

# Italy becomes a test tube for 'Asiatic authoritarian' model

by Claudio Celani

Italy's 54th postwar government, sworn in on Jan. 17, is a model for what Ralf Dahrendorf, member of the Trilateral Commission and spokesman for the London-based international oligarchy, recently characterized as a transformation of western democratic systems according to "Asiatic authoritarian values." Led by Lamberto Dini, a former executive director of the International Monetary Fund, the new Italian government is exclusively composed of technocrats, and contains no elected officials. The foreign minister is Susanna Agnelli, sister of FIAT owner Giovanni Agnelli and, like her brother, a longstanding member of the oligarchical 1001 Club. That guarantees that Italy's foreign policy will be directly run by London's Foreign Office.

The Dini government is the result of a decision made by President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro. According to the Italian Constitution, the President appoints the head of government, according to the strength of the various factions in the Parliament. The head of government then chooses his ministers. But Scalfaro, twisting the Constitution, insisted that the government be run by a technocrat, and that no member of Parliament or of the previous Berlusconi government should be a member of the new cabinet. The cabinet ministers do not reflect the influence of political constituencies, but rather of technocratic "experts," on Benito Mussolini's corporatist model. Defense went to a military man, Interior to a magistrate, Justice to a former prosecutor, Health to a hospital manager, Budget to a banker. Dini will keep the Treasury portfolio which he held under the government of Berlusconi.

The Dini government is thus programmed to be exactly the sort of British-imposed regime that *EIR* has warned of, since we exposed a secret meeting that took place on June 2, 1992 aboard the British royal yacht *Britannia*, off the coast of Italy, involving the British and Italian financial elites (see *EIR*, Feb. 12, 1993, "The Anglo-American Strategy Behind Italy's Privatization"). *EIR*'s exposé became the subject of widespread press coverage in Italy, and a parliamentary question was put to the government on the issue in the spring of 1993 by Antonio Parlato, a parliamentarian who was later to become deputy minister for the budget in the Berlusconi government. This could give some idea of why the British have now ruled out any participation in the Dini government

by members of the previous administration.

Scalfaro's main concern is that the new government be accepted by "international markets." Indeed, the markets (i.e., the City of London) liked Dini so much that the Italian lira went up a few points after the new premier announced his program, which consists of a \$9.24-12.32 billion supplementary budget cut, a sweeping reform of the pension system (privatization), anti-trust legislation, and a reform of the local electoral system. The rise, however, lasted only a few hours; the currency dropped again when two appointed ministers resigned before they were sworn in.

Dini is supposed to resign as well in a few months, as soon as his program is implemented, to allow for early political elections, but at the moment of writing it is doubtful whether he even will win a confidence vote in the Parliament, scheduled for Jan. 24. Dini has the support of the former Communist Party (PDS) and other left-liberal groupings, plus the Popular Party (PPI, formerly the Christian Democracy) and the Northern League, whereas the conservative bloc, composed of Berlusconi's Forza Italia (Go, Italy!), National Alliance, and the tiny Centrist Christian Democrats (CCD), will vote against it. Also the orthodox communists (Rifondazione Comunista) will vote against it. The decisive factor is a group of Northern League representatives who have not accepted the "betrayal" of the old government coalition by Northern League leader Umberto Bossi, and will not vote for the new government.

## The Di Pietro card

If Dini falls, the oligarchy is lining up new options, including a period of chaos and destabilization. New protagonists of the political scene are warming up, such as former prosecutor Antonio Di Pietro, to carry out the next phase toward the "Asiatic authoritarian model." Di Pietro, who in the eyes of manipulated public opinion has become a hero, has in reality been one of the main culprits in the destruction of national institutions. He has led the Milan "Clean Hands" investigation that allegedly "discovered" political corruption and successfully fought it. As a result, Di Pietro and his team destroyed an entire political system, and corruption is still there. With the help of the media, they established a system

by which any politician who is not in line with the oligarchy goes to jail.

In December, Di Pietro resigned from his post as prosecutor in Milan, amid speculation that he would seek political office. Meanwhile, he started to teach at the Carlo Cattaneo Free University in Varese, named after the 19th-century British agent who pushed Adam Smith's dogmas. Today, Cattaneo's "federalist" proposals are being used to push separatist projects. The Cattaneo University was founded four years ago by a group of Varese businessmen who are supporters of the Northern League. Demonstrating the farcical nature of his "anti-corruption crusade," as Di Pietro was making public his new job at Cattaneo University, the press revealed that his new boss is under investigation for giving bribes to political parties as recently as two years ago!

