

**Date and Time:** Thursday 14 January 2021 13:43:00 CET

**Job Number:** 134073191

**Documents (94)**

1. [*European budget: flaws to be corrected*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5VNM-MF81-JDMV-K1KD-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms: atleast2(**european union) ORatleast2 (eu) ORatleast2( euro\*) ORatleast2 (eu)

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| News | Sources: Corriere della Sera (Italy); All Content Types: News; Timeline: Mar 18, 2019 Through Mar 18, 2019 |

2. [*POPULIST TENTATIVES AND THE KRAMP-KARRENBAUER EUROPEAN GAFFE;The italics of the day*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5VNM-MF81-JDMV-K1M6-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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3. [*For the first time, the EU introduces whistleblower protection; Offshore*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5VNM-MF81-JDMV-K1WV-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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4. [*The banners of the Madamine, from Tav to Europe;Piazza San Carlo*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5VNM-MF81-JDMV-K1SH-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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5. [*The whole of Europe is a country with hospitable companies*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5VNM-MF81-JDMV-K1X1-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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6. [*Gandolfini and Fratelli d'Italia come to an agreement for Europe; Family day*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5VNM-MF81-JDMV-K1K2-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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7. [*invest more then the rest*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5VNM-MF81-JDMV-K1JG-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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8. [*Tria accelerates investment package*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5VNM-MF81-JDMV-K1K3-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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9. [*dangerous chinese relations from luxury to pharmaceuticals can made in italy defend itself?*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5VNM-MF81-JDMV-K1VF-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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10. [*we'll lend the money to SMEs; Enterprises the alternative to credit*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5VNM-MF81-JDMV-K1WT-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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11. [*Telethon The good enterprise makes us grow;Fundraising enterprises*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5VNM-MF81-JDMV-K1WY-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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12. [*The (unexpected) effects of the minimum wage: for domestic helpers and carers up to 230% higher pay; Simulations*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5VNM-MF81-JDMV-K1K4-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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13. [*Mediaset tightens up on foreign expansion: "The sooner the better";Interview pier silvio berlusconi*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5VNM-MF81-JDMV-K1K5-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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14. [*(appropriate) rules and digital a challenge to small banks;Finance debates*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5VNM-MF81-JDMV-K1VV-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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15. [*The chasm in the Treasury between co-payments and double jobs*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5VNM-MF81-JDMV-K1K1-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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16. [*Fed and ECB, the normality of alert; Investment macroeconomic scenarios*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5VNM-MF81-JDMV-K1XR-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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17. [*Flat tax, Salvini runs and Di Maio stops The Treasury: it would cost 59 billion \*.*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5VNM-MF81-JDMV-K1JP-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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| News | Sources: Corriere della Sera (Italy); All Content Types: News; Timeline: Mar 18, 2019 Through Mar 18, 2019 |

18. [*Digital nomads hunting startups for multinationals*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5VNM-MF81-JDMV-K1TF-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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| News | Sources: Corriere della Sera (Italy); All Content Types: News; Timeline: Mar 18, 2019 Through Mar 18, 2019 |

19. [*Prodi's anti-sovereignist appeal 'We must revive Europe';Politics*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5VSV-1N91-JDMV-K4YR-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| News | Sources: Corriere della Sera (Italy); All Content Types: News; Timeline: Apr 02, 2019 Through Apr 02, 2019 |

20. [*From austerity to thesingle currency Monti-Borghi duel (with venom);The economy*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5VSV-1N91-JDMV-K4YS-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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| News | Sources: Corriere della Sera (Italy); All Content Types: News; Timeline: Apr 02, 2019 Through Apr 02, 2019 |

21. [*Sustainability and zero impact Europe's strategy; Meeting in Statale*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5VSV-1N91-JDMV-K4WN-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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| News | Sources: Corriere della Sera (Italy); All Content Types: News; Timeline: Apr 02, 2019 Through Apr 02, 2019 |

22. [*malta's double bluff on migrants; A journey in 100 days From Africa, young men disembark in Lampedusa, then reach Valletta by ferry or plane, as "tourists" in the Schengen area The result is that thousands of unregistered people are employed in constructions bordering on slavery. Clearly visible for the business, "ghosts" for the State*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5VSV-1N91-JDMV-K501-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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| News | Sources: Corriere della Sera (Italy); All Content Types: News; Timeline: Apr 02, 2019 Through Apr 02, 2019 |

23. [*European, M5S: there will be no Brescian; Europarliamentary elections*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5VSV-1N91-JDMV-K4VC-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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| News | Sources: Corriere della Sera (Italy); All Content Types: News; Timeline: Apr 02, 2019 Through Apr 02, 2019 |

24. [*Investors worried;GDP below zero*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5VSV-1N91-JDMV-K4YB-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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| News | Sources: Corriere della Sera (Italy); All Content Types: News; Timeline: Apr 02, 2019 Through Apr 02, 2019 |

25. [*Tria in the crosshairs, summit with Conte Tightening up on refunds in the banks case; The backstage story*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5VSV-1N91-JDMV-K4YC-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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26. [*Voracious politics and the levees; Some scenarios*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5VSV-1N91-JDMV-K50S-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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27. [*Di Maio's conditions on the Def: family package or we don't vote for it;Background*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5VSV-1N91-JDMV-K4YJ-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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28. [*Moderates' primaries crown a lawyer*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5VSV-1N91-JDMV-K4WR-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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| News | Sources: Corriere della Sera (Italy); All Content Types: News; Timeline: Apr 02, 2019 Through Apr 02, 2019 |

29. [*WHAT WE VOTE FOR WHEN WE VOTE FOR THE EU;On newsstands tomorrow*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5VX1-KC31-JDMV-K06J-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| News | Sources: Corriere della Sera (Italy); All Content Types: News; Timeline: Apr 17, 2019 Through Apr 17, 2019 |

30. [*Jihad and back so molenbeek heals wounds;A journey in 100 days Love, startups, virtual reality and rehabilitation of prisonersAfter the 2016 attacks, Belgium has started to go down the road of prevention to avoid new waves of radicalisation But on the return of foreign fighters and their children still has no answer*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5VX1-KC31-JDMV-K069-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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31. [*Realism is the true moral;Preview A summary of the preface by Panebianco and Belardinelli that opens their book on the future of the EU (il Mulino)*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5VX1-KC31-JDMV-K07S-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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32. [*Populism and the EU elections at the Festival of Economics;Lens*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5VX1-KC31-JDMV-K078-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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33. [*"We're on the rise. The Carroccio is only scoring own goals in the capital"; M5S Minister Fraccaro*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5VX1-KC31-JDMV-K05T-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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34. [*"Telling Europe" An audience of friends and colleagues for Cinzia Th Torrini;Off Off*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5VX1-KC31-JDMV-K0BF-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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35. [*Seven Brescian candidates for European elections, but only Lancini is in pole position*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5VX1-KC31-JDMV-K029-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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36. [*It's the turn of the preference 'lords' From Berlusconi to Pisapia, here are the challenges*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5VX1-KC31-JDMV-K060-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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37. [*Federalism;The word*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5VX1-KC31-JDMV-K06B-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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38. [*The leader of the Italian League is attacking everything: "They forget the money for Rome".*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5VX1-KC31-JDMV-K05V-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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39. [*Greta cries: 'House collapses act fast'; In Strasbourg*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5VX1-KC31-JDMV-K068-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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40. [*Clash over anti-migrant directive Defence's wrath: Salvini trespasses*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5VX1-KC31-JDMV-K05K-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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41. [*Judges, lawyers and law professors: an enlarged pool for the EU General Court*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W1F-48F1-F13X-9071-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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42. [*Europeans, the fighting M5S is now moderate The referendum on the currency? No more \*;Analysis*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W1F-48F1-F13X-908R-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** european union OR eu OR euro\* OR eu

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43. [*precaution;The word*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W1F-48F1-F13X-9094-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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44. [*Moavero: "EU, reforms are needed";The Minister*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W1F-48F1-F13X-9090-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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45. [*"Labour, climate and migrants" +Europe, running as an outsider;Towards 26 May*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W1F-48F1-F13X-9073-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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46. [*Sangalli: the European vote? For recovery, investments outside the deficit calculation;Interview*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W1F-48F1-F13X-90BB-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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47. [*"Matteo together with us in Europe?Rubbish';Interview Elmar Brok*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W1F-48F1-F13X-908M-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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48. [*Dutch Nazari, rap for Europe;Monk*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W1F-48F1-F13X-90FD-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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49. [*watershed move by the 5Stelle against the League;Scenarios The sacking by Prime Minister Conte of Under-Secretary Siri represents Salvini's first real defeat in this European election campaign*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W1F-48F1-F13X-909W-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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50. [*The war of figures on irregular immigrants That's why there are (at least) 600,000 of them; the dossier the numbers OF THE "INVISIBLES*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W1F-48F1-F13X-909J-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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51. [*Viktor's 'hand', Merkel's interest: messages to the Carroccio*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W1F-48F1-F13X-908N-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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52. [*Mattarella and Macron's commitment: eternal friendship between Rome and Paris*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W1F-48F1-F13X-908Y-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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53. [*Salvini flies to Hungary to see Orbán 'Let's hope he wins in the EPP'.*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W1F-48F1-F13X-908K-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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54. [*League and 5 Stars, a duel also on accounts*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W1F-48F1-F13X-908P-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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55. [*All the poisons and suspicions in the government But the crisis is still frozen;Background*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W1F-48F1-F13X-908F-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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56. [*Industry 4.0, competence centres in Turin and Bologna;Lens*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W1F-48F1-F13X-90B8-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

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| News | Sources: Corriere della Sera (Italy); All Content Types: News; Timeline: May 03, 2019 Through May 03, 2019 |

57. [*housing for all - that's how people live better in vienna; a journey in 100 days Six out of ten Viennese people live in low-rent housingis thanks to asocial tradition dating back to 1919: "We make sure that people of all classes can live in every area of the capital" A model now being challenged by the conservative government of Chancellor Kurz.*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W4D-PY91-JDMV-K2R9-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

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| News | Sources: Corriere della Sera (Italy); All Content Types: News; Timeline: May 17, 2019 Through May 17, 2019 |

58. [*Is the war on Europe over?;Some questions*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W4D-PY91-JDMV-K2PC-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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59. [*Debt, the call of Europe Clash between Rome and Vienna*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W4D-PY91-JDMV-K2SD-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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60. [*"We need to accelerate growth, not increase VAT".*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W4D-PY91-JDMV-K2SF-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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61. [*The governor: Asti-Cuneo stops Bertola: no more fake news;Clash between candidates*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W4D-PY91-JDMV-K2XC-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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62. [*FROM FARAGE TO THE YELLOW VILET IN SEARCH OF AN ALLEADY;Aldo Cazzullo replies*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W4D-PY91-JDMV-K2S8-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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63. [*Bankitalia's push on choices; Public accounts*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W4D-PY91-JDMV-K2SJ-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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64. [*Appointments in the Legnano leghista "Promises votes, daughter's job".*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W4D-PY91-JDMV-K2PV-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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65. [*Matthew sees 'powerful enemies'; the backstory*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W4D-PY91-JDMV-K2PT-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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66. [*"We allies of the 5 Stars? It would be a betrayal We will not do the Union bis";The interview*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W4D-PY91-JDMV-K2R4-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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67. [*Anti Salvini protests, clashes in Naples In Milan, the "construction sites" of the banners*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W4D-PY91-JDMV-K2PY-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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68. [*Dangerousshortcuts;The parties' mistake*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W4D-PY91-JDMV-K2S5-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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69. [*Europe cannot tolerate the dollar ruling the world.*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W7W-DX91-JDMV-K06D-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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| News | Sources: Corriere della Sera (Italy); All Content Types: News; Timeline: Jun 02, 2019 Through Jun 02, 2019 |

70. [*Trump arrives and blesses Boris "Meghan? Naughty"*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W7W-DX91-JDMV-K06F-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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71. [*"Damage to negotiations with the EU The text was provisional, Castelli should not have had it"; INTERVIEW with giovanni tria*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W7W-DX91-JDMV-K060-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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72. [*In the government there is a hunt for the guilty party; the League is convinced that the leak of the EU letter is the fault of the M5S And Salvini challenges Brussels: "We will see who has the hardest head".*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W7W-DX91-JDMV-K05X-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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73. [*De Castro: 'Now Europe reopens the agricultural game Rome, funds for 7 billion'.*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W7W-DX91-JDMV-K080-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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74. [*Cgia di Mestre: 'The 53 billion PA debt is still too much';La Lente*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W7W-DX91-JDMV-K07Y-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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75. [*Tax jungle, the mockery of cuts*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W7W-DX91-JDMV-K084-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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76. [*My future is in my Africa*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W7W-DX91-JDMV-K0F3-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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77. [*"If we win the second ballot, the Province will be ours In the city? The League is ready"; THE INTERVIEW with regional councillor FABIO ROLFI*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W7W-DX91-JDMV-K01W-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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78. [*Conte tries to come out of the bunker: they are all responsible, starting with the two vice-premiers; The backstage*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W7W-DX91-JDMV-K05Y-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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79. [*What if we were more aware?;Italians*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W7W-DX91-JDMV-K07T-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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80. [*Bureaucracy dies in the countryside*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W7W-DX91-JDMV-K074-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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81. [*Plastics, boom in sorting but real recycling is difficult*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W7W-DX91-JDMV-K020-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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82. [*The left's biggest mistake: it has forgotten the "penultimate";Visioni Federico Rampini's essay (Mondadori) on why this political party has lost the people*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5W7W-DX91-JDMV-K088-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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83. [*Why it is important for the EU not to become complacent about US defence; the needle in the balance*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5WBV-VK01-F13X-94J4-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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84. [*Maia Filorussi's government at arm's length with pro-Europeans; PM*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5WBV-VK01-F13X-94J5-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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| News | Sources: Corriere della Sera (Italy); All Content Types: News; Timeline: Jun 16, 2019 Through Jun 16, 2019 |

85. [*Conte files the letter to the EU, the vice-premiers' stakes*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5WBV-VK01-F13X-94HN-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** european union OR eu OR euro\* OR eu

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| News | Sources: Corriere della Sera (Italy); All Content Types: News; Timeline: Jun 16, 2019 Through Jun 16, 2019 |

86. [*The art of building bridges The philosopher of dialogue;Pathways Biographies*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5WBV-VK01-F13X-94WM-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** european union OR eu OR euro\* OR eu

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| News | Sources: Corriere della Sera (Italy); All Content Types: News; Timeline: Jun 16, 2019 Through Jun 16, 2019 |

87. [*The future of work;The debate of ideas*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5WBV-VK01-F13X-94S4-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** european union OR eu OR euro\* OR eu

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| News | Sources: Corriere della Sera (Italy); All Content Types: News; Timeline: Jun 16, 2019 Through Jun 16, 2019 |

88. [*Missed opportunities (with Europe);The government's choices*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5WBV-VK01-F13X-94H5-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** european union OR eu OR euro\* OR eu

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

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| --- | --- |
| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| News | Sources: Corriere della Sera (Italy); All Content Types: News; Timeline: Jun 16, 2019 Through Jun 16, 2019 |

89. [*I'LL TELL THE COURIER*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5WBV-VK01-F13X-94KD-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** european union OR eu OR euro\* OR eu

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| News | Sources: Corriere della Sera (Italy); All Content Types: News; Timeline: Jun 16, 2019 Through Jun 16, 2019 |

90. [*Salvini's stop: Sea Watch outlawed Sick people and pregnant women disembarking*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5WBV-VK01-F13X-94HM-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** european union OR eu OR euro\* OR eu

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| News | Sources: Corriere della Sera (Italy); All Content Types: News; Timeline: Jun 16, 2019 Through Jun 16, 2019 |

91. [*"Your public debt is a sword of Damocles but Italy has strengths"; The interview The ECB Vice-President*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5WBV-VK01-F13X-94HR-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** european union OR eu OR euro\* OR eu

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| News | Sources: Corriere della Sera (Italy); All Content Types: News; Timeline: Jun 16, 2019 Through Jun 16, 2019 |

92. [*Is German Hollywood going right? Star appeal: 'Vote right';The story*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5WBV-VK01-F13X-94J7-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** european union OR eu OR euro\* OR eu

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| News | Sources: Corriere della Sera (Italy); All Content Types: News; Timeline: Jun 16, 2019 Through Jun 16, 2019 |

93. [*speaks galperti : SAFE SHOES UNDER THE ROADS;The interview*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5WBV-VK01-F13X-94CN-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** european union OR eu OR euro\* OR eu

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| News | Sources: Corriere della Sera (Italy); All Content Types: News; Timeline: Jun 16, 2019 Through Jun 16, 2019 |

94. [*Our political squares;Italians*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5WBV-VK01-F13X-94KB-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** european union OR eu OR euro\* OR eu

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| News | Sources: Corriere della Sera (Italy); All Content Types: News; Timeline: Jun 16, 2019 Through Jun 16, 2019 |

[***Budget European budgetthe flaws to be corrected***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5VNM-MF81-JDMV-K1KD-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

18 March 2019 Monday

NATIONAL Edition

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**Section:** FOREIGN; Page 12

**Length:** 1164 words

**Byline:** Milena Gabanelli and Luigi Offeddu

**Highlight:** rising salaries, benefits for all, allowances to leave in May EU parliamentarians and commissioners go to the bank but not before securing "support" for the future

**Body**

graphic="311.0.104852389.pdf" XY="6012800" Croprect="601280074836700" by Milena Gabanelli and Luigi Offeddu This will be a challenging year for the accounts of the ***European Union.*** First the Brexit (if there will be one), with the exodus of the British ***MEPs***, then the ***European*** elections: everyone is leaving, and everyone will go to the cashier to collect the "end-of-term allowance", i.e. one month's salary for each year of service, up to a maximum of 24 months. The monthly salary is ***€8,***757 gross, excluding allowances (such as ***€320*** per day for board and lodging for each day spent in Brussels, Strasbourg or Luxembourg). Officially, the end-of-mandate allowance, on which not a single ***euro*** has been deducted from the pay packet, serves to guarantee "financial security" until reintegration into another job. An unjustified privilege, according to critics, because generally an MEP has been able to have enough contacts to easily find a new job. And even more so a ***European*** Commissioner: in 2016 José Manuel Barroso, after having been president of the Commission for 10 years, was hired by Goldman Sachs as non-executive chairman and advisor of the ***European*** section. A protest petition launched by ***EU*** employees gathered almost 140 thousand signatures.

End-of-term allowance

for all

The end-of-term allowances for the 27 members of the ***European*** Commission appear in the 2019 budget at ***€690,000***. Their gross salaries total ***€12,***658,000, about three million more than in 2017. According to calculations referring to a Council regulation for senior ***EU*** posts, President Jean-Claude Juncker now receives about 27,000 ***euros*** gross per month, to which allowances should be added and a 7% "solidarity levy", plus a pro-EU tax, should be removed. "He earns 138% more than the highest-ranking ***EU*** official while asking for tears and blood from the states," protests Cricket MEP Ignazio Corrao. "I get indignant: if you want to show others a sober life, you have to do it too...". Perhaps he does not know that at the end of his mandate Juncker will collect another ***€324,***000, and probably new benefits. According to the German newspaper Frankfurter Allgemeine, the ***European*** Commissioners are already discussing the "services" to be guaranteed after the leave for "two more years": an ex-president would be entitled for three years to "an office, an official car, a full-time driver, a collaborator". Gunther Oettinger, commissioner for the budget, denied this, but a confidential document in the possession of Corriere, signed by Oettinger himself on 17 July, admits: among the commissioners there have been "internal discussions on the status and administrative support for former members of the Commission, and for those appointed or candidates". No official decision has been taken, Oettinger assures, but "certainly next year (i.e. in 2019, ed.), the Commission will address these issues". For the May "farewells" of ***MEPs***, on the other hand, ***€20,***690,000 has been ***earmarked***. So far, as far as we know, only one member of the ***EU*** institutions has not benefited from this possibility: Antonio Tajani, president of the Parliament, in moving from the Commission to his new post renounced his end-of-term allowance of ***€468***,000 as "proof of sobriety at a time of great difficulty for ***Europeans***".

Sovereignists use contributions

to give away champagne

However, there is also money going back. For example, the Parliament withheld ***€554***,500 from the contributions due for 2018 to the ENF group, composed of Marine Le Pen's Rassemblement National, Germany's Afd, the League and other sovereignist groups. The Budgetary Control Committee explains it this way: some funds from 2016 and 2017 "had not been accounted for according to the rules". The ENF has denied everything, in particular the League has ruled out any involvement. But a report compiled by the Control Commission after an external audit showed little understanding: 'meals of 400 ***euros*** per person are not compatible with sound financial administration, so they are unacceptable. The same goes for 110 Christmas gifts of ***€100*** each...The ENF group must disclose who are the beneficiaries of 228 bottles of champagne, and another 6 bottles worth ***€81***". The Commission concludes that 'political groups should not offer their members gifts paid for from ***European*** funds'.

Benefits also for redundant workers

out of inaptitude

For benefits linked to "goodbyes", and for new investments in employment, agriculture and security, the 2019 ***EU*** budget commits 5.7 billion more than in 2018, an increase of 3.2%, despite cuts in various areas. Today's total, ***€165***.8 billion. We are 508 million citizens, and the budget is made up of thousands of pages in which you can find everything: good rules, examples of good administration, and others more disconcerting. For example, among the "salaries and allowances" allocated by the ***European*** Commission to its officials, there is also the item "dismissal allowance for probationary officials dismissed for manifest inaptitude". The probationary period is 9 months, the allowance for dismissal for 'manifest unsuitability' ranges from one to three months' basic salary. For this election year, the Parliament allocates 50 million to ***European*** political parties and 19.7 million to foundations: "it is necessary," it recommends, "to ensure that their use is strictly controlled". There are 7,675,000 ***euros for*** "childcare facilities", the kindergartens reserved for the children of ***EU*** officials and MEPs: an item that aims to guarantee mothers and fathers more time to work well. Then 240,000 for 'social relations between staff members'.

15 years to build

a new headquarters

On the other hand, the Commission allocates ***€22,***429,000 to conferences and meetings, which also includes the "cost of any refreshments or breakfasts served on the occasion of internal meetings". Another ***€27,***010,000 is for "missions and staff travel between the three places of work" (Brussels and Strasbourg, where meetings are held four days a month, and Luxembourg). In Luxembourg, where there are 139 ***EU*** offices, the Commission has to build a second office, 'JMO II', for 3,600 employees. It already had one, which was evacuated due to the discovery of asbestos in its facilities, "in higher than expected levels". It is a 23-storey tower and a 7-storey building, with a planned budget of 526.3 million. A special report by the ***European*** Court of Auditors, dated 5 December 2018, recounts its genesis. In summary: initial decision in 2009, planned delivery between 2016 and 2019, now slipped to 2023-2024. And in the meantime, the Commission will pay hundreds of millions to rent other buildings. The Court states that "the Commission includes in its notes to the budgetary authorities a cost-benefit analysis of the new projects. We found no trace of this analysis in the documents for the JMO II project.

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**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject: *European*** Union (94%); ***European*** Union Regulation + Policy (74%)

**Industry:** Budgets (71%)

**Load-Date:** March 18, 2019

**End of Document**

[***POPULIST TEMPTATIONS AND THE GAFFE EUROPEAN BY KRAMP-KARRENBAUER; The italics of the day***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5VNM-MF81-JDMV-K1M6-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

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**Section:** IDEAS & OPINIONS; Page 30

**Length:** 352 words

**Byline:** Paolo Valentino

**Body**

The populist temptation can play tricks on those in politics. Not least of which is allowing themselves to be seduced by fake news. Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer, aka AKK, who has taken Angela Merkel's place at the head of the Cdu and aspires to be her successor as Chancellor, knows something about this.

This ambition was confirmed last week when AKK took the trouble, not Merkel, to formulate the expected German response to Emmanuel Macron and his project to relaunch ***Europe***. We will not go into the merits of her vision here, at the bottom of which there seems to be only one imperative: any reform of the ***EU*** must not ask Germany for anything more than the status quo in terms of sovereignty and resources. Among AKK's, shall we say, striking proposals, apart from that of a ***European*** aircraft carrier, strange for a rich and powerful country that refuses to spend the famous 2% of GDP on defence, stands out that in the future ***EU*** officials will pay income tax, like all other EU citizens. Applause on social media, positive echo in the sovereignist political forces. But there is one detail that is a pity: ***EU*** officials already pay income tax. Paradoxically, it is German Commissioner Guenther Oettinger, one of his party mates, who reminds AKK that in a personal letter to the leader of the Cdu, the so-called ***Eurocrats*** are "subject to taxation for the benefit of the ***EU*** budget". More precisely, they have an average withholding tax of 38%, with the marginal rate on the highest portion of the salary reaching 45%, in line with the average of ***EU*** countries. In addition, there is a solidarity tax of between 6% and 7%. The reason why the taxes of ***EU*** officials are paid to the common budget is that otherwise the beneficiaries of the revenue would be mainly Belgium and, to a lesser extent, Luxembourg, where almost all the institutions are based. In the letter, Oettinger declares himself available for "future discussions on relevant ***European*** policy issues". In other words, before talking nonsense, consult your commissioner in Brussels. © CONFIDENTIAL REPRODUCTION

**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Politics (94%); Economic Growth (71%); ***European*** Union (71%)

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**End of Document**

[***For the first time theEU introduces 'whistleblower' protection; Offshore***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5VNM-MF81-JDMV-K1WV-00000-00&context=)

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18 March 2019 Monday

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**Section:** CORRIERECONOMY; Page 35

**Length:** 345 words

**Byline:** edited by Ivo Caizzi , [*icaizzi@corriere.it*](mailto:icaizzi@corriere.it)

**Body**

Negotiators from the Council of Governments and the ***European Parliament*** have reached an agreement to introduce in all ***EU*** countries - for the first time - common legislation to protect whistleblowers, those who "whistle blow" the alarm from within public or private entities on various illegalities and anomalies. The measure covers tax evasion, money laundering, public procurement, product and transport safety, environmental protection, health or consumer and personal data protection. According to a study by the ***EU*** Commission, this legislation can allow the recovery of between 5.8 and 9.6 billion per year in public procurement alone.

With the new rules, a ***European*** version of the US whistleblower, Edward Snowden, who revealed mass computer espionage by the US secret services (and had to flee to Russia to avoid arrest in his own country), should not be at risk. Whistleblowers from the inside should be guaranteed maximum personal protection, anonymity and confidentiality on what they reveal. This is the case even if he considers it urgent to have his accusations made public by the media in order to alert the community. In this respect, ***EU*** law also protects investigative journalists who are the interlocutors of whistleblowers.

The Luxembourg judicial authorities would thus no longer be able to prosecute the French reporter Edouard Perrin, who revealed the scandal of fiscal favouritism to foreign multinationals (which has multiplied in the Grand Duchy since Jean-Claude Juncker, now President of the ***EU*** Commission, was Prime Minister), communicated to him by two financial consultants. Julien Assange of Wikileaks should also no longer be kept in a small room in the Ecuadorian Embassy in London for years for having leaked confidential documents provided to him by the soldier Chelsea Manning, himself imprisoned for a long time in the United States. The conclusion of the proceedings now requires the green light from ***MEPs*** in the Legal Affairs Committee to the text already approved by the 28 ***EU*** ambassadors.

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**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Criminal Offenses (93%); Government Departments + Authorities (93%); Human Rights Violations (80%); Consumer Protection (77%); Product Safety (75%); Spousal Support (69%); Multinational Corporations (67%); Fraud + Financial Crime (65%); Larceny + Theft (65%); Associations + Organizations (64%); Money Laundering (64%); ***European*** Union (63%); ***European*** Union Regulation + Policy (63%); Food + Beverage Regulation + Policy (62%); Food Safety (62%)

**Industry:** Computing + It Regulation + Policy (86%); Information Security + Privacy (86%); Professional Services (64%)

**Load-Date:** March 18, 2019

**End of Document**

[***The banners of the Madamine, from Tav toEuropePiazza San Carlo***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5VNM-MF81-JDMV-K1SH-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

18 March 2019 Monday

TURIN Edition

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**Section:** TURIN NEWS; Page 5

**Length:** 147 words

**Body**

***European*** flags to be hung on balconies to mark ***Europe*** Day on 21 March. Yesterday, the madamine of "Yes Torino va avanti" distributed ***European*** flags in Piazza San Carlo to say "Yes to ***Europe***". "Let's put ***Europe*** on our balconies" is the madamine's invitation. "It was precisely on 17 March 1861 that the Kingdom of Italy was proclaimed: an almost miraculous historical event - they recall - in just a few years, from being a trivial geographical expression, as the Austrian Chancellor Metternich used to say with contempt, Italy has become a great nation, with increasing influence on the ***European*** scene. What better way to celebrate Italy's anniversary than to lend a hand so that ***Europe*** too can one day really think with one head in the interests of all its citizens? Not only the Italian spirit, but also the ***European*** spirit must be cultivated'.

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**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject: *European*** Union Regulation + Policy (94%); Civil Rights (80%); ***European*** Union (73%); Economic Crisis (63%); Conferences + Conventions (62%)

**Industry:** Agriculture (88%)

**Load-Date:** March 18, 2019

**End of Document**

[***The whole ofEurope is a country with hospitable companies***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5VNM-MF81-JDMV-K1X1-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

18 March 2019 Monday

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**Section:** CORRIERECONOMY; Page 39

**Length:** 634 words

**Byline:** Alessandro Zollo\*

**Highlight:** Satisfaction in Italy's Best Workplaces is comparable to that found abroad But our best managers win in a more difficult social and economic environment The Italian trust gap between top companies and the average is 37 points, while in Norway the distance is 20 points

**Body**

The companies winning this year's Best Workplaces 2019 award show extremely high levels of the Trust Index: 81.17%. In these fifty companies, four out of five employees tell us that they trust their bosses, do a pleasant job and have good relationships with their colleagues. But how do these 50 companies compare with the best ***European*** companies? They are absolutely comparable. In fact, the gap between Poland or Turkey (79%) and Denmark (90%) is not that big: 11 percentage points. The ***European*** average is 84% and shows that good working environments are quite similar throughout ***Europe***.

The analysis

This year, however, we also asked how much a country's management culture helps companies to do better. To do this, we deepened our analysis of some of the most important ones by collecting statistical samples of the population of Italy, the UK, France, Sweden, Austria, Switzerland, Germany, Denmark and Norway. The aim is to understand the level of trust of employees in the average company in these ***European*** countries and to compare them with each other.

The results: the Scandinavian countries have a more evolved organisational and managerial culture, followed by those of German linguistic stock and finally the Latins, accompanied by the United Kingdom. In this special ranking, unfortunately, Italy comes last at a rather marked distance from both the Nordic countries (24 points) and its own best companies (37 points). In fact, while in Italy half of the workers are dissatisfied, among the companies with the best work, satisfied workers are 4 out of 5.

Origins

We asked ourselves where this cultural backwardness in business management comes from. In order to answer this question, we tried to compare two international indices with the average trust we have just discussed. The Human Development Index is calculated by the United Nations Development Programme and summarises per capita income, level of schooling and life expectancy. Comparing this index with the trend of the national average of confidence in the workplace, we note that the two indices are very similar (correlation 0.76). Unfortunately, Italy is also last in this ranking while the Scandinavian countries are the most developed. The same applies to the Happiness Index, which measures per capita income, state social support, healthy life expectancy, freedom of choice, generosity and perception of corruption. Looking at the same 9 countries we notice, again, that the curves are very similar (correlation 0.86).

What do these two measures tell us? That, in all likelihood, the economic, social and environmental conditions in Italy are much more difficult for our companies than for those in Norway or Denmark. Moreover, they tell us that the best companies manage to more than proportionally offset this gap in social and economic development. In fact, while the Italian confidence gap between the national average and the best companies is 37 percentage points, Norway's is only 20 points. Finally, statistical analysis confirms that the reasons for the success of Italian Best Workplaces stem from better leadership, the balance of time devoted to family and work, and the level of innovation. It can therefore be argued that the managers of the best Italian companies have a more modern, more innovative and more inclusive leadership style. Without forgetting that these managers lead companies that, on average, are growing by 13.81% per year in 2018, while their Italian colleagues have to make do with 1.2%. Could the former be right?

\*Managing Director

Great Place to Work® Italy

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**Subject:** Wages + Salaries (93%); Human Resources + Personnel Management (88%); Labor + Employment (88%); Recruitment + Hiring (88%); Economic Growth (87%); Teaching + Teachers (84%); Business Forecasts (81%); Outsourcing (74%); Executives (73%); Income Distribution (69%); Company Strategy (68%); Company Activities + Management (63%); Consumer Confidence (63%); Internet Social Networking (63%)

**Industry:** Marketing + Advertising (63%)

**Load-Date:** March 18, 2019

**End of Document**

[***Gandolfini and Fratelli d'Italia come to an agreement for the EuropeFamily day***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5VNM-MF81-JDMV-K1K2-00000-00&context=)

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**Section:** POLITICS; Page 6

**Length:** 128 words

**Body**

"We recognise that Fratelli d'Italia and Giorgia Meloni are pursuing a policy in favour of the family, for the defence of life from conception to natural death and for the educational freedom of parents, which is absolutely consistent with the Family Day and our initiatives. This is why we will support the FdI candidates in the next ***European*** elections". This is what the president of the Family Day, Massimo Gandolfini, said two days ago in Florence on the sidelines of the event "More family, more Italy", organised by FdI. And yesterday Giorgia Meloni wanted to "thank him for his important words. Defence of life, the centrality of the natural family, freedom of education and the fight against gender ideology: these are the issues we share".

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**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Minority Groups (94%); Adolescents (81%); Families + Children (77%); Marriage (69%); Gays + Lesbians (67%); Marriage Law (63%)

**Load-Date:** March 18, 2019

**End of Document**

[***invest more then the rest***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5VNM-MF81-JDMV-K1JG-00000-00&context=)

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**Section:** FIRST PAGE; Page 1.30

**Length:** 731 words

**Byline:** Francesco Giavazzi

**Body**

he reasons given by the government to explain the benefits of a trade agreement with China - greater opening of the Chinese market to our exports and the possibility of Beijing's investments in Italy - betray a lack of knowledge of Italy's macroeconomic situation. Italy has a "savings surplus" of about 45 billion ***euros*** per year. This means that in 2018 Italian households saved around ***€45*** billion more than was used by businesses to invest and by the state to finance the public deficit. These 45 billion were invested abroad by buying companies and financial assets in other countries. In short, since savings have to be used in some way, if we invest little in Italy it means that we have to invest more abroad.

The figures therefore show that there are many reasons why our investments are stagnating and that the issue is not a lack of savings. Ours is a very different situation from that of the United States, for example, where there is a lack, not an excess, of savings: this leads the US to get into debt with the rest of the world, last year to the tune of almost 500 billion dollars.

A different way of looking at the same thing - that is, that we save more than we need to invest and cover the hole in the public accounts - is that the value of our exports exceeds the cost of imports by about ***EUR*** 40 billion a year. So we do not have an export shortage problem. We could, of course, export more, but these higher receipts would increase our trade surplus and thus our savings surplus. To sum up: our problem is that we invest too little. And you don't solve this problem by making the Chinese pay for our investments. If this were to happen, we would simply increase our foreign investment to compensate for Beijing's increased investment in Italy.

There are several reasons why public and private investments are at a standstill. In the case of private investment, entrepreneurs complain about the cost of loans, which has risen over the last ten months due to the spread and the great political uncertainty, and above all they are frightened by the risk that the inability to stop the growth of public debt (in relation to GDP) will at some point require a heavy wealth tax. Public investment, on the other hand, is not taking off, not because of a lack of resources (there are more than 100 billion ***euro*** already "spendable" as provided for in previous budget laws approved by the ***European Union***), but because of the inability of public administrations to draw up projects and contract out the works. Minister Tria is well aware of the problem, but after ten months of government little or nothing has been done.

What does all this mean in relation to the negotiations that the government is conducting with China? First of all, we have to negotiate from a position of strength because we are very different from the African and Latin American countries that China is used to dealing with (in those countries there are few savings and no investments can be made without foreign funding). If, on the other hand, the problem is to open Italian ports to Chinese ships, our ports already are and Chinese ships have always been welcome. Finally, if it is a question of investing in equipping the quays and digging the seabed, for example in the port of Taranto, there is no need to sell the port to the Chinese, as the Greeks (another country with low savings) did with the port of Piraeus. It can be done with a share of that 100 billion while keeping the management of the port Italian - which does not prevent some quays from being temporarily given in concession in exchange for work.

All the more reason there is no need to demand that the Chinese build our telecommunications networks, for example for 5G. As Eugenio Cau observed in Foglio (of 21 November 2018) "there is an explicit passage in the National Intelligence Law approved by Beijing last year, according to which organisations and citizens [Chinese, ed ] must, in accordance with the law, support, cooperate and collaborate with the work of the national intelligence". Zte and Huawei are two independent companies, but who can rule out that one day the Beijing government will not demand proof of loyalty?

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**Industry:** Telecommunications (62%); Oil + Gas Industry (61%)

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[***Tria accelerates investment package***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5VNM-MF81-JDMV-K1K3-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

18 March 2019 Monday

NATIONAL Edition

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**Section:** ECONOMY; Page 8

**Length:** 380 words

**Byline:** Mario Sensini

**Highlight:** In the plan, relief for companies, sale of public property and securitisation. Confrontation with Conte

**Body**

ROME Strengthening of the seismic bonus and deductions for energy efficiency in housing, reduced taxes on the purchase of buildings to be demolished and rebuilt, but also the return of securitisation for the sale of public assets and the disposal of local authorities' properties. New elements have emerged in the plan drawn up by Economy Minister Giovanni Tria to boost growth, which was handed over to Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte on Friday. The plan should accompany the Economic and Financial Document in mid-April, and excludes any hypothesis of a corrective manoeuvre on public accounts.

Among the measures of the package, which focuses on the activation of public investments already financed, there is now also a possible new intervention to shorten the time of payment of companies by the public administration, along with a further reduction of Inail premiums, already reduced this year. The plan includes new tax incentives for companies investing in machinery, with the possible reinforcement of the Sabatini Law with 480 million for 2019, and the reopening of the 'super depreciation' scheme, which would expire in June, a new tax credit for research and development expenses.

In order to reactivate public investment, Tria proposes a shock measure on an experimental basis: raising the threshold for all simplified tenders to the ***EU*** directive's ***EUR*** 5 million for one year, without recourse to the long and cumbersome ***European*** procedure, which in Italy is used even for much smaller tenders. Among Tria's proposals there is also an intervention to limit and clarify the responsibility of public administrators for financial damage and abuse of office, always related to contracts. There are also plans to revise the tasks and procedures of the superintendencies in the renovation of artistic and architectural heritage. The first check on the Tria package, with Conte and the two leaders of the government coalition, could take place on Wednesday, when the Council of Ministers should receive a decree and a delegated law for the reform of the Code of procurement, which the Prime Minister himself and the Minister of Infrastructure, Danilo Toninelli, are working on.

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**Journal Code:** CORSERA

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**Industry:** Real Estate (93%); Budgets (70%); Nonresidential Building Construction (70%); Residential Construction (70%); Construction (65%)

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[***the dangerous chinese relations from luxury to pharmaceuticals does made in italy know how to defend itself?***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5VNM-MF81-JDMV-K1VF-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

18 March 2019 Monday

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**Section:** CORRIERECONOMY; Page 5

**Length:** 927 words

**Byline:** Dario Di Vico

**Highlight:** Industrial machinery, nuclear technology, chemicals and automobiles: the Celestial Empire's challenge to domestic production is already set out in the 2025 plan launched by the party-state's leaders. But even in the most typical (and profitable) Italian productions, the change in the Asian giant's trade policies promises to be an important stress test for the competitive advantage of our companies. The new substitution effect will no longer be on clothes pegs, but on high value-added processes such as quality chemicals Investment in ***Europe is*** in sharp decline: from 37 billion in 2016 to 17 billion in 2018. The ***EU*** is now more cautious. But there have been products that have been enhanced, such as the Ferretti shipyards

**Body**

I n a time of rapid change, nothing remains the same for too long, and economic relations between China and Italy are suffering the same fate. Former ***European*** Commissioner Olli Rehn once said that the two industrial systems were very similar and that, as a result, we would have to pay a high price for competition from a country with noncomparable labour costs (and externalities). The commissioner's easy prophecy has largely come true and in the years of the Great Crisis, the Chinese manufacturing system has sent thousands of Italian SMEs out of business. Now we are clearly in another phase marked by the upgrading of the respective industrial systems, a movement that has certainly not given - and could not give - homogeneous results. But perhaps in order to better understand the discontinuity, it would be useful to start from a precise reconnaissance of the flow of goods between Italy and China and vice versa.

Direct competition

The three main items of our exports to Confucius' country are nuclear machinery and technology, chemical products and means of transport. Well, these three production segments are all part of the China 2025 plan launched at the time by President Xi Jinping and which, despite today's hush-hush, is proceeding by strengthening the Chinese presence in the highest value-added processes. For our purposes, this means the risk of a new substitution effect that will no longer be on hot water bottles, clothes pegs, birthday candles and so on, but on quality mechanics and chemistry. And as Filippo Fasulo, scientific coordinator of the Italy-China Foundation, explains, "the risk of substitution does not only concern Italy's current exports to China but also its presence on third-party markets". What to do in the face of this prospect? The only way or solution is to succeed, on the Italian side, in preserving/innovating the competitive advantage. The strength of machinery and systems made in Italy is not 'forever' and therefore the most serious mistake to be avoided is 'sitting on our laurels', warns Fasulo.

