

Italy's new cabinet dominated by P-2

by EIR Staff

Italy's new prime minister, Silvio Berlusconi of the Forza Italia (Go Italy) party, announced his cabinet on May 9, after a 45-day brawl. Its composition shows that the "anti-corruption fight" that dominated Italian politics for the last two years was nothing but a move to replace the traditional parties with structures dominated by the outlawed Propaganda-2 freemasonic lodge. Although the Berlusconi phenomenon is not the same as P-2, the prolonged in-fighting leading to the formation of his cabinet, together with the final list of ministers, show that his independence is very limited. The P-2 networks are connected to the Anglo-American faction of Margaret Thatcher and George Bush, which are also destabilizing the American presidency and working for a U.N. world government.

Central in this operation is the figure of former President Francesco Cossiga, who was instrumental in forcing Berlusconi to assign the Interior Ministry to the Northern League. Cossiga is an intimate friend of Margaret Thatcher, and a protector of P-2 head Licio Gelli and of the secret Gladio network. In 1992 it was Cossiga who, as President, started the "anti-corruption" campaign that demolished his own party, the Christian Democracy, together with all other traditional non-communist parties.

The foreign policy of the new Italian government will be "very pro-British and pro-American, and against this Franco-German axis," said Lucio Caracciolo, the director of the Rome geopolitical magazine *Limes* in a discussion on May 10. He said this was primarily because of the new foreign minister-designate, Antonio Martino, "a Thatcherite who doesn't like the Franco-German axis conception of Europe." Martino is heavily influenced by his cousin Ferdinando Salla di Sinagra, the secretary general of the Italian Foreign Ministry. Caracciolo claims that Salla di Sinagra is the top strategic planner in Rome.

The new cabinet

Here are profiles of major ministers in the new government:

Vice premier and interior minister: Roberto Maroni (Northern League) is the right-hand man of League chieftain Umberto Bossi. The Interior Ministry controls the police and part of the secret services, along with the administrative centers. For 50 years, it has been held by Christian Democrats. The fact that it went to a Northern League representa-

tive means a major blow to Berlusconi's autonomy, and sets the stage for further dismemberment of the state structure, and the use of police dossiers for political destabilization.

Vice premier and postal minister: Giuseppe Tatarella (National Alliance) represents what the international media call "neo-fascists." Bets are on that the mail will finally be delivered on time.

Foreign minister: Antonio Martino (Forza Italia), a Sicilian, is the son of Francesco Martino, Italy's foreign minister in the 1950s; Martino is an economist who studied at the Chicago School of Economics. Both father and son were members of the P-2. Antonio Martino will work in tandem with his cousin Ferdinando Salla di Sinagra, secretary general of the Foreign Ministry.

Treasury minister: Lamberto Dini is a senior technocrat who first worked at the International Monetary Fund and then at the Banca d'Italia. He is the author of a "Report on Derivatives" (1993) and enjoys the confidence of "the markets."

Budget minister: Giancarlo Pagliarini (Northern League) is a former budget analyst for commercial companies. He will try to take control of the privatization of state-controlled industries.

Finance minister: Giulio Tremonti (Independent) is a fiscal consultant who is supposed to carry out Berlusconi's tax reform.

Defense minister: Carlo Previti (Forza Italia) is Berlusconi's lawyer. Originally he was supposed to become justice minister, to crack down on "communist prosecutors," but Berlusconi could not get the appointment through. As defense minister, Previti will activate his connections to the "military-industrial complex," as he worked for nine years as manager of the state-owned defense company Alenia.

Justice minister: Alfredo Biondi (UDC) is a recycled member of the old establishment. A former Liberal Party member, he is now in the grouping collecting the remains of the PLI, PRI, and PSI-PSDI. He represents a softer version of the original crackdown policy which Previti was supposed to carry out.

Industry minister: Vito Gnutti (Northern League), a small industrialist, will push for tax reduction and "liberalization" of wages. His views on large infrastructural projects are not known.

Public works minister: Roberto Radice (Forza Italia), a friend of Berlusconi, will take care that money flows again into public works.

Agriculture minister: Adriana Poli Bortone (National Alliance), a former prosecutor and teacher from Puglia, will oppose the European Union's quota policies.

Transportation minister: Publio Fiori (National Alliance), a former Christian Democrat.

Health minister: Raffaele Costa (UDC) was health minister under Prime Minister Carlo Azeglio Ciampi. Berlusconi's plan for the health care system is a "mix between public and private."