Cattaneo University is a nest of radical free-market and irrationalist theories. As its founders explain, it has been conceived as a training (brainwashing) center for industry leaders, especially from small and medium-sized companies. Among the teachers is Geminello Alvi, a former official at the Bank for International Settlements and follower of the anthroposophist Rudolf Steiner. Also teaching at the university in Varese is Mario Monti, European Community commissioner and radical free-marketeer. Monti stated, in an interview with *Corriere della Sera* on Nov. 13, 1994, that the destruction of Italy's political parties was provoked, more than by corruption, by "the opening of financial borders, and therefore free circulation of capital which, since April 1990, has opened a competition between Italian Treasury bonds and all bonds in the rest of the world." Liberalization of financial markets, stated Monti, "has taken away from the Treasury [i.e., the government] its financial monopoly." "I have always insisted," Monti added, "that [financial liberalization] was the crowbar . . . to eliminate an artificial lung of the public sector."

But the person that best shows what hides behind Di Pietro and the Cattaneo University is former President Francesco Cossiga. When the university was inaugurated, on Nov. 21, 1991, Cossiga personally brought his sponsorship as President of the Republic. It is necessary to look at Cossiga, to understand who Di Pietro is.

From the beginning of his career, Di Pietro has acted under Cossiga's protection. As a policeman, Di Pietro was one of the "most promising" members of the special anti-terrorist squad led by Carabinieri Gen. Carlo Alberto Dalla Chiesa, according to a report by the latter's mother-in-law. Dalla Chiesa gained fame as the man who destroyed the Red Brigades, but he did it after they had become "useless," that is, after they kidnapped and killed Aldo Moro in 1978. The reason for that became clear when the famous membership list of the secret Propaganda-2 freemasonic lodge was published, in 1981: Dalla Chiesa was a member of the P-2, together with the chiefs of all the secret services and the police during the Moro kidnapping. Cossiga was interior

minister at that time, coordinator of all the investigative bodies, during Moro's captivity and murder. Afterward, when the P-2 scandal broke out, Cossiga prevented the full truth from coming out. He did the same later, when the existence of another destabilization network, the Gladio secret organization, was revealed by Premier Giulio Andreotti.

The Via Poma police precinct, where Di Pietro's career started, in 1981 in Milan, has always hosted the local secret service section (SISDE). Last year, the Florence prosecutors opened an investigation into a Mafia operation in Milan which had connections to several of Di Pietro's former colleagues.

Di Pietro's career as a prosecutor began in Bergamo. When he moved to Milan, Cossiga was already President of the Republic. In 1992, Cossiga started what intelligence operator Angelo Codevilla, in a *Foreign Affairs* article that same year, described as the beginning of the demolition of Italian institutions. Cossiga started a campaign against the political parties, accusing them of being "Cosa Nostra," i.e., like the Mafia. Cossiga also attacked the magistrates, who went on strike in protest. In Milan, the only magistrate who refused to join the strike was Di Pietro, who in the meantime was preparing his "anti-corruption" investigation.

According to Danilo Taino of *Corriere della Sera*, Di Pietro has been helped in his investigations by Kroll Associates, known as "the Wall Street CIA."

In 1993, when all government political parties had been demolished and Parliament had virtually ceased to exist, Di Pietro published a book on the Constitution with an introduction by Cossiga, who predicted a great political future for him.

### London's man, Cossiga

Francesco Cossiga has a direct connection to the City of London. There is no holiday which Cossiga does not spend in Great Britain. Especially during a government crisis, he loves to spend time in London. When Margaret Thatcher came to Italy last year to present her book, she was advised not to do it in Rome, where many people did not like what she had written about Italy and Italians. She held a conference in Milan instead: On the podium to her right was Cossiga, to her left Mario Monti.

During the last government crisis, Cossiga was recalled from London by Scalfaro and assigned to explore secretly whether he could form a government. Cossiga accepted, and started consultations from his base at Rome's Hotel d'Inghilterra (England Hotel). Eventually he dropped the idea, because he could not get support from Berlusconi's party. He has said that he will not "hold back" if the nation falls into a severe crisis, "blood flows on the stairs of Parliament," and a figure "above the parties" is required to run the country. There is no doubt that, in London, somebody sees a Cossiga-Di Pietro-Monti formula as a useful replay of the Danton-Robespierre-Necker combination which destroyed the French nation in 1789.