If we move on from the so-called 'heavy' sectors such as mechanics and chemicals to the 'light' sectors typical of Italian lifestyle, such as fashion and design, we are faced with a different type of problem. It is not so much the risk of substitution as it is the weakness of Italian commercial channels, of our large-scale distribution, that limits performance.

Wine routes

A case in point is wine, where we are the fourth largest exporter to China and have to chase not only the French but also Chileans and Australians. We lack the "tracks" to be able to run faster and if it is true that we can develop a strong online presence to bypass the physical points of sale, there are at least two problems: it is the offline/online integration that seems to guarantee the best results in China and, in any case, there are counterfeiting problems on the web that can only be overcome by asking and obtaining guarantees from the various Alibaba and the Beijing government.

This initial survey thus reveals a contradiction. At the last China International Import Expo in Shanghai, Xi Jinping claimed that Beijing will import 30 trillion worth of high-quality goods over the next 15 years, which should open up a field of opportunity for us, partly thanks to Chinese consumers' interest in Italian-made products. But no one will actually give us anything. Let's go back - for example - to design and fashion, sectors in which we are obviously well positioned, just think of the Salone del Mobile in Milan which has spawned a similar annual exhibition in Shanghai: we must take into account the fact that the Chinese consumer is beginning to develop his own taste and aesthetics. And it is only by perceiving this other discontinuity that we can avoid gaffes like the famous Dolce&Gabbana video.

When they come to us

Finally, there is a third business channel that may prove interesting and concerns pharmaceuticals and healthcare services. China is also an ageing country and its citizens' healthcare consumption is growing rapidly. We are still lagging behind in the exchange of medicines (the 3% share is low) but we have some excellence that we have not yet been able to "unload on the ground" in Asia and there is also the well-founded hope of selling not only medicines and diagnostic tools but also organisational solutions. It is also worth remembering that several Italian groups no longer export to China but have gone to produce directly there to be geographically and culturally closer to the market. A final chapter worth highlighting is that concerning - in the opposite direction - Chinese acquisitions in ***Europe***. Investments, despite thinking to the contrary, are in sharp decline: from ***€37***.2 billion in 2016 to €17.3 billion last year. The explanation is twofold: on the one hand, the expansive fever of Asian groups is over and, on the other, there is more caution ("screening") on the part of ***European*** countries. But this is the story of our days, with the pronouncements in the ***EU*** and the debate - at times bitter - that is preceding Xi Jinping's visit to Italy. Insiders, however, recommend a case-by-case approach. There are experiences - such as that of the Ferretti shipyards - in which the arrival of Chinese capital has strengthened the company without compromising its image as a Made in Italy product.

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**Industry:** Fashion + Apparel (69%); Budgets (62%); Alcoholic Beverages (61%)

**Load-Date:** March 18, 2019

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[***we'll lend the money to sme; Enterprises the alternative to credit***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5VNM-MF81-JDMV-K1WT-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

18 March 2019 Monday

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**Section:** CORRIERECONOMY; Page 35

**Length:** 669 words

**Byline:** Pieremilio Gadda

**Highlight:** No banks, but fintechs that collect money from individuals and turn it over to small and medium-sized companies. Like the French company October. You can participate in funding even with 20 ***euros***. And get up to 5 million. Growing phenomenon 38 million disbursed in two years. Average rate 5-5.5%.

**Body**

I f individual savings plans have one fault, even after the government's somewhat botched restyling, it is that they channel few resources to small and medium-sized enterprises. Putting together the companies in the mid- and small-cap indexes of Piazza Affari and in the Aim segment, we arrive at 300 names," says Sergio Zocchi, CEO of October, which has become a leader in social loans to SMEs, and chairman of ItaliaFintech. "But the Italian productive fabric is made up of five million small businesses. This is our target". October is a company founded in France at the end of 2014 under the name of Lendix. In 2017, it launched operations in Spain and Italy (where the Bank of Italy's regulations on the collection of savings by non-banks have been in force since 1 January 2017). And at the end of 2018 it opened its Dutch office.

The peer-to-peer lending platform for businesses claims to have disbursed ***€254m*** through 555 loans in ***Europe***. Last June, it raised €32m from Idinvest, Allianz, Cir and its historical partners to support further expansion in the Old Continent. In February, it passed the 100m mark in repayments to lenders and investors, in the form of monthly repayments that include capital and interest.

In Italy, in less than two years, October has financed around 70 projects for a total of more than 38 million ***euros***, of which 28 were disbursed in 2018: + 144% in one year. "We do credit to companies with turnover from 250 thousand ***euros*** to 200-300 million, usually it's between 5 and 10 million," Zocchi points out. Each loan request is assessed by October's team of 100 staff, 20 in Italy. If it receives a favourable opinion, it is published on the platform.

Lenders in the community (around 15,000 in all, of which 3,000 in Italy) can contribute small sums of money individually, starting from 20 ***euros***. The remainder - about 75% of the total amount, which varies from 30,000 ***euros*** to 5 million for each loan - is covered by capital made available by professional and institutional investors through an Eltif: the long-term closed-end funds established by a 2015 ***European*** Regulation, which allow investment in unlisted SMEs, or those with a capitalisation of less than 500 million ***euros***, through shares, debt and direct loans provided by the fund. Lenders and investors do not pay any costs, the company's revenues come from the fees incurred by the companies receiving the loan, incorporated in the interest rate.

For companies that have financed themselves in Italy it is on average 5-5.5%. The rates are a little higher than those of traditional bank loans, but the comparison is inappropriate, because we offer a different product," says Zocchi. "Companies choose us for our speed: we respond within 48 hours and, if the answer is affirmative, the amount is credited within seven days. We don't ask for collateral and we also finance intangible investments, such as the acquisition of a licence or research and development expenditure.

October declares an average return for lenders of 4-4.5%, net of expected default rates of between 1 and 1.5% (loans are not guaranteed, and if something goes wrong with repayments the company takes care of initiating debt collection proceedings), and of taxation. Thanks to the previous Budget Law, taxation has been aligned with the 26% rate on financial income: previously, the interest received was taxed according to the rate of the reference IRPEF bracket. Taxation remains a sore point. While the legislator, in setting up Individual Savings Plans, has provided for tax exemption on financial income and inheritance tax, to encourage long-term investment by Italian families by channelling it into the real economy, eltifs do not enjoy the same treatment: "We hope they will have similar benefits," says Zocchi.

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**Subject:** Small Business (94%); Securities + Other Investments (81%); Company Revenues (65%)

**Industry:** Commercial Banking (82%)

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[***Telethon The good enterprise makes us grow; Fundraising enterprises***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5VNM-MF81-JDMV-K1WY-00000-00&context=)

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**Section:** CORRIERECONOMY; Page 37

**Length:** 904 words

**Byline:** Enrica Roddolo

**Highlight:** Montezemolo calls into the team Lupo Rattazzi, nephew of the lawyer, ***Europeanist*** economist at the helm of Neos who also talks about transport and Brexit

**Body**

Like his mother - Susanna Agnelli - Lupo Rattazzi's life now also includes Telethon. Exactly ten years after the death of "Suni", the president of Telethon, Luca di Montezemolo asked him to join the board of directors, together with Andrea Munari, the CEO of Bnl-Bnp Paribas. "Telethon is one of the main Italian biomedical charities founded in 1990: I remember that you started talking to me about it at the end of the 1980s, after meeting some patients with muscular dystrophy, thinking of bringing fundraising from the USA to Italy through TV," says Rattazzi, who has been chairman of the Il Faro foundation since 2009. The 'good enterprise', like the traditional one, must find lifeblood thanks to virtuous economic practices, even if Rattazzi - the fifth son of Susanna Agnelli and Urbano Rattazzi, a graduate of Columbia University in New York - confesses to

The Economy

that he has nothing to teach because 'Telethon has a well-established, functional and efficient fundraising system: it will be difficult for me to give advice to a team of professionals led by Montezemolo, who is an ace in these matters'.

An 'ace' of relations and business, 'my brother's classmate, and I have great esteem for Luca'. But among the friends of the new Telethon councillor, born in 1953, there are also Luigi Gubitosi, the new captain of Telecom "capable, determined, a manager perfectly capable of leading that company", and the number one of Coni Giovanni Malagò who is working for the 2026 Milan-Cortina Games. "The big events are opportunities to be seized, as Milan did with the Expo. I do not understand the controversy.

Rattazzi also dislikes Brexit. "The word sovereignist makes an impression on me, I know what it has meant for Italy to be part of ***Europe***, how much it has meant for us to belong to a large area of monetary stability which has meant, of course, having strong stability constraints. But it has sheltered us from many currency crises," says the entrepreneur with a past as an economist, while London awaits the ***European*** Council.

He is so ***pro-European*** that he has written an open letter to the 5 Star Movement and the League on the consequences of a ventilated "Plan B" of Italexit (Italy's exit from the ***euro***) dear to the economist close to the League, Paolo Savona. The same economist who brought a young Lupo Rattazzi to the Confindustria study centre: "I was at Harvard, he had relations with MIT... he was Guido Carli's pupil, the most ***pro-European of all***; that's why I was hurt by the anti-euro proposal. Today, however, I am reassured to see a solid and growing majority in the country against leaving the ***euro,*** compared to a year ago. But I fear certain attitudes of the 5 Star party: the flirtation with Maduro and the extreme fringes of the gilets jaunes in France, the anti-business attitude, the stop to construction sites".

Speaking of construction sites, at the end of the month Chinese President Xi Jinping will arrive in Italy to sign agreements on the new Silk Road (and business with Beijing). And the Americans, with President Trump engaged in a war of duties (and more) with China, have raised the barricades, warning Italy. What do you think? "We are a fragile country, we need to find business opportunities, we can't be lousy, nor climb into the ring like a boxer with his hands tied. All the more so because China means opportunities in areas such as infrastructure where the Chinese have developed know-how, skills and have capital to invest". Chinese entry into the ports of Genoa and Trieste, after Piraeus in Greece? "We can't not do business with Moscow because of the sanctions, or with Beijing. Then, as an Atlanticist, I say that the relationship with Washington must be protected". It is clear that the Italian economy worries the entrepreneur who has worked for the City of New York at Salomon Brothers and Lehman Brothers.

"I expect a heavy correction manoeuvre in the autumn. There is an economic climate of concern, I also see it in my business, air transport with Neos". After founding Air ***Europe***, he led the Association of Operators and Pilots, the National Flight Assistance Board and Assaereo. Neos is also expecting the first 737 Max in April, but before then I think there will be an answer and a solution to the technical problems. Planes, and cars. In the future there is artificial intelligence: the driverless car? "'In Arizona they started throwing rocks at self-driving cars after a fatal accident. We underestimated the possible rebellion of man against technology. Fiat, Fca, the Agnellis, for the entrepreneur grandson of Gianni, until 2018 with a seat on the board of the family holding Exor NV, there are many memories. "After the death of Marchionne, I am still saddened by the loss of a unique man, both humanly and as a technician. The lawyer? The bond with my mother was special, few things bind like war... I have a photo of them at home in Sabrata, Libya. Her mother Suni, and her ancestor Urbano Rattazzi, president of the Council in 1862 and 1867, did not hesitate to 'take the field'. Susanna Agnelli was also the first (and only) 'pink' holder of the Farnesina. "Will I take the field? I think I have to take an interest in the fate of the country, then you can do it in various ways. In the end, it will depend on the parties.

They likened her to a Montezemolo 'front' then to Calenda. "I care about the prospect of a centre, democratic-liberal alternative".

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**Industry:** Pharmaceuticals + Biotechnology (65%); Oil + Gas Industry (64%); Private Banking (63%)

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**End of Document**

[***The (unexpected) effects of the minimum wage: up to 230% higher pay for domestic helpers and carers; Simulations***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5VNM-MF81-JDMV-K1K4-00000-00&context=)

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**Section:** ECONOMY; Page 8

**Length:** 570 words

**Byline:** Rita Querzé

**Highlight: Employers** "Introducing the minimum wage in this sector would mean encouraging the 'black' economy".

**Body**

Life is difficult for the 860,000 Italian families that have legal domestic helpers and carers. Much less than the estimated 1.1 million that have an illegal domestic worker. Avoided (for now) the housekeeper tax, i.e. the obligation to withhold 15% of the salary to the servants and then turn it over to the State in the form of taxes, with all the administrative complications that this entails, the problem is likely to become the minimum wage. In some cases, paying a domestic worker 9 ***euros per*** hour gross would mean tripling their pay.

There are two bills before parliament, one from the M5S and one from the PD. The problem is that the domestic work contract provides for hourly wages much lower than 9 ***euros*** per hour. Assindatcolf, an association of employer families, has made an estimate of how much more would have to be paid. For a live-in domestic helper it would be necessary to add 1,300 ***euros*** to her salary, for a live-in baby sitter 1,230 ***euros***, 1,120 for a carer. All this to arrive at 2,100 ***euros*** per month, which would allow an hourly wage of nine ***euros***. With wage increases of up to 230%. To be considered: Assindatcolf's estimate did not take into account the value of board and lodging, which should be somehow taken into account, thus reducing the additional outlay.

If we move on to look at hourly domestic helpers, the increased burdens on families are not insignificant. They range from a 10 per cent increase for a specially trained carer to a doubling of pay for a domestic helper at the lowest level.

It is clear that imposing a minimum wage on our sector would mean pushing many families into the black economy, as they would no longer be able to afford a regular employee," complains Assindatcolf vice-president Andrea Zini. Tomorrow they could be almost all".

In the meantime, CGIL, CISL and UIL have requested erga omnes recognition in the form of a minimum wage of the wages set by the national contracts signed by the most representative associations. And here lies the point. Among the almost 900 contracts filed with the Cnel, there are many signed by unknown organisations that set wages of 4-4.5 ***euros per*** hour. Of course, the domestic work contract is signed by the confederations.

In some countries, however, certain categories of workers are actually excluded from the minimum wage. This is the case for apprentices, young people under 24 years, long-term unemployed. But also domestic and agricultural workers.

"The system is such that it pushes families into the black economy. The benefits linked to whoever hires a worker with citizenship income could have convinced some families to put their collaborators in order, but the amendments that allowed this possibility were rejected. The colf tax and the minimum wage for domestic helpers could be the coup de grace. And transform irregularity into the norm.

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The minimum wage exists in 22 ***EU*** countries. ISTAT said that the M5S proposal would make the Italian one (9 ***euros***) among the highest wages, after Luxembourg (11.97), France (10.03), Ireland (9.80), Belgium (9.41), Holland (9.33) and Germany (9.19). This would benefit 2.9 million workers

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[***Mediaset tightens up on foreign expansion: "The sooner the better"; Interview pier silvio berlusconi***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5VNM-MF81-JDMV-K1K5-00000-00&context=)

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**Section:** FIRST FLOOR; Page 9

**Length:** 1381 words

**Byline:** Daniele Manca

**Highlight:** Vice-President: pleased with accounts, profit double expectations

**Body**

"With a country in technical recession, with industrial production in sharp decline and with an advertising market that is in retreat, there is something to be proud of about the 2018 budget that we have just approved. And if the government didn't stand by us, didn't support us, but at least didn't hinder the few large Italian companies left, the country could benefit in terms of development and employment. Pier Silvio Berlusconi, in his headquarters in Cologno Monzese, is as cautious but direct as ever. For twenty years he has been at the head of one of the biggest TV groups in ***Europe***. And he knows that the content market is one of the most difficult and global. Not only because of the competition of international giants here in ***Europe***, just think of the battle between the two Americans Comcast and Disney for the conquest of Sky, but also of new entrants such as Netflix and Amazon Prime, without forgetting giants such as Facebook, Google, which also controls YouTube, and Apple, which is about to enter the streaming market and which has a coffers of a few hundred billion dollars.

Aren't you a bit scared, intimidated by having to compete with someone worth ten, twenty times Mediaset?

"No, we are aware that if we want to have a future of development, it is essential to change pace, change dimension. In reality, the Italian economic situation and the consequent drop in the advertising market is more worrying. Having said that, we have never stopped, we have continued to push and today we are more solid than ever. In 2018, in a market that fell again, our advertising revenues grew and we reached a 39% share. And today for an Italian publisher to have made 471 million in net profit and halved its debt is incredibly satisfying. But I already know what your next question will be.

Let's see: profits, yes, but thanks to capital gains...

"There, I thought so. So let's take out those capital gains, let's take out all the extraordinary items: profits were still around 100 million, double what we had guaranteed in the ambitious plan presented in London in 2017. So much so that we decided to share this positive moment with all our workers, giving them a substantial extra bonus."

By how much?

"Consistent'.

That leaves divestments, such as Premium.

"Rather than disposals, I would say that the agreement with Sky has guaranteed Premium a future with a more appropriate format for the digital age and without impacting on employment. In the meantime, we have acquired another radio station, Radio Montecarlo, launched two new thematic channels and the innovative MediasetPlay digital platform, and successfully broadcast a World Cup that nobody believed in..."

Sold Ei Towers...

"No, that is not the case. We had 40% of Ei Towers and now, thanks to the Opa and the partnership with the F2i fund, we have realised value created industrially. And in any case we have maintained 40% of a new company that has become an independent operator, a status that makes it much more agile for future developments".

That is, are you still pursuing the transmission towers project that you wanted to launch with the takeover bid on Rai Way?

"There, that was the perfect example of 'governments that obstruct'. At the time it was Renzi who blocked the operation as if pylons and land were strategic. But TV frequencies in the hands of individual operators are one thing, telephone networks carrying data and information are another, but in our case they were physical infrastructure, metal towers... What are we talking about?".

So what?

"So a lost opportunity for us, for Rai and for the state coffers. But those who really do business know that you always have to find new ways. And today EiTowers has guaranteed a future of development and Mediaset can think about investing in activities closer to its core business, also in the international sphere".

Is that why you did not distribute dividends, to make hay for growth abroad?

"The question is not only to invest and with which economic-financial approach, the great work lies in being able to build a new industrial model, an international media company business model that creates value and development by making Mediaset the only free broadcaster pan-European ... We are already leaders in two countries, Italy and Spain".

Are you leaving Italy?

"On the contrary. An even more international dimension will allow us to increase investments in Italy and Spain, where we are rooted, where we want to remain and help to further expand the content industry".

But will you do it alone or with other partners?

"I repeat: what is fundamental is to find the industrial framework to create development, employment and value. Of course, financial solidity counts, but it is also fundamental to have a stable shareholder like Fininvest behind us.

But do you have negotiations going on?

"Of course we talk to everyone.

But when might the operation materialise?

"The sooner it is done, the better. Competitors won't wait.

Do you have specific countries in mind, Germany, Great Britain?

"We are already in Italy and Spain, it is not difficult to imagine what other countries could make a difference".

So all-out battle against Netflix, Amazon...

"No, we do a different job. We are free, hot, live TV, we build national products tailored to individual countries. In terms of advertising investment, number of viewers and editorial weight, generalist TV will always remain central."

But giants like Google and Facebook are moving all over the place.

"And no rules either. I'll give you some figures. The advertising market in Italy, before the crisis, had reached 9 billion ***euro***. Today it has dropped to just over 6 billion. To which, however, must be added about 2.5-3 billion, which are the revenues from search and social, that is, the Internet giants. Italian advertising investments subtracted from Italian publishers'.

It is the drama of all publishers.

"It's globalisation, all right. But if at least the new players created jobs and paid taxes in the individual countries... This is also why we ***Europeans*** and Italians can only defend ourselves by growing. But governments must stand by national companies.

Vivendi is also ***European.***..

"I'll stop it now. Vivendi has done us enormous damage. And probably, given the way things are going in Italy, it has also done it to itself. But, as you may have understood, I prefer to look ahead.

What do you mean, what are you talking about?

"No. It means that if there were to be a win-win agreement, I would be happy. But for now we are in litigation."

So it's over with Tim too?

"Italy has lost the moment. It would have made a lot of sense a decade ago or at least before the arrival of the big international competitors, both in telephony and in streaming."

Thinking of Italy, can expansion abroad also mean diversifying the country risk?

"It is undeniable that the political situation in Italy is in a state of flux, but it is also true in Great Britain and throughout ***Europe***, including France. However, diversifying risk helps.

But in Italy in particular, the government sees a singular and totally unforeseen majority before the 4 March elections...

"I repeat: it is enough for us that governments do not obstruct us. With the Rai Way Opa we would have given 1 billion ***euros*** to the State. Rejected. And today, the Financial Law envisages 3 billion ***euros*** for privatisations, of which there is no trace.

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The group

Mediaset posted a record profit of 471 million in 2018, up sharply from 90 million in 2017, with revenues of 3.4 billion and financial debt down to 736 million Without extraordinary items, i.e. without the capital gain from the sale of the stake in Ei Towers (the tower company, The group controlled by the Berlusconi family's Fininvest has decided not to declare a dividend in order to have capital to use for possible future acquisitions abroad. The decision may, however, be reviewed in July. The shareholders' meeting will also vote on the introduction of an increased vote in favour of historic shareholders.

**Classification**

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**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Company Revenues (93%); Manufacturing Facilities (77%); Business Forecasts (74%); Globalization (65%); Multinational Corporations (63%)

**Industry:** Marketing + Advertising (83%); Internet + Www (82%); Broadcasting Industry (81%); Telecommunications (74%); Oil + Gas Industry (61%)

**Load-Date:** March 18, 2019

**End of Document**

[***(appropriate) rules and digital a challenge to small banks; Finance debates***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5VNM-MF81-JDMV-K1VV-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

18 March 2019 Monday

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**Section:** CORRIERECONOMY; Page 15

**Length:** 1406 words

**Byline:** Ignazio Visco

**Highlight:** In the preface to Rainer Masera's book, the governor of Bankitalia points to the need for proportionate local resolution models in ***Europe.*** The US experience should be carefully evaluated. The focus on credit for smaller companies and on the technological turnaround of intermediaries

**Body**

More than a decade after the onset of the global financial crisis, the extensive international banking regulatory reform process is being completed. Capital requirements have been significantly increased, both in terms of quantity and quality, maturity transformation controls have been introduced, crisis management procedures have been revised to reduce the burden on public finances, and new supervisory tools such as stress tests have been adopted. In ***Europe,*** the sovereign debt crisis has led to the creation of a banking union alongside the monetary union, albeit still incomplete.

These are epoch-making changes whose effects on financial systems and real economies will be felt over a long period of time. It is therefore extremely important that the assessment of these effects be open to expert analysis and public debate in order to make corrections and additions. Rainer Masera's contribution fits into this framework by addressing the question of the impact of regulation on the market structure of the banking industry in ***Europe*** and the United States.

The American model

The following pages argue, with a wealth of data and references to the literature, in favour of the principle of proportionality in the application of banking regulation in ***Europe***. In particular, the model proposed is the one adopted in the United States whereby banks are grouped into classes and the severity of regulatory constraints is directly proportional to size. This would prevent the burdens of meeting regulatory obligations ("the diseconomies of compliance with increasingly complex rules"), many of which are in the nature of fixed costs, from producing an advantage, given economies of scale, for larger banks at the expense of smaller ones.

The US model is not the only one possible to avoid the unnecessary costs of regulation, but the argument needs to be carefully considered.

The fundamental issue is to keep banking markets open and competitive, and to prevent regulation from introducing barriers to entry and exit that are not justified by the aims of financial stability. The text correctly points out that a fundamental difference between the United States and ***Europe, in*** particular the ***euro*** area, lies not only in the federal nature of the former, but also in the management of small bank crises. The generous coverage offered by deposit insurance and the wide range of instruments available to the authorities mean that in the United States the exit of small banks from the market is a physiological event and does not pose problems for financial stability. The experience, albeit still limited, of the application of the new rules adopted in ***Europe,*** on the other hand, testifies to a system that still needs to be supplemented and improved - as we have stressed several times, including in institutional forums. (...)

Small

banks

There is also no doubt that much more needs to be done to ensure that banking crisis resolution takes place in an "orderly, rapid and efficient manner". With the regulatory reforms of the last few years (from the interpretative changes on the state aid discipline to the establishment of the Single Resolution Mechanism), a phase prior to crisis resolution dedicated to identifying the most appropriate ways to avoid the traumatic exit of an intermediary from the market and preserve the value of credit relationships has been effectively eliminated. This certainly applies to the small and medium-sized banks covered by Masera's study. With the disappearance of the possibility of using private resources such as those provided by deposit-guarantee schemes (possible with the limited recourse to public funds and only in exceptional cases) and in the absence of rapidly implementable market solutions, the declaration of "failure or risk of failure" is immediately followed by the launch, for banks of "public interest", of resolution and, for the others, liquidation, which is very difficult to foresee as "orderly" and which can entail significant economic and social costs even when it involves smaller banks.

As Masera also notes, the one-size-fits-all approach chosen at EU level entails the creation of liability reserves (Mrel), with the issue of instruments to be placed on the market (not retail), capable of absorbing losses in the event of a crisis. For obvious reasons (related to scale as well as asset diversification), this can result in more difficult burdens for smaller banks. In this context, the revision of the regulatory framework should aim at making the exit of intermediaries from the market manageable, also with the intervention, in crisis situations, of deposit guarantee funds. The US experience in this field certainly deserves to be considered with due attention.

States

As for the use of public resources, it is true that the ***European*** Commission can authorise Member States to support a liquidation procedure also with the use of public resources, but these are obviously exceptional cases, not easily generalisable and with high risks as regards the time horizon within which to intervene to avoid a disorderly solution to the crisis (an 'atomistic' liquidation). As Masera points out, liquidation procedures for smaller banks (not just the very small ones, as envisaged in the scheme recently approved by the Commission) should be made to reduce impairment, protect retail creditors and preserve the provision of essential services at local level. Finally, when considering the possibility of public intervention (and also of deposit guarantee funds) in crisis prevention and resolution, measures aimed at fostering market solutions and avoiding potential dangers to financial stability (not limited, given also the risks of contagion, to large banks) should be carefully distinguished from State aid that effectively distorts competition.

Enterprises

While the financial needs of medium to large, innovative and internationally active companies cannot be met by bank credit alone, the latter will continue to be the main source of external finance for smaller companies. The latter will continue to be the main source of external finance for smaller firms. It is precisely the financial fragility of such firms that has contributed to their increased vulnerability in the difficult years following the global financial crisis. While many of them are still struggling to recover, we are now seeing the emergence of new small businesses that are certainly capable of competing and growing. Banks will have to respond to their demand for credit and financial assistance with credit assessment procedures based on rigorous criteria, with the contribution of the tools made available by new technologies and such as to compensate for the limitations that will undoubtedly arise from the introduction of new regulatory measures on the treatment of impaired loans.

Finally, the challenge of keeping banking markets open to competition does not only concern incumbents, but also potential innovation entrants. Traditional intermediaries, small and large, have to face the revolution of digital technologies that trigger new competitive dynamics inside and outside the boundaries of the banking industry. This is an important issue raised in Masera's book, with which any reflection on the configuration of the banking sector will necessarily have to deal.

Digitisation is now spreading to the financial industry and to activities that used to be carried out exclusively by banks. As they invest in innovation, they will have to equip themselves to take advantage of the resources they have, the information they have about their customers, and the trust that comes from being (well) regulated and supervised. The quality of management and the vision of the directors of both large groups and small local banks - the community banks - to which Masera devotes the necessary attention in this book, will therefore be fundamental.

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**End of Document**

[***The chasm in the Treasury between co-payments and double jobs***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5VNM-MF81-JDMV-K1K1-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

18 March 2019 Monday

NATIONAL Edition

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**Section:** POLITICS; Page 6

**Length:** 712 words

**Byline:** Fiorenza Sarzanini

**Highlight: The** damage to the State exceeds 6 billion The Finance Department warns: "Network of controls almost non-existent" Social security fraud False invalids and pensions collected even if the owner is dead: the Inps is "under attack".

**Body**

Rome

There are the 20-minute medical examinations that turn into 40 and the training courses that are never organised. There are the rigged contracts and the pensions received even though the owners are dead. And then there are the university professors with a double job and the health tickets not paid by those who pretended to be poor by presenting a rigged Isee in order to enjoy the benefits. The confidential report that gives an account of the latest activities of the Special Unit of the Guardia di Finanza and the Court of Auditors lists the offences committed in the field of public spending. The damage to the Treasury now exceeds six billion ***euros***, thousands of public employees are under investigation and called by the accounting judges to compensate a real chasm in the accounts. And now the controls have been intensified to affect those sectors - from the culture bonus to the citizenship income - where the risk of new frauds is very high. The last official data released last June spoke of 8,400 officials and employees "guilty" of waste, but reading the new reports it is clear that this number is destined to grow significantly.

Health expenses

and dual therapies

According to the investigators, crimes in the health sector can also be committed due to 'a widespread organisational inefficiency of control on the part of the competent bodies, which carry out a deficient or even non-existent action'. The most frequent offences are 'over-invoicing of services (e.g. a 20-minute therapy billed as if it were 40 minutes); 'packages' of laboratory analyses billed separately; group therapies billed as individual therapies'. During controls in hospitals and laboratories, it was discovered that some patients 'were asked for informal additional payments in order to receive health services to which they were entitled, or were given indications to undergo private services, which could be used for the subsequent provision of clinical services by the same specialist in public facilities'.

False 'mobility

and the fake deaf

Over the last year, 'cases of fraud against the Inps, amounting to a total of ***EUR*** 4,5 million, have continued to be ascertained' in two areas in particular. The first is linked to 'tax evasion by companies in connection with the launch of so-called mobility procedures'. In particular, it was discovered that many companies do not pay the "entry contribution" and then move part of the employees "in companies belonging to the same groups of companies, with the likely purpose of taking advantage of undue benefits provided by law just for the reabsorption of staff in mobility. The other case concerns "the undue benefit granted, in the context of disability benefits, to people who have declared to be affected by deafness and are therefore entitled to communication allowance, non-reversible pension and attendance allowance". In addition to this, of course, there are cases of people who continue to receive the pensions of dead relatives, but also those who have not declared that they are resident abroad and have been receiving the allowance for years'.

Training courses

and phantom contracts

Training courses that are not actually organised is one of the most frequent scams involving tens of millions of ***European*** funds, but inspections of small businesses have uncovered offences involving the 'undue receipt' of more than ***EUR*** 90 million through 'programme contracts' managed by the Ministry for Economic Development in past years and now verified. Out of 44 inspections, as many as half showed that the work had never been carried out.

While Operation Magistri identified 337 university lecturers who had taken almost 58 million ***euro*** without being entitled to it because they held double positions despite the prohibitions, checks in the public health sector uncovered doctors and paramedics who were working in private facilities, including many on-call medical staff.

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**Journal Code:** CORSERA

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**Industry:** Health Care (70%); Marketing + Advertising (70%); Sponsorship (67%)

**Load-Date:** March 18, 2019

**End of Document**

[***Fed and ECB, the normality of alert; Investment macroeconomic scenarios***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5VNM-MF81-JDMV-K1XR-00000-00&context=)

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18 March 2019 Monday

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**Section:** CORRIERECONOMY; Page 49

**Length:** 795 words

**Byline:** Walter Riolfi

**Highlight:** Wall Street up 20% on rate freeze. But if the economy is suffering, is there any point in celebrating? ECB's new LTRO not aimed at buying government bonds, banks won't be forced to liquidate them at a loss

**Body**

For Donald Trump, the rapid reversal of monetary policy is a fitting acknowledgement of the Fed's earlier error in raising interest rates too high. And that is how a good half of the traders think. For others, it was simply a godsend. But according to Bank of America, the Fed's change of course is cause for serious "concern" and, combined with the ECB's decision to launch a new operation to refinance banks, leaving the deposit rate well below zero, is a source of "unexpected consequences" for the markets and the economy.

The current "fragility" and "disorder" caused by monetary policy in the United States is the obvious consequence of past mistakes: keeping "short-term interest rates close to zero for 87 months, from September 2008 to December 2015" and allowing the markets "to inflate the value of securities far more than was necessary to contain the 2008 crisis". Whichever way you look at it, the monetary policy of the major central banks is either cause for concern or reason for calm, and the rapid alternation of different moods suggests a precariousness in responding to contingent fluctuations in the economy. Or, as BofA argues, this policy is too "focused on the latest macro data", without a long-term vision.

Other assumptions

It may be, as Larry Summers (former US Treasury Secretary) says, that the risk of repeated imbalances is part of the current economic scenario and that is why central banks are forced to live in a "state of high alert" for a long time. After all, the so-called neutral rate, which neither overheats nor damages the economy, is now three points lower than it used to be, i.e. zero. But it may be that this precariousness is also the result of unusual monetary policies implemented after 2008.

However, it cannot be overlooked that, with the disproportionate growth of global debt, the effects of monetary policy have become more sensitive to the markets than to the real economy, and central banks, increasingly responding to investor blackmail, have enshrined the dominance of finance over productive activities.

"Stability in monetary policy, as we have experienced it for decades, may no longer be so," observes Lewis Alexander, chief economist at Nomura. However, there are substantial differences between America and ***Europe***, and the Fed's market-friendly attitude does not sit well with an economy that continues to grow at a good pace, albeit not the tax-cut-driven pace of last year.

The reasons

The decision to freeze the rate hike and to end quantitative tightening in a few months' time is the only reason why Wall Street has rebounded by 20% from its December low and is now less than 4% off its record. There is an irremediable paradox in the stock market's celebrations, as we saw again on Wednesday, when the S&P rose by one percentage point on the back of positive order data ("things are not as bad as feared", commented one trader), while Treasury yields actually fell. If the bad news (for the economy, of course) was good news for the stock market (the Fed will be increasingly patient and, if anything, will cut rates, as Fed Fund bets at the CME indicate), why would the positive news now arriving be considered so good?

In ***Europe, the*** only positive thing seems to be what Mario Draghi announced 11 days ago: the new refinancing to banks (LTRO 3) will take place in September and interest rates will remain firm for another year. Stock exchanges and above all government bonds, which had already risen in sympathy with Wall Street, rose further.

However, the new LTRO was not designed to please the markets, but to ensure liquidity for the banking system, which would have had to repay the first tranche of the previous loan to the ECB in June. For Italian banks alone, this would have meant repaying EUR 240 billion over 18 months, Kairos notes. Although the operation is not aimed at encouraging purchases of government bonds (as in the past), at least banks will not be forced to liquidate part of the bonds in their portfolios and a sub-zero rate is a good thing for ***eurozone*** companies.

If Bank of America interpreted this as a desire to make quantitative easing "infinite", the ECB's decision is at least a response to economic conditions that are close to an emergency. The trouble is, if anything, that this emergency has become almost normal for us.

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**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Economic Conditions (94%); Inflation (86%); Economic Growth (82%); Business Forecasts (71%); Economic Crisis (69%); Monetary Policy (69%); Emerging Markets (68%); Securities + Other Investments (68%)

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**End of Document**

[***Flat tax, Salvini runs and Di Maio holds back Treasury: it would cost 59 billion \****](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5VNM-MF81-JDMV-K1JP-00000-00&context=)

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18 March 2019 Monday

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**Section:** POLITICS; Page 2.3

**Length:** 576 words

**Byline:** Marco Galluzzo

**Highlight:** New front in the government. 5 Star leader: we will agree, but no Berlusconi-like promises

**Body**

ROME Matteo Salvini believes it is within reach, despite the costs: "We have not stopped working on the flat tax day and night. With this economic manoeuvre we have already succeeded in benefiting a large number of artisans, VAT holders, traders and small entrepreneurs: in 2019 we want to enter the homes of the families of Italian employees as well".

Yet the flat tax for employees is likely to be the cause of a new clash within the majority, so much so that a few hours after Salvini's promise, branded as 'illusory and demagogic' by the opposition, the Mef circulates the study of a month ago on the cost of the measure: 59 billion ***euros***, in practice three Financial Statements. And Luigi Di Maio warns: "We will find a solution together with the League, as we have always done. The important thing is not to make easy Berlusconi-style promises, we must never forget that we have responsibilities towards the citizens.

This prologue opens one of the hottest weeks for the majority. It begins with the Diciotti case, which will be heard in the Senate tomorrow, and sparks are expected to fly: an absolute majority of senators is needed for the case to go to trial, which is highly unlikely, so Salvini will almost certainly be pardoned by the Chamber, and the trial for kidnapping immigrants will not be authorised. And yet it will be a debate full of unknowns: how many 5stelle will withdraw, after having expressed their perplexities?

Another case, always tomorrow, Conte in Parliament: to illustrate the work of the next ***European*** Council, but also to answer questions on the signing of the Memorandum with China. It will be a barrage of accusations and questions, and for the majority an opportunity to test the real unity between the League and the Five Stars. One of the many knots on the table: will telecommunications remain outside the agreement, as the League is asking?

The Diciotti case, China, no-confidence in Minister Toninelli, the unblocking of building sites, Golden power, and the elections in Basilicata. From today until next Sunday there is a very full calendar. It is not only Xi Jinping's visit that will hold court, with his Memorandum, the irritation of the Americans, the dozens of commercial and institutional agreements that will be signed. The day before Xi's arrival, Wednesday, Conte is expected to bring two fundamental measures to the Council of Ministers: the unblocking of construction sites, and a reform of the regulations on Golden power, rules that protect Italy's strategic assets in the case of acquisitions and could be extended to tenders and therefore to the tender that has been made for the 5G networks (one won by the Chinese of Huawei).

The League wants a Super-Commissioner to identify a figure with superpowers, but also - according to the naysayers - to reduce Toninelli's power. And Salvini doesn't like the fact that there are too many building sites in the south.

On Saturday and Sunday, the spotlight will be on Basilicata: Salvini is aiming to conquer this region as well, while the 5 Stars are seeking redemption. In short, a week of fire that opens today with the general debate in the Chamber of Deputies on the Decretone that must transform into law quota 100 and citizenship income. On Thursday, in the Senate, it will be the turn of Minister Toninelli to face the no-confidence motions presented by the Democratic Party and Forza Italia. In this case, it will be up to the Cricketers to carefully observe the behaviour of their colleagues from the Lega Nord.

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**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

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**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Campaigns + Elections (94%); Riots (86%); National Debt (84%); Excise Tax (82%); Heads Of State + Government (75%); Tobacco + Health (75%)

**Industry:** Budgets (67%)

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**End of Document**

[***Digital nomads on the hunt for start-ups for multinationals***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5VNM-MF81-JDMV-K1TF-00000-00&context=)

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18 March 2019 Monday

IMPRESATORINO Edition

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**Section:** ENTERPRISE TURIN; Page 15

**Length:** 881 words

**Byline:** Laura Siviero

**Highlight:** Technology is going fast, but big corporations are too slow and startups too small: Silvia Fierro and Max Brigonzi are the guardian angels of corporate innovation And on behalf of Mind The Bridge they go out to find the talent that the big companies need They connect research with industry Silicon Valley-Italy The company acts as a bridge between companies and young innovators. That's how hitech scales the multinational ladder

**Body**

Matching supply and demand in the world of start-ups and innovation is one of those new professions that are much talked about at conferences on the jobs of the future. Max Brigonzi and Silvia Fierro landed at Mind the Bridge - an innovation advisory firm founded in 2007 by Google manager Marco Marinucci - and have earned a reputation for finding what multinationals need: the future.

Silvia and Max work under the same umbrella but not under the same roof. He in Milan and she in Turin, supported by the co-working facilities in the two cities. But the mobile location is a detail: apart from the collaborators in the Varese and San Francisco offices, all the others, from Cagliari, Pavia, London, Brussels and Barcelona, work remotely in shared spaces: they are the so-called 'digital nomads'.

Let's take Silvia: she scouts startups around the world, sniffing out where innovation is, how trends are moving, changing from one year to the next. Young companies, very focused on change, but needing capital to grow. And on the other hand he listens to the needs of multinationals: he looks for groups of young people who have developed an idea to solve their problem.

I'm the person who contacts the startups," Silvia explains, "and tries to understand what software products they are developing, how they could grow, be more competitive on the market and also introduce them to our clients. At the same time, I'm the person who translates the needs of large companies and finds the right startup for them. Multinationals tend to be slow to absorb change and innovation, so they find themselves having to chase changes that are going at a whirlwind speed, beyond their means. Instead, they need lean structures, trusted external research and development centres to which they can delegate part of the processes.

This is what Mind the Bridge does: it not only acts as a bridge between supply and demand, but also puts its 'head' and 'mind' into it. With the aim of stimulating and offering new routes to innovation for large companies.

Among their clients and success stories, for example, there is Mediolanum, which has chosen to adopt the model risk management platform of the Belgian company Yields.io: a solution that allows the use of artificial intelligence algorithms for the validation of rating models. And then there is the case of Acciona, which has chosen the blockchain platform of the Catalan scaleup FlexiDAO to track its renewable energy.

The Piedmontese group Cornaglia, on the other hand, has finalised an initial Industry 4.0 project with Alleantia. Initiatives that can change the life of a factory. For Cornaglia, the agreement with Alleantia provides for interconnection to the new digital manufacturing system in the three Italian factories.

But if you are not a super expert in open innovation, it is difficult to choose the right startup. This is where Mind the Bridge comes in, with Max Brigonzi taking the process a step further and making it scientific.

