

Al asumir la Presidencia de la Federación de Estudiantes de la Universidad Católica (FEUC), deseo antetodo expresar mi más sincero reconocimiento a todos los Presidentes de Centros de Alumnos que, en representación de sus respectivas Escuelas, eligieron la nueva directiva de FEUC que me corresponde el honor de presidir. Ello constituye un testimonio de confianza que los integrantes de ésta apreciamos en todo su valor, y al cual procuraremos responder con todo nuestro esfuerzo y entrega personal.

Estimo ^{de} especialmente ^{significativa} significativo que, por décimosegundo año consecutivo, la conducción de FEUC sea asumida por una directiva que se identifica plenamente con los principios gremialistas. Ello es la prueba más elocuente de la vitalidad de un movimiento estudiantil que surgiera en nuestra ^{Casa de Estudios} ~~Universidad Católica~~ para defender los auténticos ~~por~~ valores universitarios, ^{Siempre al servicio} dentro de una sociedad libre, ~~Reservados~~ ~~consentidos de una FEUC inspirada por dichos principios~~ ^{PRINCIPIOS} lo cual ha exigido una permanente lucha ^{tanto} ~~en~~ contra ~~de~~ la instrumentalización política de nuestra Universidad, ^{Como} ~~de~~ la amenaza totalitaria que ~~en~~ nuestra Patria ~~maxifrentada~~ ~~maxifrentada~~ ~~maxifrentada~~ sufriría dramáticamente, ya que ambos son los mayores peligros ^{para el} ~~que afronta~~ nuestro anhelo y deber ^{que nos mueve} de construir una Universidad que ~~siempre~~ sea fiel a sus fines propios, y que de este modo -y sólo así- pueda realmente servir a Chile y ~~su~~ su pueblo.

Doce años ~~en~~ de inalterable perseverancia en esa línea gremialista, representan el mayor timbre de orgullo para nuestra Federación de Estudiantes; reflejan la capacidad renovadora de un movimiento que ha sido ^{la} ~~fuente~~ ^{que se ha proyectado como} de una generación joven profundamente solidaria en sus comunes ideales de servicio público, y marca el rumbo ~~que~~ que la directiva de FEUC que hoy asume sabrá continuar, a través del continuo enriquecimiento que las nuevas realidades reclaman.

Deseo expresar, asimismo, ~~que es~~ nuestra más firme convicción ^{en el sentido de} que la plena autonomía de nuestra Federación en su actuar, dentro de todo el campo que le es propio de acuerdo a su naturaleza y a su finalidad, ~~maxifrentada~~ conforma la base ~~misma~~ de su legitimidad. Somos genuinos representantes del estudiantado, y a interpretarles adecuadamente nos debemos por entero. Nuestra absoluta autonomía respecto de toda autoridad, sea ésta gubernativa, universitaria y e eclesiástica, criterio que ha inspirado a todas las directivas gremialistas de FEUC, no es otra cosa que una lógica consecuencia del hecho de que nuestra Federación ~~maxifrentada~~ debe ser la auténtica y libre expresión del pensamiento estudiantil frente a esas mismas autoridades y a la opinión pública general. ~~Siempre~~

Ciertamente que ^{nuestra} ~~la~~ autonomía, ~~legítima~~ ^{legítima} al respecto, presupone el respeto a la autoridad y a todas sus atribuciones de tal, ya que sin ello la Universidad perdería el sello de jerarquía que define su esencia. Pero cuando FEUC actúa en su esfera propia, sus decisiones no se orientan ni se orientarán jamás a agradar o satisfacer a las autoridades, cualquiera que sea su naturaleza, sino a interpretar el sentir del alumnado al que representa. Mantenerse fiel a este predicamento fundamental, ha significado a veces incomprendiones y sinsabores ~~y~~ para anteriores directivas de FEUC, pero cree cumplir con un deber de justicia al expresarles ^{por ello nuestro} ~~mi~~ profundo aprecio, ~~por~~ ^{nuestro} ~~ello~~ , y ~~un~~ ^{un} compromiso irrevocable de asumir el mismo camino.

No quisiera dejar pasar esta ocasión, ^{sin} ~~para~~ destacar también el valor que revisite el éxito del nuevo sistema de organización estudiantil aprobado por FEUC, y que ya ha llegado a su plena culminación. La ^{nueva} ~~actual~~ directiva de FEUC ~~misma~~ ha sido elegida por una abrumadora mayoría del Consejo de Presidentes de Centros de Alumnos. A su vez, todos los Presidentes de Centros que participaren en esta votación, fueron elegidos durante los últimos doce meses por los delegados de ~~cursos~~ ^{promoción} o ~~promoción~~ nes, los cuales a su vez se habían generado previamente por votación directa de todos los estudiantes del respectivo curso o promoción. De este modo, ~~existencia~~ ~~de~~ ~~la~~ ~~directiva~~ ~~de~~ ~~FEUC~~ ~~que~~ ~~hoy~~ ~~asume~~ es el resultado de un proceso eleccionario ampliamente representativo y democrático, ^{que incorpora a} ~~que~~ ~~incorpora~~ ~~a~~ todos los estudiantes de la Universidad, y que ha encontrado en la masiva participación con que éstos lo han acogido, la prueba más categórica de su aceptación, ~~y~~ ~~su~~ validez y ~~su~~ eficacia.

