



S. A. S. Marcello I
Principe di Seborga

Seborga, September 1st, 2017

**Speech for the Inaugural Ceremony of the 1st International Venedigbiennalen
in Eslöv
September 8th, 2017**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

it is a pleasure for the Principality of Seborga to participate in the 1st International Venedigbiennalen for Micronations organized by ARTiE and sponsored by the City of Eslöv.

2017 was an important year for the Principality: in the framework of the democratic order, Seborgans had to re-elect their Prince and chose to reconfirm me by a large majority. We then elected the ministers who will support me in the next seven years of mandate. It is great to participate in this exhibition in such an important year.

As you can see, the Principality of Seborga, though not recognized as an independent state, has a democratic institutional system involving more than two hundred Seborgans and thousands of supporters around the world. Seborga is not a game or a fake State, but we really aspire to regain the independence which is rightfully ours. Our history is very clear: for many years in the Middle Ages Seborga has been a property of the monks of Lerins, two little islands located in front of Cannes, the French city famous for the Film Festival. Then, when the territory was sold to the Savoy Family as their personal protectorate in 1729, the act was never ratified. Seborga has never formally become part of Italy, which therefore administers it abusively. That is why we are determined to see our legitimate independence re-activated.

We do not recognize ourselves in the definition of "micronation", but we have decided to participate in this beautiful exhibition so that we can make Eslöv citizens aware of



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our history and our aspirations. In the exhibition you will find three micro-pavilions dedicated to the Principality of Seborga: we have tried to highlight both our most folkloric aspects, such as our stamps, our coins, our guards, and a more historical part, and finally a few glimpses of our small country. We hope you will enjoy it and that so many of you will want to come and visit our beautiful land one day!

I would like to thank again the organizers for this beautiful opportunity of promotion they gave us.

Long live the Principality of Seborga!

HSH Marcello I, Prince of Seborga



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