"The link between Silvia and me is scouting,' says Brigonzi. 'Research helps us to identify the big trends in innovation. Today there is a lot of talk about Artificial Intelligence and specific sub-sectors such as IoT, deep learning or the use of known knowledge in new markets, for example digital transformation applied to the construction industry. Scouting intercepts trends and we then go and map out start-ups.

Max directs qualitative and quantitative research promoted by the ***European*** Commission, such as research into how many multinationals are present in the large innovation hubs of San Francisco and Israel.

Or in ***Europe***, where they have found a concentration of scale-ups with a certain level of development in large cities, while other areas are very promising (including Turin), but for various reasons, lack of investment, lack of support from a system, are unable to develop real hubs for innovation and the digital industry.

Max and Silvia had to adapt their professional profiles to accommodate the hitech change and came out on top.

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Like

have done

Max Brigonzi and Silvia Fierro are both 30 years old, with Piedmont in their hearts and a scientific background, he in Economics and Management and she in Film Engineering, but what they have in common is that San Francisco was the real driving force behind their change. Max won a scholarship from the University of Eastern Piedmont which allowed him to go to Silicon Valley and meet Mind the Bridge, she won a grant from the CRT Foundation which took her to San Francisco and again to meet Mind the Bridge. For Max, the trigger was the internal competition with the project participants. "Then the meeting with Marco Marinucci and Alberto Netti, who is currently directing a course of studies in Varese dedicated to the economics of innovation, did the rest. Silvia has also been fascinated by San Francisco and Mind the Bridge. © RESERVED REPRODUCTION

Mind the Bridge assists around 20 multinationals each year. It provides them with a technology database of around 2,000 start-ups.

**Classification**

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**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Recruitment + Hiring (78%); Copyright (75%); Intellectual Property (75%); Executives (74%); Multinational Corporations (74%); Nanotechnology (74%); Business Forecasts (70%); Labor + Employment (70%); New Products (69%); Spacecraft (62%)

**Industry:** Movie Industry (93%); Computer Equipment (80%); Internet + Www (68%); 3D Printing (63%); Rubber + Silicone (62%)

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**End of Document**

[***Prodi's anti-sovereignist appeal 'We must revive Europe'.Europe"; The policy***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5VSV-1N91-JDMV-K4YR-00000-00&context=)

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**Section:** FIRST FLOOR; Page 9

**Length:** 515 words

**Byline:** Claudio Bozza

**Highlight: The** Professor: 170 seats out of 700 for them, the right challenge is between Socialists and Christian Democrats

**Body**

Milan

"Now we need someone who can talk on an equal footing with Donald Trump and Xi Jinping, and to do this he must have a popular force behind him. Less than two months before the ***European elections,*** with the Union in deep crisis, Romano Prodi takes the abacus in his hand and makes a firm prediction: "The sovereignists will take 170 seats out of 700. We have to make sure that we get to a battle between a French socialist and a German Christian Democrat: this is the only way to revive the spirit of this ***Europe***". The former president of the ***EU*** Commission, who also condemns Emmanuel Macron's missed opportunity for his neo-Gaullist stance in the face of very different expectations, arrived almost non-stop from China at Milan's Teatro Parenti to present

***Europe*** despite everything

(Nave di Teseo), a book in which Piergaetano Marchetti, Antonio Calabrò, Maurizio Ferrera, Alberto Martinelli and Antonio Padoa-Schioppa put forward five reflections and proposals to relaunch the Union.

Marchetti, president of the Corriere della Sera Foundation, explains the book's intentions in the introduction: 'This is not intended to be an essay on the problems of the ***EU***. It is meant to be the start of a dialogue that each of us can, and perhaps must, conduct on a daily basis, if we do not already have one, with friends, relatives, colleagues and simple acquaintances who are highly critical of ***Europe*** and ready to adopt the slogans, clichés and summary judgements that are fashionable today".

Barbara Stefanelli, deputy editor of the Corriere, as moderator, immediately launched a video of the fall of the Berlin Wall, with young and old climbing over it to embrace. Seeing those images again, almost thirty years after that historic night, aroused strong emotions in the hall. "What would have happened if we had not enlarged the borders of this ***Europe***? Would we have had peace?" says Marchetti. And Prodi replies dryly: "The guys don't give a damn about peace. And this beautiful video on the fall of the Wall, which we have just seen, does not arouse anything in the new generation. We have to give a new emotion to today's generation. There is an impressive loss of memory'.

The Professor then goes on to analyse, in greater depth, the causes of this long impasse: "In this globalisation, people do not feel protected, but we have to make people understand that this feeling cannot be overcome by a single country, but by ***Europe,***" Prodi reflects. The negative feeling towards ***Europe***, when we started to feel it as a stranger, began when ***Europe*** stopped doing. The excitement over the arrival of the ***euro*** was great. Then it was the bloody French referendum on the ***European*** Constitution that was the negative turning point. The excitement about ***Europe***, I say it a bit like this, is being reawakened by Trump and Brexit. Do we realise that?"

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***European*** elections

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They will be held in the 27 states of the ***European Union*** between 23 and 26 May. Italy will vote on 26 May.

Counting will begin simultaneously across the ***EU*** at 11pm on the 26th. This is the ninth vote for the ***European*** Parliament, the first having been held in 1979.

**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject: *European Union*** (94%); Politics (70%); ***European Union*** Regulation + Policy (62%)

**Load-Date:** April 2, 2019

**End of Document**

[***From austerity to the single currency Monti-Borghi duel (with venom); The Economy***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5VSV-1N91-JDMV-K4YS-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

2 April 2019 Tuesday

NATIONAL Edition

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**Section:** FIRST FLOOR; Page 9

**Length:** 559 words

**Byline:** Pierpaolo Lio

**Highlight:** The Legazi: his government harmful. The former premier: certain ideas weigh on the spread

**Body**

Milan The super ***pro-European*** Bocconi professor, former prime minister and now senator for life, against the Lega Nord ideologue who dreams of abandoning the single currency. Mario Monti and Claudio Borghi, side by side, on the stage of "An Evening for ***Europe***" at the Leone XIII Institute in Milan, discuss the future of the old continent two months before the ***European*** elections. With them are also Benedetto Della Vedova, secretary of +Europa, the Forza Italia ***MEP*** Massimiliano Salini and his PD colleague Patrizia Toia. But the confrontation is between the two 'professors' at odds with each other. In the past, there has been no lack of skirmishes between them: on the economy in general and on the subject of banks in particular. And yesterday too, in front of students and citizens, the two visions clashed.

The first to attack is the Leghist chairman of the House Budget Committee. In his excursus on the ***European*** mistakes of the last twenty years, "after the ***European*** Community", Borghi arrives at 2011 and the government led by the current senator for life. "When Monti took power," he says, triggering a smile on the former prime minister's face, "he destroyed domestic demand, with twelve consecutive quarters of recession. "But the ***Europe*** of austerity will never bring results: after the sacrifices there will be no reward". And so he proposes his alternative: "Adopting the Japanese scheme, i.e. having a central bank that finances public interventions, a model that in ***Europe*** I do not believe brings inflationary risks". Senator Monti's first surprise response was an admission of a point of contact with the No ***Euro*** ideologue: "I must say that I too have always liked the concept of community better than union". And yet, he points out, it is precisely to the EEC that we owe some of the 'interference' denounced by the sovereignists: from state aid controls to the vituperative directives. It is just a pause in the dialectical exchange. The former prime minister lists the titles of the anti-single currency publications of the 'wild' Borghi, before his experience in the government majority, and then concludes: 'The choices of the Italian people to send people with these curricula to government positions has cost a lot in terms of the spread.

The duel held court, garnering applause from the audience for both contenders, and in a sense taking up Patrizia Toia's invitation. The ***MEP*** from the Democratic Party invoked "the need to recover some love for ***Europe***" and to continue along the path of integration between States. And while Salini hoped for a return to the formula of the origins, to the vision of De Gasperi-Adenauer-Schuman, in view of the election campaign Della Vedova reminded the audience of the economic risks that the British are running with Brexit and raised the alarm: "In Italy too often the ***European Union*** is used as a scapegoat, it's a bit like throwing the ball into the stands; let's avoid continuing".

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Mountains

in power has destroyed domestic demand

with twelve semesters of recession Claudio Borghi

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The choice

of the Italian people

to send

to the government certain people have cost Mario a lot

Mountains

The word

***euro*** area

This is the set of ***EU*** Member States that adopt the ***euro*** as their official currency. The ***euro*** zone comprises 19 states and monetary policies are governed exclusively by the ***European*** Central Bank.

**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject: *European Union*** (94%); Economic Growth (82%); Politics (73%); Gross Domestic Product (69%); National Debt (65%); Economic Policy (63%)

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**End of Document**

[***Sustainability and zero impact Europe's strategyEurope strategyMeeting at the Statale***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5VSV-1N91-JDMV-K4WN-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

2 April 2019 Tuesday

MILAN Edition

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**Section:** MILAN NEWS; Page 7

**Length:** 169 words

**Body**

From the ***European*** Commission to the State University. Drawn by the "green wave" of Milanese students, Raffaele Mauro Petriccione, director general of Climate Action of the ***European*** Commission, was the protagonist of the "Objective zero emissions" meeting yesterday in via Festa del Perdono. In the Aula Magna, Petriccione explained the ***European Union***'s strategy to make the Old Continent a zero climate impact area by 2050. It was the student group "Statale a impatto zero", set up within the university to promote sustainable policies and practices, that "inconvenienced" the governor to bring him to Milan. We asked a lecturer for help," says Michele Lissoni, a 22-year-old physics student, "so we started a domino effect all the way to Petriccione. And he accepted". This is not the only commitment the young people have in mind. "We want to promote the use of water bottles instead of plastic bottles in the university and we will participate in the Festival of Sustainability at the end of May". (s. bet.)

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**Classification**

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**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Environment + Natural Resources (94%); ***European Union*** (82%); ***European Union*** Regulation + Policy (70%); Emissions (67%); Teaching + Teachers (67%); Climatology (63%)

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**End of Document**

[***malta's double bluff on migrants; A journey in 100 days From Africa, young men disembark in Lampedusa, then reach Valletta by ferry or plane, as "tourists" in the Schengen area The result is that thousands of unregistered people are employed in constructions bordering on slavery. Clearly visible for the business, "ghosts" for the State***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5VSV-1N91-JDMV-K501-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

2 April 2019 Tuesday

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**Section:** FOREIGN; Page 14.15

**Length:** 1416 words

**Byline:** in Valletta (Malta) Goffredo Buccini

**Highlight:** 'sneaky' arrivals SPINCE island boom (AND GDP GROWS 7%)

**Body**

To the left are the bastions of Sant'Elmo, where four and a half centuries ago the Christian knights resisted the bombardment of the Moors for 28 days straight. Opposite are the large water cisterns, which have always been a precious resource here on the island of the eight-pointed cross, and the medieval walls, which scare him a little because they seem to repel him. But he knows, as he enters the port, that this time it won't be like that, that there has to be a place: and this is it.

Other refugees told him this when, after six months, he was thrown out of a migrant centre in Pantano, on the outskirts of Rome, the twentieth kilometre of the Casilina road: 'Forget Italy, Abdallah, go to Malta, you can find honest work there, brother'. It is a powerful word of mouth among brothers of despair, often enough to attempt this last leap in the dark: there is work in Malta. And so it is for Abdallah Abdi when in mid-2017, confused in the crowd, he disembarks from the Virtu Ferries catamaran, an hour and 45 from Pozzallo for 72 ***euros***, a small fortune put together in two Italian years of hunger and nights on the street.

Window entrance

"I couldn't take it anymore, it didn't work for you. Here they didn't ask me anything, on the third day they picked me up with a pick-up truck and took me to the construction site: three or even four ***euros an*** hour, is that not enough? Well, I even send money home to Somalia,' he boasts in his precarious English. He came to us by boat people, as far as Lampedusa, escaping from hell in his homeland and from the torture of Libyan slavers. Here he arrived almost as a Schengen tourist. Technically it is a 'secondary movement', politically the embodied proof of a big bluff on the skin of migrants. Invisible he was and invisible he still is, but now he feels like an almost rich invisible, no photos and no videos, please. He is 27 years old under a face of forty. A backpack with the rags of his life on the run, he stands in front of the centre of Hal Far (the City of Mice), endless rows of white containers, hot in summer and humid in winter, in the countryside that looks like deep Sicily, half an hour away from the bars of Valletta, under the management of the Awas government agency; six migrants per container in bunk beds, one year to bet their future, then you make do. Maltese migrant centres used to have a reputation as lagers, and were condemned by half of ***Europe***; now they are open to guests (detention no longer exists) but not to the press, and Awas still seems to have something to hide if it cancels a permit half an hour before the visit. Interior Minister Michael Farrugia assures us that 'everything is being renovated within two or three years'. He claims 'excellent relations with Minister Trenta' and swears that 'we are in the same boat', smiling at the metaphor. He launched fiery accusations against Matteo Salvini ('he bullies us!') at the time of the Aquarius crisis, which is now an endemic crisis between Italy and Malta. But which, we will see, is also a fake crisis, good for their respective electorates.

Schizophrenia workshop

Because Abdallah is not alone. And Malta is a small laboratory of schizophrenia. With a very accommodating tax law, it has attracted billions of ***euros*** to an island little bigger than Elba and a little more populous than Bologna; to create a company here takes just two days: 70 thousand have been born. To buy a Maltese passport you 'only' need 650,000 ***euro.***.. A bit much for Abdallah, but small change for tycoons and godfathers from all over the world who are eager to have their own Tortuga in the 21st century: Daphne Caruana Galizia was investigating these stories when they blew her up with a bomb. So much money has made Prime Minister Muscat extremely popular (he won the last elections by a landslide despite Daphne's accusations, and the Maltese call him "our Joseph") and catapulted Malta into a countertrend compared to the rest of ***Europe***, with a pace like that of a Mediterranean tiger: GDP growing at between 6 and 7 per cent a year, unemployment at 4 per cent and, above all, a construction bubble made up of cranes at every corner. In the construction sites, unassuming workers like Abdallah seem to have been sent from heaven rather than from Italy. The boom, which shrewd journalists such as Herman Grech view with scepticism ("it can collapse in an instant"), also relies on a workforce just a step above slavery. "Whoever has an Italian permit here cannot work,' Farrugia contradicts, waffling on the numbers: 'It's hard to say how many there are. Martine Cassar, the young government commissioner for refugees, is the first to have the courage to tell us about the invisibles, "who are right in front of our eyes, as a Maltese I can't help noticing, but it is very difficult for my institution to come into contact with them", and about the flow of Somali "Dubliners", "twenty percent from Italy". The climate does not seem idyllic at the ministry: the interview with her is recorded by a watchful employee.

Revolving doors

To get to the point, it is necessary to meet a transversal character such as the Ghanaian Ahmed Bugri, evangelical pastor, the first black lawyer in Malta, trait d'union between undeclared governmental ambitions and the sufferings of the last ones. "Thirty years ago there were only three black immigrants in Malta: I was one of them", he chuckles. "The Maltese are not angry with their skin but with their religion, the problems started with the Islamic immigrants, and now 80% of the new arrivals are Islamic". With around nine thousand refugees, the first xenophobic parties with a neo-Nazi tendency are also springing up in Malta. "But the biggest issue - says Bugri - are the migrants arriving from Italy: between four and six thousand, not registered here and therefore unknown, work in construction. The Maltese economy needs them. They are very visible for our business but invisible for the State and the health system: 90 per cent of the Africans you find on construction sites now come from Italy.

The Maltese government flexes its muscles to its frightened electorate with the slogan "zero arrivals", the Italian government does the same, and then the migrants pass through Italy anyway (it is not true that there are no landings), but Italy is happy for those who cannot find work to come to Malta as tourists, and at this point the Maltese, quietly, open their arms and construction sites to them.

The Invisibles

Bugri is assisting a Burkina worker suffering from cancer: "Here with us he used to work on cranes, his residence permit in Naples is expiring. When he got sick they gave him emergency treatment but he would need therapies that he cannot have because there is no Maltese health service. He has no one and the hospital entrusted him to me. I am appealing to the President of the Republic". Suicides among these workers are increasing: 11 in 2018 is a large number in relation to the immigrant population. Identities are often fictitious, at the morgue for five bodies of workers they are still looking for a name for burial and a distant family to notify.

Thus, at the roundabout in Marsa, along Viale Aldo Moro, dozens of migrants like Abdallah Abdi have been waiting since six o'clock in the morning for employers to take them by van to the building sites. Invisible only to those who do not want to see them and yet anonymous, almost unknowable. "Only by getting to know each other can we overcome fear," says Archbishop Charles Scicluna, citing the successful experience of the Balzan centre, where integration with the neighbourhood is very strong. But in Balzan there are families, mothers and children, names and faces. The invisibles of the construction sites are young Africans with uncertain names, at the same time precious and dangerous for the Maltese. Even Bugri thinks that identity, from which knowledge derives, is everything: "Two months ago I buried a Ghanaian worker who had flown in from Naples. He called himself David Blax. But his real name was Kwabena Yeboha. Write it well, he deserved it."

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Towards ***Europe***

A journey in 28 stages through the ***EU*** countries towards the ***European elections*** on 26 May. Before Malta, we visited Denmark, United Kingdom, Bulgaria, Luxembourg, Poland, Ireland, Czech Republic, Greece, Holland, Sweden and Germany, passing through Brussels and Strasbourg. On Corriere.it all the web reportages, with videos and in-depth analysis.

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Those who have an Italian permit here cannot work. It is difficult to say how many are... Michael Farrugia Minister of the Interior

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The Maltese are not angry with their skin but with their religion, and the problems started with Islamic immigrants. Ahmed Bugri evangelical pastor and lawyer

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**Subject:** Immigration (94%); ***European Union*** (65%)

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[***EuropeM5S: there will be no Brescian; Europarliamentary elections***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5VSV-1N91-JDMV-K4VC-00000-00&context=)

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2 April 2019 Tuesday

BRESCIA Edition

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**Section:** CRONICA DI BRESCIA; Page 6

**Length:** 289 words

**Byline:** T.B.

**Body**

The ***European*** elections will take place in a month and a half, but there will certainly be no Brescians elected for the Five Star Movement. This was established by the first round of the "***Europarliamentary" elections*** held in recent days at national level through the Rousseau platform.

Those entitled to vote (37,256 at national level) could express up to five preferences. The candidates selected at regional level will now have to go through a further selection process to define the definitive lists in the four major national constituencies. Among them, as mentioned, there will be no Brescian. Giorgio Grassi, who according to internal movement rumours was among the favourites, had to be content with 87 preferences, resulting in the eleventh of those not promoted to the second phase. Samuele Sorial, the first of the unelected Brescians with 111 preferences, is also among those left out. He is the younger brother of Giorgio Sorial, a former member of the Five Star parliament and now a close collaborator of Luigi Di Maio. Davide Scala (90 preferences) and Omar Legrenzi (33) are also among the first non-elected. No one, as is evident, is a preference machine, but the internal Five Star votes reserved for members have never made large numbers. A choice that, however, the M5S claims as the only democratic one: "We are the only political force that lets all its members participate in the choice of candidatures," reads the blog. The other parties will decide them as always in some secret room. Ten people from Lombardy have passed the first stage, along with 14 from Piedmont, 14 from Liguria and 2 from the Aosta Valley. From these 40, the final shortlist of candidates will emerge.

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**Subject:** Campaigns + Elections (94%); Politics (67%); Education Systems + Institutions (63%)

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[***Investors worried; GDP below zero***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5VSV-1N91-JDMV-K4YB-00000-00&context=)

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2 April 2019 Tuesday

NATIONAL Edition

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**Section:** POLITICS; Page 2

**Length:** 747 words

**Byline:** Federico Fubini

**Body**

L

he recession in a single country in the ***EU***, the G7, the G20 and the 34 advanced OECD democracies is the experiment that Italy has been living through, despite itself, for nine months.

However, ***Europe is*** also not letting us off the hook, now that world trade has slowed, exposing its fragility. A system that relies almost entirely on demand for its products from the rest of the world relies on the autocratic choices of Xi Jinping's Beijing and the whims of Donald Trump. This strategy of many ***euro*** governments in 2018 has stopped working. That must be why, just before the last ***European*** Central Bank Governing Council in March, Mario Draghi reportedly made a trip to Washington that did not include any public appearances. The ECB president's visit to the US federal capital has not been officially confirmed by ECB spokesmen who, when asked about it, replied with a "no comment".

Certainly in Washington, in addition to the Federal Reserve, there are two figures very close to Draghi from the years of their joint studies at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology: former Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke and former International Monetary Fund chief economist Olivier Blanchard. The latter has for months been circulating ideas on greater public investment spending, especially in the ***eurozone***, which recently seem to be reflected in the words of the ECB leaders. Immediately after the last Council meeting on 7 March, Draghi said that an "appropriate" budgetary policy would be able to "help the recovery" and "the convergence of inflation on our target path" (in essence, more well-chosen investments would help ward off the risk of deflation). A few days ago, Benoît Coeuré, the Frenchman who sits on the ***Eurotower***'s executive board, also made a veiled reference to the rigidity with which Germany maintains its surpluses: "If budgetary policy preferences contribute to concerns about disinflation," he said, "then they conflict with monetary policy efforts". The sense is clear: today ***Europe*** is the weak link in the global economy and governments that have the resources to react by investing more should do so. This is not an invitation to Italy. Given the rising deficit and debt, ramping up public spending in 2019 to get out of recession was like thinking of lifting oneself off the ground by pulling oneself up by the bootstraps.

Yesterday in Rome, Marco Buti, the ***EU*** Commission's director general for economics and finance, showed why: Italy is still the last ***European*** country in which the average cost of debt, due to interest, is significantly higher than economic growth. In other words, the debt burden is expanding through inertia faster than the structure that should support it is strengthening. The country has entered an increasingly precarious equilibrium, which is impossible to maintain in the long run. One of the implicit missions of the ECB's intervention campaign (quantitative easing) was to raise overall income growth, including inflation, above the cost of debt and thus bring the latter down proportionally. In the first half of 2018, Italy had finally returned to that threshold, the equivalent of returning to the surface after a long apnoea. Then began this recession that continues into 2019, triggered by two factors: the slowdown in global trade, which has sunk ***European*** exports, plus the fog that has descended on the intentions, actions and statements of Italy's ruling politicians. "One ingredient was what happened globally," notes Joachim Fels, managing director and global advisor at Pimco. But the bond market giant's manager adds: "The other factor has been the sudden rise in interest on Italian debt, which has made the country's financial conditions more difficult". Reducing the spread should therefore be the priority of a government that wants to regain growth. To do this, however, investors would need to have confidence in Italy, which the continuing recession and political chaos are eroding more and more. "This episode shows how confidence is easy to lose but very hard to regain, over a long period of time and with a lot of effort. For the time being, however, all we see in Rome is continuous skirmishes between rulers and no vision of the future. "We remain cautious about Italy,' concludes Fels.

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[***Tria in the crosshairs, summit with Conte Tightening up on refunds in the banks case; The backstage***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5VSV-1N91-JDMV-K4YC-00000-00&context=)

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**Section:** FIRST FLOOR; Page 3

**Length:** 1041 words

**Byline:** Marco Galluzzo

**Highlight:** Thursday's measure for fraudsters. Pressure on minister over Bugno consultant affair

**Body**

ROME

On the day in which the OECD publishes a report that sees black on the Italian economy, causing no little disorientation in the government, at the end of the day it is a meeting between Economy Minister Giovanni Tria and Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte that registers the highest point of political tension.

If the OECD with its analysis has caused some short-circuit within the executive, in the evening, at Palazzo Chigi, the differences seem to widen to the relationship between Tria and the rest of the executive. The Minister of the Economy was received by Conte for the implementing decrees on refunds to bank swindlers, measures that could end up next Thursday in the Growth Decree that should be approved by the Council of Ministers, but also to give explanations on a personal case, linked to his staff in the MEF.

Shortly before eight o'clock in the evening, Giovanni Tria went to Palazzo Chigi, pursued by the voices of the League and those of the 5 Stars, who accused him of delaying the signing of key measures, first and foremost the one on the reimbursement of the defrauded banks.

In the role of scapegoat, the minister has often found himself in this first year of the green-yellow government, but this time the pressure has risen more than in other cases also because of a personal story, a family member hired in the company of the husband of the adviser of the same minister, Claudia Bugno. An episode on which the 5 stars ask for "clarity and transparency", both with Gianluigi Paragone and with the undersecretary Stefano Buffagni: "We are waiting for clarifications from the minister, the picture is not consistent with the government of change".

These tensions are compounded by the role of Bugno, who was recently appointed by the Ministry of Economic Affairs as its representative on the StMicroelectronics board. A choice that, due to the business and banking background of Bugno, would now also be under the lens of Palazzo Chigi. Conte has certainly asked Tria for an account of this, along with the allegedly rough relationship that Bugno herself would have with some officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, starting with the Alitalia dossier, another company in which Bugno has worked.

In short, between the personal and staff cases and the chronic delay of the two symbolic measures, the decree on growth and the decree on bank fraudsters, there was a lot at stake.

Since the morning, the OECD report had been the talk of the town: 'They forgot something. They did not calculate the expansionary effects on GDP of our measures, which I will defend in person with Gurría, as I am doing with all the international interlocutors. Conte's reaction came almost half a day later, a sign that they did not take it well at Palazzo Chigi: the articulated and almost systematic demolition of the Giver's economic policies has created disorientation, fatigue and even some short circuits.

While Di Maio says he will not accept any more austerity from any international body, Economy Minister Giovanni Tria himself, who even sees more light than shade in the report of the Paris-based institute, says candidly that there is no trace of austerity in the report he has read.

Someone in Conte's staff also put it down with a joke that may seem clumsy, "Gurría was a friend of Renzi, they had a great feeling", undersecretary Stefano Buffagni says it clearly without mincing his words, "those from the OECD were part of the previous government with their managers", perhaps with a reference to the professional experience of former minister Padoan, but it does not change the substance.

The two vice-premiers react by counterattacking, while the more institutional part of the government appears to be in trouble, first of all Tria himself, who is forced to say that "the planned deficit will be respected", highlighting the positive data of the report, in a way that the oppositions define as surreal, given that even if Italians are healthier than a few years ago, or have more free time, these are certainly not the relevant data formulated by the analysis, at times merciless, of the OECD.

Today Conte will see Gurría himself, who has headed the body since Berlusconi's time, and who has delegated an Italian, Mauro Pisu, chief economist for Italy, to draw up the biennial report on the country's prospects. Pisu did not use gloves, he judged the quantum of the citizenship income to be disproportionate, at least on an ***EU*** average, he judged the measure to be wrong in the way it is applied, capable of creating poverty instead of wealth, black labour instead of growth. And this in addition to an outright rejection of Quota 100.

"They forgot to say that it is the whole ***European*** economy that is slowing down, and the world economy as well," the Prime Minister sketched with his staff, visibly annoyed by the GDP estimate that is the lowest among those in circulation among international observers. A minus 0.2 in 2019 domestic product that means recession and that makes the opposition, from Forza Italia to the Democratic Party, cry out for the proclaimed failure of the executive, which is leading the country to disaster.

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The word

oecd

The Organisation

for cooperation and

economic development, consisting of 35 states,

is a point of reference for countries that share a democratic government and an economy.

market. The main tasks of the Paris-based OECD are to promote

sustainable growth, employment and welfare development.

The Secretary General is Ángel Gurría

Nodes

The summit at Palazzo Chigi

Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte and Economy Minister Giovanni Tria met in the evening at Palazzo Chigi. They discussed M5S pressure on the funds for bank defrauders and the "Bugno case".

1

The solution in the Growth Decree

The Five Star MEPs complained that, according to them, Tria was delaying the signing of the decrees for the bank defrauders Now the funds for savers will be included in the text of the Growth Bill, which will be discussed by the Council of Ministers on Thursday

2

The contested consultant

The M5S has Claudia Bugno, a consultant at the MEF, in its sights. Tria is accused of having hired her stepson in the company in which

Bugno's partner is at e

to have appointed Bugno to the board of StMicroelectronics

3

**Classification**

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[***Voracious politics and the levees; Some scenarios***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5VSV-1N91-JDMV-K50S-00000-00&context=)

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**Section:** IDEAS & OPINIONS; Page 24

**Length:** 1022 words

**Byline:** Angelo Panebianco

**Body**

Even if it is a rare event, it happens from time to time that in a democracy, by virtue of regular elections, the government falls into the hands of revolutionary forces, inclined to radically change the "fundamentals": from the country's international position to the relations between politics and the economy, to the very rules of the game (constitutional) on which representative democracy is based. The 'government of change' installed after the 4 March 2018 elections has this nature. But it encounters, in its action, the resistance of institutional figures whose task it is to defend those fundamentals. Those who embody them were chosen, in the previous political season, for that purpose, not to pander to the desire of 'government revolutionaries' to run the table. Incidentally, it is not certain that the current daily barbs between the League and the 5-Star party herald an imminent government crisis. Power wielded in the here and now has an intoxicating smell and taste, and a government crisis is known to begin and unknown to end. In any case, even if the government were to fall, we would not understand our future until we know the results of the next general election. If we stick to facts rather than supposition, we must note that at the moment the government of change is balanced above all by an institutional figure: the President of the Republic.

There is no area in which the forcing attempted by the yellow-green government has not met with resistance from the president. Let's be clear: this takes place in compliance with the powers that the Constitution assigns to the presidency. Those who, for example, demand that Mattarella does not sign this or that law duly approved by a parliamentary majority, are asking him to arrogate to himself powers that he does not have. But, within the limits that the Constitution places on his actions, the president acts in defence of the fundamentals. Think of the country's international position and how salty it is in terms of the spread - as Francesco Giavazzi made clear in the

Courier

yesterday - is the bill we pay because of the government's positions. The anti-Europeanism and anti-Atlanticism that are widely present, if not dominant, in the government's majority, are today kept at bay, as far as he is concerned, only by President Mattarella. This can be seen, for example, in his efforts to mend fences at the time of the sudden diplomatic crisis between Italy and France, and in the stakes he tried to put up, as a future guarantee, on the occasion of the Italy-China agreement.

Or think of the work of defending the independence of Bankitalia against the will of the majority, or sectors of it, to bring it back under political control after decades. This work has a double significance: supranational and internal. Supranational because our membership of monetary ***Europe is*** based on that independence. And internal because it is carried out in defence of the institutional continuity and stability needed to ensure that national wealth, and the savings of Italians, are not squandered by a "pan-politicalism" that wants to devour everything. A pan-politicism, I would add, of forces that owe their success to having ridden the so-called anti-politics wave. Pan-politicism, whatever one may say, is not 'in contradiction' with anti-politics: it rather confirms its theoretical and practical inconsistency.

Consider also what is happening these days. The President has had to sign the law instituting a Commission of Inquiry into the banks. But he has also made it clear, in his letter, that the Commission cannot exceed its powers, cannot put the hands of politics in the most delicate gears of the credit system, cannot be the Trojan horse of the aforementioned pan-political drives. Those who think that the government is running out of steam hope that before long the work of defending the fundamentals in which the president is engaged will no longer be necessary. There are those who imagine that there will soon be a return to a 'normal' dialectic between centre-right and centre-left, and that even if a centre-right led by the Italian League wins, the government will no longer have the revolutionary power it has today. It is doubtful that the 'normal dialectic' between left and right will be reconstituted. It belongs to an era that is over: the era of majoritarianism. We have returned to the proportional system, and in a proportional system the so-called normal dialectic is of a different kind. It is true that the centre-right and centre-left still exist on a local and regional level. But this happens because locally and regionally majority mechanisms persist. If this is the case, we should not ask ourselves whether the centre-left or the centre-right will win the next elections. We must ask ourselves whether there will still be in Parliament, whatever the future distribution of forces, a national-populist (so-called 'sovereignist') majority, a majority that would again aim to call into question the old positions and rules. Perhaps such a majority could take the form of a stronger League than today (although perhaps not as much as the polls say) and a downsized but not completely 5 Star movement. There is one circumstance that could play in favour of the reconstitution - perhaps after a confused intermediate phase - of a national-populist majority in Italy (and the success of similar groups in other parts of ***Europe***): it is possible that Donald Trump will win a second term. This would favour the above-mentioned groups.

Mattarella's seven-year term will end in 2022. In politics, three years seems like an eternity, but it is not. If at that time there is a majority in Parliament that is not too dissimilar from the current one, whatever its internal balance, then that majority will 'take' the presidency and there will no longer be any balancing force. This should make it clear what is really at stake in the future. The next general elections will not only decide how the new government will be composed. They will also decide the fate of Italian democracy.

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[***Di Maio's conditions on the Defence: family package or we don't vote for it; The backstage***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5VSV-1N91-JDMV-K4YJ-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

2 April 2019 Tuesday

NATIONAL Edition

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**Section:** POLITICS; Page 6

**Length:** 594 words

**Byline:** Emanuele Buzzi

**Highlight:** summit with the general staff. And the M5S prepares the stakes on self-defence The proposals The idea of a 100 million fund for young couples buying a house

**Body**

MILAN

A double clash: on the one hand with Matteo Salvini (and the League), on the other with Minister Giovanni Tria. Luigi Di Maio is ready to arm wrestle. On the table, first of all, the Pillon bill and the measures for the family. The fact that the waters (of the government) are rough can be seen from the first morning. The rumours of a tug-of-war between the vice-premiers are strong, but the political leader of the Movement shuns dualisms with the Lega Nord leader. The line is one of firmness: "I'm not interested, at home I was taught that those who raise their voices are always wrong," he says. Davide Casaleggio is also on the same wavelength, who in a statement to the

Adnkronos

Later, in other media, he dismissed the Minister of the Interior with 'Italians rule here'.

In the late afternoon, the leader of the Pentastate Movement gathered the Movement's general staff. With him, the key Pentastellati men will decide on the strategy: Riccardo Fraccaro, Alfonso Bonafede, Stefano Buffagni, Vincenzo Spadafora, and group leaders Francesco D'Uva and Stefano Patuanelli. "I am worried about the Pillon bill," Di Maio explains. The deputy prime minister told his group that he agreed to work for greater protection for separated fathers, and that he wanted to respect the government contract, but that this bill "is not a good starting point", indeed, "it must be completely rewritten, the structure must be changed: children are practically treated as objects and children are not a right to be dispensed to the mother or the father, the law must focus on their protection and safeguard".

The focus of the five-star party remains on the family, with an increasing attention after the announced proposals on the halving of nursery school fees, discounts on nappies and the family coefficient. Di Maio is working on "the introduction of a fund of 100 million to support young couples in the purchase of their first home", according to the leaders. And it is precisely on the family issue that there is a risk of an institutional clash, with the Mef putting the brakes on. The vice-premier, however, absolutely wants to include the 'family chapter' (as it has been renamed in the Movement) in the Def: "If there is no family chapter, we will not vote for the Def. We need to work here, not talk". Even the lowering of taxes, for example, according to Di Maio, 'should be modulated according to the family coefficient'. In the tug-of-war with Tria, the leader is playing his card, trying to include funds for those defrauded by banks in the growth bill.

It is not only the leader who is on the move: the Carroccio is also working with the M5S to stop possible undesirable effects of self-defence, with a law being studied in the Senate to supervise the carrying of weapons for those who have mental problems. "You have a gun licence, you get depressed, so the law provides that the doctor should compile a register of his patients at risk and communicate this to the police so that the authorities can intervene to suspend the gun licence," explain the Movement.

In the meantime, the process for the selection of candidates (after the first skimming off from 2600 to 200 aspiring ***MEPs***) and the preparation of the electoral campaign for the ***European elections*** continues in forced stages. The selection should enter its "second phase" in the next few days. In a week's time, the lists could be 'almost' definitive. And also the programme is ready to be launched. Precisely for this reason, Di Maio is preparing another blitz across the border.

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**Classification**

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**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Minority Groups (94%); Families + Children (88%); Hunger In Society (69%); Weapons + Arms (68%); Family Law (63%); Marriage Law (63%)

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[***Moderates' primaries crown a lawyer***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5VSV-1N91-JDMV-K4WR-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

2 April 2019 Tuesday

MILAN Edition

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**Section:** MILAN NEWS; Page 8

**Length:** 399 words

**Byline:** Andrea Senesi

**Highlight:** Piattaforma Milano coordination elected. M5S parliamentary primaries, only 4,000 voters in Lombardy

**Body**

"The PD has moved to the left, there is a package of votes that it is possible to win back from the moderate area. Stefano Parisi, former candidate for mayor of the centre-right and now a 'simple' opposition councillor, is convinced of this: "As a popular and liberal area we want to return to lead the city to fight the immobility that exists today in Milan on major projects".

All this hope is born from a small event that is in its own way historic: the 'non-sovereignists' of the centre-right (in addition to Forza Italia, Catholic and autonomist formations) have decided to come together under a single logo - Piattaforma Milano - and to jointly elect a political coordination. To do this, they celebrated what will go down in history as the first primary elections in the history of the city's centre-right. In the end, in the role of city coordinator, Carmelo Ferraro, director general of the bar association, was elected by a whisker with 1,980 votes, followed by Matteo Forte (municipal councillor of Milano Popolare of Ciellina extraction) with 1946 preferences. The first extraordinary fact," explained Stefano Parisi, "is that 5,000 people voted. This is the first time this has happened and we believe it is the basis for the regeneration of politics. Not coordinators from above or from the parties, but chosen by a widespread popular vote. For a city as important as Milan, this certainly represents a milestone for the reconstruction of the liberal and popular area.

From one primary to another. The first round of the five-star parliamentary elections, which determined the ten aspiring ***MEPs*** who will access the second phase of the selection, has also concluded. Through the Rousseau platform, 4 thousand activists voted (out of the 10 thousand registered in Lombardy); in practice, less than half of the eligible voters, although the Lombard vote represents more than ten percent of the national total (37 thousand votes in the 20 Italian regions). The predictions made on the eve of the election were confirmed, with the three best-known faces regularly elected in the decade: outgoing ***MEP*** Eleonora Evi and former regional councillors Eugenio Casalino and Paola Macchi. The Five Star Movement has decided not to disclose the number of votes collected by the ten short-listed candidates so as not to influence the second round, which will determine the 21 candidates for the North-West constituency.

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**Journal Code:** CORSERA

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**Industry:** Budgets (69%)

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[***WHAT WE VOTE FOR WHEN WE VOTE FOR THEEU; On newsstands tomorrow***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5VX1-KC31-JDMV-K06J-00000-00&context=)

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**Section:** NEWS; Page 21

**Length:** 587 words

**Byline:** Beppe Severgnini

**Highlight: *European*** integration cannot be the sum of national selfishness China Cycling through Beijing Cinema Magrelli and the rivalry with Nanni Moretti

**Body**

I invented the Five Million Club in 2009. The piece on the

Courier

began: 'How many newspapers are sold every day in Italy? More or less five million. How many Italians regularly go into bookshops? More or less five million. How many people subscribe to

Sky

? More or less five million. How many visitors are there to news sites? More or less five million. How many people watch news programmes on television? About five million. The suspicion is that they are always the same. Five million. Let's call it the Five Million Club, since many of the members claim to know English".

What has changed in ten years? Everything in politics. A lot, in society. A lot, in TV (there is Netflix!). Little or nothing, instead, from the point of view of numbers. On 26 May, five million Italians will vote after having informed themselves: what are the ***European*** projects of the parties, what are the alliances in the ***Europarliament***, what are the risks. These Italians have different ideas: the Five Million Club - of which you are also part, since you are reading me - is politically transversal. The admirers of the 5 Star Movement's ***European*** strategy deserve respect (also for having understood what it is, which is not easy). So do the Forza Italia voters, to whom Silvio Berlusconi re-proposes the same 1994 portrait (vote Dorian Gray!). Thus the supporters of Matteo Salvini's League and of his lively ***European*** street companions, on whom Viviana Mazza reasons. So the voters of the Democratic Party, which aims to halve its 2014 votes: from 40% to 20% (a strange conception of success, let's face it).

But the Five Million Club is, of course, made up of 5 million people. Italian voters are many more: 51 million, and all have the same rights and importance. The choice of those who will abstain is as respectable as that of those who will vote on the basis of national assessments. This is nothing new: it has been happening for fifty years, every time voters are called upon to choose the ***Euro-parliament***. The ***European*** vote also serves to settle accounts at home: that's normal.

One fact remains: from 23 to 26 May, around 400 million ***Europeans*** will have to choose their representatives in Brussels and Strasbourg (why two seats? Who knows!). A great affirmation of the sovereignists would mark the end of this ***EU***. ***European*** integration cannot in fact be the sum of national selfishness; it is instead a conscious cession of sovereignty. It is a far-sighted project, which has brought seventy years of peace to the continent after three thousand years of wars; but it is not easy to communicate. Shouting "Italians first!" (the Spanish, the French, the Poles, etc.) is easier and appeals to the naive. But it is a deception, explains Enrico Letta, interviewed by Vittorio Zincone. Many of the young people Edoardo Vigna talks about in his book ***Europa***. La meglio gioventù - in bookshops from 16 May (a preview in our pages) - have understood this, fortunately.

