so long? Why is it that we have discarded all the instruments of sound economic policy-making to limit ourselves – at least in Europe – to the so-called structural policies whose objectives are, we come to understand in the end, to reduce social protection? Why do we accept that inequalities continue to grow disproportionately all the while purporting to fight them?

The language we are using, systematically convoluted, has transformed the reality that lies in front of us, to the point of denying suffering. It is more manipulated than it is informed by doctrine. If we want to return to a less irenic, or fatalistic, vision of the world, we must deconstruct Newspeak and rebuild a language in which everyone recognizes themselves. It is only on this condition that we will be able to truly effect change and shape the destiny of the world and its peoples.

It is only on this condition that we can avoid falling into the political trap that Newspeak has set for us and find the path towards a stronger democracy than one that calls for our resignation.

Jean-Paul Fitoussi