La médula del nuevo sistema consiste en combinar la representatividad con la despolitización de las entidades estudiantiles. ~~Por~~ ~~lo~~ ~~que~~ ~~el~~ ~~nuevo~~ ~~sistema~~ ~~de~~ ~~organización~~ ~~estudiantil~~ ~~que~~ ~~se~~ ~~ha~~ ~~establecido~~ ~~en~~ ~~la~~ ~~Universidad~~ ~~Católica~~ ~~de~~ ~~Chile~~ ~~tiene~~ ~~como~~ ~~uno~~ ~~de~~ ~~sus~~ ~~principios~~ ~~fundamentales~~ ~~la~~ ~~participación~~ ~~directa~~ ~~de~~ ~~los~~ ~~estudiantes~~ ~~en~~ ~~la~~ ~~elección~~ ~~de~~ ~~sus~~ ~~representantes~~ ~~en~~ ~~los~~ ~~diferentes~~ ~~niveles~~ ~~de~~ ~~la~~ ~~organización~~ ~~estudiantil~~ ~~de~~ ~~la~~ ~~Universidad~~ ~~Católica~~ ~~de~~ ~~Chile~~ ~~y~~ ~~la~~ ~~des~~ ~~politización~~ ~~de~~ ~~las~~ ~~entidades~~ ~~estudiantiles~~ ~~que~~ ~~se~~ ~~han~~ ~~formado~~ ~~en~~ ~~la~~ ~~Universidad~~ ~~Católica~~ ~~de~~ ~~Chile~~ ~~y~~ ~~la~~ ~~des~~ ~~politización~~ ~~de~~ ~~las~~ ~~entidades~~ ~~estudiantiles~~ ~~que~~ ~~se~~ ~~han~~ ~~formado~~ ~~en~~ ~~la~~ ~~Universidad~~ 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ble impacte publicitario de su resultado, comprenderemos ~~xxxxx~~ por qué ellas se convirtieron en cajas de resonancia de los partidos políticos, que ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ ^{enseguida} ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ ~~xxxx~~ instrumentalizaban las organizaciones ~~estudiantiles~~ universitarias en su propio beneficio.

Quienes piden el regreso a ese sistema, bajo imprecidentes invocaciones de tipo democrático, están patrocinando en realidad el retorno a un esquema que nadie que actúe medianamente de buena fe, puede desconocer que significó la más aguda y distorsionadora politización de las entidades estudiantiles. Porque el gremialismo nació para combatir ese vicio, hoy ha tenido autoridad moral para corregir el sistema que lo incentivaba, y justo a ello, está resuelto a ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ denunciar la máscara de quienes procuran disfrazar con apariencias de aspiraciones democráticas, lo que no es ^{que} más una simple actitud politiguera.

Nadie ha pedido dar un solo argumento valedero, para sostener por qué el ~~xxxxxx~~ nuevo sistema de organización estudiantil ~~xxxx~~ sería menos democrático que el anterior. ^{En cambio} ~~xxxxxxxx~~ el hecho de que ahora ~~xxxxxxxx~~ las elecciones de base se realicen por cursos o promociones, permite a los alumnos votar entre personas a las cuales conoce, con lo cual si bien el factor ideológico no desaparece, a lo menos se atenúa considerablemente, ya que los elementos de juicio de carácter auténticamente universitario, ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ cobran una importancia decisiva en una elección de delegados de curso. Eso mismo se repite respecto de la elección que éstos realizan ~~xxx~~ de la directiva del Centro de Alumnos, ya que los delegados forman junto a ésta el Consejo de cada Centro, y se proyecta ^{asimismo} al nivel de la Federación, porque los Presidentes de Centros de Alumnos integran el Consejo de ésta. ^{Dentro del nuevo} ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ sistema, se advierte así que siempre ^{toda} ~~xx~~ elección se verifica en un grupo humano que funciona como tal, y en que las personas efectivamente se conocen a través de todo un año de trabajo común.

Por esta razón es que FEUC afirma que el nuevo esquema es más representativo, más democrático, más universitario y más despolitizado que el vigente hasta 1973, y de ahí que su validez la estimamos definitiva, y no transitoria como algunos han pretendido erróneamente sostenerle.

Tengo plena conciencia de la necesidad de robustecer permanentemente el grado de participación y eficacia de los Consejos estudiantiles que el sistema contempla, y a los cuales acabo de referirme, para lo cual solicito especialmente el

apoyo activo y entusiasta de todos los representantes estudiantiles.

Al terminar estas palabras, expreso el profundo ^{re}reconocimiento de la nueva directiva de FEUC hacia aquella que hoy termina en sus funciones, y que con tanto acierto y valentía supo presidir José Miguel Olivares, a la vez que expreso mi esperanza y decisión de continuar enriqueciendo la obra de una Federación de Estudiantes que ~~honoramos nuestra~~ Universidad con su bien ganado prestigio ~~que~~ contribuye a honrar a toda nuestra Universidad.