Also thanks to them, things are looking better than expected. The polls on voting intentions are reassuring. Barring unforeseen events - which are always possible - the Popular, Liberals, Socialists and Greens seem able to ensure a ***pro-European*** majority in ***Europe***. But the history of the last three years - from Brexit onwards - has shown that we must be on our guard, inform ourselves, vote and defend what we have won. For ***Europe*** is not just our home. It is a bright star in the troubled sky of the world. To implode it would be absurd. And rather stupid. © CONFIDENTIAL REPRODUCTION

**Classification**

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**Journal Code:** CORSERA

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**Industry:** Nuclear Energy (73%); Retail + Wholesale Trade (70%)

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[***Jihad and return so molenbeek heals the wounds; A journey in 100 days Love, startups, virtual reality and rehabilitation of prisoners After the 2016 attacks, Belgium has started to go down the road of prevention to avoid new waves of radicalisation But on the return of foreign fighters and their children still has no answer***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5VX1-KC31-JDMV-K069-00000-00&context=)

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**Section:** FOREIGN AFFAIRS; Page 18.19

**Length:** 1491 words

**Byline:** from our correspondent in Brussels (Belgium) Marta Serafini

**Highlight:** FROM PRISONS TO VEGETABLE GROCERIES, BRUSSELS tries to go beyond terror 'I am a humanist, I cannot see the other person as a danger' Mohamed El Bachiri lost his wife in the Isis attack on the capital's metro on 22 March 2016 El Bachiri had worked for years as a driver on those same carriages

**Body**

"I am a humanist, I cannot see the other as a danger, it is not part of my culture". Mohamed El Bachiri on 22 March 2016 has the day off, he takes his children to school. At 9:11 Khalid El Bakraoui blows himself up at Maalbeek station. Mohamed hears the news, checks his phone: his wife hasn't connected to WhatsApp since 9:10. "I knew right away." Someone calls him: 'Loubna is dead. In the metro". El Bachiri worked on those same cars for years. "I was the driver".

Fast forward three years. Sixth floor of the former Belvue brewery, transformed into an eco-friendly hotel. El Bachiri, 38, looks down on the Molenbeek canal. The victims and the suicide bomber. Mohamed, Khalid and Loubna are all of Moroccan origin, the fourth most common nationality in Belgium, after the Dutch, French and Italians. "I miss my wife every day'. El Bachiri starts writing. Thoughts, memories, poems. The result is 'Jihad for Love', a simple, almost ecumenical text: love, reconciliation, forgiveness. Today, El Bachiri reads his message to young people, hoping to leave a mark. "I love history, medieval leaders, Leonardo da Vinci. I say this from the bottom of my little knowledge: haine - hatred - can only destroy our civilisation'.

"Molenbeek has changed". Three kilometres from the centre. It is here that Salah Abdeslam, the mastermind of the Paris attacks, was captured. Belgistan', the den of Jihad described on the world's front pages as the place with the highest rate of radicalisation, is now 'gentrifying'. And the kebab sellers are starting to make way for hipster bars. Veronique Loute leans on her cane. When her son Sammy Djedou, born in 1989 and called Abou Moussa, leaves for Syria, she has a job as a clerk. An arrest warrant is issued for him: the intelligence community believes he is the recruiter of the Paris attackers. Veronique is accused of having sent 65,000 ***euro*** to her son and of having financed the Bataclan attacks.

In the months that followed, Sammy's name popped up again and again: even from the computers of the Brussels bombers. Then on 4 December 2016, end of the line. Sammy is killed by a drone in Raqqa along with two other Belgians, close to al-Adnani, Al Baghdadi's spokesman.

"After all, we parents are victims too". Veronique doesn't work anymore. She is left with a daughter, a disability pension and waiting for the verdict on the charge of financing Isis. Together with other mothers and fathers she created the group "Les parents concernés". In Molenbeek, there are also those who still hope. Parents who dream of embracing their children again. Grandparents waiting for grandchildren born in Syria or taken away when they were too young to understand. According to the counter-terrorism risk analysis unit (Cuta), there are at least 162 children linked to Belgium who were in Syria in May 2018. But only 20 of them have returned home.

Fathers and sons

Among those who fight for these minors is Mohamed Ozdemir. He has been called the lawyer of the jihadists. Many have passed through his office in Ghent, 60 kilometres north of Brussels. "I have defended criminals, it is true. But I have done my job. And I am also helping children and women who have not committed any crime and just want to go home," he says. Ozdemir is of Turkish origin. He is now looking after two children of a Belgian woman who fled to Raqqa in 2017 and then ended up in a cell in Turkey, and an Isis jihadist who died in Syria. A case similar to many others. In December, Ozdemir sang victory: "The court had decided that these two children could go and live with their grandmother". But the government appealed. "The federal authorities had ruled that all children under the age of 10 could be returned. Then, in fact, nothing was done to facilitate the repatriations".

The future and the past. In an old foundry turned into a museum, history endures among rusty tools and bronze chandeliers. "At the end of the 19th century, Molenbeek was little Manchester. The Flemings worked there in the breweries along the canal. After the Second World War, the Italians arrived,' says the guide. The first big wave of Muslim immigration began in 1964, when Belgium signed agreements with Turkey and Morocco to import labour. Today Molenbeek is the second poorest commune in Belgium, where the average income is 776 ***euros*** per month. Twenty-six times less than the salary of a ***European*** commissioner. "'Do we have to define someone? Gay, Muslim, hipster, white, with a beard or without. What if in the end the problem is the anxiety of finding a label?". Samuel Vandrveken, born in 1982, is an artist. He is Flemish. Together with Nabil Fallah, a 23-year-old Muslim from Molenbeek, he participated in the project of a mutual friend, Shirin Mirachor, an artist from Rotterdam and founder of Get Me . "The idea is that a young hipster and a young Muslim exchange clothes, showing how stereotypes actually foster the alienation that underlies radicalisation processes."

Mosques and relations with the Saudis

At the Grand Mosque, 500 metres from the ***European*** Parliament, a sign sponsors a petition: "Since the end of the month, the management of the Mosque has been taken away from the control of the Centre Islamique et Culturel de Belgique (CICB) because the State wants to involve the Muslim Executive (the interlocutor of the Ministry of Justice, which manages the financing of cults, ed), we must make our voice heard". The decision to oust CICB was taken last year, after a parliamentary enquiry committee identified this mosque as one of the most dangerous hotbeds of radicalisation, as an expression of the Saudi Wahhabi current of Islam. Relations between Riyadh and Brussels, however, die hard. They date back to May 1967. Waves of jihadist radicalisation in Belgium are nothing new, but this one is certainly out of the ordinary," explains Thomas Renard, a researcher at the Egmont Royal Institute for International Relations. Few remember how Mehdi Nemmouche, author of the attack on the Jewish Museum in Brussels (and recently sentenced to life imprisonment) is considered the first Isis returnees and was part of an earlier recruitment phase, namely that of 2012/2014. "This is why working on a controlled return is the most cost-effective option".

In the palaces of the Wallonia-Brussels Federation, Rachid Madrane, French-speaking minister for youth and sport, straightens his tie. Of Moroccan origin, a socialist with a background in journalism, he is the leader of Cesure, a deradicalisation project in the prisons of Marche-en-Famenne, Lantin and Andenne. "It consists in subjecting to sessions 20 men between 18 and 45 years of age condemned for terrorist offences, who join the project on a voluntary basis", explain his staff. Then "with the help of virtual reality and hypnosis techniques, the inmates visualise what their future life could be". So far, "we have identified 7 candidates and the operators are currently entering the prisons". The project "is also being tested in Italy and France". Minister Madrane explains how it was financed: "The funds come from the ***European Union***, the University of Liège and Belgian institutions. I have visited the prisons and I am frank: they are terrible. We prefer to give prisoners the chance to rebuild their lives. In this way we protect society from new waves of radicalisation.

A kiss and a rainbow

In Molenbeek, the sun is about to set. On Rue Fin, Fadma Amin and Fadel Lahoussine of the association 'L'Espoir' open the gate to the Jardin Majorelle, a community garden where everyone can come and tend their vegetables and plants. Here, in the small courtyard, between the council blocks, Fadma and Fadel kiss. "We left Agadir in 2000 and moved here with our children. Molenbeek is a good place to live, but we can make it even better." Then Fadma looks up at the grey apartment block in front of her. "Soon we will have it coloured with a rainbow".

Outside the garden a friend passes by to say hello. He puts his hand over his heart. He is from Syria. He has lived in Molenbeek for decades. "'But in Aleppo, since the war started, no, I've never been back'.

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Towards ***Europe***

the project

A 28-stage journey through ***EU*** countries towards the elections on 26 May. Before Belgium we went to Spain, Croatia, Romania, Estonia, Malta, Denmark, United Kingdom, Bulgaria, Luxembourg, Poland, Ireland, Czech Republic, Greece, Holland, Sweden and Germany, passing through Brussels and Strasbourg. On Corriere.it all the webreportage

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[***Realism is the true moral; Preview A summary of the preface by Panebianco and Belardinelli that opens their volume on the future of theEU (il Mulino)***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5VX1-KC31-JDMV-K07S-00000-00&context=)

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**Section:** CULTURE; Page 34

**Length:** 911 words

**Byline:** Angelo Panebianco and Sergio Belardinelli

**Highlight:** More sense of responsibility to save ***Europe***'s liberal and Christian values Concreteness Conflicts and injustices cannot be completely eliminated, but much can be done to alleviate their negative effects

**Body**

We are aware that the analyses and interpretations presented in our book All'alba di un mondo nuovo (il Mulino) could be accused of presenting an excessively bleak picture of ***Europe***'s condition. We are in no way unaware that the Old Continent still has great resources and energy at its disposal. If we look around ***Europe, we do*** not only see its aches and pains, but also everything that invites us to have faith in the future.

Although we are aware of this, we have chosen to highlight problems, critical aspects and risks above all. The complexity of historical processes is such that it is never possible to know in advance whether a scholar of social and political events, by making the results of his work public, is contributing to worsening or improving the situations he describes. One can only hope that the latter will be the case.

If religion and cultural processes are the subject of Belardinelli's contribution, and if political dynamics are the subject of Panebianco's, the reader should not miss the fact that the two essays share the same perspective.

Max Weber, following his neo-Kantian masters, spoke of the 'value relation': thanks to it, the observer of the facts of history is able to make sense of the data collected and investigated. The value relation implies both a choice of values and a methodological option. In our case, values and methodology converge, giving rise to a theoretical platform that we can define as "liberal realism".

We share, first of all, the idea that liberal civilisation, with its principles, institutions and rules, is the most important 'gift' of modern ***Europe*** to the world. For both, it is the ripe fruit of the Christian tradition. It was born in Europe, and could only have been born in ***Europe***, precisely because of its Christian origins. Liberal civilisation has never been fully realised, not even in its ***European*** cradle. ***Europe*** is still far from having fully implemented that set of ideals and institutions. However, despite its many serious imperfections and limitations, ***Europe*** - together with the western world that is a direct offspring of it - has nonetheless given life, inspired by those ideals, to societies that are more liveable than others, where "freedom" and "dignity" are not just empty words.

We share the thesis of those philosophers according to whom, in the modern age, only a liberal order can become a legitimate political order, supported by the approval and consent of the majority.

The second fundamental component of the perspective that we have in common is realism. In realism there are two (inextricably linked) dimensions, one normative/prescriptive and one descriptive/interpretative. On the normative level, realism does not mean, as too many still believe, 'cynicism'. On the contrary, it implies the idea that only by observing reality as it is, and not as we would like it to be, can we avoid escaping into irresponsibility. Understood from a normative point of view, realism implies responsibility towards others, it means not evading problems, not turning one's back in the face of their harshness, not deluding oneself or deluding oneself that the solutions are all simple and all within reach. Normatively speaking, realism, in short, is a form of morality.

But realism also has a descriptive and interpretative dimension. Applied to human facts, it means that we do not close our eyes to all those aspects of reality that we sometimes tend to consider only ugliness and aberrations, but which are, instead, very human. Aspects that belong more to the physiology than to the pathology of social living. We are referring to the incessant competition for power between men and women, to the often contested social hierarchies that are characteristic of human groups, with their bright side (the contribution they make to maintaining social order) and their dark side (the inequities and injustices that are often associated with them). Power struggles, competition for scarce resources, status conflicts, and clashes between different collective identities unfortunately take on violent forms of expression very frequently in human history - and, as far as we are concerned, in the history of ***Europe.*** The main tasks of the realistically inspired scholar are to describe the constant conflicts (violent and non-violent) as objectively as possible and to investigate their material and spiritual causes.

Drawing on the heritage of liberal principles, ideas and institutions, it is not possible to suppress conflicts or to remedy injustice forever (these are possibilities that human beings do not have). But the most negative consequences can be mitigated, the ways of fighting between individuals and groups can be made less harsh, and those principles, ideas and institutions can be leveraged in the hope of making their outcomes less destructive.

If we look around us, whether politically, culturally or religiously, everything seems to tell us that we are witnessing the dawn of a new world, the precise contours of which no one can predict. Much will depend on the realism with which ours, and the generations to follow, will be able to meet the challenges that lie ahead. This is also a way of remaining faithful to the ideals of ***European*** civilisation.

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**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Ethics (94%); Religion + Spirituality (90%); Politics (78%); Freedom Of Religion (73%)

**Load-Date:** April 17, 2019

**End of Document**

[***Populism and elections EU at the Festival of Economics; Focus***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5VX1-KC31-JDMV-K078-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

17 April 2019 Wednesday

NATIONAL Edition

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**Section:** ECONOMY; Page 28

**Length:** 220 words

**Byline:** Claudia Voltattorni

**Body**

More foreign guests than Italians to talk about topics that are more topical than ever: "Globalisation, nationalism and representation". The Trento Festival of Economics is preparing for its 14th edition, starting on 30 May and ending on 2 June. There will be dozens of meetings, debates, readings, films and books. And there will be a lot of talk about ***Europe***, promises the Festival's scientific director Tito Boeri, just after the ***European*** elections: "We will show that there is a ***European*** public opinion, in spite of the new sovereignism and nationalism". But globalisation is the main protagonist of the three-day event. With its effects on the world's economies and above all on people: "From migratory waves to the disappearance of religions and the changing physiognomy of the parties themselves", reflects Boeri. Politics will also be discussed, because, says Giuseppe Laterza, the Festival's other creator, "politics is not only the politicians' business, even though this is not and will never be a festival of politics, but a festival of openness and debate that focuses on rigorous data analysis". Guests include economists such as Raghuram G. Rajan, Joel Mokyr, Elhanan Helmpman and Oliver Blanchard, and Nobel Prize winner Michael Spence. The theme of the first meeting? "What can be done about populism?".

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**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Awards + Prizes (94%); Immigration (88%); Politics (83%)

**Industry:** Entertainment + Arts (68%); Publishing (64%)

**Load-Date:** April 17, 2019

**End of Document**

[***"We are on the rise. The Carroccio is only scoring own goals in the capital"; M5S Minister Fraccaro***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5VX1-KC31-JDMV-K05T-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

17 April 2019 Wednesday

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**Section:** POLITICS; Page 12

**Length:** 526 words

**Byline:** Emanuele Buzzi

**Highlight:** We don't think about controversy but about working Forward with referendums without quorum

**Body**

Minister Fraccaro, will you continue to clash with the League over ports?

"The government's line is clear: we want to do our part for a solution to the conflict in Libya that avoids new waves of migration. It is for the good of the Libyan people, for the security of our borders and to protect Italy's interests. Arguing about these issues does not lead to anything good, even the League will agree.

Autonomy is in the contract and there are already drafts. Are you thinking of backing out?

"There have never been such concrete results on this issue as now that the M5S is in government. We are in favour of the demands for greater autonomy that come from the territories. We also want to ensure that national cohesion is not called into question and that Parliament can actively participate."

Salvini attacked Rome...

"Salvini's criticism of Rome ends up proving to be an own goal because it reinforces the action of the mayor Raggi, who has and will continue to have the support of the entire M5S".

Isn't there a risk that if the League rises and you fall, the government will fall after the ***European elections***?

"The latest polls show us growing again, but I look at the concrete results obtained by this government and the commitments kept. The Italians are asking us to continue to change the country.

Parliament slows down...

"Parliament is working at full capacity. We have approved an economic manoeuvre that provides for citizenship income and quota 100, the 900 million ***euros*** to municipalities, the cutting of regional and national annuities and so on. We are not thinking about controversy but about working for the good of the citizens."

The Defence hearings show concern about the macroeconomic framework.

"Our commitment to growth is already bearing fruit despite the international context. Investment expenditure has increased by 84% in the Regions and 21% in the Municipalities. The greater expectation of domestic demand is at the basis of the + 2.7% recorded by industrial production and the + 19.4% of the Ftse Mib index, equal to around 100 billion. These are important figures".

You visited Switzerland to explore the subject of direct democracy. You recently proposed the ***European*** referendum.

"With the ***European*** referendum we will bring citizens closer to the institutions in order to build a shared future. We want to strengthen ***European*** citizens' initiative and introduce abrogative and consultative referendums. Only in this way can citizens really count.

The project of a referendum without a quorum has been widely criticised.

"In democracy, the participant decides, and the participation quorum discourages participation. Our proposal for a proposition referendum instead provides for an approval quorum, which guarantees broad grassroots support but avoids the instrumentalisation of abstentionism. The Swiss experience shows that the instruments of direct democracy increase the legitimacy of decisions, contribute to civic awareness and strengthen the relationship between institutions and citizens. I see dangers in limiting democratic rights, not strengthening them.

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**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject: *European Union*** Regulation + Policy (94%); Labor + Employment (73%); Economic Growth (64%); ***European Union*** (64%); Labor Unions (63%); Food + Beverage Regulation + Policy (62%)

**Industry:** Budgets (73%); Telecommunications (69%); Energy + Utilities (63%); Nuclear Power Plants (62%)

**Load-Date:** April 17, 2019

**End of Document**

[***"Telling the story ofEurope"An audience of friends and colleagues for Cinzia Th Torrini; Off Off***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5VX1-KC31-JDMV-K0BF-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

17 April 2019 Wednesday

ROME Edition

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**Section:** LEISURE; Page 17

**Length:** 144 words

**Byline:** Paola Medori

**Body**

An audience of friends and young actors at the Off/Off Theatre in Via Giulia for director Cinzia Th Torrini, back behind the camera to direct seven very short films explaining what it means to be part of ***Europe***, on the eve of the next elections. "The aim is to highlight successes, dispelling false myths about the ***EU***," said Torrini during the evening organised with Beatrice Covassi, head of the ***European*** Commission's representation in Italy, and hosted by Livia Azzariti. She was greeted with affection by Giorgio Panariello, the star of the director's new fiction "Pezzi unici", together with his colleagues Carolina Sala and Anna Manuelli. And then Elisabetta Pellini, Margherita Tiesi, Lucrezia Massari, Lidia Vitale, Giulio Berruti and Ralph Palka, Cinzia's partner. And then a toast together in the theatre bistro.

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**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Artists + Performers (94%); Theater + Drama (83%); Film (67%)

**Load-Date:** April 17, 2019

**End of Document**

[***Europeseven Brescian candidates but only Lancini is in pole position***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5VX1-KC31-JDMV-K029-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

17 April 2019 Wednesday

BRESCIA Edition

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**Section:** CRONICA DI BRESCIA; Page 3

**Length:** 1031 words

**Byline:** Thomas Bendinelli

**Highlight:** For everyone else, it looks like a tough challenge. And Torli (Left) must exceed 4%.

**Body**

With the lists closed and today being the last day to deposit them, the ranks of Brescian candidates for the ***European*** elections are quite large, but with decidedly different election hopes. There are two Brescian candidates in the League's ranks: outgoing ***MEP*** and former mayor of Adro Danilo Oscar Lancini and former deputy mayor of Salò Stefania Zambelli. While the former has a high chance of being reconfirmed on 26 May, the latter's chances of being reconfirmed will be more complicated, despite the fact that polls predict a great electoral success for the League (and therefore a high number of elected candidates: seven is a realistic hypothesis). In the PD two other candidates (there were three, but the outgoing ***MEP*** Luigi Morgano has pulled out) from Brescia: Pier Luigi Mottinelli and Caterina Avanza, the first candidate of the territory in every sense, the second chosen by the national direction as a bridge between socialists and liberal democratic forces (Avanza has been part of the staff of French President Macron until a few days ago). For both the game will be hard: the elected in the PD in the North West constituency will be four, five if it goes well, and the big names on the list are many (Pisapia, Toia, Bresso, Morando, Tinagli, Majorino). For sure, and this is what Mottinelli is trying to do, in order to gain votes it will be necessary to build territorial networks (and therefore campaign in the field, municipality by municipality). On the other hand, the Five Star Movement will not have any Brescians on its list because the internal selection mechanism through the Rousseau platform has preferred other candidates (in addition to the head of the list decided by the movement's leaders in the five districts). Mauro Parolini will be Forza Italia's Brescian candidate.

It will not be easy for him: according to the current polls, there will be two possible elected representatives for Forza Italia in the North West, or three at best. The first will certainly be Silvio Berlusconi, who will opt for another constituency (he is the leader throughout Italy), then it will be necessary to wedge between bigwigs such as Lara Comi, the outgoing ***MEP*** Massimiliano Salini and the Milanese councilor (much supported by the party leadership) Pietro Tatarella. There is also a Brescian in Fratelli d'Italia: Giuseppe Romele, former Forza Italia member, who joined Giorgia Meloni's party a few months ago. "We must not put limits to providence", he has declared but, having said that, it is very difficult for him to get to Strasbourg (unless the party exploits him). Finally, La Sinistra, which also has Cristina Torli, a professional educator at Fobap Anffas, on its list. More than for her, the challenge in this case will be to overcome the 4% barrier threshold.

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Running

Today is the last day to deposit the lists. Lancini and Stefania Zambelli are running for the League, Pier Luigi Mottinelli and Caterina Avanza for the Democratic Party, Mauro Parolini (FI), Giuseppe Romele (FdI) and Cristina Torli (Left).

Mauro Parolini is Forza Italia's candidate for the ***European elections in*** Brescia. A return home, after a brief parenthesis in some nearby bush (in the movement "We with Italy"): "For my sensitivity is the only reality from which to start - he says - to give a reference to the moderate area and civil society. I can join a coalition with Lega and FdI but I don't find myself there. His programme? "Attention to people, families and social bodies". The election campaign? "I'll be looking after Brescia and Lombardy above all, but I'll also be going to Piedmont and Liguria". Themes? "Within the framework I've said: I'm definitely a candidate for the territory as well as for the party. The other evening he took part in a debate with Nando Pagnoncelli: "I was struck by the distance between reality and people's perceptions of the economy, politics and so on. I asked if there was any hope that politics would go back to dealing with reality in order to change it? He told me that it is necessary, but it will be very hard and will take time. So that's the approach I would like to have. (t.b.)

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"They say I'll be there too, yes'. Giuseppe Romele jokes, a long militancy and some legislature in parliament for Forza Italia, now landed in the Fratelli d'Italia and for this party candidate in the ***European Parliament***. "Mine is a service candidacy," he explains, "to contribute to the project that aims at a new centrality in the centre-right and to allow Salvini to abandon the Five Star party. Romele sees himself as a moderate figure, useful to give new balance to the centre-right people who are in crisis "and without references". "My candidacy, like Alberoni's and others, is useful for this". A project that looks at the internal situation (the alliance with Salvini) and, on a different basis, at ***Europe***: "The goal is to move the axis, to make the Populars ally themselves with Fratelli d'Italia and the other allied forces in ***Europe***. and thus abandon the historic alliance with the socialists". He will campaign mainly in the Brescia area, perhaps in a few neighbouring provinces, but no more than that: "More than for me, I will say to vote for Giorgia Meloni and Daniela Santanché". (t.b.)

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The official slogan for the campaign has yet to be announced, but Pier Luigi Mottinelli is thinking of something like: "Your province in ***Europe***". From the valley (Camonica) to ***Europe*** to make the territories count more, the Pd candidate has been preparing the campaign for months with the support of ten Lombard and Piedmontese provincial presidents and 120 mayors from Brescia. "He explains: "Giving voice to the other Lombardy, which means all the Lombards outside the city of Milan. His intention is to campaign in the whole of the constituency, including Piedmont and Liguria, bringing in some strong issues. These include tying part of the infrastructure funds to areas that are not capital cities and the environment, in order to put in place appropriate policies against climate change. And obviously ***Europe,*** which must be "new but far from sovereignism and nationalism". A provincial candidate, he claims, with the ambition to undermine the party bigwigs on the list: "The twenty outgoing ***MEPs*** in the North West constituency are all from the city," he observes. Mottinelli. (t.b.)

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[***It's the turn of the preference 'lords' From Berlusconi to Pisapia, here are the challenges***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5VX1-KC31-JDMV-K060-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

17 April 2019 Wednesday

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**Section:** POLITICS; Page 14

**Length:** 730 words

**Byline:** Giuseppe Alberto Falci

**Highlight:** Today is the deadline for the lists. Carfagna asks to run, a case in Forza Italia I capolista Salvini and Meloni in all constituencies. Tajani at the Centre for FI. Five women with the 5 Stars

**Body**

ROME

Challenges between the head of the list, surprise strikes by the 'lords' of preferences and the unknown of the gender vote. Tonight is the deadline for the presentation of the lists for the ***European*** elections. Yesterday the names of the League arrived, the Democratic Party had already moved forward, as had Fratelli d'Italia and the M5S. The only thing missing is Forza Italia, which has lived through hours of high tension: Mara Carfagna's willingness to run in the South behind Berlusconi's main candidate has been interpreted with suspicion by some members of Forza Italia (who remained anonymous) as an "attempt to scrap" the leader. Then everything (at least for now) fell into place.

The challenge between the centre-right leaders (Salvini, Berlusconi, Meloni) will be played out in four out of five constituencies: in the centre it will be up to the president of the ***European Parliament to*** hold up the Forza Italia flag but, on ***European*** issues, Antonio Tajani could also be involved in an unexpected match with Emma Bonino (+Europa).

In the North West, the Democratic Party is counting on Giuliano Pisapia (who received 315,000 votes when he was elected mayor of Milan in 2011), but he will be competing against the centre-right squadron. Here, the League is fielding two prominent women, former president of the province of Cuneo Gianna Gancia (married to Calderoli) and Silvia Sardone, former FI and "miss preferences" at the Pirellone. The M5S, in an attempt to curb the big names of the other parties, has chosen Mariangela Danzì (investigated in Brindisi as a former sub-commissioner of the Apulian municipality) and the outgoing deputies Tiziana Beghin (22,000 preferences) and Eleonora Evi (18,000).

In the north-east, there could be an unusual internal challenge within the PD, between the leader Carlo Calenda and the champion of preferences Paolo De Castro (87,000 votes in 2014). Moreover, in the kingdom of the governor Luca Zaia, the "captain" Salvini wanted few big names from Veneto on the list, preferring those from Emilia, with an eye to the Regional elections. Finally, there is an intriguing race between former Parma mayor Federico Pizzarotti and M5S journalist Sabrina Pignedoli.

In the South, in addition to the challenge between the big names, the war is above all between the lords of preferences. Raffaele Fitto, on the strength of his 284,000 personal votes in 2014, is now running with Fratelli d'Italia. The Christian Democrat Lorenzo Cesa brings a dowry of 57,000 votes to the Azzurri: "The only thing I know how to do is take preferences," he repeats to his friends. In Campania, the Democratic Party is also counting on the preference packages of Massimo Paolucci (118,000) and Andrea Cozzolino (115,000). It is the turn of two of Mussolini's heirs, Alessandra (FI) and Caio Giulio Cesare (FdI), to intercept the votes of the nostalgic. And let's not forget Vincenzo Sofo (Lega), who will parade in the South with his girlfriend Marion Le Pen.

And then there is the case of the islands. In Sicily, Salvini did not give up on Angelo Attaguile, former president of Catania and former president of the Institute of council houses in the city of Etna: his position had become cumbersome (following an investigation for vote-swapping) but in the end the package of votes secured by the autonomists of Raffaele Lombardo weighed. Caterina Chinnici of the Pd (134 thousand preferences) challenges the M5S leader Ignazio Corrao (71 thousand). While FI, in addition to Giuseppe Milazzo and Giovanni La Via, is fielding Saverio Romano: "Who - in the words of Totò Cuffaro - could get 60 thousand preferences".

Dino Martirano

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null

North-East Carlo Calenda, 46, former Minister of Economic Development and promoter of the "We are ***Europeans***" manifesto, will be the main candidate for the Democratic Party in the North-East. He will be challenged by journalist Sabrina Pignedoli, 35, one of the five M5S candidates in all the constituencies.

Antonio Tajani, 65, outgoing president of the ***EU*** Parliament and vice-president of Forza Italia, is the leader in the Centre (the only constituency in which Berlusconi is not running in first place). On the list for the League is Susanna Ceccardi, 32, mayor of Cascina (Pisa).

South Challenge between the Duce's descendants in the South: on the list for FI is Alessandra Mussolini, 56, former ***EU*** deputy and former parliamentarian, while for FdI there is Caio Giulio Cesare Mussolini, 50, great-grandson of Benito Mussolini (son of Vittorio, cousin of Alessandra)

Islands The Lega has nominated Francesca Donato, 49, a lawyer and president of Progetto Eurexit, for the list. For Fratelli d'Italia, the leader of the Islands constituency (and of all the other four) will be the party president Giorgia Meloni, 42, MP since 2006.

**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Campaigns + Elections (93%); Discrimination (84%); Gender Equality (84%); Tobacco + Health (83%); Divorce + Dissolution (78%); Marriage Law (78%); Politics (77%); Executives (73%); Company Activities + Management (69%); Tobacco Regulation + Policy (69%); Family Law (68%)

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**End of Document**

[***Federalism; The word***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5VX1-KC31-JDMV-K06B-00000-00&context=)

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17 April 2019 Wednesday

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**Section:** FOREIGN; Page 19

**Length:** 348 words

**Byline:** Angelo Panebianco

**Body**

T he dream of a federal ***Europe has been*** with us since the start of the ***European*** integration process in the 1950s. But many misunderstandings have arisen around the term 'federalism'. Federalism is a word that refers both to a doctrine and to a way of organising public powers. Federalism is not to be confused either with confederation or with the modern state (a type of organisation that originated in ***Europe*** and then spread to the rest of the world). Confederations also existed in antiquity. They are pacts between autonomous entities (e.g. city-states) that create a stable coordination, usually to defend themselves against a common enemy. In a confederation, each member retains its autonomy and can withdraw from the pact. Federalism (which is a modern phenomenon), unlike confederation, implies a much tighter aggregation between sub-federal entities. For the most part, the right to leave the federation is not contemplated.

Federalism also differs from the state in the ways in which it legitimises and organises public powers. Consider the principle of sovereignty, which is legal, ideological and organisational. In the ***European-derived*** state, sovereignty is portrayed as "one and indivisible" (it is exercised by those who control the central government bodies). In the federation, on the other hand, sovereignty is 'divided': the federal government is sovereign in certain matters, the sub-federal entities (whether they are called states, cantons or Lander) are, in turn, sovereign in others.

In federalist thinking, the federation is the antithesis of the state. In the light of that thinking, therefore, the term 'federal state' is a contradiction in terms. It is an ambiguity that also haunts, and divides, the advocates of ***European*** unification. Some say federalism but actually think of some form of super-state. Others, on the other hand, faithful to the federalist doctrine, imagine a political union 'freed', from their point of view, from the organisational and ideological constraints of statehood.

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**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Politics (94%); ***European Union*** (92%); National Debt (81%); ***European Union*** Regulation + Policy (69%)

**Industry:** Budgets (77%)

**Load-Date:** April 17, 2019

**End of Document**

[***The leader of the Italian League is attacking everything: 'They forget about the money for Rome'; The back story***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5VX1-KC31-JDMV-K05V-00000-00&context=)

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**Section:** POLITICS; Page 12

**Length:** 669 words

**Byline:** Marco Cremonesi

**Highlight:** The accusations on the blocked measures. And he raises Orbán: I'm going to see him in May After the ***European elections*** The fear is that Di Maio will no longer be able to control the enemies of the pact with the League

**Body**

MILAN

"The money for Rome? Forget it... ». It is a joke thrown out there, talking to his MPs, without Matteo Salvini articulating the concept much. And yet, the sense is clear: the resources needed to transfer the capital's debt to the State, which should be included in the 'growth decree', are anything but obvious.

Salvini is described by his people as usual: calm and far from being even nervous about the ongoing struggle within the government. What is certain, however, is that the leader of the Italian League continues his strategy against everything and everyone. The day opens with his "injunction" addressed to the heads of the Police, Financial Police, Coast Guard and Defence regarding the ship Mar Ionio. It is the directive that will ignite, a little later, a harsh clash with Minister Trenta, who will even speak of "ravings", albeit without mentioning Salvini.

But the day also opened with news, gathered by Il Sole 24 Ore , on the irritation of the Quirinale because the decrees "Sblocca cantieri" and "Crescita", despite their approval in the Council of Ministers, are still not seen. Salvini, here, throws the ball into the field of Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte: "Invite Conte and ask him," is the response of the leader of the League to Giovanni Floris on La7: "The decree in the Council of Ministers has arrived, we have approved it and Conte will be analysing it. We have done ours. The fact is that the two decrees, both of which have been approved "subject to agreements", still lack an agreement between the political forces. And on this, a new hotbed has been lit with Luigi Di Maio. The latter, speaking of Alitalia (which should be included in the Growth Decree), cannot resist: "I'm pleased that everyone wants to see the facts, but it's a pity that those who want to see them only talk. This reference is difficult not to connect with Salvini's 'from words to facts'.

Then comes the news of the resignation of the Umbrian governor Catiuscia Marini. The decision was taken in a second: and today at 5.30 p.m. the Lega Nord leader will be in Perugia. Because "the only mistake we can't afford is to take for granted the consensus that is only in the polls".

In any case, Salvini and his parliamentarians are displaying the utmost calm about the government's fate in spite of the many daily polemics. One deputy summed it up as follows: "Have you seen the polls? We are growing at 32.3%, the 5 stars are growing at 22.5%. Both government forces are growing, while the PD drops half a point to 21.5%. What counts is this: the government is growing, the PD is falling".

This is why Salvini's appeal to the Lega Nord parliamentarians is always the same: "People hate quarrels. We are working, we continue to work, we don't have time for useless polemics". The concern is that after the ***European elections*** Di Maio will no longer be able to control the enemies of the alliance with the League. But even here, Salvini continues straight ahead. Did Di Maio criticise Hungarian President Orbán? The Lega leader announces: 'I will go to Budapest in early May'. As for the other game that is close to the heart of the Lega Nord party, Salvini cuts to the chase: "There are doubts about the Autonomies on the part of some 5 Star ministers. We hope they will pass quickly.

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Dueling

Regions, doubts about autonomy

The regional autonomy of Lombardy, Emilia-Romagna and Veneto has pitted the League, which is strongly in favour, against the Five Star Movement, which has expressed doubts about the possibility of creating too many differences with other regions.

1

Conditions for the flat tax

On the flat tax, the League would like to see a 15% rate up to ***€50***,000 of income, while the M5S expressed concerns that the reform would not help the middle class. "The flat tax must be done but it must not help the rich," Di Maio said.

2

Tensions over ports closed to migrants

Divisions also on migrants. Matteo Salvini reiterated that he wants to stand firm on the choice of "closed ports". "It's not enough," Premier Giuseppe Conte and Minister Danilo Toninelli said yesterday.

3

**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Immigration (94%); Riots (92%); Heads Of State + Government (82%); Campaigns + Elections (80%); Politics (69%); ***European Union*** (64%); Tobacco + Health (62%)

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[***Greta cries: 'House collapses act fast'; In Strasbourg***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5VX1-KC31-JDMV-K068-00000-00&context=)

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**Section:** FOREIGN; Page 17

**Length:** 99 words

**Byline:** I.C.

**Body**

"Our house is collapsing and our leaders have to start acting because for now they are not doing it". Swedish 16-year-old Greta Thunberg, at the ***Europarliament*** in Strasbourg as a symbol of youth environmental protest, appealed to ***European*** politicians to take action. In the Environment Committee she received applause from all parties. Arriving from Sweden by train to reduce polluting emissions, she then left for Rome, where she is expected to meet Pope Francis in the Senate and attend a youth climate demonstration on Friday.

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**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Politics (94%); ***European Union*** (89%); Environment + Natural Resources (82%); Emissions (80%); ***European Union*** Regulation + Policy (74%)

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[***Clash over anti-migrant directive Defence's wrath: Salvini trespasses***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5VX1-KC31-JDMV-K05K-00000-00&context=)

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**Section:** POLITICS; Page 10

**Length:** 650 words

**Byline:** Alessandro Trocino

**Highlight:** Di Maio: don't stop 800,000 people like that. The leghista: dutiful and legitimate choice The summits The document of the Viminale sent also to the summits of Marina and Guardia di finanza The attack Trenta polemics with the head of the Lega: I don't have time to rave as others do

**Body**

ROME

The only one to call himself out, with a certain amount of irony, is the undersecretary to the presidency of the Council, Giancarlo Giorgetti: "Open or closed ports? I don't know, I deal with sport. But the clash on the issue of migrants and their competences is growing by the hour. In the space of a few hours, Matteo Salvini, the head of the Viminale, was attacked by the M5S minister Danilo Toninelli and by his colleague Elisabetta Trenta (who was also criticised) and issued a directive on migrants that was contested by Luigi Di Maio. However, the directive also provoked a violent political-diplomatic clash with the Defence Ministry, with accusations of encroaching powers and the protest of the Democratic Party, which spoke of "pressure on the ministry's top management" and of an "attitude worthy of the worst dictatorship".

The question of closed or open ports, after the Diciotti and Sea Watch cases, has become crucial with the Libyan situation, which risks provoking an exodus of people fleeing war. And, along with them, it is feared, also of unfriendly people and even Isis affiliates. Yesterday, Minister Salvini - while the ship Mare Jonio sailed from Lampedusa following "the lighthouse of humanity" - issued a directive with indications to the police forces and the heads of the Navy and the Guardia di Finanza to "ensure" that the commander and the owner of the Mare Jonio (of Mediterranea Saving Humans) "do not reiterate conduct contrary to current legislation on rescue at sea". Salvini's thesis is that the NGOs' rescue activities only encourage crossings. Thesis rejected by Mare Jonio, which speaks of "propaganda" and recalls how Libya is "the scene of unspeakable horrors".

The premier of the Libyan government of national salvation, Sarraj, told Corriere that "800,000 desperate people are ready to leave Libya for Italy". And Vice-Premier Maitig added, in a conversation with Salvini, that there are 500 detained terrorists at risk of escaping. Salvini's approach is to close the ports and prevent anyone from arriving from Libya by denying 'refugee' status. The 5 Stars see it differently.

Guardasigilli Alfonso Bonafede explained that this phenomenon "cannot be the sole burden of the Italians, ***Europe*** must deal with it". Transport Minister Danilo Toninelli also argued that Salvini's line was the same: "If thousands of asylum seekers were to arrive, closed ports would not be enough. The minister announced a possible "increase in port security". His colleague Trenta replied to the Viminale chief: 'Let's put an end to this ridiculous story, I have never said to open the ports, I have pointed out what could happen if the conflict escalates. I don't have time to ramble as others do. At the Defence Ministry, irritation is also high over the alleged 'trespassing': 'A red line has been crossed'. The directive was sent to the police, Carabinieri, Guardia di Finanza and Coast Guard, but also to the Defence Chief of Staff. Hence the accusations of trespassing, which Salvini denies: "We are very calm because the Viminale is the highest authority for internal security. Therefore, the directive is necessary, as well as legitimate. And he said that the law "provides for the use of navy ships. Interference? I have the right-duty to decide in which port a man or a woman lands.

Luigi Di Maio was also harsh: "If we have the problem of 800,000 migrants in Italy, you certainly don't stop them with a directive. If we want to help Italy, let's dump the countries that don't welcome migrants, instead of allying ourselves with them, from Orbán on down". An allusion, of course, to Salvini. Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte tried to mediate: "Open ports yes or no, it's a beautiful simplification for the public, but those who follow it may discover that Italian immigration policy is much more complex".

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**Subject:** Coastal Areas (94%); Immigration (73%)

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**End of Document**

[***Judges, lawyers and law professors: an enlarged pool for the Tribunal EU***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W1F-48F1-F13X-9071-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

3 May 2019 Friday

MILAN Edition

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**Section:** MILAN NEWS; Page 7

**Length:** 541 words

**Byline:** Giuseppe Guastella

**Highlight:** Patents, first summit with Tavassi and Nardo

**Body**

Milan is playing it by ear and, even before the ways and timescales for proposing the city's candidature for the seat of the central division of the ***European*** Patent Court have been established, magistrates, lawyers, politicians and experts are rehearsing to agree on a common strategy to avoid a repeat of the disappointment experienced when the Medicines Agency was assigned to Amsterdam.

The city's history shows that in the past the most important results were achieved when all the forces joined forces in the name of the common interest. We need only think of the success of Expo 2015, which was the result of an initiative launched and built on the commitment of the then centre-right mayor Letizia Moratti, and managed and completed by his centre-left successor Giuliano Pisapia, with the decisive contribution of the blue-leftist Region, but also of the trade organisations and all the other intermediate bodies.

