

## German Finance Minister Schäuble's Plan for Europe: Do Europeans Approve?

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Pre-publication summary: Five months of intense negotiations between Greece and the Eurogroup never had a chance of success. Condemned to lead to impasse, their purpose was to pave the ground for what Dr Schäuble had decided was 'optimal' well before our government was even elected: That Greece should be eased out of the Eurozone in order to discipline member-states resisting his very specific plan for re-structuring the Eurozone.

- This is no theory.
- How do I know Grexit is an important part of Dr Schäuble's plan for Europe?
- Because he told me so!

I wrote this article not as a Greek politician critical of the German press' denigration of our sensible proposals, of Berlin's refusal seriously to consider our moderate debt re-profiling plan, of the European Central Bank's highly political decision to asphyxiate our government, of the Eurogroup's decision to give the ECB the green light to shut down our banks.

I wrote this article as a European observing the unfolding of a *particular* Plan for Europe – Dr Schäuble's Plan.

And I am asking a simple question to *Die Zeit's* informed readers:

- Is this a Plan that you approve of?
- Do you consider this Plan good for Europe?

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