It cannot be ruled out that this was the motivation that prompted the president of the Milan Court of Appeal, Marina Tavassi, and the new president of the Bar Association, Vinico Nardo, to convene a technical round table at Palazzo di giustizia, The meeting was attended by regional president Attilio Fontana, mayor Giuseppe Sala and many experts in the patent sector, such as Cesare Galli, professor of industrial law at the University of Parma, as well as representatives of the Chamber of Commerce, Assolombarda and the university, starting with the rector of the Polytechnic, Ferruccio Resta.

The issue is closely linked to Brexit. When Britain is out of the ***European Union***, the central division of the Patent Court will have to leave London. This is one of the body's three locations, the others being Paris and Munich.

Indicating Milan as the seat of the ***European*** Court "is not a favour to the city, but a compulsory choice" according to Tavassi. "We are studying how to make the application," explains the magistrate, who is one of the leading legal experts in the field of patents in Italy and who, however, points out that on the issue of candidacy "have not for the moment taken a position" neither Governor Fontana nor Mayor Sala. The former may have wanted to avoid the embarrassment of expressing himself after the parliament approved a Lega-M5S motion that merely hopes that the ***European*** Patent Court will come to Italy, but gives no indication of which city (while the Pirellone voted for a motion in favour). Sala, on the other hand, would like the issue to be dealt with after the IOC has decided on the Milan-Cortina candidacy for the 2026 Winter Olympics at the end of June, so as to avoid that at international level one request could exclude the other.

"There is essentially a consensus. Milan has the judicial, scientific and political competence to get the seat," Nardo argues. In fact, 39.63% of the ***European*** patents applied for throughout Italy are "validated" in the Lombard capital, which, after Germany and France, is in third place for the number of patents in the ***European Union***.

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**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Patents (94%); Law Courts + Tribunals (89%)

**Load-Date:** May 3, 2019

**End of Document**

[***Europethe fighting M5S is now moderate The referendum on the currency? No more \*; Analysis***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W1F-48F1-F13X-908R-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

3 May 2019 Friday

NATIONAL Edition

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**Section:** FIRST FLOOR; Page 7

**Length:** 802 words

**Byline:** Emanuele Buzzi

**Highlight: The** comparison between today's points and those of 2014. No mention of abolishing constraints

**Body**

MILAN

Distant relatives. Or almost. Five years on, reading the Five Star's ***European*** election programmes shows how much the Movement has changed (in its intentions). And not just in terms of slogans. It is no longer the time for the 'Let's win tour'. It has moved on to 'Let's carry on for a change'. Now the M5S is more moderate, less about fighting and more about governing.

The seven points of 2013

It was the first of December 2013 when Beppe Grillo, together with Gianroberto Casaleggio, led the third (and last) V-Day. In Genoa. The Pentastellati, an opposition force, proposed seven points for their first campaign with a view to Brussels. At the time, the last point of the programme, but the first in terms of resonance, the Five Star campaigners were focusing on the referendum on the ***euro***.

Now there is no trace of that step. All that is left of the consultations is the idea of introducing a ***European*** referendum. Instead, the fight against austerity has remained. But the perimeter within which the Movement wants to move has changed. Less tranchant, more legislative. If for the 2014 vote there was talk of abolishing the fiscal compact, the budget constraint and the adoption of ***Eurobonds***, now new instruments are being considered: more powers for the ***European*** Parliament and changing the mandate of the ***European*** Central Bank. And not only that.

Attention to the economy

The economic side is pushed. "***European*** bodies," reads one of the proposals, "must invest billions". However, if in 2014 the Pentastellati were asking for investment in innovation and new productive activities to be excluded from the budget deficit constraints, or now it is "education, health, infrastructure and security spending" that - in their view - must stay outside the ***European*** parameters.

Longer programme

The list of wishes and projects has been extended. The points are no longer 7, but 10 (as Luigi Di Maio announced in a press conference, although 24 were discussed and voted on the blog) and broadly speaking they look at what are the stakes of the Movement in the government contract with the League. The priority is work. The workhorse, as it happens, is the minimum wage, which becomes the pivot point on two tables both at Italian level and, in perspective, in Brussels. "Stop relocations, labour must have the same cost throughout the ***European Union***,' says the political leader of the Movement. A speech that sounds far from the proposed funding for agricultural and livestock activities, the fifth point at the time of the ***European*** landing. But it is ***European*** geopolitics itself that has changed: in 2014, with the crisis, Beppe Grillo urged an axis with the Mediterranean countries for a common policy (point 3 of the programme), now the common axis that the Movement seeks is that of immigration, with a "common ***European*** migration policy for the repatriation and compulsory redistribution of migrants".

The pillars of 'phase 2

On the table are also the pillars of this new phase, 'phase 2' as Di Maio called it, of the Movement and the government, with support measures for families and the middle class, and the protection of Made in Italy. But there is also room for those issues so dear to the activists of the first hour, to that soul movementist that the leader is trying to recover. So, here are measures for the environment, and then the fight against "great evasion, corruption, crime" and the cost of politics, this time declined in ***EU*** sauce, with cuts to salaries and "privileges" of commissioners and ***MEPs*** and the closure of the Strasbourg branch of Parliament.

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The comparison

The exit from the ***euro***

Five years ago, the 5 Star Movement's programme had one point that stood out above the rest: the promise to hold a referendum to get Italy out of the ***euro.***

Attention

investments

In 2014, the Pentastellati focused generically on investment in innovation and called for it to be excluded from the budget deficit constraints.

Financing

for enterprises

Five years ago the 5 Star Movement was looking more closely at businesses

and proposed

in particular funding

for agricultural activities and for

farms

Continental' consultation

In the 2019 version, the referendum will not

is more about the currency but proposes

to include the possibility of popular consultations

continental in character

The guarantee:

minimum wage

The key point of the new M5S programme for ***Europe*** on the employment front

is the provision of a minimum wage at both ***European*** and national level.

both national

More support

to families

Other horse

of the 2019 programme is a series of interventions at ***European*** level to give more support

to households,

and more generally

the so-called

middle class

Work at the centre The list of projects and wishes has grown longer, the mainstay has become work

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**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Politics (94%); ***European Union*** (90%); Agriculture Regulation + Policy (75%); Riots (70%); Economic Policy (69%); Small Business (69%)

**Industry:** Budgets (86%)

**Load-Date:** May 3, 2019

**End of Document**

[***precaution; The word***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W1F-48F1-F13X-9094-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

3 May 2019 Friday

NATIONAL Edition

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**Section:** FOREIGN; Page 13

**Length:** 340 words

**Byline:** Giuseppe Sarcina

**Body**

Nowhere else in the world is the citizen-consumer protected as much as in the ***European Union***. This is partly due to the 'precautionary principle' laid down in Article 191 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the ***EU, the*** latest version of which was approved in Lisbon in 2007. The principle allows the Commission to act swiftly to eliminate an imminent risk to human health or the environment, even if the scientific analysis of the data is inconclusive. The classic example is the withdrawal of potentially dangerous foodstuffs from the market or a ban on marketing a drug with unclear effects.

This principle quickly became a common sense criterion and became a hallmark of ***European*** action. We saw this on 12 March, when the ***EU***'s Air Transport Safety Agency suspended flights of the Boeing 737 Max, "as a precautionary measure" after the air disaster in Ethiopia. At the time, the American authorities replied that there was no reason to ground those aircraft. The point is that in the United States a different interpretation of the precautionary principle has been adopted: any activity (selling food or taking off a jet) is permitted unless it can be shown to be truly dangerous. Reasonable doubt is not enough, but it can be vital for the community.

It is a profound difference that brings us back to the great legal, political and cultural confrontation that began in ***Europe*** about 20 years ago to write a Constitution to serve all citizens. That attempt was rejected by referendums in France and the Netherlands in 2005. The ambitious plan of integration was replaced by downward compromises. However, some of the most advanced ideas in the world have found their way into the new treaties. The precautionary principle is one of them: a formula that can sometimes make even the United States rethink. On 13 March, the day after the ***EU*** decision, President Donald Trump decided to block the Boeing 737 Max.

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**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject: *European Union*** (94%); Criminal Offenses (68%); Embargoes + Sanctions (67%); Politics (65%)

**Load-Date:** May 3, 2019

**End of Document**

[***Moavero: "EUreforms are needed"; Minister***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W1F-48F1-F13X-9090-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

3 May 2019 Friday

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**Section:** FOREIGN; Page 9

**Length:** 176 words

**Body**

"How much bad education, how much bad information about ***Europe*** we hear on a daily basis", is the bitter reflection of Foreign Minister Enzo Moavero Milanesi in his opening speech of the 2019 edition of State of the Union, the annual conference organised by the ***European*** University Institute.

Less than a month before the ***European*** elections, the head of the Farnesina is keen to reiterate that "the ***EU*** remains a key player that cannot be ignored". But Brussels is not blameless. Moavero points out that the ***EU has not been able to*** change when the time has come because it has lacked "the farsightedness that characterises leaders of the highest calibre". And so the Union has become mired in the doldrums of the ***Eurobureaucracy*** that its detractors brandish as a weapon against an increasingly distant political ***Europe.*** "Now we are prisoners of a very complicated everyday life," Moavero translates and explains that for the future of the ***EU*** "we must have clear objectives" because otherwise "they are not explainable to citizens, and this creates a problem."

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**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject: *European Union*** (94%); ***European Union*** Regulation + Policy (69%); Politics (63%)

**Load-Date:** May 3, 2019

**End of Document**

[***"Jobs, climate and migrants" +EuropeRun as an outsider; Towards 26 May***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W1F-48F1-F13X-9073-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

3 May 2019 Friday

MILAN Edition

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**Section:** MILAN NEWS; Page 7

**Length:** 243 words

**Body**

The desired objective is to be the surprise at the ***European*** elections on 26 May. The obligatory one is to overcome the 4% barrier, starting from the polls that give Emma Bonino's movement around 3%. "The challenge is to show that there is another Italy than the one currently in government, different from all the other oppositions," said the secretary of +Europa Benedetto.

Della Vedova, presenting the candidates for the North-West constituency (Lombardy, Piedmont, Valle d'Aosta and Liguria). "We will fight for a stronger, united, fairer and more solidarity-based ***Europe*** to face global challenges such as climate change, jobs, growth, immigration and foreign policy," added Della Vedova. "***Europe*** needs to launch a large-scale employment plan for young people and promote women's employment: Italy is at the bottom of the league with Greece at 49% compared to the ***EU*** average of 60%," added Paola Testori, who has over 30 years' experience in Brussels, where she was Director-General for Health and Consumers at the ***European*** Commission. Many of the candidates come from different fields of civil society and have different experiences behind them. Connecting with the summit of Mont Blanc were two candidates who have planted the flag for ***Europe*** and the +Europa party: Giulia Pastorella and Stefano Morcelli, who left weeks ago on his bicycle to climb the Alps.

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**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Politics (94%); Economic Growth (90%); Campaigns + Elections (88%); ***European Union*** Regulation + Policy (87%); Climatology (69%); Environment + Natural Resources (69%); Immigration (69%); Business Forecasts (62%)

**Load-Date:** May 3, 2019

**End of Document**

[***Sangalli: the European vote European vote? For recovery, investments outside the deficit calculation; Interview***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W1F-48F1-F13X-90BB-00000-00&context=)

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3 May 2019 Friday

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**Section:** ECONOMY; Page 29

**Length:** 661 words

**Byline:** Antonella Baccaro

**Highlight:** Confcommercio: no bartering on VAT

**Body**

Strategic investments deducted from the deficit calculation; completion of the banking union and a ***European*** web tax. Three proposals to continue to believe in ***Europe***. President Carlo Sangalli proposes them for Confcommercio Imprese per l'Italia, just a few weeks before the vote that will renew the Community institutions. ***Europe*** needs profound changes," says Sangalli, "because it has created an extraordinary area of freedom and peace between peoples, and a large free market for businesses. But it has not found the right measures to tackle the economic crisis". Are you a ***Eurosceptic*** too? "No, I am for a purely "***Eurorealist"*** approach, so neither ***Eurosceptic*** nor abstractly federalist. This is what we will explain to the political leaders who will come to see us starting from next Wednesday and to whom we will present our Manifesto for ***Europe***". A confrontation with Di Maio, Zingaretti, Meloni, Tajani, Bonino, and an exponent of the League, on EU issues. The exclusion of public investment from the deficit calculation has been a battle of many governments. So far lost. Yes, but it is not a battle that would only benefit us," the president said. It would benefit ***Europe's*** overall ability to invest in its future, starting with infrastructure networks and investments in innovation and human capital. But also in terms of urban regeneration.

The second proposal concerns the always "hot" topic of banks: "A sound financial and banking system is an important element for the stability of the environment in which businesses and citizens-consumers operate. The completion of the banking union can no longer be postponed, through the pillar of the unified deposit guarantee scheme, thus facilitating the movement of capital and mitigating credit and investment imbalances".

Also propose a ***European*** web tax. Here too there have been only failures so far. "***European*** competitiveness on digital should be pursued, but a fair taxation of web multinationals is really a basic rule for the proper functioning of the markets for products and services and for the proper financing of the ***European*** budget."

In Italy, meanwhile, there is still talk of a VAT increase in the next Stability Law. "Yes, but I'd like to make a premise: it is now clear to everyone that our economy is at a standstill, even if the word recession seems to be receding from the horizon, considering the latest GDP figures which have improved. And isn't that a sign? "I would like to remind you that Italy, with +0.1%, continues to grow less than the countries in the ***euro*** area, which are growing at +1.2%. In this situation, talking about VAT increases means only one thing: opening the door to recession, bringing families and businesses to their knees. Has Confcommercio estimated the consequences of an increase in VAT? "If the "mine" of the safeguard clauses is not definitively defused, in 2020 the VAT increases would translate into an increase in taxes - on average about 900 ***euros*** per family - and would end up hitting consumption and the most fragile components of society hard". Yes, but a selective tax increase is also possible. "Any hypothesis of a VAT increase - whether we call it plan B or selective interventions on rates to introduce the flat tax, to reduce Irpef or social contributions, to finance public investments - means slowing down the economy even further. On VAT, no exchange, no barter". And where will the resources be found to avert recession? "Pushing growth, overhauling unproductive public spending, combating and recovering tax evasion and avoidance, and disposing of public property. It can be done.

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null

73 deputies

which are due

to Italy out of 751

that make up the ***European*** Parliament

The confrontations From Wednesday confrontation from Di Maio to Zingaretti, Tajani, Bonino and Meloni

~

**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Economic Growth (94%); Gross Domestic Product (88%); ***European Union*** (80%); National Debt (78%); Economic Policy (65%); Public Debt (65%)

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**End of Document**

[***"Matthew with us in Europe Europe? Rubbish"; The interview Elmar Brok***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W1F-48F1-F13X-908M-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

3 May 2019 Friday

Rebuttal Edition

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**Section:** FOREIGN; Page 6

**Length:** 348 words

**Byline:** Luigi Offeddu

**Body**

"Salvini's words? Rubbish. The ***European*** People's Party will never make an alliance with the League and other sovereignist movements. Never." Elmar Brok, 72, is a veteran of the ***Europarliament,*** the longest-serving ***MEP in*** Strasbourg and Brussels. He has long chaired the Foreign Affairs Commission, of which he is still a member as well as the Constitutional Affairs Commission. He still sits at the top of the EPP. And he is astonished by the text of the agency that has just arrived from Budapest: "Salvini says that, in the event of Orbán's victory in the ***European*** elections, an alliance between us and the sovereignists will be in the cards? But this does not exist at all.

Why? After all, only a few days ago, Commission President Juncker, who is also from the EPP, had much softer words for Salvini than in the past...

"But one thing is the ***European*** Commission, and one thing is the parties, the relations between them. We in the EPP are not a right-wing party, we never have been. We are a moderate, centre party, at most we can be defined as centre-right. So we have nothing in common with Orbán's right wing.

Many call him a fascist, a dictator....

"I voted for his suspension from the EPP. I haven't liked what he does and says for a long time, at least since 1988. Like all of us, I will abide by what our leaders decide on his political position. But I don't think Orbán is a Hitler or a Mussolini. He hasn't killed anyone. You can criticise his domestic and foreign policy. He has made and makes many mistakes. But to compare him to fascists is to be kind to them".

As head of government, he is certainly not one to be soft on the opposition.

"No. Yet many cities around Budapest are governed by the very opposition. However, there are others in ***Europe*** who behave not much differently, without being talked about. I, for example, would like the vice-president of the Commission, Frans Timmermans, to say something sometime about how his socialist comrades in Romania behave."

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**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Politics (94%); ***European Union*** (90%); Campaigns + Elections (77%); ***European Union*** Regulation + Policy (67%); Heads Of State + Government (67%); Foreign Policy (63%)

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**End of Document**

[***Dutch Nazari, rap forEurope; Monk***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W1F-48F1-F13X-90FD-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

3 May 2019 Friday

ROME Edition

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**Section:** LEISURE; Page 16

**Length:** 412 words

**Byline:** Laura Martellini

**Highlight:** The choice I found my way in music. A law degree? The prospect is to be without pay for years

**Body**

He should be a lawyer, but he is a musician who is making his way in the emerging scene, so much so that he was called up on stage at the concert in Piazza San Giovanni. Dutch Nazari has a particular name and an original style: in his composition rap meets the substance of songwriting. Tonight he will be at 10.35 p.m. at Monk (opening act Irbis 37, via Mirri 35, entrance with Arci membership card, tickets www.i-ticket.it) with the tour of his latest album Ce lo chiede l'***Europa*** .

"The title comes from my exercising irony,' he explains, 'on the tendency to identify ***Europe*** as guilty of whatever happens in Italy. Austerity? ***Europe's*** fault. Phrases repeated ad nauseam. It's something else that worries me. A short time ago I went to the funeral of a friend from my class. There were 21 of us, and on this sad occasion I discovered that in Padua, my home town, there are only seven of us left. All the others have gone to look for work abroad.

He also talks about this in his songs: 'Some are love ballads, but I also happen to talk about the rise in GDP. When people ask me about the borderline between songwriting and rap, I say there is no separation. Rap is songwriting. It's the type of approach that changes, but for me the baggage of my parents remains valid: Dalla, Guccini, Daniele, Luigi Tenco. I found my way in music. By passion and by chance. It's not a happy time for anyone, even less for someone who has taken a law degree. At best, the prospect is to be exploited without pay for two years.

So he decided, after graduating in Trento, to throw himself into an adventure that is giving him satisfaction. This is also thanks to his past direct contact with Alessandro Burbank, a young Venetian poet close to the reality of Poetry Slams, and his participation in verse competitions. ***Europe*** asks for it has a refined writing style. This is why the artist announces that he does not need much for the live show: "Drums and bass are my certainties, the rest comes from involvement. No two concerts are ever the same'.

In Rome, too, the advice is to let yourself go in a musical flow that you can experience in your own way: 'The secret of my music. Like all compositions in verse, my songs offer the listener the possibility of personal interpretation. And he smiles playfully, even off stage: 'My mum can finally be happy.

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**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Music Groups + Artists (94%)

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**End of Document**

[***The watershed move of the 5Stelle against the League; Scenarios The sacking that Prime Minister Conte gave to the undersecretary Siri represents Salvini's first real defeat in this electoral campaign European***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W1F-48F1-F13X-909W-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

3 May 2019 Friday

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**Section:** CULTURE; Page 26

**Length:** 760 words

**Byline:** Massimo Franco

**Highlight:** Relative majority It is as if Di Maio's movement has decided to reassert the balance of power in the government.

**Body**

The placid tones, the even slightly pedantic fussiness of the legal language and the words of solidarity addressed to his undersecretary Armando Siri should not deceive us: the sendoff that Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte gave him yesterday afternoon, in a sort of speech to the yellow-green majority and public opinion, was even rough. And perhaps it represents the first real defeat that Matteo Salvini suffers in this ***European*** election campaign, after having tenaciously defended the deputy minister investigated for corruption. Siri will have to resign. And his attempt to postpone the decision by two weeks with a communiqué issued a few minutes before Conte's announcement was to no avail.

On the contrary, the feeling is that the Prime Minister was irritated by that desperate manoeuvre. It induced him to be even more explicit in pointing out his exit from the government, leaving aside the judicial issue but condemning him in fact on a political level. Also striking was the confidence with which Conte closed the file. He knew he had the support, or rather the goad, of the Five Star Movement, which had been pressing for Siri's symbolic scalp for days in vain. And he chose the day when the vice-premier Salvini was in Hungary pursuing his sovereignist ambitions, to strike a heavy blow against the League.

It is as if Di Maio's movement had decided to reaffirm the parliamentary balance of power in the government as well: that which Salvini had been tacitly questioning for months, with an all-round protagonism legitimised by the polls. Instead, coldly, but using a "hot" issue such as the relations between politics and the judiciary, the Five Stars have reaffirmed their weight as a relative majority force. The pretext was perfect, to regain credibility with an electorate frustrated by months of "contract" with Salvini; and to try to rise in the consensus that accredits the M5S ten points below the result of the March 4 elections a year ago.

One can also reduce the issue to a revenge of the justicialist instinct of Beppe Grillo's heirs: a latent instinct that is always ready to reappear. But there is more: there is the desire to put Salvini back in a smaller niche of his ambitions; to challenge him in front of public opinion, and if necessary even within the government. In short, to reaffirm that the keys to the populist majority are held by both, the M5S and the League, but that it is the Movement that can snatch them from the hands of its allies whenever it wants. Against this backdrop, the Siri case becomes the sublimation of the Carroccio's downsizing manoeuvre, studied about a month ago at Palazzo Chigi.

And it is not surprising that it is Conte, not Di Maio, who puts it into practice. The 'guarantor' of the government contract is assigned for the umpteenth time the task of resolving a thorny issue, displaying a neutral, even-handed attitude: arbitration. And in his final invitation to the League not to have 'a corporate reaction', and to the M5S not to 'sing victory' so as not to trample on Siri's right to the presumption of innocence, there is a sense of the need not to appear unbalanced in favour of Di Maio. But the result represents, politically, a confirmation of the Grillo thesis on the advisability of the undersecretary stepping aside.

Above all, it sounds like a slap in the face not only to Salvini, but to the entire Lega nomenklatura, siding with the investigated exponent and convinced that they could withstand the impact of the M5S offensive. This event is, in reality, a watershed. It confirms the will of the Movement's top management to intimidate the Carroccio, discouraging any electoral temptations; and to make its leader understand that, if he wants regional autonomy in the North, if he wants more consensus, he must pass under the caudine forks of the contract: not the official one, but the parallel, tacit, inexorable one, which keeps the League on the leash of the real votes of March 4, 2018, not of those, for now virtual, of the May 2019 polls.

The fact that, at least in the heat of the moment, Salvini has dismissed Siri's resignation as a fact that will have no consequences for the government, may appear to be a gesture of maximum responsibility or maximum resignation. It is likely that he will have to prepare himself to face others between now and 26 May, and to come to terms not only with Di Maio's demands and Conte's persuasive and ruthless vocabulary. There is a League ready to meekly follow the leader as long as he wins or appears to win. But, as of today, it is perhaps less certain of an easy victory.

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[***The war of figures on irregular immigrants That's why there are (at least) 600,000 of them; the dossier the numbers OF THE "INVISIBLES***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W1F-48F1-F13X-909J-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

3 May 2019 Friday

NATIONAL Edition

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**Section:** NEWS; Page 19

**Length:** 1077 words

**Byline:** Goffredo Buccini

**Highlight:** The Viminale: down to 90 thousand. Istat chief: there were 533,000 at the start of 2018, up

**Body**

This account can start with the

rumenta

rubbish, in Genoese. This is how two ingenious leghistas, the councillor for security Stefano Garassino and the president of the Central-Eastern municipality Andrea Carratù, explained two years ago to the Suburbs Commission the calculation of irregular migrants in Genoa's central alleys: "We have 20,000 members here at the registry office; if our municipality, Amiu, collects the rubbish here, it would be a waste disposal plant.

rumenta

from 28,000 people, here are 8,000 dancing: those are the invisibles of the area'.

Invisibles are hard to see, it goes without saying. But by expanding that method to other cities visited, and cross-referencing it with data from Caritas soup kitchens and those of Istat (which obviously only counts regulars), the commissioners of the Parliament of the last legislature wrote in their unitary report in December 2017 the now famous number: 600 thousand. "Caritas has been monitoring since 1992 and is very reliable," argues Forzista Andrea Causin, who was chairman of that commission. Matteo Salvini campaigned on that number in 2018, promising 600 thousand quick repatriations. After winning the elections, he kept it down in his government contract: 500,000, which in any case required a "rigorous repatriation policy". Instead, the repatriations are running at an average of 20 a day, which would take at least 80 years (the ally-competitor Di Maio was beginning to reproach the leghists). Until a surprising number came out of the Viminale on the eve of the Liberation. "The irregular immigrants are 90,000!" proclaimed Salvini: "The others can play the lottery, but this is what the numbers say". Immediately challenged by the experts, the minister obtained the singular assent of a part of the left for reasons opposed to him but complementary: if the problem of illegal immigrants is solved, or rather has never existed, let's (re)welcome them all!

So let's look at these numbers. Salvini calculates, since 2015, 478,683 migrants landed, subtracts 268,839 who would have reached other ***EU*** countries, subtracts 119,000 more here in reception (repatriations, we have seen, are small change): total, 90,844. There are at least three problems. The first one is that the calculation cannot start from 2015, because at least since 2011 the most recent phase of the great migrations begins and, since then, the landings are 767,501 (of which 170,100 only in 2013 and 2014). The second problem: we only talk about landings, which do not coincide at all with irregularity (many landed immigrants, especially in the past, have asked for asylum and obtained protection) and, conversely, much irregularity does not come from landings but from visa overstayers and expired residence permits: the calculation, as we can see, is much more complex and the method used by the Viminale is suggestive, linked to the image of barges. Third problem: even assuming that the other ***EU*** countries tell us that as many as 300,000 of our secondary movements have come to them in the last four years (Salvini declares a little less), the ***Eurodac*** system should be taken with a grain of salt: since it cannot be detained, the irregular migrant is reported, his fingerprints are taken and then he is sent around, it is impossible to establish how many times he is recounted over the years. Even from three comparisons the error is clear: is it plausible to have 8,000 irregular immigrants in the small centre of Genoa and only 90,000 in the whole of Italy? Is it plausible to have, as ascertained by a study carried out by Welforum, 70-80 thousand carers without residence permits and only 90 thousand irregular immigrants (certainly not carers)? Is it reasonable to imagine that in Italy alone, irregular immigrants account for 1.5 per cent of regular immigrants (90 thousand out of 6 million), while in ***Europe*** the percentage is 10 per cent and, according to the IOM, 15 per cent worldwide?

One of the most reliable sources on the subject is the Ismu foundation. When it presented its XXIV report on migration in 2018, the head of demography was Gian Carlo Blangiardo, a technician with such a robust reputation that Salvini wanted him at the head of Istat. In that report, Ismu certified 533,000 irregular immigrants, with an increasing trend: 'The growth started in 2013, when the effects of the last amnesty, launched by Monti the year before, were exhausted'. Its inductive method is that of surveys in the centres where foreigners gather all over Italy: churches, mosques, canteens (such as the Caritas ones, in fact); the 'submerged' are counted and then applied to the general picture; the method has always proved to be very reliable on the occasion of each amnesty (the moment when at least a good part of the submerged emerges).

Blangiardo speculated that Salvini's statement lacked a phrase: "In more". Irregular immigrants are not 90,000 in all, but 90,000 more, said the professor to the Foglio: "On 1 January 2018 there were 533,000, it is inevitable that they have increased". Obviously, with closed borders and the increase in denials. The estimate of 600,000 invisibles seems entirely correct, then. But both this and the estimate of 90,000 "more" could still be wrong. Ispi, an international research centre that has been active for 90 years, has calculated that, as a result of Salvini's Security Decree (now law), irregular immigrants will increase by 137,000 units in two years (exceeding 700,000). The researcher Matteo Villa counted, between June 2018 and February 2019 alone, 48,406 denials of protection against 4,806 repatriations, with an effect of 43,600 more irregular immigrants: illegal immigrants who, expelled from reception centres but not repatriated, will go to huddle in the folds of our suburbs. The last word will not come from the numbers of professors or from the ads of some politicians, but from the Italians who will live alongside these ghosts.

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The word

overstayers

This is the English term that identifies those who become irregular after entering a country with a tourist visa and then letting it expire without leaving. Immigration research shows that a large proportion of illegal immigrants in Italy belong to this category.

70 Thousand Estimated number of carers without residence permits in Italy alone (Welforum data)

1.5% Illegal immigrants

in relation to the total number of immigrants according to data from the Minister of the Interior

10% Illegal immigrants

in relation to the total number of immigrants in ***European*** countries (in the world it is 15%, according to IOM calculations)

The node According to experts

the Security Decree is likely to produce

other illegal immigrants

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**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

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**Subject:** Immigration (94%)

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[***Viktor's 'hand', Merkel's interest: messages to Carroccio***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W1F-48F1-F13X-908N-00000-00&context=)

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3 May 2019 Friday

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**Section:** FOREIGN; Page 6

**Length:** 723 words

**Byline:** Paolo Valentino

**Highlight:** Popular's post-vote manoeuvre

**Body**

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

BERLIN

It is reported that Angela Merkel has been expressing curiosity about Matteo Salvini for some time. To those she meets, if they know Italy and above all if they are Italian, the Chancellor asks many questions about the leader of the League. A recurring theme in the conversation is Merkel's hope (or wishful thinking) that if he becomes head of the Italian government, Salvini will "understand the responsibilities of the post".

In other words, something is moving even within the ***European*** People's Party with respect to the sovereignist bulimia of our Minister of the Interior and to the prospect that, after the ***European*** elections, it might be necessary to find some form of agreement. Supporting this impression, in addition to Salvini's recent statement that he "does not rule it out", is the interview given by Orbán to La Stampa, in which the Magyar prime minister gives a panegyric of the leader of the League and admits that he is working on an alliance between the Popular Party and the ***European*** extreme right to "save the EPP from political suicide". What is more, Jean-Claude Juncker's praise of Orban sounded strange: the president of the Commission, the very man who has been the object of a campaign to denigrate the Fidesz along with George Soros, called the Hungarian prime minister "a hero".

So be it. Salvini's visit to Budapest lends credence to the scenario of work in progress to bring the popular battleship closer to the populist cruiser. But not all that glitters is gold. In reality," says an authoritative member of the EPP, "Orbán and Salvini are weaker than they let on. The former because he is suspended from the EPP and remains at risk of expulsion, especially due to pressure from the Northern front. Salvini, on the other hand, is frantically trying to weave a sovereignist web, but so far has only found untouchables, such as the AfD or Le Pen. In Milan, the Austrians of the Fpö did not show up, even the Poles of PiS are reluctant. Orbán cunningly keeps a door open. But he will never leave the EPP on his own initiative'.

It is therefore complicated that the calculations of the two friends will turn out to be successful. It is no coincidence that their ambitions for future close cooperation were full of ifs and buts at the press conference yesterday. "If Orbán's vision prevails in the EPP, the alliance would be in the cards," said the Italian minister.

It's not that an agreement with Salvini is ruled out a priori within the EPP. Berlusconi, for example, is asking for it out loud. But the pre-conditions are very clear. "Salvini, in his attempt to build a sovereignist front, should separate the wheat from the chaff. The Cdu would never agree to a dialogue with a group that includes AfD or Le Pen," says another member of the Popular Party. The point is that if it were to become selective, Salvini could no longer aspire to put together a robust group in Strasbourg. On the formation of which weighs the mortgage of the too many contradictions that, except for the 'union sacrée' against immigration, divide the various ***European*** populisms. Even yesterday, amidst such joy, Orbán said that the budget rules must be respected.

However, one thing has changed in the Lega Nord leader's strategy. And it is a significant change, according to one source: "Salvini has understood that if he continued to indicate the exit from the ***euro*** or the end of ***Europe*** as a direction of travel he would go nowhere. So now he is playing for more weight and reforming the ***EU*** from the right, dreaming of a ***Europe*** of the homelands where the role of Brussels, i.e. of the common institutions, becomes marginal".

Assuming that the new Salvini line, in any case in contradiction with the candidacy of various anti-euro exponents, is successful at the polls, the problem is that it will not be easy to disengage the Populars from the traditional ***pro-European*** alliances, that is, from socialists and liberals. Perhaps it could happen on a one-off basis in the election of the President of the ***European*** Parliament. But it is unlikely to happen in the nomination game. Whatever happens, Merkel and the EPP will have to seek an understanding with Macron's France or Sánchez's socialist Spain and take Visegrad into account. And as for Salvini, will he push together with his Pentastellated allies for a strong Italian commissioner, given that we will get nothing on the rest, or will he play a sovereignist game that risks leaving him and Italy with a fistful of flies?

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[***Mattarella and Macron's commitment: eternal friendship between Rome and Paris***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W1F-48F1-F13X-908Y-00000-00&context=)

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**Section:** FOREIGN; Page 9

**Length:** 574 words

**Byline:** Stefano Montefiori

**Highlight:** The two leaders in Chambord for the 500th anniversary of Leonardo da Vinci's death

**Body**

CHAMBORD

"Have we made peace between Italy and France? The ties are so strong, historically deep, that there was no need," said Italian President Sergio Mattarella at the end of his visit to Leonardo da Vinci's house in Amboise, accompanied by French Head of State Emmanuel Macron. On the 500th anniversary of the death of the Italian genius, who spent the last two years of his life in France at the invitation of King Francis I, Mattarella and Macron met to reaffirm the "eternal friendship" between the two countries and to find in Leonardo an example of a great ***European.***

After the diplomatic crisis of the past few months, with the recall of the French ambassador to Rome to Paris, Mattarella's visit to France serves to bring the episode to a definitive close. The interests of the two countries may still diverge on specific issues, but the tone of relations has been restored. Yesterday morning the Italian president first visited the Notre-Dame cathedral that survived the fire, then went to Amboise to the tomb of Leonardo. "The friendship between Italy and France, reconfirmed by President Macron and myself, is proof of everything," Mattarella said. "The French kings have always been fascinated by Italy, in that formidable era, the Renaissance, in which humanity changed profoundly," Macron added. "It is the best part of our two countries that have been able to come together, it is what makes the bond between us indestructible.

An open letter in favour of friendship between France and Italy, "Frantalia", written by the lawyer Enrico Castaldi, has already been signed online by two thousand people, including Carole Bouquet and Valeria Bruni Tedeschi. The ***European*** elections are approaching and Macron reminded. "Our ***Europe*** is made of values, of culture, of crossed destinies, with a past but also with a lot of future.

I hope that the geniuses of today and tomorrow can continue to have Leonardo-like destinies'. The two presidents then went to Chambord Castle, which began to be designed 500 years ago. Here, too, there was a celebration of deep ties, with 500 French and Italian high school students taking part in four workshops: architecture with Renzo Piano, literature with Alessandro Baricco, space with astronauts Samantha Cristoforetti and Thomas Pesquet, and science with Fabiola Gianotti (Cern) and Gabriel Chardin. Eighteen-year-old Thomas Caravetta, from the Lycée Italien de Paris, described the day as "very interesting, a great opportunity to meet unique personalities".

"***Europe is a*** country, a great city and a building of peace. A continent that for 15 centuries waged war against each other has now, for three quarters of a century, been living in peace. It is up to you to continue building ***Europe,***" architect Piano told the young people.

Astronaut Samantha Cristoforetti, in perfect French, cited Leonardo's early drawings of 'flying machines', pointing out that Vinci's genius 'was able to take advantage of the cultural atmosphere of the Renaissance, collaborating with others in a continuous exchange of ideas. This is what we are trying to do today in ***Europe*** with the Space Agency and in other fields. We would not be able to do it alone.

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The discovery

A lock of hair attributed to Leonardo was recently found in the USA and is on display in the Leonardo Vive exhibition in Vinci. The 'relic', however, raises some scepticism

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**Subject: *European Union*** (94%); Foreign Policy (90%); Company Revenues (88%); Government Departments + Authorities (77%); Politics (74%); Heads Of State + Government (65%); Religion + Spirituality (64%); Executives (63%); Sales + Selling (63%)

**Industry:** Oil + Gas Industry (80%); Airports (68%); Defense Industry (62%)

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[***Salvini flies to Hungary to see Orbán 'Let's hope he wins in the EPP'.***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W1F-48F1-F13X-908K-00000-00&context=)

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**Section:** FOREIGN; Page 6

**Length:** 428 words

**Byline:** Marco Cremonesi

**Highlight:** A photo near the border with barbed wire. "You only enter with permission"

**Body**

The first act is the visit to the barbed wire wall. From there comes the photo taken by the international press: Viktor Orbán and Matteo Salvini at the Hungarian-Serbian border, in the gloomy shadow of the iron barrier. It must be said that the photo was circulated by Orbán himself. The deputy prime minister flew in by helicopter after being welcomed in Budapest "like a hero", to use the Hungarian prime minister's words. Just enough time, on the part of the Italian minister, for a post to say that "in Italy and ***Europe*** you only enter if you have permission!". But the theme of the day is the balance of power on the continent in the aftermath of the ***European elections.*** And the Hungarian game is important to the point of pushing Salvini to leave Italy. In fact, he did not even go to the sovereignist summit in Prague on 25 April, which was attended by Marine Le Pen and Geert Wilders. The idea was that the leader of the League would not move: so that the demonstration with the ***anti-euro*** allies scheduled for 18 May would crown him, explains a League member, 'as the leader on whom the international allies converge: it is not he who goes to them, but they who go to him'.

But, indeed, Orbán has a very special political value: his Fidesz party has been suspended but he is in the ***European*** People's Party. Will he get back in? It depends on the direction the EPP takes," Orbán remarks. "If it ties up with the left, it will be difficult to find our place in that collaboration. Music to Salvini's ears: "I wish Orbán success in this work of persuasion. If his vision prevailed in the EPP, an alliance with the People's Party would be in the cards". But Merkel: "no cooperation" between the ***European*** Populars and the parties of the populist right after the ***European*** elections

In reality, the chess game is more complicated. Orbán will continue with his provocations to the EPP and will meet Austrian Fpö leader Strache on 8 May. However, he does not like either Marine Le Pen or the Germans of the Afd. The latter, in a Germany that is a big investor in Hungary, remain and will remain in opposition. Moreover, there is the question of sanctions against Hungary for violations of the rule of law. The Hungarian calculation is that in Poland the October vote will not reward Kaczynski's Law and Justice, proud enemies of sanctions. In short, the real expulsion from the EPP for Orbán is an unknown. But it is also true that the Popular Party, losing Orbán, risks: the foreseeable drop in the Spanish delegation risks weakening them even with respect to the EPP.

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[***League and 5 Stars, a duel also on accounts***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W1F-48F1-F13X-908P-00000-00&context=)

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**Section:** FIRST FLOOR; Page 7

**Length:** 446 words

**Byline:** Alessandro Trocino

**Highlight:** Salvini: citizenship income does not get us going again. Di Maio on provinces: look for another ally

**Body**

ROME Aiming at Brussels to become stronger in Rome. Luigi Di Maio faces the electoral campaign with a wide-ranging programme, but with an eye to national politics: "These elections are also an Italian issue, which will allow us to move forward with this government and not to bring back those of before". The challenge is with Matteo Salvini and it is clear from a presentation full of barbs against his ally, from the Siri case to the Provinces and Orbán.

Di Maio is convinced that the 5 Stars in ***Europe*** will be decisive: "If the two big groups do not reach 51%, we will be the needle of the scales with our group". However, this is not yet the case, as more than one of the five parties (seven are needed) that have signed up to the M5S appeal risks not gaining seats. The real issue, Di Maio explains, putting his hands forward, "will be how many people will go to vote for a parliament perceived as the car park of the voted-for". Not for the 5 Stars, he explains, contradicting the logic of the double mandate ceiling: "Some people feared that ours were lansquenets, instead they studied and made themselves credible".

The first point of the programme is the ***European*** minimum hourly wage. It is also being tried in Italy, where Di Maio evokes the double oven: "They have to explain to me, the PD and the Lega, why they don't want it". In reality it is a point in the government contract, but Di Maio is sending out an oblique message. Then the attack on the provinces: "A waste, an amarcord. We want to abolish them, whoever wants to rebuild them should find another ally". Di Maio attacked Orban: "It makes no sense to come here to Italy and say, as the League does, that we fight austerity and then ally with Orbán". And on Armando Siri, the under-secretary under investigation who the prime minister would also like to get out of the government: "We are not backing down on the moral issue". Di Maio claimed the first positive data on the economy, which were still lacking. He accused the Democratic Party and "Gentiloni's crazy budget law". He complained: "They told us that we were leading Italy to ruin, now the data say the opposite. No one ever tells us good". "Having 'abolished' poverty with the citizenship income, it is a question of reinvigorating the 'Middle Class'.

But the dynamic remains binary, M5S versus Lega. In fact, Matteo Salvini's first response was: "Reducing taxes is the only way to get going again: a citizenship income will not get Italy going again". Minister Lorenzo Fontana was also critical: "The League is building a strong coalition in ***Europe***, the Movement will be irrelevant.

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337 days

history

since the swearing-in (1 June 2018) of Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte and his Lega-M5S government

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**Journal Code:** CORSERA

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[***All the poisons and suspicions in the government But the crisis is still frozen; The back story***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W1F-48F1-F13X-908F-00000-00&context=)

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**Section:** POLITICS; Page 4

**Length:** 1134 words

**Byline:** Francesco Verderami

**Highlight:** The accounts will be settled on 27 May. The move on Siri orchestrated between Conte and Di Maio

**Body**

ROME Siri is already a former undersecretary. He will have a week to resign and thus remove Salvini from the corner in which he has fallen, avoiding the shame of a Council of Ministers in which he would have to choose whether to go along with the revocation of his representative in the government or open the crisis to defend him. However, Salvini cannot open the crisis. Not now and in any case not over a judicial matter.

Conte knows this, so he has orchestrated it in concert with Di Maio, but with a strong degree of autonomy with respect to the grillini leader, a prelude to a personal design. In fact, his move is the plastic representation of the duel with those who "would like to take my place", that is, with the Interior Minister, who in turn accuses him of "having violated agreements" and of no longer being "neutral". A minister had seen the clash escalate during the last meetings of the executive, and as an attentive observer a few days ago he confided that 'relations between the two have now definitely deteriorated'.

No one thought that far ahead. The way in which Conte has made his decision official, the political accusation made against Siri of having committed a private interest in a public act with those amendments on wind power, represents a challenge to the head of the Carroccio carried right into his own party. Because Salvini - who had come out in defence of the undersecretary - in the face of the Prime Minister's offensive, yesterday he dismissed the issue as a "local fact" that does not threaten the stability of the government.

In short, he had to retreat. Conte could not have been unaware of the backlash that occurs in a political force when the leader is forced to dump one of its members. All the more so in the League, where, moreover, authoritative exponents - as soon as the Siri case exploded - had let their dissatisfaction filter through: "We have had people come to us who sometimes we don't even know. It's time for Salvini to get help, he can't do everything on his own. The discomfort over the investigation was combined with discontent over the government coalition, to the point that in recent days an old-guard Leghist undersecretary had let himself go: "I'm tired of going around the television channels to say things I don't believe in".

This is the real point: the Carroccio is suffering and its leaders cannot wait for Salvini to break with the Cricketers so as not to see 'our plan compromised'. The judicial affair, therefore, does not change the framework of the government, if anything it contributes to accelerating its process of attrition. Especially now that the head of the Movement, highlighting the balance of power between the two parties within the Council of Ministers, has made it clear that the alliance is based on the "numbers" of the general elections and will not change according to the "numbers" of the ***European*** elections. Like Conte, Di Maio is also trying to infiltrate the leghist lines, defeating the thesis with which Salvini promised his own executive group that "after 26 May everything will change".

All of a sudden the Carroccio feels caged in, and if it does not react at the moment it is because it senses that the Grillini "want to offload the responsibility for the break". Once the votes have been counted, on 27 May they will come to terms with Conte and study the timing that will lead to the crisis of the current balance, since there is no doubt that after the ***European elections what has been*** so far will no longer be so. The words that escaped Minister Fontana testify to this: "Christianly we are ready to turn the other cheek. But there are only two cheeks". And they are finished.

For the first time, the League is on the defensive, after a media campaign by its allies which has been matched by tough political action, always led by Conte: it is the Prime Minister who has cut the nails to Salvini on the flat tax, saying that the reform of the tax system "we'll talk about it again"; and it is always the Prime Minister who has put in the freezer one of the Carroccio's battle horses, namely the reform of regional autonomy. "Without autonomy, the government has failed," said the Venetian governor Zaia, cleverly finding a way to talk to his daughter-in-law (i.e. Conte) so that she would hear her mother-in-law (i.e. Salvini).

Now the vice-premier is between two fires, because there is not only the government front. Taking advantage of the Siri affair, Forza Italia is insinuating itself into the contradictions of the "contract" and is in turn challenging its centre-right allies, who are already tired of the relationship with the Cricketers and infuriated by Conte's move: "The League should withdraw the ministerial delegation, putting an end to the farce government", says Gelmini, brandishing the red banner of "justicialism" and citing the unresolved programmatic knots. Starting, of course, with the economy.

That is the fault line in the executive, and it is at that point that everyone is betting the 'big one' will arrive: the 'numbers' of the financial bill will be decisive after the ***European elections***. There are still four weeks of electoral campaigning, which is not how Salvini had planned it.

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The PM proposes,

the appointment is by the Colle

Article 10 of Law 400 of 1988 provides that the Under-Secretaries of State shall be appointed by decree of the President of the Republic, on the proposal of the President of the Council of Ministers, in agreement with the Minister whom the Under-Secretary is called upon to assist, after consulting the Council of Ministers. The undersecretary, appointed by the Head of State, shall subsequently swear an oath before the President of the Council of Ministers.

1

The procedure

for revocation

Law 400 of 1988 deals only with the outward journey, i.e. the appointment of undersecretaries, and not with the eventual return journey, in the event of revocation. However, the constitutionalist Francesco Clementi also confirms that in the event of the "dismissal" of an undersecretary it is necessary to go back over all the steps of the appointment. Up to the initial act, the signature of the Head of State

2

39 under-secretaries

who have been appointed by Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte

(to which must be added six deputy ministers)

The role of government Doubts about the vote

The proposal to dismiss an undersecretary is made by the Prime Minister to the Head of State, after consulting the Council of Ministers. But what happens if some of the ministers disagree with the Prime Minister? Is there a vote to take a decision? However, a vote is not foreseen

on the outward journey

for the appointment of undersecretaries and, therefore, there should not be any for the revocation of

3

The previous Sgarbi, 'fired' in 2001

In 2001, Vittorio Sgarbi, elected with the FI party, was Minister Giuliano Urbani's under-secretary for Cultural Heritage. The two came into conflict over the sale of part of the artistic heritage: Sgarbi asked for Urbani's resignation and handed over his powers. But then Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi proposed and obtained the undersecretary's dismissal, which was finally formalised.

by the Head of State © RESERVED REPRODUCTION

4

**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Heads Of State + Government (94%); Tobacco + Health (69%); Campaigns + Elections (63%)

**Load-Date:** May 3, 2019

**End of Document**

[***Industry 4.0, 'competence centres' in Turin and Bologna; Lens***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W1F-48F1-F13X-90B8-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

3 May 2019 Friday

NATIONAL Edition

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**Section:** ECONOMY; Page 29

**Length:** 231 words

**Byline:** Ri. Que.

**Body**

Six competence centres have been given the green light by the Ministry for Economic Development, which has also issued a decree granting the funds. After Milan and Genoa, last Tuesday it was the turn of funding for Cim 4.0 led by the Polytechnic of Turin (which will focus on additive technologies); for BI-Rex of the University of Bologna (on big data and the Internet of Things); for Artes 4.0 of the University of Pisa on robotics; and finally for Smact 4.0, the competence centre of the Northeast led by the University of Padua.

At this point, the only ones missing are the competence centres in Naples (the most generalist one, set up with the collaboration of several universities, including Bari) and Rome (on cybersecurity technologies).

Overall, 73 million euros have been mobilised for the competence centres in three years for the start-up phase. After that, they will have to stand on their own two feet, thanks to the income from consulting companies (on the other hand, at the moment the centres for the dissemination of 4.0 skills do not seem to be a priority for the Ministry of Economic Development, and it is difficult to expect the mobilisation of other public funds in this area). The fact remains that funds from the ***European*** Horizon and Digital ***Europe*** programmes will reach Italy through the competence centres. To date, 75 universities are involved

and 400 companies.

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**Classification**

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**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Teaching + Teachers (94%); Small Business (88%); Student Financial Aid (73%); Engineering (71%); Government Departments + Authorities (67%); New Products (67%); Agriculture Regulation + Policy (65%); Communities + Neighborhoods (62%); Conferences + Conventions (61%)

**Industry:** Broadband (74%); Electronic Sensors + Detectors (68%)

**Load-Date:** May 3, 2019

**End of Document**

[***Housing for all - that's how we live better in Vienna; A journey in 100 days Six out of ten Viennese people live in low-cost housing. This is thanks to a social tradition dating back to 1919: "We make sure that people of all classes can live in every area of the capital". A model now being challenged by the conservative government of Chancellor Kurz.***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W4D-PY91-JDMV-K2R9-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

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**Section:** FOREIGN; Page 12.13

**Length:** 1752 words

**Byline:** from our Vienna correspondent Elena Tebano

**Highlight:** air, transport, culture: the city has been at the top of the world's quality of life rankings for 10 years

**Body**

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etro approaches the last station with a long curve, almost embracing the segment of buildings and steel cranes facing the artificial lake. Construction sites are still open in Seestadt, and next to the station of the same name is the world's tallest wooden skyscraper (84 metres), a luxury commercial project. The district, which is half an hour by metro from the exact centre of Vienna, is however one of the city's "social" housing developments. "There are many different solutions, we are not in real socialism where the state does everything in the same way. But for us housing is a fundamental right and we use the city's public funds to guarantee it, in the same way that we build roads, railways, schools or hospitals. The consequence is that the price of rent in Vienna is very low by the standards of a ***European*** capital: a 75-square-metre flat costs an average of ***€495*** per month in housing owned by the municipality, €533 in housing owned by social cooperatives, €668 in housing rented from private individuals. In Milan, which also has fewer inhabitants, a flat of the same size costs an average of ***€1,***500, falling to around 1,000 in the suburbs.

In Paris, as much as 30 ***euros*** per square metre.

The best thing about it is that all the roads in the inner city are traffic-free and the children can ride their bikes," says Helga Eichwalder-Gabler, 65, who balances on a scooter and chases her grandson. If I don't do that, it's too fast for me," she explains with a smile. The streets are half-deserted, cleared of the cold and rain that have taken over from spring. It's still a suburban idyll: 'We don't want suburbs like those in Paris and London, with ghettos for the poor: let's make sure that people from all social classes can live in every part of the city,' says Schnabl. The majority of the Viennese, six out of ten, live in houses that have some form of facility from the municipality.

Housing policy

Nikolaus Heinelt, 47 years old, municipal employee, confirms: he lives in a cooperative apartment block a few blocks from the Danube. "I pay 500 ***euros a*** month for an 85 square metre flat. I pay 500 euros a month for an 85 square metre flat. The rent is for an indefinite period, but to get in I had to pay a deposit of 30,000 ***euros***: if I leave the house they give it back to me, and if I decide to buy it after ten years they deduct it from the price together with the rent paid until then. Some thirty refugee families also live in his building, but they benefit from subsidised rates and pay a deposit of only 2-3 thousand ***euro*** (which does not allow redemption). "This way integration is easier, because pockets of exclusion are not created," he says. In fact, the law stipulates that one third of the construction costs of the houses built by the non-profit cooperatives (200,000 flats throughout the city) is paid for with municipal funds. In return, the city can decide to whom a third of the flats should be allocated. They can also be high-end condominiums, such as the one near the university district where Christina Birett, 28, a student-worker, lives, which has inside common rooms, a climbing gym, a wellness centre and even a 12-seat cinema that can be booked free of charge by the condominiums via a special app (in her case the deposit was 40 thousand ***euros***, the rent is 650 ***euros*** a month for 87 square metres).

Then there are the houses owned by the municipality - 220,000 in all - which are the cheapest: those earning up to 3,300 ***euros*** a month net are entitled to them (for a single person, the income ceiling rises even higher for families). The most iconic one dates back to 1930 and is called Karl Marx Hof. "It's good here, the city helps you with everything," says Mehdija Nezovic, 18, a soldier on temporary leave (he has a broken arm), the son of immigrants from the former Yugoslavia, sitting smoking in the courtyard with his friend Muhammed. Today, many of the inhabitants of the complex are of foreign origin. On the roof, flags wave to commemorate 100 years of 'Red Vienna': in 1919, the Social Democratic Party had a majority in the city council for the first time. Since then it has only been excluded from the city government during the period of 'Austrofascism' and Nazism, between 1934 and the end of the Second World War. The tradition of houses for all, with kindergartens and schools to send the children of the working class, comes from the ambition of the socialists to create the 'new man' who is equal and united. The focus on social issues is in the DNA of the Austrian capital.

At the heart of ***Europe***

Thus, over the past three decades Vienna has been in an optimal position to capitalise on the changes it has encountered. "The fall of the Iron Curtain in 1989 brought it from the margins to the centre of ***Europe***. Then in 1990 the city joined the ***European Union*** along with the rest of the country. These two events produced an openness that was not there before," explains Eugen Antalovsky, operations director of Urban Innovation, a company that helps the City of Vienna plan its future development. "The third factor, which was essential, was the arrival of a large number of refugees following the war in the former Yugoslavia, also because of the historical relations that existed there. The city has started to grow again for the first time in decades: we have gone from 1.4 million inhabitants in 1998 to 1.91 million now. And we were forced to change: Vienna had to respond to a series of needs and demands'.

Since 2010 the Greens have been in government in Vienna and the city's sustainable development has received a new boost. There are more cycle paths, the city is only built according to super-ecological criteria, and the municipality even helps its citizens to take care of their green spaces themselves (you can "adopt" a flowerbed and get the soil for the plants). In addition, Vienna is the only metropolis in the world with municipal vineyards on its city land: 100 hectares in all. As a result, the Austrian capital is at the top of all quality-of-life rankings: first in the ***European Union*** for public transport (which is extensive and efficient, with 820,000 annual subscribers, and 40% of families do not have a private car), for its cultural offerings, for the quality of its roads and buildings, and for the quality of its air. It also came first in the 2017 smart city rankings, in the 2018 Economist quality of life rankings and, for the last ten years, in Mercer's quality of life for expats - global foreign professionals.

"Expats live well here because everyone lives well,' says Agata Ciabattoni, a 48-year-old Italian who has been in Vienna for 17 years and is a professor of logic at the Vienna Polytechnic (the country's most prestigious university). 'I came here with a Marie Curie research grant, I was supposed to stay for 24 months, and after the first week I thought "I'm not moving from here any more"'. Not only because of the academic funding: "But also because of the ability of the people to collaborate on common projects and the services that have allowed me to reconcile work and career in a way I would never have been able to in Italy. Suffice it to say that the university nursery school, which is free of charge, is open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. And now my 11-year-old son can go to school on his own by metro," he says, "without any problems: the city is very safe and offers all the cultural stimuli of a metropolis. Pablo Chiereghin, 41, from Veneto, who moved to Vienna to follow his wife Annibelle Seilern, 41, agrees: "Here I can have a quality of life that is much higher than my income," he sums up. And I can live as an artist, which would be very difficult in Italy'.

Red and black

Something is changing, however. This year, the Social Democratic Party celebrated May Day as usual with a large demonstration that was a demonstration of its strength in the city. For the first time, Sebastian Kurz's conservative government tried to steal the show. He has announced a tax reform to raise taxes from 42% of income to 40.5% by 2022. According to many observers, this cut will take resources away from Vienna's social policies. The first effects have already been seen: the Popular Party-Freedom Party executive has reduced the subsidy for refugees from ***€860*** to ***€560 a*** month and even to only ***€320*** for some categories of migrants. This makes integration more difficult," says Andrea Eraslan-Weninger, director of the Integrationshaus refugee centre, "In addition to the reduction of the subsidy, there has been a tightening of asylum and immigration legislation, also decided at federal level. And now Vienna, which has many more foreigners than the rest of the country, is under even more pressure to provide essential services and take the place of the federal state. But the truth is that there are things that it cannot do on its own'.

The conflict between Red Vienna and Blue-Black Austria is both a political and an existential conflict, two opposing visions fighting over a country. "'Vienna has always been bigger than Austria. Especially after the end of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy,' says Susanne Scholl, 69, a former Orf TV journalist, in perfect Italian (she studied in Rome). Every Thursday Scholl demonstrates in the centre of Vienna with Omas gegen Rechts, "grandmothers against the right", a group of over 60s (but "open to all ages") who oppose the government's policies: "My four grandparents, Jews, were killed by the Nazis: today I have the duty to remember history" she says. According to Scholl, it was the same process that opened Vienna up to the world that brought the rest of the country to the other side: "the end of the so-called communist bloc with the fall of the Iron Curtain. From there a whole series of fears began,' he explains, 'of being invaded by cheaper labour and losing our very comfortable status, us being so small but so "important". The general insecurity has been increasing'. Kurz's far-right ally responds to these fears. But it also risks destroying the Viennese model: "Among the things they want to do is privatise social housing," recalls Scholl. Vienna, however, is not prepared to accept this: it is ready to defend itself.

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**Classification**

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**Subject:** Communities + Neighborhoods (74%); Homeowners (70%); Minority Groups (64%)

**Industry:** Residential Property (94%)

**Load-Date:** May 17, 2019

**End of Document**

[***The war onEurope is it over?; Some questions***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W4D-PY91-JDMV-K2PC-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

17 May 2019 Friday

Rebuttal Edition

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**Section:** FIRST PAGE; Page 1.28

**Length:** 1008 words

**Byline:** Paolo Mieli

**Body**

What if ***Europe*** were in a less disastrous condition than it is perceived and described, especially here in our country? What if what happened as a result of the last devastating economic crisis had strengthened it instead of reducing it to the brink? These are more than plausible questions on the eve of the vote on 26 May after an election campaign in which

the debate was relatively orderly

and the greatest pitfalls have come from our country. The overall impression is that after a great storm, once the damage and dents have been repaired, all the conditions are in place for a resumption of the journey, with further steps towards the building of the continental edifice. With the involvement, even, of formations that until yesterday presented themselves as irreducibly anti-system.

For four hundred years, every century in ***Europe has been*** shaken by a violent conflict followed by a long period of adjustment (always troubled, of course, by local tremors). This was the case in the seventeenth century with the 'Thirty Years' War' (1618-1648), which ended with a long period of adjustment. (1618-1648), which ended with the Peace of Westphalia, where a ***Europe*** with definite borders was defined, protected from religious conflicts. And in the eighteenth century with the 'Seven Years' War' (1756-1763) fought in the Middle Ages. (1756-1763), which was fought not only on our continent but also in the Americas, India and Africa, and Winston Churchill described it as the 'first real world war'.

Something similar happened in the nineteenth century with the Napoleonic wars and the subsequent reconstruction of ***Europe*** at the Congress of Vienna (1815). And in the twentieth century with the two terrible world wars, which were followed by a very long period of peace: more than seventy years. ***Europe*** has always emerged better defined and strengthened from these kinds of earthquakes.

Over the past 25 years, a united ***Europe*** has set itself the task of consolidating the post-1945 peace and making it permanent. And so far, at least, it has fulfilled its mission. But in recent times, instead of a war, an unforeseen and perhaps unpredictable economic crisis of truly exceptional dimensions and duration - ten years (2008-2018) - has thrown the ***EU into*** crisis. A subsiding crisis that has overwhelmed the expansionary plans of each of the twenty-seven ***EU*** countries and frightened public opinion everywhere, causing the institutions of the entire continent to waver. A prolonged stress test that has put the entire ***European*** system to the test and that may not be entirely behind us. The effect of this shock was undoubtedly the British decision to leave ***Europe*** (2016). But the fact that, three years after the referendum, the procedures for this exit have not been defined and, by a bizarre twist of fate, the British are now required to cast a ballot in the ballot box to elect the ***European*** Parliament, has had the effect of inducing sovereignists in every part of ***Europe*** to refrain from proposing some form of 'exit'. Paradoxically, it can be argued that ***Europe*** has emerged reinvigorated even from the most traumatic event in Britain three years ago.

Where did ***Europe***'s resilience show up again? First with the Greek crisis of 2015. On that occasion, Athens had at its helm a leader, Alexis Tsipras, who challenged a referendum intended by its proponents to lay the foundations for the country's exit from the community (or so it seemed). Then Tsipras himself took charge of an unprecedented economic 'cure'. In order to remain in ***Europe,*** he later clashed with Finance Minister Yanis Varoufakis, who even today (in his book 'Adults in the Room' published by Nave di Teseo) claims that his country has bowed to the interests of 'the institutional potentates and the syndicates'. With these courageous moves, Alexis Tsipras has kept Greece in the ***EU*** and is leading it out of the crisis at the cost of enormous sacrifices.

Similar choices have been made by the rulers of Ireland, Spain and Portugal. With obstinacy, even at the cost of antagonising the intellectual elites of their countries: a few days ago the Portuguese socialist prime minister, Antonio Costa, said he was ready to open a government crisis if a retroactive raise for teachers was imposed on him by parliament, which - in his words - would have compromised "the country's international credibility".

Now it is possible that - as the polls announce - Greece will see the right-wing New Democracy party rise (to 35%) and Tsipras' Syriza party fall (25%). It is possible that here and there the sovereignist parties will have good results. In some cases, very well. But an overall view leads us to consider it a success for ***Europe*** that the disruptive intentions of these parties have been reduced and that many of these formations are now available for political combinations with strong parties of ***European*** tradition, firmly anchored to the continental institutions.

There is only one country, ours, in which government leaders have let themselves go in the election campaign to superfluous declarations of war which - as they themselves have had occasion to note before - can only have the effect of increasing the spread. Words that - we are talking about Matteo Salvini's overrun announcements - produce damage just for the fact that they have been uttered. Italy is the only ***European*** country whose leaders adhere to the strange self-styled Keynesian school that promises an unlikely development to be achieved through the squandering of public money, the accumulation of new debt and the perennial clash with the institutions in Brussels. The institutions of a ***Europe*** that is struggling to get back on its feet, so that it is not yet certain that it will succeed and that new surprises are not in store. It is a pity that most of these unknowns are to be found in Italy.

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**Classification**

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**Subject:** National Debt (94%); Politics (92%); Economic Growth (82%); ***European Union*** Regulation + Policy (68%); Economic Crisis (67%); ***European Union*** (67%); Globalization (63%); Public Debt (61%)

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**End of Document**

[***Debt, the call ofEurope Clash between Rome and Vienna***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W4D-PY91-JDMV-K2SD-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

17 May 2019 Friday

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**Section:** ECONOMY; Page 31

**Length:** 523 words

**Byline:** Ivo Caizzi

**Highlight:** Minister Löger: Italy like Greece. Tria: think before you speak Visco's alarm about the spread: it has doubled, hitting families and businesses

**Body**

BRUSSELS

Portuguese ***Eurogroup*** president Mario Centeno called on the M5S-Lega government to respect "the commitments made last year", on public accounts, with "results". At the meeting in Brussels of the 19 ***eurozone*** finance ministers, Germany's Olaf Scholz and France's Bruno Le Maire also took the same institutional line. But the campaign for next week's ***European*** vote has also produced accusations from Nordic countries in reaction to Lega Nordic vice-premier Matteo Salvini, who has suggested raising the debt to 140% of GDP and changing ***EU*** rules.

Economy Minister Giovanni Tria responded harshly, especially to his Austrian colleague Hartwig Löger, guaranteeing compliance with debt reduction commitments and opening the door to an increase in "indirect taxes" (such as VAT), if it were necessary to meet the objectives and lower the tax burden on incomes. From Israel, Bank of Italy governor Ignazio Visco highlighted the "correlation" between the doubling of the spread on Italian government bonds and the first year of the M5S-Lega government, while anticipating "the hope" of a return to normality "after the ***European*** elections".

"I think that people should think before they speak, it is a piece of advice also for those who made those statements," Tria responded to Löeger, who had ventilated an Austria unwilling "to pay Italy's debts", caused by the "conscious advancement of the debt spiral" at the risk of causing "a new Greece". Tria added that "Italy is not asking anyone to pay for its debt, but it has abundantly paid for the debt of others by helping other ***European*** countries, I do not believe that Austria has paid as much as Italy, which is the third largest contributor". Löeger intervened again, urging his Italian colleague to pass on to Salvini "the suggestion to think before speaking".

French ***EU*** commissioner Pierre Moscovici considered the current debt to be already excessive at around "130% of GDP". Tria, however, ruled out an increase to 140%. "Parliament has also made a resolution asking not to increase VAT, but everything in compliance with the public finance objectives of the Def. He then called for a "distinction" between two problems: "One is the tax burden, which we must try to reduce; a different problem is the composition of the tax burden, and my scientific position is that it is better to have more weight in indirect taxes than in direct taxes". On the spread, he reassured that "during the election campaign, the financial markets are in a state of turmoil" and that "many people have made a lot of money on Italian government bonds and, when sales start, it is to take the profits: a problem for Italy, which pays high interest rates".

Centeno then announced for the first time the ***Eurogroup***'s focus on "reducing risks in the banking sector", including for the large speculative derivative exposures of large German banks (mainly illiquid Level 2 and Level 3 assets).

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[***"We need to accelerate growth, not increase VAT".***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W4D-PY91-JDMV-K2SF-00000-00&context=)

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17 May 2019 Friday

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**Section:** ECONOMY; Page 31

**Length:** 359 words

**Byline:** Lorenzo Salvia

**Highlight:** Gardini (Confcooperative): we ask the government for rules against fake Coops

**Body**

ROME: "An increase in VAT would be passed on in prices and this, in an already depressed context, would drive down consumption. In principle, therefore, it should be avoided. But we also have to deal with reality. Maurizio Gardini is the president of Confcooperative, an acronym of Catholic inspiration, 18,500 companies with a turnover of 66 billion ***euro***, which a few days ago celebrated with the Head of State Sergio Mattarella its hundred years of history.

What does it mean to come to terms with reality, President?

"Knowing that we need mechanisms to accelerate growth, such as cutting labour costs".

So if next year there was a partial increase in VAT and a cut in labour costs, would that be OK?

"Let's say we could understand it".

What about the flat tax advocated by the Lega? In favour or not?

"I'm afraid the conditions are not right to put it in the pipeline. So I'm not even going into the debate of whether it's right or not."

The 5 Star Movement is pushing for a minimum wage. What do you think?

"I am not passionate about it. The real issue is the proliferation of contracts, we have 800 of them. We need a reform of representation so that there are fewer contracts, but they are respected more.

The elections are just around the corner. What do you expect from the ***Europe that*** will emerge from the vote?

"Italy is being squeezed by tax havens and 'caporalato' wages. The appeal to the next ***MEPs*** is to reverse the course by stopping dumping in the EU28. The data from our focus with Censis are alarming. In Italy, then, we hope to soon have new rules against false cooperatives, on which we have been working with the government for months.

President, Confcooperative was founded in 1919. What did it mean to celebrate 100 years of history with the Head of State?

"It was a strong emotion, like the meeting with the Pope two months ago. But beyond the celebration, beyond the pride, it was also an opportunity to reflect on what lies ahead. We are not satisfied with our past history, we also want to be protagonists of the present and future history of our country.

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**Subject:** Wages + Salaries (94%); Economic Conditions (81%); Labor + Employment (81%); Prices (78%); ***European Union*** (70%); Economic Growth (69%); Economic Policy (69%); Inflation (69%); Labor Unions (69%); Excise Tax (65%); Minimum Wage (65%); Tobacco + Health (62%); National Debt (61%); Public Debt (61%)

**Industry:** Oil + Gas Industry (80%); Marketing + Advertising (74%)

**Load-Date:** May 17, 2019

**End of Document**

[***The governor: Asti-Cuneo stops Bertola: enough with the fake news; Clash between the candidates***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W4D-PY91-JDMV-K2XC-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

17 May 2019 Friday

TURIN Edition

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**Section:** TURIN NEWS; Page 5

**Length:** 88 words

**Body**

"There is still no go-ahead for the resumption of work on the Asti-Cuneo, nor has the ***EU given*** the green light to the government's new solution, which it describes as similar to the Delrio solution. So why hasn't that solution been adopted? Now we would have the construction sites. This is Sergio Chiamparino's accusation. The M5S candidate Giorgio Bertola replies: "The result of the talks with the ***EU*** is already informally positive: the Asti-Cuneo will be completed within the timeframe illustrated by Conte. The rest is fake news from those responsible for the problem".

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**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Politics (76%); Minority Groups (73%); Immigration (70%); Company Structures + Ownership (62%); Government Departments + Authorities (61%)

**Industry:** Internet + Www (94%); Agriculture (71%); Heavy + Civil Construction (63%); Destinations + Attractions (61%)

**Load-Date:** May 17, 2019

**End of Document**

[***FROM FARAGE TO THE YELLOW VILET IN SEARCH OF AN ALLEADY; Aldo Cazzullo replies***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W4D-PY91-JDMV-K2S8-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

17 May 2019 Friday

NATIONAL Edition

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**Section:** LETTERS TO THE COURIER; Page 29

**Length:** 364 words

**Byline:** Federico Cavriani

**Body**

Dear Aldo,

just one question: when I vote for a national party on 26 May (God help me!) will I be able to meet that my

vote for which party

(whose names and brief profiles we do not know) will be aggregated?

Dear Federico,

T he ***European*** alliances are in full reshuffle. The objective of the sovereignists - divided into two families: in one there is the League, with Marine Le Pen, in the other Meloni, with Jaroslaw Kaczynski's Poles - is to replace the socialists in the alliance with the populars that has governed the Union until now. This is an impossible goal, as long as Angela Merkel is at the head of the EPP. On the other hand, it is possible that the sum of the Popular and Socialist ***MEPs will*** not give an absolute majority. It is no coincidence that Macron, who is the great enemy of the sovereignists, is talking to the PD to broaden the progressive front - in great difficulty almost everywhere, apart from Spain and Portugal - to include the liberals and the greens.

The problem of ***European*** positioning applies above all to the Five Star Movement. Usually populists take votes mainly on the left - like Podemos or Jean-Luc Mélenchon - or on the right, like Vox and Le Pen. Cricketers, on the other hand, are transversal. If they go with the extreme right, they turn out to be on the left; and vice versa. Luigi Di Maio, who is no slouch, has understood this, thanks also to the best political head at the movement's disposal, Guardasigilli Alfonso Bonafede. In the past Beppe Grillo had led his group to embrace Nigel Farage, whom he clearly liked.

Farage is not a right-wing extremist. He is a British nationalist. When his party fell into the hands of Islamophobic fanatics, he left it and got a new one. His idol is Margaret Thatcher. He claims, perhaps rightly, that the Iron Lady would never have signed the Maastricht Treaty. Farage didn't think he would win the Brexit referendum (just as Trump didn't think he would be elected); in fact he had initially quit politics, claiming he had now achieved his goal. Now the disastrous failure of the political handling of Brexit has relaunched him.

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**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

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**Subject:** Politics (94%)

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**End of Document**

[***Bankitalia's push on choices; Public accounts***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W4D-PY91-JDMV-K2SJ-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

17 May 2019 Friday

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**Section:** ECONOMY; Page 31

**Length:** 245 words

**Byline:** Mario Sensini

**Body**

There is no more time to lose. The run-up in the spread, triggered by uncertainties over Italian economic policy, risks being transferred to the real economy, causing interest rates on loans granted by banks to businesses and households to rise. The first signs, feared until a few weeks ago, have now become evident. And in the face of the uncertainties of the ***European*** vote, it is not surprising that yesterday the governor of the Bank of Italy, Ignazio Visco, urged the government to take charge of the situation.

Between the general elections of 2018 and today, on the eve of the ***European elections***, the differential between Italian and German rates has doubled. This is a heavy burden on the already difficult budget manoeuvre for 2020, when 23 billion euro will have to be found just to avert the VAT increase. If interest rates were to remain at these levels, everything would become more difficult, including economic recovery. And more than reassurances to the markets, such as those offered by Conte and Tria in recent days, concrete actions are needed. "A credible plan to reduce the public debt burden can no longer be postponed," says the governor. But it is not enough, because all the other elements that fuel the markets' mistrust and penalise the spread must also be removed. Such as "lax budgetary policy" and, within the latter, "the prevalence of subsidies over growth-enhancing measures".

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**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** National Debt (94%); Public Debt (90%); Economic Growth (82%); Economic Conditions (80%); Inflation (80%); Gross Domestic Product (69%); Securities + Other Investments (68%)

**Load-Date:** May 17, 2019

**End of Document**

[***Appointments in the Legnano leghista 'Promises votes, position for his daughter'.***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W4D-PY91-JDMV-K2PV-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

17 May 2019 Friday

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**Section:** POLITICS; Page 5

**Length:** 567 words

**Byline:** Cesare Giuzzi

**Highlight:** The prosecutor's accusation, also arrested two of FI. One said: electoral agreement decided with Salvini The assignment The young woman enters the municipalized, then the board of directors and asks: what should I do when I go?

**Body**

Milan

Appointments in participations, calls for tenders

ad personam

for municipal managers and an electoral barter with votes in exchange for hiring the daughter of a candidate cut out of the ballot.

"From the Alps to Sicily, wherever Legnano is," sings Mameli's anthem, recalling the 1176 victory of Alberto da Giussano and the Lombard League over Barbarossa. And today, with the mayor of the Lega Lombarda, Giambattista Fratus, under house arrest, the vicissitudes of the city symbol of the Carroccio have become the paradigm of a system of corruption and management of public affairs that shakes Lombardy and reaches the government. After the appaltopoli and the warning of guarantee to the governor Attilio Fontana, with the leaders of Forza Italia under investigation, it is the turn of the League. An earthquake that starts from the town of 60,000 inhabitants on the border with Varese and brings to the house arrest even the new Councillor for Public Works Chiara Lazzarini, and in jail the holder of the budget delegation Maurizio Cozzi, both of Forza Italia. In the midst of a system of appointments in the municipalities '***Europa*** Service' and 'Amga Legnano' based on the principle of spoil system and assignments given to "friends and political allies. With the magistrates of Busto Arsizio (the investigation is entrusted to the prosecutor Nadia Calcaterra and the Finance Police of Milan) who photograph live "the payment" of electoral support offered by the candidate excluded from the runoff in June 2017, Luciano Guidi (Popular Alternative list) to Mayor Fratus.

A haul of 1,046 votes that Guidi poured over the centre-right candidate in the second round in the duel with outgoing first citizen Alberto Centinaio (centre-left). In the first round Fratus had 9,196 votes against Centinaio's 7,717. A narrow gap that will lead to the Leghist candidate making a political pact with Guidi that will result - after Guidi's public endorsement in favour of Fratus - in a total of 10,865 preferences. The price to be paid, it turns out in the papers of the investigation "Piazza Pulita", is the employment in "Amga" of Guidi's daughter, the 29-year-old Martina, a newly appointed lawyer. A pact that, at least at the political level, has received the approval of the leaders of the centre-right in Lombardy. As explained, intercepted, the then coordinator of Forza Italia, and dominus of the system Legnano, Chiara Lazzarini reporting the words of the new mayor Fratus: "He said "since in the election agreements I made with Guidi for the runoff I told him that if he supported me", agreements that he made at the regional level with Paolo Alli (former right-hand man of Formigoni), Graziano Musella (FI) and Salvini, he would give a place to Guidi...".

The 'little girl', who was co-opted onto the board after the mayor forced another councillor to resign, is so scared of the job that she asks Lazzarini for advice: 'But do I have to sign when I go or not? Because I'm always afraid of saying bullshit...". The judge Piera Bossi speaks of 'totalitarian control of public administrations', which translates into the appointment of a 'person under investigation for waste management' as municipal manager. And the consultancy entrusted to 'a friend' within the municipalized company '***Europa*** service'. The appointment did not materialise because the candidate did not take part in the selection process following a tailor-made call for tenders. So much so that councillor Cozzi called him a 'chicken shit'.

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**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Campaigns + Elections (94%); Heads Of State + Government (67%); Tobacco + Health (63%)

**Load-Date:** May 17, 2019

**End of Document**

[***Matthew sees 'powerful enemies'; the backstory***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W4D-PY91-JDMV-K2PT-00000-00&context=)

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17 May 2019 Friday

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**Section:** FIRST FLOOR; Page 3

**Length:** 776 words

**Byline:** Francesco Verderami

**Body**

"The League is under attack. Those who remain silent are accomplices. In this spirit and with

this slogan Salvini

preparing for the electoral event in Milan. Since the days of the 'Diciotti case', he has begun to develop a conviction, namely that there is a game in which he has been assigned a role. È

from those days that he considers

being 'in the crosshairs'.

In the beginning, the Carroccio leaders had had to struggle to dissuade their leader from the bold idea of going on trial. And during a dramatic meeting, when the Senate vote on the authorisation to proceed was approaching, they were forced to raise their voices. "They are preparing the firing squad for you, Matteo. Giulia, you explain it to them". Giulia" Bongiorno, who as a lawyer had seen many things up close, "described a certain world to him", as one of those present recounted, "and she was very convincing".

The "powerful enemies" to which the Interior Minister referred yesterday are not the Cricketers, considered nothing more than "a tool", involved in a plan that - according to the leghists - aims to strike Salvini, first to wear him down, then to isolate him, and finally to expel him from the great dance of power. In some ways, Salvini does not even consider the magistrates to be 'enemies', despite the fact that it is the judicial investigations that mark the final days of his electoral campaign, forcing him to change the script. No, according to the Carroccio's general staff, the hostile power plant lies elsewhere.

Last week there was an analysis with almost esoteric content. In a party that senses the encirclement, it was discussed of 'a great old man of the left' who 'in agreement with Berlin and Brussels' would be working 'to divide Di Maio from Salvini': a progressive action that would take care not to provoke an immediate government crisis, so as to allow the gradual construction of the new political framework. For this reason, the M5s "moderate turn" is not assessed by the League as a simple change in communication strategy, so the deputy premier has taken to pointing out the "strange convergences with the PD" of the other deputy premier: "And if someone is nostalgic for a government with the left, say so clearly".

The conspiracy thesis has been supported by Merkel's refusal to accept the possibility of an agreement in ***Europe*** with the League and, above all, by the words of the ***European*** Commissioner Moscovici, who as a socialist trusts in "creative solutions" between democrats and activists so that "also in Italy" a "common front against the extreme right-wing can be created". This is the sound of the "enemies" that Salvini sees on the horizon, an army in which there are generals and simple attendants. And here is Di Maio who - compared to a few months ago - is praising the Maastricht parameters and promising "never again deficit finances", after having said that "we wish we had Merkel in Italy".

The rest for the League is the daily worry of waking up with another investigation and another raid. The ear is turned towards the Milan prosecutor's office 'but also towards the Naples prosecutor's office', not towards the statements made by the head of the Movement. If anything, Salvini has proof that the design is in place. In the days of the Siri case, he had addressed 'a final warning' to the leader of the Cinquestelle: 'Shut your mouths'. Yesterday Di Maio shouted (again) to the voters to choose "between us and the new Tangentopoli". "They call us bribe-takers, but if you made a percentage of the polluted administrators, the Cricketers would beat everyone. Even the PD."

The governor of Lombardy, who had just been indicted, fell ill. And at home he had time to think about how strange the Belpaese is, 'where corruption always breaks out only a few days before the polls'. Who knows if he talked about it last week with the governor of Campania, who was in Milan with his wife and had wanted to visit him to express his solidarity: "Fontana is a friend and a gentleman," the Democrat De Luca had said in public, while the Cricketers raised suspicions. "Thank God," Fontana greeted him in his office, "human relations have never failed. And beyond political differences, I consider you a decent person and a friend. Like Bonaccini.

Salvini feels he is in the 'crosshairs' and believes his only shield is his votes, which is why he is forcing the pace and words: "He who keeps silent is an accomplice", obviously of the 'enemies', who he fears will succeed in slowing down his race. Berlusconi, who has never ceased to denounce the "conspiracy" of which he has always felt himself to be a "victim", looks at the battlefield and mirrors himself in it: "It was not fair to me, it is not fair to him".

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**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Campaigns + Elections (94%); Immigration (76%); Politics (71%); Heads Of State + Government (70%); Riots (63%); National Debt (62%)

**Load-Date:** May 17, 2019

**End of Document**

[***"We allied with the 5 Stars? It would be a betrayal We won't do a second Union"; The interview***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W4D-PY91-JDMV-K2R4-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

17 May 2019 Friday

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**Section:** POLITICS; Page 8

**Length:** 690 words

**Byline:** Maurizio Giannattasio

**Highlight:** Pisapia: the Pd should choose its candidate in the primaries

**Body**

Milan

Giuliano Pisapia, you are the leader of the PD in the North West and never before have the ***European elections been*** considered a 'national' test. Are they midterm elections for the Conte government?

"They are an important test, let's say it is the x-ray of a government that nobody voted for and that was born out of a post-election agreement. A power deal, which did not fix any of the bones that were broken. Instead of tackling the country's problems, the League and the 5-Star team mounted a continuous election campaign. They said they had "abolished poverty" and would "return all migrants to Africa". Just words, unfulfilled commitments. Many people are noticing this".

Government prediction: will it make it to the budget or fall before?

"I have the impression that at some point it will be a race between Di Maio and Salvini to run away from the responsibility of fixing the accounts, after the last wasteful budget".

Will that be the breaking point?

"The budget will explode all the contradictions. Even President Conte has said that it is difficult to avoid a VAT increase. With the spread at 290 and the risk of a VAT increase ever closer, the government parties have neither viable proposals nor the will to remedy their recent mistakes. In any case, the knots will come to the boil for this government on key issues, particularly for the League, such as regional autonomy and major works.

Chapter alliances: 5 Stars equal to the League?

"5 Stars who? Those who have taken Salvini away from the judiciary in the tradition of the worst caste, or the militants who had placed their trust in the hope of renewal? The 5 Stars are schizophrenic, they attack the League every day and with their votes they guarantee the League the government. All the worst measures proposed by the League have been voted by Di Maio".

If the government should fall, would there be immediate elections, as Zingaretti says, or a parliamentary solution?

"In Italy we have a great fortune called Sergio Mattarella. Certain choices are up to him after listening to the political forces. The Italians would not forgive a parliamentary agreement without going through the elections. My opinion is that no new alliances are possible in this legislature".

Do you rule out a possible Pd-5 Stars alliance?

"At this stage I rule it out outright. It would be a betrayal of the electorate. If there are new elections, we'll see. It is difficult to make predictions because there are too many variables at play.

If so, are you ready? Zingaretti as candidate for Prime Minister?

"You insist on wanting answers from me that only President Mattarella can give. I would like to remind you that Zingaretti has repeatedly said that it is not automatic that the secretary of the Democratic Party is also the candidate, and I still think that the primaries are the best way to choose the candidates for Palazzo Chigi. As secretary of the Democratic Party, Zingaretti is working hard and in the right direction, with the serious awareness that it takes time and effort to restore a damaged building. But in the end that building will return to its splendour".

The Pd's line-up ranges from Calenda to Pisapia. What keeps you together?

"Common sense, competence and seriousness. The attempt to stir up controversy over Pisapia-Calenda raises a smile. Calenda has been an excellent minister who has contributed to resolving many company crises, also in the interests of the workers. He certainly agrees with me in his desire to defend and extend social and civil rights.

Aren't you afraid of a repeat of a second Union?

"Times change, today we are in a different situation. And people change too. We have the iron will to build a single and great democratic, progressive, ***Europeanist*** alliance, not a union of many, too many, micro-party secretaries, but a single list that shares the electoral and visionary objective and that is, and will be, capable of opening up beyond the perimeters of the traditional parties".

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The schi- zophrenic M5S attacks the Carroccio every day but with

his votes guarantees them to stay

to the government

Between me

and Calenda no controversy He has been an excellent minister

and solved many company crises

~

~

~

**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Campaigns + Elections (94%); Politics (76%); Tobacco + Health (64%)

**Load-Date:** May 17, 2019

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[***Anti- Salvini protests, clashes in Naples In Milan the "construction sites" of the banners***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W4D-PY91-JDMV-K2PY-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

17 May 2019 Friday

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**Section:** POLITICS; Page 6

**Length:** 586 words

**Byline:** Andrea Senesi

**Highlight:** A policeman injured. Tomorrow the sovereignist rally in Piazza Duomo: many prepare their balconies The initiatives Associations in the field in Lombardy. From migrants to Zorro, the themes of the slogans

**Body**

S contri in Naples for Matteo Salvini's rally. Tension erupted at the end of a procession that ended in front of the prefecture. The protesters threw smoke bombs and a barricade that hit a police officer who was in charge of security. The officers responded with a lightening charge. It was an afternoon of tensions with the announced protests against the Minister of the Interior and the city's protest also through banners on balconies.

Even in Milan, the anti Salvini people are preparing the protest of the sheets in view of the meeting with the other sovereignist leaders tomorrow in Piazza Duomo. There is a small group from Corsico that is planning to guard the pedestrian bridges along the Naviglio Grande, from the last strip of the city to the villages of the first belt. On each bridge a "welcome" banner accompanied by a puppet of Zorro, the masked hero responsible, according to a recent biography, for Matteo Salvini's first human disappointment. "He won't see the banners because he'll be in Piazza Duomo, but normal people will see them," says Maria Carla Rossi, an activist with Nessun Dorma, one of the thousands of associations that animate Milan's left wing. The idea came about after the episode in Brembate with the removal of the protest banner by the local fire brigade. The reaction arose on social networks. "We decided to try to give a concrete form to the protest," explains Luca Paladini, of the Sentinelli, the secular and anti-fascist association that is one of the souls of this movement. "Laura Boldrini also just called us to congratulate us. "A great idea", she told us".

There is no single director. There are associations and groups of citizens who network and mobilise. This was also the case with the organisation of the anti-racist marches or the street protest last August against Viktor Orbán's visit to the Prefecture. The 'balconiadi' are anarchic, spontaneous, self-regulated. The Sentinelli only recommend irony: "In the banners that you will hang on your balconies in the coming days, unleash your creativity, but with the lightness that will not give victory to those who would like to exploit everything to their advantage. It would be a nuisance to let them win. Zorro figurines, then, and even a treasure hunt launched by another anti-racist association, Insieme senza muri. Sheets on the windows numbered from one to 49 (equivalent to the millions unduly received by the League) on as many buildings in the city. The winner is the one who will find the highest number of locations. The prize? "A Zorro doll, of course", smiles Daniela Pistillo, one of the game's creators.

Milan's balconies are bursting with banners at the moment. One of the first to "display" is an 86-year-old woman with a sheet: "Open ports and open hearts". The nostalgic "Give us back the Alpine soldiers, keep Salvini" was also very popular, as a tribute to last weekend's gathering of the black feathers in Milan, while Don Virginio Colmegna's Casa della Carità has composed the words "People first" on the facade of the building. And the PD? The leaders outside the federation unrolled the words 'We, ***European*** patriots'. "The international gathering of the right is a disgrace to the city", commented Pierfrancesco Majorino, councillor for Welfare and candidate for the ***European elections***, one of the first to support the protest of the balconies.

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**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

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**Subject:** Protests + Demonstrations (94%); Communities + Neighborhoods (75%)

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[***Dangerous shortcuts; The parties' mistake***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W4D-PY91-JDMV-K2S5-00000-00&context=)

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17 May 2019 Friday

Rebuttal Edition

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**Section:** IDEAS & OPINIONS; Page 28

**Length:** 712 words

**Byline:** Massimo Franco

**Body**

"N Eggs Bribes' versus 'justice'.

clockwork. It is not only corruption enquiries that cause concern. Equally worrying is the use that is being made of investigations: by those who are subjected to them and by those who claim to be immune to them in the name of a moral superiority with rather controversial contours.

Edited by Alessandra Muglia

There is an excess of justicialism and victimisation that ends up veiling the substance of what is happening. Between a Five Star Movement that goes so far as to claim a 'new Tangentopoli' (bribery scandal) concerning only the others, and a League convinced that it is under attack because it is winning, it is hard to know who to choose.

One might say that the approaches of the two populist majority forces, apparently so at odds with each other, are mutually supportive. The idea of clockwork justice, a legacy of the past but an eternal temptation for many of those accused, is a convenient shield to hide one's political responsibilities: apart from the criminal ones, which still have to be proven. But also the rapidity with which opponents and allies are criminalised has something regressive and defensive about it: almost as if 'honesty', very much in quotes, were an alibi against incompetence; and a weapon of distraction against certain cases of alleged corruption that cannot be dismissed as non-existent just because the suspects have been forced to resign.

The impression is that these symmetrical and opposing attitudes perfectly frame the controversial relations between politics and the judiciary. The fact that they are recorded on the eve of ***European*** elections of great importance for domestic politics makes the background even more slippery and ambiguous: for the government and for the same oppositions, affected in different ways by the investigations, from the Democratic Party to Forza Italia. The unscrupulous use that political forces make of judicial power tends to prevail, beyond the will and interest of the judges themselves. Enlisting them as "testimonials" of an incurably rotten nomenklatura risks accrediting a judiciary as Manichean and biased.

But the same negative result can be produced by accusing judges, not even too vaguely, of acting to oppose the rise of a party. In this way of dealing with events affecting the political class from North to South, a worrying instrumentalism resurfaces. And a 'double standard' is proposed, confirming the regression of rights and dialogue between parties and powers, which is the best recipe for simmering the already low credibility of institutions. The basic problem seems to have been the same for decades: the selection of the ruling class, which concerns the old and the new political forces.

There is a glaring inability not only to choose competent and honest people, but also to act to prevent the infiltration of malfeasance, to reform from within and thus avoid the inevitable role of deputy judges. In this respect, the Yellow-Green majority appears more like the last product of the system's twenty-year crisis than the beginning of a new course. Showing the criminal records of candidates, as the Five Star party does, is not a sufficient antidote to prevent opaque interest groups from influencing them. Neither can inexperience be invoked to justify cases such as those that have occurred around the Grillo junta in Rome, and elsewhere.

In politics, inexperience and naivety would, if anything, be aggravating factors, not mitigating factors. If you are unable to defend yourself against those who use administrations to enrich themselves illegally, you cannot defend those who elected you. Forcing the resignation of a person under investigation, or expelling him, does not solve the problem. As for the enquiries involving members of the Carroccio and FI, the feeling is that they arise mainly from the long stay of the centre-right in power in some key regions of the North, such as the PD in Umbria: confirming that by now power wears out even those who have had it for too long.

Running away from responsibility by identifying with or delegitimising the Prosecutor's Office would be yet another shortcut, leading to misunderstandings and poison injected into a society already sufficiently exacerbated.

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**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

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**Subject:** Politics (94%); Political Corruption (68%); Corruption (63%)

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[***L'Europe cannot tolerate the dollar ruling the world.***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W7W-DX91-JDMV-K06D-00000-00&context=)

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2 June 2019 Sunday

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**Section:** FOREIGN; Page 11

**Length:** 484 words

**Byline:** Sergio Romano

**Body**

A brief summary is in order. When he denounced the agreement his predecessor had signed with Iran on the Islamic Republic's nuclear testing, Donald Trump did not just cut off all economic relations with Tehran. He wanted ***European*** countries to take the same line and threatened economic sanctions against anyone who disobeyed.

France, Germany and the UK tried to circumvent the sanctions by creating a clearing house that ***European*** companies could use to collect money owed to them. But the system (its name is Instex) only works for modest transactions while companies active in international markets cannot afford to take on the US. As Wolfgang Münchau wrote in

Financial Times

27 May, they would lose their large American clientele and would no longer be able to rely on funding from capital market banks.

After the advent of the ***euro, the*** Brussels Commission hoped that the ***European*** Investment Bank, founded in 1957 to finance politically useful operations of the Union (then called the EEC), would foster the emergence of a new monetary zone. But the results, so far, have been insignificant. As long as the major reference currency is the dollar, the United States can govern international finance and the American president can use this privilege to impose his own policy.

General De Gaulle was aware of this. After his return to power in 1958, urged on by a brilliant economic and financial adviser (Jacques Rueff), he proposed a return to gold and ordered the French Central Bank to buy considerable quantities. But to America's ***European*** allies the Gaullist project seemed a threat to the cohesion of the Atlantic Alliance in years when the Cold War justified American leadership in the eyes of many.

Today the situation is quite different. The Cold War is over. The dollar has not been pegged to gold since 1971 and is therefore a national currency. The great derivatives crisis of 2008 revealed the dangerous unscrupulousness of American finance. The arrival of Donald Trump in the White House has made US foreign policy adventurous and unpredictable. I don't know if a return to gold is possible. In a book published by Edizioni del Mulino in 2009 ("La veduta corta"), Tommaso Padoa Schioppa responded to his interviewer's question by saying that gold "was now an object of human vanity". But this does not entitle the ***European Union to*** tolerate the international monetary system being governed by one country. Among the objectives that the ***EU*** should set itself in the coming years is that of a currency policy that corresponds to its interests and ambitions.

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**Classification**

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**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Politics (94%); Economic Growth (88%); Foreign Policy (88%); ***European Union*** (83%); National Debt (80%); Conflict Minerals (69%); Monetary Unions (69%); Business Forecasts (63%); Economic Crisis (63%); Gross Domestic Product (62%); Economic Conditions (61%)

**Industry:** Budgets (67%)

**Load-Date:** June 2, 2019

**End of Document**

[***Trump arrives and blesses Boris "Meghan? Naughty"***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W7W-DX91-JDMV-K06F-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

2 June 2019 Sunday

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**Section:** FOREIGN; Page 11

**Length:** 546 words

**Byline:** Luigi Ippolito

**Highlight:** All set for eagerly awaited visit to London Populist axis US leader seeks cross-Atlantic foothold and 'backs' Johnson for PM

**Body**

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

London Donald Trump is throwing his entire body into the contest for Britain's prime ministerial seat: and doing so by backing another heavyweight, namely Boris Johnson, the zany former foreign secretary and former London mayor, who is the favourite to succeed Theresa May.

The American president arrives on the banks of the Thames tomorrow for the longed-for state visit that will take him to Buckingham Palace to meet the Queen. But he is preceded by a bombshell interview with Rupert Murdoch's Sun in which he declares that 'Boris would do a great job, he would be excellent. I like him, I've always liked him, I think he's a very good person, very talented. He has always been very positive about me and about our country'.

A feeling reciprocated. As early as last year, Boris had hailed Trump's then working visit to Britain as 'fantastic news'; and he was later caught saying that The Donald would do much better than Theresa May in the Brexit negotiations with ***Europe.***

The two politicians share a contempt for the current tenant of Downing Street. Already last year Trump had complained that May had not followed his advice: and in yesterday's interview with the Sun he increased the dose, saying he was "surprised at how bad the Brexit negotiations have gone". The blame, in his view, falls entirely on the government in London, which "allowed the ***EU to hold*** all the cards": "It's very difficult to play well when one side has all the advantage," he added, "they gave the ***EU*** nothing to lose".

As one might easily expect, Trump is particularly lenient about the private life of Boris, who is known for his extramarital affairs and illegitimate children strewn about: 'Of course, these things matter,' he dismissed hastily, 'but certainly not like they did 20 years ago or 50 years ago. I think they matter a lot less today.

During his three-day visit, the American president left Tuesday afternoon free of commitments: and it is not excluded that he will find a way to meet Johnson. A political axis has been created between the two that could make Great Britain the "bridgehead" of Trumpism in ***Europe***: and if Boris, as mayor of London, had won the favour of the metropolitan public with liberal and cosmopolitan positions, recently he has taken on the role of national-populist tribune, in competition with Farage.

Another figure in The Donald's sights is Meghan, the Duchess of Sussex. One could imagine that the arrival of an American at court would facilitate relations between the two sides of the Atlantic: but not if Prince Harry's wife is a convinced feminist of African-American origin. Asked about Meghan's past criticism of him, Trump replied: 'What can I say? I didn't know she was that bad. And it may be a coincidence, but while Donald will be meeting the Queen and having tea with Charles and Camilla, as well as meeting Harry himself, Meghan will be holed up in the Windsor cottage where she lives, with the excuse that she has to look after newborn Archie. Better to avoid embarrassment for both of them.

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**Classification**

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**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Foreign Policy (94%); Politics (87%); Wiretapping (76%); ***European Union*** (75%); Trade Treaties + Agreements (74%); Treaties + Agreements (74%); Economic Growth (64%)

**Load-Date:** June 2, 2019

**End of Document**

[***"Damage to negotiations with the EU The text was provisional, Castelli should not have had it"; INTERVIEW with giovanni tria***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W7W-DX91-JDMV-K060-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

2 June 2019 Sunday

NATIONAL Edition

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**Section:** FIRST FLOOR; Page 3

**Length:** 800 words

**Byline:** Federico Fubini

**Highlight:** Minister's wrath: complaint to the public prosecutor's office and internal investigation

**Body**

G iovanni Tria retains his phlegm, but this time it is not difficult to see that he is really out of his mind. The Minister of the Economy of the country with the fourth largest public debt in the world is furious, worried and suspicious. And he is determined to get to the bottom of the matter, even at the cost of involving the Rome Public Prosecutor's Office and launching an internal enquiry within the ministry to find out who is sabotaging the project.

The leak of a Treasury document before it was finalised is just the latest step in a saga that does not bode well. The text of the government's response letter to the ***European*** Commission on the state of the accounts, leaked on Friday afternoon, was not in its final version. It was a working draft handwritten by the minister, a text for internal use to arrive at a message that would reassure Brussels as much as possible. It was meant to remain among very few people, but thousands read it.

Minister, if you wanted to avoid the risk of ***European*** proceedings against Italy, don't you think that this episode is a resounding own goal?

"There is no doubt that it damages the negotiation with the ***European*** Commission. That text was not final, it was an incomplete draft with several options open. It was not meant for publication, it should not have come out."

Do you have a suspect as to who and why leaked it to the press?

"I have no idea, but it is very serious. I can say that as early as yesterday afternoon (Friday for those reading, ed.) we filed a complaint with the Public Prosecutor's Office and started an internal investigation at the ministry. We will try to get a clearer picture.

M5S protests because that text envisages a reduction in welfare spending in the charged sentence: "We believe that it will be possible to reduce spending projections for new welfare policies in the period 2020-2022". Did you really want to cut welfare?

"Of course not. That sentence refers to the fact that at least for the first two years the draught of the government's two key measures - for citizenship income and probably also on early pensions at quota 100 - will be lower than what has already been budgeted. We knew from the beginning that this would be the case, the cost estimates were largely conservative. So in that area there are more resources than required by the applications submitted by citizens. Nobody ever thought of reducing social benefits.

As early as Monday, she began discussing the text of the letter with Giuseppe Conte at Palazzo Chigi. But they accuse you of wanting to proceed on your own, without coordinating with the premier and the government forces.

"This is not the case. As you say, with Conte we started discussing the response to be sent to the ***European*** Commission even before the letter officially arrived. And I have full and preventive support to take this negotiation forward. We had agreed with the prime minister that I would have contacted above all the League on the contents of the reply to be sent to Brussels, while Conte would have contacted the 5-Star Movement.

However, they accuse her of playing along with the leghists...

"It's not that I'm closer to the League or anyone else, as someone said. This was simply the understanding to take this work forward".

Laura Castelli, your deputy minister expressed by the 5 Star party, on Friday evening said she was surprised that you denied the validity of the text that had come out a few hours earlier because - Castelli added - "I too had seen that draft with the welfare cuts". Do you consider this a political attack?

"If Castelli had that text, he should not have it. That was a confidential document, a working draft with my handwritten notes in which I noted in the various passages "this yes" and "this no". The correct institutional line wants a consolidated text to go to the Prime Minister first and then to the rest of the government'.

What remains is the cross-section of a frazzled, divided government, a gang war of ambushes in key ministries. Don't you think that this makes it more difficult to reassure the markets and avoid the cage of the ***European*** accounts procedure?

"Certainly, as I said, this episode damages our negotiations. But this year's deficit is expected to be lower than we had budgeted in the Economic and Financial Document, precisely because from the beginning we have been very cautious in our estimates of the costs of income and quota 100".

Can you say what the new objectives are?

"In the Def we predicted a deficit for this year at 2.4% of gross domestic product, while the ***European*** Commission in its May forecast indicates 2.5%. Well, I can say that the final result of the deficit will be lower than our estimates in the Def and significantly lower than what the Commission predicted."

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**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Economic Growth (94%); Gross Domestic Product (84%); Economic Policy (71%); National Debt (65%); Public Debt (65%)

**Load-Date:** June 2, 2019

**End of Document**

[***The government is on the hunt for the culprit; the League is convinced that the leak of the letter EU letter is the fault of the M5S And Salvini challenges Brussels: "We will see who has the hardest head".***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W7W-DX91-JDMV-K05X-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

2 June 2019 Sunday

NATIONAL Edition

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**Section:** POLITICS; Page 2

**Length:** 591 words

**Byline:** Enrico Marro

**Body**

He who wounds a "little hand", loses a "little hand". The League is convinced of this, suspecting that it was their allies (assuming that this adjective can still be used for the 5 Stars) who, on Friday afternoon, passed on to the media the text of the Italian government's letter of response to the ***European*** Commission's findings on our public accounts, passing it off as the definitive one and thus enabling the pincer movement of Prime Minister Conte and Deputy Di Maio on the Minister of the Economy, Giovanni Tria, who was forced first to deny and then correct (in truth only in form, not in substance) the letter sent overnight to Brussels.

In some ways, it is reminiscent of the scene on the evening of 27 September, when Di Maio and the ministers of the Grillo group were jubilant on the balcony of Palazzo Chigi after having made Tria change his mind about the 2% deficit, raising it to 2.4% (except that he then had to backtrack).

Now what Tria has had to swallow is the cancellation of the explicit reference to the savings estimated on "quota 100" and "citizenship income" as useful for the consolidation of the accounts, replaced - after Di Maio had called for "no cuts" - with a more generic reference to "welfare policies". But it is clear that, even in this case, the compromise risks being of no use in the difficult negotiations with the ***European*** Commission, which on Wednesday will respond in turn to the government in Rome. And this despite the fact that the leader of the League, Matteo Salvini, is flaunting confidence: "Less taxes and more work. If they say no, we will see who has the hardest head.

On the bench of suspects from the Carroccio is the deputy minister of Economy, Laura Castelli, who, after all, as soon as the case broke out, had said: "In the afternoon I saw a draft that circulated with those contents and unfortunately that passage on the cut was there. The same Castelli who, together with Di Maio, had been the protagonist of the 5 Star campaign last year against the "little hand" of the technocrats of the MEF accused of boycotting the Movement's policies. But among the suspects, the Leghists do not exclude Palazzo Chigi either. After all, Carroccio circles observe, only a few days ago Luigi Carbone, Tria's chief of staff, the director general of the MEF, Alessandro Rivera, and the new State Accountant, Biagio Mazzotta, had gone to Palazzo Chigi for a meeting with Prime Minister Conte, which also had as its object the letter to be sent to Brussels.

In short, the drafts of the missive had been circulating for days, 'since before the ***European*** elections', say some sources. And both the Legazionists and the 5-Star party were aware of it. The fact that Tria and Conte are furious about the circulation of a text before it reaches the ***European*** Commission is entirely understandable: it is in fact an incident in relations with Brussels that, at the very least, worsens the already deteriorated image of the Conte government in the eyes of the ***European*** institutions. And it matters little that now Di Maio says that the letter is fine and Castelli raises the bar on things to do ("We will work on the family quotient"). The omelette is done. The incident signals a qualitative leap in the clash within the majority. The suspicions and crossed accusations no longer concern the technocrats, but the members of the government themselves. Even before the executive, the trust between the League and the 5 Stars is in crisis. It is therefore not surprising that the League's deputy minister for the economy, Massimo Garavaglia, concludes: "If we cannot do things, it is better to go to the vote".

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**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Economic Policy (93%); Politics (86%); Tobacco + Health (82%); ***European Union*** (77%); Heads Of State + Government (75%); Economic Growth (74%); Agriculture Regulation + Policy (69%); National Debt (65%); Public Debt (65%)

**Load-Date:** June 2, 2019

**End of Document**

[***De Castro: "Now theEurope reopens the agricultural game Rome, funds for 7 billion".***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W7W-DX91-JDMV-K080-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

2 June 2019 Sunday

NATIONAL Edition

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**Section:** ECONOMY; Page 33

**Length:** 483 words

**Byline:** Francesca Basso

**Highlight:** Bucharest informal council launches CAP negotiations On the table From mutagenesis to precision farming and the circular economy

**Body**

"The new ***European*** Parliament is starting again with the reform of the Common Agricultural Policy: what is at stake for Italy is almost 7 billion a year, which is what we receive from the current CAP". Paolo De Castro, former Minister of Agriculture, has been re-elected to the ***European Parliament*** with the Democratic Party. Tomorrow and the day after, he will attend the informal council of agriculture ministers in Bucharest as president of the outgoing Agriculture and Rural Development Commission, of which he was deputy, but Polish Czeslaw Siekierski was not re-elected. New commissions will be set up in the coming weeks.

What is the agenda for tomorrow?

"The council will focus on innovation. For Italy, the issue of genetic improvement of plants is important, which does not mean GMOs, but mutagenesis techniques. We are leaders, for example, in the variety of vines that are resistant to parasites. This makes it possible to reduce chemical interventions on plants. But regulations are needed, whereas today there is an authorisation process as for GMOs. Then we will discuss precision agriculture, bio-agriculture and the circular economy. The CAP will also be discussed and I will take stock of the situation.

GMOs are banned in 17 ***EU*** countries, including Italy. No opposition to mutagenesis techniques?

"In Italy, Coldiretti and Slow Food are also in favour, as long as we stay within the framework of what can happen in nature. These techniques offer hope for combating plant diseases, but we need clarity on the rules. The latest ruling by the European Court of Justice has left it up to the Member States to decide how to consider these techniques, creating confusion. Even though the ***EU*** Commission is about to expire, the message we want to send out is that we need to work towards ***European*** regulation.

What do we risk with the new CAP?

"The EU budget 2021-2027 was designed by the ***EU*** Commission without the UK's contribution because of Brexit. It will have to cope with fewer resources. But what is most worrying is the new institutional architecture in which the CAP is inserted, which gives much more autonomy to the states, right down to defining the objectives and the instruments to achieve them."

Is this an advantage for Italy?

"The risks are that competition will be distorted and that each country will go in a different direction. This approach could create difficulties in Italy, Spain and Germany because the management of agricultural funds, which is now partly in the hands of the regions, would be centralised in those of the State. The ***EU*** Commission's proposal does not please even the Minister of Agriculture Gian Marco Centinaio and the League. The Council likes it in principle, but not the ***EU*** Parliament. There is room for manoeuvre in the negotiations.

Isn't it good to have more autonomy in agriculture?

"States need more flexibility but within the framework of ***European*** decisions".

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**Classification**

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**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Agriculture Regulation + Policy (94%); ***European Union*** (62%)

**Industry:** Agriculture (84%)

**Load-Date:** June 2, 2019

**End of Document**

[***Cgia di Mestre: 'PA's 53 billion debt is still too much'; La Lente***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W7W-DX91-JDMV-K07Y-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

2 June 2019 Sunday

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**Section:** ECONOMY; Page 32

**Length:** 330 words

**Byline:** Marco Sabella

**Body**

The amount of public administration (PA) trade payables to suppliers fell by ***EUR*** 4 billion to a total of ***EUR*** 53 billion.

The figure - an estimate reported in the Bank of Italy's 2018 annual report - does not, however, reflect the actual amount of trade debt, according to the Cgia di Mestre research office, given that the Ministry of Economy and Finance (Mef) is still unable to quantify exactly the total amount of debt contracted by the PA to suppliers. The coordinator of Cgia's Studies Office, Paolo Zabeo, points out that "while recognising the efforts made in recent years, no other country in ***Europe*** can count on such a huge trade debt. According to ***Eurostat*** data, Greece, for example, has an incidence of non-payment of current account on the GDP of 1.4 per cent, while in Italy it is 2.9 per cent.

This is an unacceptable situation that continues to have a very negative impact on the budgets of thousands and thousands of businesses that supply the public administration. In recent years, according to the Cgia, average payment times have fallen slightly Since the end of March 2015, in fact, all PA suppliers have been required to issue invoices in electronic format, which has made the commercial relationship between the public and private sectors more transparent. However, payment times for the Italian PA continue to be very long. So much so that in 2017 the ***European*** Commission referred Italy to the ***EU*** Court of Justice, given that Italian public administrations at the time still needed an average of 100 days to settle their invoices, with peaks of even longer. Since 2013, following the transposition into Italian law of the ***European*** directive against late payments by the PA, the time for settlement of transactions cannot exceed 30 days, which can go up to 60 in some particular cases.

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**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** National Debt (94%); Public Debt (89%)

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**End of Document**

[***Tax jungle, the mockery of cuts***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W7W-DX91-JDMV-K084-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

2 June 2019 Sunday

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**Section:** ECONOMY; Page 35

**Length:** 540 words

**Byline:** Alessandra Puato

**Highlight:** The flat tax helps the self-employed and penalizes employees. And VAT evasion alone is worth 36 billion euro In "l'Economia", on newsstands tomorrow with the "Corriere" In the stock market The six biggest banks have lost 11 billion euro in capitalisation in three months

**Body**

Flat tax (deficit or not), Tav, Alitalia. These are the three games that the League, strengthened by its electoral advantage, will now have to face without further delay with its government ally, the 5 Star Movement. These are tangled knots for the government, which has been in office for a year, with two implications that are anything but theoretical for citizens and businesses: on the one hand, the guarantee of fiscal fairness, and on the other, the relaunch of the country. This must be financially sustainable, all the more so after Bank of Italy Governor Ignazio Visco's warning about the deficit and VAT in his final considerations on Friday.

"Will the flat tax benefit those who earn the most? - asks Ferruccio de Bortoli in L'Economia del Corriere della Sera, on tomorrow's free newsstand with the daily newspaper - In truth, a minimum of progressivity could be safeguarded by a wise use of deductions and allowances, deductibles and thresholds. But does fairness still interest the majority of Italians?". For de Bortoli, this is the point: simplification, farewell to the jungle. To be married, however, with fairness.

It is "commendable", he says, the intention to "thin out this forest of exceptions, which has no equal in the world". He cites the Treasury's 2018 tax expenditure report, annexed to the 2019 Budget Law: there are "120 measures that have a burden on the Treasury of less than ten million, 152 that have an unknown impact". Welcome, therefore, "deforestation". But tax evasion must also be tackled (e.g. by pushing electronic payments), which for VAT alone "is estimated at 36 billion a year, a quarter of all the VAT evaded in the ***EU.*** A record we should not be proud of. And anyway, a 'flat tax at 15% rewards the self-employed over employees'.

They are urgent issues because it is clear, reads Economy, that it will be a hot summer for Italian accounts (and the spread, Friday 31, touched 287 points, with BTPs close to Greece). The markets are frying again after the latest declarations of the vice-premiers, polemical about ***Europe*** and contradictory to each other. Not to mention the unknown of the post-Draghi ECB, which will have an impact on companies' loans (and in three months the six largest banks have lost 11 billion in value on the stock market, also under the weight of government bonds). Therefore, the uncomfortable dossiers, Tav and Alitalia, must be tackled quickly. On the first, notes The Economy, the League will play the joker of ***Europe***, which ask for more funds to reduce the costs of the work and overcome the veto Five Stars. For the former national airline, however, the card of the M5S for the rescue is Carlo Toto, the former owner of Air One that ended up in liquidation. The problem: making peace with Autostrade.

The cover is dedicated to Enrico Cereda, the president of IBM, who suggests: Italy, make a serious plan on artificial intelligence and you will save billions, starting with healthcare. Other characters are Micaela le Divelec Lemmi, CEO of Ferragamo; Jean-Dominique Senard, the president of Renault who is looking for an agreement with FCA; and Gianni Carosi of Mondo Convenienza who is challenging Ikea. Among the topical issues, Amazon is a winner and Piaggio Avio.

In Savings, calculations on Imu and Tasi: they must be paid by 17 June and in December municipalities can raise them.

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**Classification**

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**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** National Debt (94%); Public Debt (88%); Securities + Other Investments (69%)

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[***My future is in my Africa***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W7W-DX91-JDMV-K0F3-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

2 June 2019 Sunday

READING Edition

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**Section:** READING; Page 9

**Length:** 1343 words

**Byline:** ALESSANDRA MUGLIA

**Highlight:** Eight former migrants cross Senegal to convince their compatriots not to leave. The caravan covers three thousand kilometres in seven days, beating towns and villages and repeating: don't risk your life, the dream is here. Here is how it went

**Body**

They climb into the white pick-up truck all wearing white T-shirts with the inscription in French: 'I refuse to risk my life, my future is in my country'. The motto of a unique tour of Senegal. On the trip are not tourists, but former migrants. Six men and two women who have returned to their country and are now facing a new challenge: travelling three thousand kilometres in seven days to try to change the minds of many of their compatriots, dissuade them from taking the sea or desert route to ***Europe***, and dismantle the myth of the West. "To discourage people from leaving, there is nothing more effective than seeing others come back and make it,' says Karounga Camara, creator of the caravan. Returning to Senegal in 2015 after seven years in Milan, he and two other partners founded a start-up that has introduced semi-finished products for bakers to the market of the former French colony: "We started by putting up a share of two thousand ***euros*** each, and now we are in the black," he says proudly.

Two years ago he founded the Ndari network in Thiès, his home town (from the Wolof proverb Wiri wiri, diari ndari, meaning "sooner or later you will go back to your home"), an association of returning migrants that supports those who want to start a business in their own country. Training, accounting services, legal advice and, above all, support in accessing credit. Ndari acts as guarantor and maintains contacts with NGOs that support the development of entrepreneurship, such as Lvia, a partner in this project.

The idea for the caravan came from a chat with Paolo Dieci, president of the NGO network Link 2007, one of the cooperators who lost their lives in the air disaster in Ethiopia last year. "To discourage departures towards ***Europe,"*** Camara says, "he asked us to collaborate on a concert in Dakar with Tiken Jah Fakoly," the Ivorian reggae star whose Pourquoi nous fuyons recounts the disillusionment faced by migrants. "Who will fight in our place? You're looking for gold but the gold is under your feet,' he sings. However, most Senegalese ready to leave do not live in the capital, so it is better to join them where they are. With a travelling caravan. They call it Redemption Song, after Bob Marley's hymn to freedom, which in the post-colonial era invited people to emancipate themselves from their inferiority complex towards the West. A lesson that is still valid today: "To make it in Africa we have to stop being negative", Coach Karou repeats like a mantra. A difficult change of mentality, because of that Afro-pessimism that makes people think life outside is always better. "Migration is an ancient and global phenomenon, but awareness is needed. Today in ***Europe*** they have understood that the future lies in Africa, and while others come to us to seek their fortune, what do we do?" these former migrants reason along the route. At each stage, there will be a meeting with the inhabitants and a road show along the streets to launch the messages, to the tune of Immigrés by Youssou N'Dour, the "lion of Dakar".

"We left Thiès humming Marley's None but ourselves can free our minds,' says Karounga. In three hours, they arrived in Ngane Diouf, a rural village of a thousand souls. All around them is an immense expanse of arable land left uncultivated: 'Everyone here dreams of leaving,' he says. Waiting for him and his companions are 200 people. Women, men and many young people. Many are family members of migrants, some already repatriated. Among them is El Hadji, who begins with a Senegalese proverb: "Taste can only be known by those who have tasted". Those who have been to ***Europe*** like him know what it means to be a migrant. Suffering, the search for work that turns into exploitation, humiliation. "The air has changed, ***Europe*** has become hostile, and it is time to take up another challenge: to build the "African home"", Karou repeats. It is not easy. After five years in Sardinia, El Hadji returned home a "loser", without money, but today he lives with dignity, cultivating his land. Ridial Seck has fared better: having also returned from Italy, he has bought a dozen hectares of land where he grows onions, lemons, potatoes, watermelons and employs about thirty people. Among them is Khady, who has publicly thanked him: his enterprise has enabled her and many others not to be tempted to emigrate.

We head north towards Saint-Louis. Before arriving, we stop in the town of Mpal to have lunch with Aliou Seck, 53, from the Ndari network. He returned from Venice eight years ago and has opened a carpentry shop in the front part of his large house, where he builds windows, doors and chairs with three collaborators. It is a profitable business: he manages to support his large family well. He lives here with three wives and a team of children. In a room, sitting on the floor, he is served Thiébou Diaga, a typical Senegalese dish of rice, fish, vegetables and tomatoes.

A pleasant breeze cools Saint-Louis, the 'Venice of Africa'. Lying between the ocean and the Senegal River, it is in danger of being submerged by water due to climate change. But the real wealth of this former capital city comes from the sea, and its threatening character fades into the background. The caravan crosses the Faidherbe bridge, 500 metres of metal spans connecting the island of Saint-Louis to the mainland; then the Santhiaba bridge leading to Goxu Mbacc, on the coast, to the jetty. "Here we met the fishermen. There were about a hundred of them, working. One of them approached us: Ngom said he had managed to reach Spain in a pirogue, but once there he was blocked. Now he doesn't want to leave and asks to join Ndari. An important testimony in this place: many fishermen here have turned their fishing pirogues into means of transport to ***Europe***, a cheaper journey than by land. Since January, 700,000 have landed in the Canaries. Many more, however, ventured the long crossing and many did not make it.

The highlight of the meeting in the city was the intervention of a 27-year-old gardener. In a leather jacket and with a lively expression, he spoke of the difficulties young people have in finding a future there and admitted that he himself intends to leave. Mariama Déme, one of the two women in the caravan, replied: instead of getting into debt with relatives and investing in the 'big trip', why not set up a business in Senegal now? Examples include the entrepreneur Bocar Samba, who started out by selling birds he himself hunted and then became a major rice importer and, for a time, the richest man in Senegal; then Babacar Ngom, founder of Sedima: with less than 100 ***euros*** he bought 120 chicks, and now his company has a turnover of 50 million dollars and 430 employees.

On the second day, we head for Richard-Toll, on the border with Mauritania. On the third day, they stopped in Louga, an area at risk of desertification, from which young people are fleeing. Then on to Kaolack, with transmission of the meeting on Facebook Live. The fourth day was spent in Tambacounda, in the far east and the hottest part of the country. From here, many young people take the desert route and never return. Almost every family is worried about the fate of a loved one, or is mourning their death. The tour ends in Thiès with a forum on "emigrate or stay: limits and opportunities in Senegal". Among the speakers was Lamane Mbaye, professor at the University of Dakar: "Illegal migration is one of the greatest dangers of our century: it kills more people than AIDS and malaria".

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The creator

Karounga Camara, after

seven years in Italy, he returned to Senegal in 2015 to set up a start-up. In 2017 he founded the Ndari network which helps returning migrants to start businesses in their own country. Ndari collaborated with NGOs Lvia and Link 2007 for the Redemption Song caravan . Kamara wrote in 2018 Dare to Return (Celid, translation by Benedetta Torrani, pp. 104, e 9): advice to migrants on how to return to Africa

**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Business Forecasts (94%); Globalization (84%); Economic Growth (82%); Tropical Diseases (82%); Minority Groups (75%); Diseases + Disorders (70%); Famine (69%); Hunger In Society (69%); Shortages (69%); Sweatshops (64%); Health Care Professionals (62%); Nurses + Nursing (62%); Climatology (61%); Environment + Natural Resources (61%)

**Industry:** Agriculture (63%)

**Load-Date:** June 2, 2019

**End of Document**

[***"If we win the ballot, the Province will be ours In the city? The League is ready"; INTERVIEW with regional councillor FABIO ROLFI***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W7W-DX91-JDMV-K01W-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

2 June 2019 Sunday

BRESCIA Edition

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**Section:** FIRST FLOOR; Page 2

**Length:** 758 words

**Byline:** Pietro Gorlani

**Highlight:** Agricultural subsidies at risk: 'Lombardy needed in Brussels committee'

**Body**

His analysis one week after the vote. Did you expect this exploit of the League in the ***European elections***? Is it all thanks to Salvini?

"In northern Italy, there were fears that the productive classes were impatient with the League because of its alliance with the 5-Star party. Instead we got 50%. The electorate wanted to strengthen the constructive side of the government, the side that prefers the policy of doing things: I'm thinking of major works, but also of security. It is a vote that strengthens the League's political agenda.

So is Salvini right to call for the heads of ministers Toninelli and Costa?

"They are ministers of no. The first one has favoured the filing of large-scale projects, the second one that of many environmental challenges: I am thinking of the management of wildlife but also of the lack of decrees on the end of waste, the recovery of waste as a raw material".

Tav, Valtrompia motorway, failure to relaunch Montichiari airport, all at a standstill: just the fault of the 5 Stars?

"The League has always been in favour of these works. Now it is time to force its hand."

You are at the peak of consensus, don't you fear that the downward phase will begin?

"Not at present. In Salvini I don't see that attitude of omnipotence that possessed Renzi five years ago (when the PD took 40% at the ***European elections***, ed.). We must continue to be among the people and work on the ground to implement the programme, starting with the flat tax.

While Italy is consumed in domestic political squabbles, there is the risk of having no representatives in the ***European*** commissions that matter, starting with agriculture. There could be heavy cuts to the CAP...

"The Lega is very attentive to agriculture and I sincerely hope that there will be more Lombard representatives in the ***European*** Commission, preferably from Brescia (Lancini and Zambelli are the only two ***MEPs*** from Brescia, ed.). We have the opportunity to change the new policies of the CAP, Lombardy receives 1.3 billion but risks cuts of 400 million. But ***Europe*** is not only the CAP. We must also work hard on regulations for plant protection products and on trade agreements in order to have clear labelling that protects the agri-food excellence of Made in Italy.

Let us come to the administrative elections. The centre-right has handed several municipalities over to the centre-left and now the balance of power in the Province is changing. What should President Alghisi do?

"The administrative elections went in our favour. If in a week's time we also take Montichiari and Lumezzane in the run-off, as I imagine we will, we will have a provincial administration that no longer corresponds to the representation of its electoral body. Since Alghisi continues to reiterate that the Broletto is the home of the municipalities, he should take note of this.

And then? Resign?

"Yes".

The League overtook the PD in the city at the ***European elections.*** Del Bono maintains that parallels cannot be drawn with the administrative vote and that the League is not yet equipped to govern the city. Do you have a problem with the ruling class in Brescia?

"Allow me to reply to Del Bono: let him look at his own house. Andreotti used to say that he was half a size but he didn't see any giants around him ... A new managerial class is growing in the League, capable of taking on the challenges of the future. Of course, we must never lose contact with the people: in the markets, in the squares, in the gazebos".

Question: would you run for mayor of Brescia in four years' time?

(Short pause) . "I still have four years of my mandate in the Region ahead of me, a very demanding councillorship, an all-embracing job. The question is premature.

The environmental issue: the League wanted the pressure index, but new landfills continue to be approved in the Brescia area, the latest in Ghedi.

"Former councillor Terzi did a great job and several applications were rejected. We must continue on this path. On Tuesday we approved a regulation prohibiting disposal plants in agricultural areas with PDO and DOC status. I asked Councillor Cattaneo to supplement the pressure index with the concept of cumulative impact. We have to look at the sum of environmental problems, not just at landfills.

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The infrastructure node Valtrompia motorway, Tav

and relaunch of the airport: now the League is forcing the hand

The Tav project for Verona and the Valtrompia motorway must be carried out: now the Lega forces the issue

the hand

~

The Loggia

Del Bono says

the League is not equipped for the municipality: look

in his house

~

The future Running for mayor? I have four hard years ahead of me in the Region:

is a theme

for now premature

**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Tobacco + Health (93%); Campaigns + Elections (89%); Riots (88%); ***European Union*** (81%); Heads Of State + Government (76%); Tobacco Regulation + Policy (74%); Communities + Neighborhoods (70%); Criminal Offenses (70%); Freedom Of Religion (69%); Marriage (69%); Economic Crisis (63%)

**Industry:** Budgets (84%); Trains (67%)

**Load-Date:** June 2, 2019

**End of Document**

[***Conte tries to come out of the bunker: they are all responsible, starting with the two vice-premiers; The backstage***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W7W-DX91-JDMV-K05Y-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

2 June 2019 Sunday

NATIONAL Edition

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**Section:** POLITICS; Page 2

**Length:** 691 words

**Byline:** Massimo Franco

**Highlight:** Head of government prepares tomorrow's message to the country

**Body**

He wants to keep, and possibly last. "It will be a budget speech after a year of government. Of truth. And a call for responsibility. Responsibility of everyone, starting with the two vice-premiers...". Giuseppe Conte was still deciding whether to entrust to television or to a press conference the "message to the country" that he wants to convey tomorrow, when this reading was being filtered from Palazzo Chigi. He opted for the latter. But the substance does not change. He can no longer be the guarantor of the "contract" between M5S and Lega; nor "the premier of the grillini". Since 26 May, with the ***European*** success of Matteo Salvini's Carroccio and the defeat of the other vice-premier, Luigi Di Maio, the situation has been on a slippery slope.

And Conte must prevent it from precipitating, because instead of calming down, tempers remain high, almost drugged by electoral toxins. Salvini has returned more overflowing than ever. And the premier is realising that he is in a besieged bunker. This is why he has decided to address public opinion. It is a sort of extreme embankment that he is trying to build to avert an apparently almost inexorable drift. It is an attempt to regain spaces that the ***European*** vote has given to the League, and that the Carroccio is occupying and expanding rapidly.

The idea of reiterating that he, Conte, and not the vice-premier and interior minister is leading the executive confirms the level of confusion and frustration in the Movement. The Prime Minister has kept his vote at the ***European elections*** confidential, trying to carve out a profile of neutrality. And now he is entertaining the idea of presenting himself as the guarantor of Italy's interests, knowing that the margins have thinned. "Those ***European*** results were not what we wanted,' he admits. "It's worse every day. The data on abstention was analysed, which for the M5S concerned 38% of the electorate in the elections, for the League only 12%. The Pd itself did better. And the five stars do not know how to get out of it. Conte will claim his prerogatives. But no one is ready to bet on the effects of the message. The leghists repeat that they are waiting to hear it; with a tone of challenge, however, rather than with the attitude of someone who expects indications for the rest of the legislature.

The Prime Minister's circle fears a strategy that would aim at splitting the M5S, emptying Forza Italia and going to the bank alone with his Carroccio, flanked by the Fratelli d'Italia satellite: in autumn or at the latest at the beginning of 2020. The temptation to denounce this plan is strong; the fear that too much clarity will destabilise everything is equally palpable. "But it is not that if Conte says enough with the quarrels," it is observed, "we can tolerate that Salvini starts to act as Minister of the Economy, Transport and Defence again; that he agrees with Giovanni Tria on the letter to the ***European*** Commission, cutting us off; and that he makes the spread skyrocket and blames us.

The list of recriminations is long; the possibility of preventing a 'salvinization' of the majority, very limited. This is also because the grillini are frightened and divided. And Conte knows that Salvini is aiming at leading the government; that keeping him at a distance is less easy today. The challenge to a ***Europe*** with which the Italian leader is engaged in a duel over who "has the hardest head" worries everyone: the Carroccio and the M5S are on the sidelines of the continental games. And a deficit manoeuvre is being foreshadowed, which would be a bonanza for financial speculation and a disaster for public accounts. Last night's courtesies at the Quirinale reception between Conte and Salvini tend to convey an image of stability. Maybe so. But the suspicion remains that they are not preparing a relaunch but at best a postponement of the showdown.

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The word

This is the political agreement underlying the birth of the government led by Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte. The leaders of the 5-Star and the League, Luigi Di Maio and Matteo Salvini, signed a 57-page document setting out the objectives - reforms and projects taken from the programmes of each of the two parties - that the executive proposes to achieve in the five years of government.

**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Economic Policy (94%); Riots (88%); Immigration (84%); Criminal Offenses (71%); National Debt (67%); Public Debt (67%); Politics (65%); Heads Of State + Government (64%); Teaching + Teachers (64%)

**Load-Date:** June 2, 2019

**End of Document**

[***What if we were more aware?; Italians***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W7W-DX91-JDMV-K07T-00000-00&context=)

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2 June 2019 Sunday

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**Section:** LETTERS TO THE COURIER; Page 31

**Length:** 369 words

**Byline:** Beppe Severgnini

**Body**

During Fareed Zakaria's programme on CNN - it's called 'Gps', it's on today - I realised that it was describing a world of madmen. From London, Anne Applebaum explained that Boris Johnson - whom she knows well - 'is not what the British want', but they might end up with him as prime minister. From Paris, Bernard-Henri Lévy argued that a wind of madness is blowing in England and causing 'a rare case of national suicide'. From Milan, I admitted that the Italian government is a nonsense, and cannot stand; but I added that Matteo Salvini is a shrewd demagogue, not a new Mussolini (we do not risk a new fascism: we are too undisciplined, apart from anything else).

These comparisons are interesting and useful. In just a few minutes, it becomes clear that no country has the exclusive right to weirdness. Think of what has happened in the US with the presidency, in France with the yellow waistcoats, in Spain with Catalonia, in Austria with Strache and the blonde, in Poland and Hungary with two anti-European governments dependent on ***Europe***. On TV and at conferences, commentators - especially those who only pack their bags to go to the seaside - have repeatedly announced the political and economic apocalypse: yet we are still here. This resilience cannot be accidental. Perhaps we have built institutions that can also withstand Trump and Farage, the yellow waistcoats and Luigi Di Maio's four appointments.

Another interesting piece of news has emerged: ***Europeans*** are interested in what is happening in ***Europe***. This was revealed by the election campaign and the ***European*** vote, and is borne out by everyday experience: international events do not just occupy the foreign pages of newspapers, but - have you noticed? - they have become topics of conversation. The awareness that there are common issues - environment, migration, finances, trade, labour, security - took a while to surface. But now it has, and it shows.

Why is this important? Because it will be impossible for those in charge to tell us any longer that shared problems can be solved separately. This is not little, believe me. Grandma Repubblica, who turns 73 today, knows this. And she thanks you.

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**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Trade Treaties + Agreements (94%); Treaties + Agreements (94%); National Debt (76%); Politics (75%); ***European Union*** (69%); Terrorism + Counterterrorism (67%); Campaigns + Elections (63%); Foreign Policy (63%); Transportation Navigation + Tracking Systems (63%); Immigration (62%); Product Safety (61%)

**Load-Date:** June 2, 2019

**End of Document**

[***Bureaucracy dies in the countryside***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W7W-DX91-JDMV-K074-00000-00&context=)

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2 June 2019 Sunday

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**Section:** NEWS; Page 22

**Length:** 2320 words

**Byline:** Susanna Tamaro

**Highlight:** Restoring a farmhouse, cultivating the land, harvesting The bucolic myths of reality are nightmares

**Body**

by Susanna Tamaro There is only one way to understand the profound contradictions in our country. Try to do something. As long as you remain in the realm of theory, in fact, you may even find a tangle, a trace that apparently illuminates the tangle of useless complexities. If, however, we take concrete action, we soon realise the situation: the more we move, the more we are prisoners.

I personally have undergone several initiatory tests. I have restored one house, built another, equipped them with a photovoltaic system, and created a small farm. All this I have achieved thanks solely to the money I earned with my work, without asking anyone for contributions or facilities, and I did it simply because I am convinced that, once you have solved your own problems, you must try to solve those of others. I've always thought that money that sits idle, perhaps locked away in some nice pouf - a rather common habit at national level - is nothing but paper. It serves no purpose and is therefore nothing. A flood, a fire, a family of hungry mice, a bank crash or a stock market crash are enough to wipe out huge savings. So, armed with the best of intentions and seduced by what is now, unfortunately, called storytelling - the return to the land, the superb excellence of Made in Italy food products, etc. etc. - I set out on this adventure. - I embarked on this adventure. In the press and media we are constantly being bombarded by images like Mulino Bianco, which show us the daring experiences of young people who have left a job - or inactivity - in the city to devote themselves to the land, transforming, thanks to the potential offered by these times, what was once a job that everyone disliked - working the land - into an enviable and, of course, successful activity. Green activities, in short, seem to have become the mecca of our society. On paper this is not wrong, the agricultural sector has - or rather would have - great potential. However, this potential is currently being systematically thwarted by Italy's chronic problems.

Where to start? Perhaps from the scales in my kitchen where, in addition to weighing flour and sugar, I often check the weight of bureaucratic paperwork.

continued on page 22

FOLLOWING FROM page 21

It took two kilos of paperwork to get the photovoltaic system up and running. To get the Psr, i.e. the Rural Development Programme, financed with funds from the ***European*** Community, the State and the Regions to support - and increase? - this sector, I don't think the paperwork required is much less. Even insiders are no longer able to decipher the bureaucrats' cuneiform writing!

Since my main working tool is the Italian language, I feel a sense of absolute indignation at the perversion of bureaucratic language. In this legislative fog everything and the opposite of everything can happen and - between this everything and the opposite of everything - the fat cavity of corruption thrives.

Agricultural businesses, like every other sector in our country, are therefore trapped in an abnormal number of laws, very often contradictory, with an additional aggravating factor. Agriculture is a living and changing activity, conditioned by the seasons and - now more than ever - by the vagaries of the weather. Waiting, being stopped, delaying, blocking because of a bureaucratic hitch can mean losing or damaging a year's work.

The cheerful storytelling of a return to the land shows its true face when faced with the starkness of the data. The rate of closure of agricultural activities is 60 per day, for a total of 172,000 farms closed in recent years. If we continue at this rate, according to Coldiretti studies, in 33 years there will not be a single farm in our country. Perhaps, then, science will have found pills that can sustain us without food, but, if not, even "the country where lemons bloom" will turn into a land of environmental migrants.

Moreover, poor Goethe, lemons are flourishing less and less. In Sicily, just to give an example, 50% of the citrus groves have been ripped up, the same fate is being suffered by the peach orchards of Emilia, not to mention the slaughter of olive trees that has already taken place in most southern regions. I believe that Community policies and laws have a great responsibility in this area. Why, in fact, should a courgette have to measure 13 cm to be legal? And why else, if not the delirium of a pervert, must a bunch of currants have at least 12 grains to be put on the market? Who benefits from the fruits of the earth being turned into assembly-line products? The rest of the damage is done by an ailing market whereby a kilo of apples is paid 4 cents to the producer, while the harvest alone costs 18 cents. One could, of course, have them picked by those in need, but the law does not allow this.

The great harvests that used to be made by joining forces - one day you help me, the next day I help you - can no longer exist and, apart from human civilisation, it is the fruit that is the first victim of this system. All that remains is to let it rot on the trees. But letting something rot that was born to nourish us can only evoke sinister forebodings.

The situation is exacerbated to the point of panic when hundreds and thousands of trees are uprooted by bulldozers at the height of their vegetative and productive potential. How can it be thought that all this does not have tragic consequences?

Until now, unfortunately, national agriculture has been treated like a terminal patient: kept alive with transfusions, oxygen tents, injections of miraculous regenerating products whose effect is destined to vanish in the short course of a season. This artificial sustenance has mainly benefited large companies. Small, family-run farms, which form the backbone of the Italian countryside, have succumbed. The idea that the land, left to its own devices, would rediscover the archaic harmony of a primitive Eden is a dream of Gaia's followers that has little or nothing to do with reality. Left to their own devices, the trees soon cease to bear fruit, the fields left fallow do not produce food but brambles and copious weeds. The same fate befalls abandoned pastures. In a short time, vegetation takes over everywhere, destroying the possibility of creating food resources.

For a long time now, farming has not been profitable. For modest extensions, such as those of cereals, in the best - but really in the best - of cases, at most there is no loss. 23% of our territory is now in an advanced state of degradation, a percentage that rises to 41.1% for the Centre-South. Where degradation means advancing desert. And the desert, we should remember, is the place where nothing grows anymore.

A country that cares about its future would carry out extensive agrarian re-literation campaigns, and would grant incentives and reductions - at the moment only present, I believe, in Lombardy and Veneto - to those who apply anti-desert agriculture. As well as being far-sighted, this type of farming would save money immediately. The preparation of a seed bed, in fact, with the traditional system costs 375 ***euros*** per hectare, while with the most modern scientific techniques it can cost 68 ***euros*** per hectare. Instead, for the time being, the state continues to spend with great zeal on the only activity it really seems capable of doing: monitoring irregularities and imposing fines.

To paraphrase the Gospel saying, one could say that the state is spasmodically looking for straws while cheerfully missing the beams. "I give up! I can't take it any more!". How many times have I heard these words repeated! And how many businesses have I seen closing down, sending one, two, three workers home!

In closing, since my job is to tell stories, let me give a few examples that will help those who are not familiar with the much-vaunted life in the countryside to understand it. Last year, the grape harvest of an acquaintance of mine was abruptly interrupted by an Inps inspection. An abomination! It turned out that he was paying fourteen workers, but there were only thirteen in the vineyard! It is pointless to explain that the fourteenth had a fever and that the opposite would have been serious: thirteen paid workers and one illegal worker. For the officials, this inconsistency concealed something shady that needed further vexatious investigation.

So, no more grape harvest. With the nice result that the following year my friend bought a nice car with which he did the grape harvest and the thirteen, or rather the fourteen, reluctantly left them at home forever.

For example, I had to repaint a greenhouse - a greenhouse that was only visible from the sky! - because the colour was not deemed to be perfectly in line with the wishes of the flyers. So the fine may come for a 'wrong' colour, but it may also come for a cousin or an aunt who has come to help you in the vineyard or olive grove - exploitation of labour -, for a small shade canopy that you have put up during the summer heatwave - ideological forgery -, for an old donkey that you have rescued from the slaughterhouse and that you have not provided with a regular passport.

Yes, horse passports! It's a laughing matter now, but a few years ago it brought tears to the eyes of many people. One fine day, in fact, someone in some room decided, out of the blue, that all quadrupeds of equine origin should be provided with this document. This decision was, of course, never communicated by letter to those concerned, i.e. to the owners of the various nags. "Where's the beast's passport?". "Why? Do you need a passport?" "Of course! Didn't you comply with the regulations?" "I really didn't know...". "Don't you read the Official Gazette?" "Actually, no...". "Then it's three thousand a head. You have four. So that makes twelve thousand." How could one escape the suspicion that this was yet another crazy charge, given that, after only two years, the equine passport was no longer considered compulsory?

And finally - I could go on and on like Sherazade in the Arabian Nights - I would like to tell you what happened to a neighbour of mine. Their farm produces beef cattle and cereals. In addition to this, they rent out a holiday home. Just as she was cleaning the house for the imminent arrival of guests, an Inps check came in. "In what capacity do you work in this house?" they ask her. And she calmly replied: "I am the owner of the house". "That's not true," they replied. "The house belongs to your husband". "Exactly..." my friend tries to reply. "But she doesn't have a regular employment contract. "I'm his wife" she stammers confused, "we've been married for forty years". All in vain. The choice was between paying a 20,000 ***euro*** fine for working illegally or having her husband immediately register her with the INPS, even though she is well over 60. What can I say? The corporals thank you!

In 1840, John Ruskin wrote in his diary during a trip to Italy:

"I finally reached my destination after being attacked by a large group of customs officers [...]. Let us see in order: Bologna gate, exit: passport and toll. Bridge, half a mile further on: toll. Customs, two miles ahead, leaving the Papal States: passport and toll. Customs, after a quarter of a mile, entering the Duchy of Modena, first the customs officer, then the passport officer. Tribute paid to both. Gate of Modena, entrance: customs, gabella, passport, idem. Modena gate, exit: passport, tax. Reggio gate, customs, tax, passport, ditto. Porta di Reggio, exit: passport, gabelle. Change of horses, further on: passport, gabella. Entrance to the Duchy of Parma, bridge: toll, customs, gabelle, passport, idem. So a total of sixteen stops, with an average loss of three minutes and one franc each time. The customs officer in Modena did not relent for less than five paoli; the papal officer in Bologna assured us that he could not in good conscience avoid a search for less than one plate. There is something furtive and abject about the whole system: the customs officer arrives, puts his filthy hand on the carriage and does not let go until you put a franc in, otherwise he starts poking around".

One hundred and seventy-six years have passed since Ruskin's journey. Have things changed? Well! Since my donkey now has a passport, I really want to jump on his back and trot off towards the Alps. Avoiding all customs, of course.

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The book

We and the state

In bookshops from 10 June, "Noi e lo Stato. Are we still subjects?" edited by Serena Sileoni (Ibl Libri) collects

the experiences of various journalists, scholars and writers. Over

to Susanna Tamaro (from whose speech we publish an excerpt) fifteen other authors recount attitudes, practices and rules that show a sort of

of continuity between the subject of the Old Regime

and the citizen of the democratic state. We and the State is not intended to be a collection of complaints about justice, taxation, protection of private property, etc.

or doing business in Italy today, but an investigation, through

the different perspectives,

the reasons for an asymmetrical and immature relationship between

the citizen and public power, starting with our immature vocation for freedom.

**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Hunger In Society (94%); Passports + Visas (83%); Food Crises + Shortages (80%); Globalization (76%); Business Forecasts (68%); Economic Growth (68%); Minority Groups (64%)

**Industry:** Agriculture (73%)

**Load-Date:** June 2, 2019

**End of Document**

[***Plastics, boom in sorting but real recycling is difficult***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W7W-DX91-JDMV-K020-00000-00&context=)

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2 June 2019 Sunday

BRESCIA Edition

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**Section:** FIRST FLOOR; Page 3

**Length:** 758 words

**Byline:** Matteo Trebeschi

**Highlight:** Expert: 'Glass is the right alternative, but without incentives it won't work'

**Body**

There is an apparently extraordinary figure in the province of Brescia: the separation of plastic waste has almost doubled in the space of four years. From 19,500 tonnes in 2013 to 33,000 tonnes two years ago. But sorting is not the same as recycling. Firstly, because in order to send it for material recovery, plastic must only be made of "packaging". And not mixed with plastic objects (CD-ROMs, razor blades, toys, lighters, gloves, etc.), which cannot be recycled.

Secondly, the plastic that ends up in the yellow bag must be "clean, at least 80%. Otherwise, a further sorting step is needed, which is no longer done by the citizen, but has additional costs," explains Stefano Ambrosini, CEO of Waste Management Specialist in Brescia. Certainly, the transition to the circular economy has seen an increase in the number of plants that manage to effectively recycle materials. But even in this case the situation is more complex than expected: if it is true that "from polystyrene I can generate other polystyrene", from the millions of plastic bottles (in Pet) come watering cans, fleece jumpers and other products of this type. The idea that it becomes a bottle again is illusory, so much so that in the greenest ones the recycled Pet is no more than 30%.

Since China decided a few years ago to limit the import of millions of tonnes of plastic waste from ***Europe*** and the USA, 'our recovery plants have burst. Because of the amount of product to be processed. Of course, it's better for a small bottle to become a fleece jumper than for it to end up in the incinerator," says Ambrosini, "but in the next few years we will be moving more and more towards the elimination of single-use plastic products. The ***European*** directives are already in place, so plates and cutlery, cups, straws and other such materials will gradually be banned. The alternative? "For plates there will be the same products, but compostable. For liquids," says Ambrosini, "we will return to glass. Yes, because glass is "infinitely recoverable". Aluminium and paper have good recycling rates, the problem is plastic. "It's a noble material. And it is wrong to use it for disposable products," says the CEO of Waste Management Specialist. But don't sit on the river bank and wait for a change in consumer or retail mentality.

"You have to create an economic advantage," says Ambrosini. A consultant for several municipalities, he has followed a village in the Cinque Terre, such as Vernazza: 852 inhabitants and more than five thousand tourists a day. "Here the punctual tariff has been introduced. And the bars and restaurants have all adopted compostable crockery and glasses". More than the plastic-free ordinance, it is "the economic lever that has been decisive". In Northern ***Europe,*** this is exactly how it has worked for years: the example of beer bottles, "there is a returnable container with a deposit. And everyone brings them back'. The real change of pace, therefore, is twofold: choosing 100% recyclable materials (glass versus plastic) and encouraging individuals to reduce the amount of waste. Yes, but how? "By introducing the punctual tariff. But we need to take away the bins and encourage people to produce less waste. True quality," says Ambrosini, "is not seen in the quantity of waste separated, since they don't know whether it is clean or not. But from the reduction in the per capita production of undifferentiated waste. The example is Rogno (Bg)", which had 65% separate waste and 80 kilograms of dry waste per head.

"We have introduced the punctual tariff. And waste separation has risen to 92%, dry waste is down to 38 kilograms".

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Materials

In recent years, all the municipalities in Brescia have switched to a separate waste collection system. And many have exceeded the 70-75% threshold, reaching well over 80 There is a difference between separating waste in collection and actually recycling the material. While glass is almost 100% recoverable, only part of the plastic can become the same polymer again. Bottles often become something else, e.g. synthetic textile material or watering cans ***European*** directives are pushing for the elimination of single-use plastics, aiming to reduce the amount of waste and replace it with recoverable materials

578 Kilograms of plastic

produced per year by each inhabitant of the city of Brescia; Bagnolo

is at 42.6 kg, Desenzano at 106 kg.

30 The maximum percentage

of recycled plastic (PET) in a water bottle,

the rest is virgin matter

**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Waste Reduction (69%)

**Industry:** Plastics (94%)

**Load-Date:** June 2, 2019

**End of Document**

[***The left's biggest mistake: it has forgotten the 'penultimate'; Visioni Federico Rampini's essay (Mondadori) on why this political party has lost the people***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5W7W-DX91-JDMV-K088-00000-00&context=)

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**Section:** CULTURE; Page 37

**Length:** 1033 words

**Byline:** Aldo Cazzullo

**Body**

"I nesorable, unrelenting, every year the date of the Oscar night arrives. I look forward to it when I see the date approaching. I already know what's in store for me. All the progressive media - American, global - are at their worst that night. An orgy of politically correct banalities, a descent into the underworld of hypocrisy. Hollywood stars know this very well, they have learned to manipulate the gullibility of commentators. Every celebrity has its own public relations officers, who also look after its 'values' image; the Oscar catwalk is used to send messages that provoke the orgasm of the progressive media. Each time, the actress or actor will be informed by the communication experts, who have been trained in advance. They need to know whether climate change or racism, immigrants or sexual harassment are more in fashion that year. The star must have his or her speech on polar bears, or the violence of the American police against blacks, or the abuse of women (preferably actresses), or the drama of the dead drowned in the Mediterranean ready...". .

This is an unexpected Federico Rampini. Usually, when you read his books, you always learn something. This is the case this time as well (for example, the beautiful images of Ethiopia, a country of over one hundred million inhabitants that is never mentioned). But La notte della sinistra (Mondadori) is also an invective. With points of bitter irony, such as the passage on polar bears interchangeable with drowned children, which returns in other pages of the book, as a reminder of the unscrupulousness of progressive Hollywood stars (and their press offices).

It is a book of great intellectual courage. Someone, in good or bad faith, misunderstood it - or pretended to misunderstand it - and concluded: Rampini has become right-wing. The opposite is true. The author does not deny his youthful militancy, nor the gaze with which he has followed the events of recent decades, in the many places where life and work have taken him: the Brussels of the nascent ***Europe***, the Paris of Mitterrand, the Milan of Clean Hands, the San Francisco of the new economy, the Beijing and New Delhi of the Cindia boom, the New York of Obama and now of Trump. But for this very reason Rampini is rightly indignant at what the left has become. And for its mistakes, which have led it to lose the people. Leaning on the lips of entertainment billionaires - and the masters of the web who accumulate money and power without even paying taxes - is just one of the gauchist blunders that have opened the door to Brexit, to Trump, to the phenomena that the author tries to understand, refusing to hastily dismiss them as "fascism at the gates" and "black plague". Because it was the white workers of Michigan, Pennsylvania and Ohio who twice elected the first African-American president in history who elected Trump. "Are they racist too?" wonders Rampini.

Demonising the opponent, that's another mistake. Everything is Trump's fault, even the risk of whale extinction (at least according to Ian Buruma). And as soon as it turns out that it wasn't Trump but the Mexican police who had a number written - in marker - on the arms of children at the border, it wasn't Trump but Clinton who initiated the construction of the Wall, it wasn't Trump but Obama who initiated the horrendous practice of separating children from their parents, that's when the topic no longer interests most of the media. To denounce this is not to be Trumpist; on the contrary, it is to point out the danger that a great communicator like Trump takes advantage of the evident partiality of the information system, to say to the voters: they are deceiving you, they are the elite, you are the people; and I am with you. Exactly what happened in the 2016 election campaign, and is still happening.

But the left's biggest mistake was not realising that, preoccupied with the last - out of a good heart or even out of complacency - it was forgetting about the penultimate ones. Of the poor Americans - and Italians. Of the workers who have lost their jobs, or of the 'new workers', the Amazon salesman, the call centre operator, the young precarious workers who feel and are sometimes really outnumbered by migrants who have arrived illegally and are willing to work a lot in exchange for little, perhaps even illegally; after all, if they entered a country in violation of its rules, why should they respect them afterwards? Rampini reminds us that Mexicans or Africans certainly did not come to America or Italy to suppress workers' rights and wages; but uncontrolled immigration is inevitably destined to suppress workers' rights and wages. It is not by chance that the two iconic presidents of 20th century progressivism, Franklin Delano Roosevelt and John Fitzgerald Kennedy, had a very tough policy on immigration, effectively closing the borders; while the storming capitalisms do not want to hear about borders, because they need cheap labour.

Rampini does justice to many clichés. It is no longer true that "immigrants do the jobs that our young people no longer want to do". Nor is it true that "immigrants will pay our pensions", because they too will grow old and will be entitled to a pension, but at that point other immigrants will have to work to pay theirs, and so if Social Security or the Inps are to depend on migration, then migration must continue indefinitely.

Who benefited, for example, from the caravan from Honduras set up by humanitarian organisations as a challenge to Trump, it is clear: it benefited Trump, who even so saved his majority in the Senate in the November 2018 elections. But are we sure that migration benefits poor countries? Of course not. "Help them at home" is not a right-wing formula, Rampini reminds us. And he cites the example of Malawi: half of the doctors trained in the African country are now in London; this makes it easier for English healthcare and its patients, but destroys Malawi's possibility of giving itself an efficient healthcare system.

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**End of Document**

[***Because for the EU not to become complacent about US defence; The needle in the balance***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5WBV-VK01-F13X-94J4-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

16 June 2019 Sunday

NATIONAL Edition

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**Section:** FOREIGN; Page 16

**Length:** 500 words

**Byline:** Sergio Romano

**Body**

The ***European*** Defence Community foundered in the French National Assembly on 30 August 1954, sunk by the torpedoes of the Gaullist party (the sovereignists of the time) and those of the Communist party. But it has not been forgotten and has remained tenaciously on the agenda of what the ***European Union*** must do to add an indispensable component to its integration process. The latest initiatives are particularly promising. For military matters there is now a 'Permanent Structured Cooperation' (the acronym is PESCO) and a ***European*** Defence Fund has been created with a seven-year budget of ***€13*** billion from the ***EU***'s five-year budget. Most recently, in Strasbourg, High Representative for Foreign and Security Policy Federica Mogherini said: "We want to support research and cooperation to develop new defence capabilities. The fund will set aside 4.1 billion to finance research projects, and another 8.9 billion to finance prototypes". It has also been decided that the use of this money, for the realisation of the projects, will preferably involve the member states of the Union.

The Americans did not like the clause, and in recent days they have summoned the ambassadors of the ***EU*** countries to the State Department in Washington to make their representations. Behind these complaints there is also the fear that the more ***Europe*** is organised militarily, the less it will need NATO.

I believe there are good reasons why the ***EU*** prefers to avoid the participation of American companies in principle. Those involved in the armaments sector are part of a 'military industrial complex' that has a powerful lobby and can exert strong pressure on Congress and the US presidency. The term was first used by President Eisenhower when, in his last address to the country on 17 January 1961, as he was leaving the White House, he said: "We must guard against the influences exerted by the military industrial complex, both overt and covert. The potential for the disastrous rise of powers overstepping their seat and prerogatives exists now and will persist into the future".

The facts have confirmed his fears and the 'military industrial complex', thanks to a network of consultants and collaborators coming from the armed forces after the end of their careers, has become a second Ministry of War. The new US president does not share the apprehensions of his distant predecessor. One of Donald Trump's first initiatives after entering the White House was a trip to Saudi Arabia where he signed $111 billion worth of military contracts. I don't think it suits the ***European Union*** to entrust its military needs to companies that are so closely linked to the often highly questionable interests of a major power.

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**Subject: *European Union*** (84%); Politics (65%); ***European Union*** Regulation + Policy (62%); Weapons + Arms (62%)

**Industry:** Defense Industry (94%)

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[***Maia Filorussi's government at arm's length with the pro-EuropeansThe Prime Minister***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5WBV-VK01-F13X-94J5-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

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**Section:** FOREIGN; Page 16

**Length:** 562 words

**Byline:** Fabrizio Dragosei

**Highlight:** Turnaround in Moldova, leaves tycoon Plahotniuc Reactions For once, everyone is rejoicing, from Putin to Brussels to the US State Department

**Body**

MOSCOW

The result of the fierce political battle that has taken place in Moldova in recent weeks is certainly exceptional, with the formation of a coalition between the pro-Russian and ***pro-European*** parties that was immediately welcomed with enthusiasm by Moscow, Washington and Brussels. And to achieve this at a time when relations between Russia and the US are chilly to say the least, it took the commitment of an equally exceptional woman in a country famous for being the poorest in ***Europe***, from which all the best talents emigrate.

The head of the government who won the battle against the conservative party of the country's most powerful oligarch is Maia Sandu, 47 years old, speaks fluent English and Russian, has a master's degree from Harvard and has worked as an economist at the World Bank in Chisinau and in Washington (as advisor to the executive director) and at the United Nations. In recent days she had not even managed to install members of her government in the ministries, blocked by the Democratic Party of the all-powerful Vladimir Plahotniuc, oil, finance and TV magnate. From Victoriabank to Petrom Moldova to the Prime Tv and Publika Tv channels.

The Party, supported by the Constitutional Court full of the oligarch's loyalists, continued to bet its cards on the parallel government of Pavel Filip, who had also been entrusted with the interim post of head of state.

Then the long confrontation ended with the victory (at least for now) of Sandu and her 'Grosse Koalition' over Moldova. During the night, the media reported a great deal of traffic at the international airport of Chisinau, the capital. Several private jets are reported to have left for various destinations with the defeated oligarch and his associates on board. Flight plans for Moscow, London, Istanbul, Odessa. Plahotniuc, on the other hand, flew to Switzerland, where his family has been living for some time. In a fiery communiqué, his party denied it was a flight: "Just a two-day visit to his family".

Maia Sandu is the leader of the Acum bloc, which is aiming at a further integration of Moldova with the ***European Union***, even if, for now, the idea of membership is very distant. With her are the pro-Russian members of President Igor Dodon's Socialist Party, whom the Democrats had tried to oust, again thanks to a decision by the "friendly" Constitutional Court. Dodon and his party have long been calling for greater proximity to Moscow.

The outcome of the clash is exactly what Vladimir Putin had hoped for in recent days when he expressed his support for the Moldovan head of state: "We absolutely support President Dodon and his current coalition partners so that they can get rid of the people who have usurped power in Moldova". The US State Department appreciated the decision of the Democratic Party to withdraw. Support also came from the ***EU and*** from Paris and Berlin.

Now that the country has been freed "from the leaders of the mafia group that terrorised Moldovans for years", as he put it, Sandu hopes to be able to implement reforms to unlock aid from the ***European Union*** and the Monetary Fund. The path he points to for his country is one that could perhaps also have ensured peace and prosperity for neighbouring Ukraine: a role as an economic and cultural bridge between ***Europe*** and Russia.

@Drag6

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**Industry:** Trains (62%)

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[***Conte files the letter to the EUVice-premiers' stakes***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5WBV-VK01-F13X-94HN-00000-00&context=)

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**Section:** ECONOMY; Page 8

**Length:** 422 words

**Byline:** Alessandro Trocino

**Highlight:** Council President asks Brussels to review rules. Salvini and Di Maio: lower taxes.

**Body**

ROME

Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte's letter to the ***European Union*** Commission 'is on its way', or rather 'is almost ready', or rather 'the premier is filing it'. On Thursday evening it seemed that the much-announced letter was on the verge of being sent to Brussels. But then Conte explained that it had not yet been sent. Yesterday, the offices explained that the prime minister "is at work" and was looking at the last details.

It may simply be a matter of normal caution for such an important letter, but the fact remains that it will be important to assess the content and tone, in light of the different positions that Conte, on the one hand, and the vice-premiers seemed to have taken. The Prime Minister seemed to take a soft line, aligned with the prudence of Economy Minister Giovanni Tria. Then, according to rumours, after a discussion with Salvini and Di Maio, he realigned himself on firmer and less conciliatory tones.

Conte will ask ***Europe*** to review the rules, starting with the 3% ceiling on the deficit/GDP ratio. A request that does not come at the right time, given that Italy will be the main subject to which the rules will be applied, and asking for them to be changed right now is not the height of elegance.

But elegance is not a priority for the executive at the moment, not least because the two deputy prime ministers are pressing. Salvini insists on the flat tax and repeated yesterday: 'The first commitment I want to maintain in the economic manoeuvre is to cut taxes for workers and entrepreneurs. There is no tug-of-war with ***Europe***: reducing taxes is our commitment and our right, indeed our duty. No one will be able to prevent us from doing so. Salvini did not fail to issue a warning to make it clear who is really in charge in Italy: "If it goes well in Brussels, I'm happy. If it doesn't go well in Brussels, the Italians' money will be managed by the Italians' government, not by others". The M5S leader is not enthusiastic about the flat tax and makes it clear by explaining: "The objective is to lower taxes, but I would not like someone to think they can do it by increasing VAT or saying no to deductions for families". The balance is therefore up to Conte, who has asked for "full powers" in the negotiations with Brussels, even if this letter will have more political content and therefore inevitably generic, while the real confrontation will take place when it comes to the numbers.

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**Subject:** Economic Policy (94%); ***European Union*** (92%); National Debt (84%); Economic Growth (78%); Gross Domestic Product (71%); Public Debt (71%)

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[***The art of building bridges The philosopher of dialogue; Paths Biographies***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5WBV-VK01-F13X-94WM-00000-00&context=)

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READING Edition

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**Section:** READING; Page 53

**Length:** 1658 words

**Byline:** marina calloni

**Highlight:** Maestri The German thinker known for his theory of communicative action is ninety years old. A pupil of the Frankfurt School, he nonetheless distanced himself from the negative dialectics of Horkheimer and Adorno. His speeches on the role of religion and the difficulties of ***Europe***

**Body**

The crisis of democracies, the role of faith in secularised societies, the future of the ***European Union***: these are the main reflections to which Jürgen Habermas has devoted the last decade. Philosophy, politics and the critique of society have been intertwined in his intellectual life since his youthful beginnings, through the dilemmas of the 20th century to the global scenarios of the new millennium. At 90 years of age, Habermas (born 18 June 1929 in Düsseldorf) can be considered the last of the 20th century's systematic thinkers, where the post-metaphysical principle of communicative action becomes a philosophy of discursive communication as "an understanding of the world and of the Self, once the competition with metaphysics, religion and the exact sciences has been abandoned".

Habermas is usually regarded as a representative of the second generation of the Frankfurt School, founded and personified by Max Horkheimer and Theodor Adorno. However, in the course of time, Habermas has differed greatly from the negative dialectical framework advocated by the 'founding fathers', who held that reason has been instrumental since the dawn of humanity. Rather, Habermas came to support a procedural and normative conception of communicative reason, which expresses itself through multiple voices and aims to achieve understanding through language, embodied in everyday life.

Actually, Habermas did not think he would become a philosopher. His first major public intervention was an article in 1953 in the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, which was highly polemical towards Martin Heidegger. His work as a freelance journalist stopped in 1954, however, when Adorno invited him to the Institute for Social Research in Frankfurt to take part in a project on 'Students and Politics', which ended in 1959.

In the meantime, relations with the director of the Institute, Horkheimer, had become strained due to theoretical-political differences, to the point that Habermas was prevented from taking his habilitation in Frankfurt, despite having completed it. Thus, he asked Wolfgang Abendroth (a socialist jurist and political scientist, exiled from East Germany) for hospitality, who allowed him to discuss in 1961 the work that would soon bring Habermas much notoriety: History and Critique of Public Opinion. The transformation of the Enlightenment public sphere will remain one of the cornerstones for the subsequent theory of deliberative democracy.

Habermas was then welcomed to Heidelberg as a professor of philosophy (1961-1964) by Hans-Georg Gadamer, the father of contemporary hermeneutics, who had an undoubted influence on his subsequent elaboration of linguistic interpretation. But once again the political debate came into Habermas' life with the beginning of the student revolts. Nor did he escape heavy criticism for using the term 'left-wing fascism' against certain positions of the movement. Habermas was then developing his own original system, where philosophical tradition and comparison with other models of thought were intertwined with reflection on the logic of the social sciences, against the positivist approach.

In 1968 Habermas wrote an essay on Work and Interaction, in which he highlighted the notion of recognition as an intersubjective element that precedes the material relationship between subject and object. The critique of the Marxian approach of the priority of work over interaction will be the pivot around which the theory of communicative action will revolve.

In 1971, Habermas was appointed director of the Max-Planck-Institute in Starnberg to investigate the living conditions in the scientific-technical world. This was a further challenge: to work with a group of young researchers on the development of a new social theory and innovative empirical research. This experience gave rise to the impressive T

he theory of communicative action, in which the author uses the ideal-typical concepts of system and life-world to thematise the foundations of a critical theory of society. This work was met with a great deal of criticism, especially from "realist" theorists who branded Habermas as an "idealist" because he used counterfactual concepts such as action directed towards understanding, when in reality the world is directed by strategic aims. But it is precisely for this reason, the author retorted, that normative and intersubjective concepts are fundamental against all abuses and violations.

In 1983, Habermas returned to Frankfurt with a professorship in philosophy, which he held until his retirement in 1994. It is difficult to summarise Habermas' decade as a philosopher, as it was dense with both philosophical publications (from the discourse on modernity, to the ethics of discourse, to the first book on post-metaphysical thought) and political writings (from the inclusion of the other, to the post-national constellation, to the post-socialist revolutions and multiculturalism). Habermas' intellectual curiosity led him to build bridges, to find places of comparison and confrontation with other models of thought. Before him, no philosopher of the German academy, whether post-Hegelian or Marxist, had ever attempted a serious comparison with theories from overseas, in an attempt to break the clear separation that distinguished the continental tradition from analytical philosophy, as if they were cognitively irreconcilable worlds. By inviting the most famous philosophers of the time, such as the American John Searle, to Frankfurt, Habermas aimed to understand the reasons of others both to identify points of disagreement and to further corroborate the theory of communicative action, correcting or integrating specific aspects, as happened with the recognition of the "forgetfulness" of feminism as a deliberative public sphere and an essential movement for the rethinking of social justice.

His decision to retire from active teaching at the age of 65 has not prevented Habermas from continuing to lecture, develop post-metaphysical thinking and write about politics. The two main areas that have inspired his work in recent years have been the question of religion and reflection on the future of democracy and the ***EU***. The philosophical interest in religion stems from a twofold reason, both historical and philosophical: because of the revival of religion in public discourse after 1989 (as emerges also from the 2004 debate with the then Cardinal Ratzinger) and because of the need to better define the problem of the sacred within the framework of communicative action, since it had until then simply been relegated to the 'expressive sphere'. The political focus on ***Europe*** is rather a critique of the functionalist system implemented by the EU bureaucracies and at the same time the need to create an anti-nationalist alliance, such that citizens can find ways of deliberating in a common public sphere.

The real last theoretical challenge, however, concerns Habermas' new magnum opus, which will be published by Suhrkamp in September. It is also a history of philosophy, a reconstruction of the genealogy of post-metaphysical Western thought, when philosophy became secularised, once it had distanced itself from the dyad of faith and knowledge, with the autonomisation of the value spheres of law, morality and politics, determined by social change.

On these and other topics, Habermas will give a public lecture on 19 June at Frankfurt University, which will undoubtedly be packed with a large audience. When I first met him in the early 1980s, while preparing to write my dissertation, I immediately had the impression that Habermas not only questioned the things of the world with his thoughts, but also looked at people with his eyes in order to grasp their truth. And this is still the rudder that guides his 90 years.

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The celebration

The public lecture given by German philosopher Jürgen Habermas (left: photo Ap) on 19 June at Frankfurt University on the relationship between morality and ethics is entitled Once again: on the relationship between morality and ethics, to mark his ninetieth birthday (he was born in Düsseldorf on 18 June 1929).

Incoming work

Habermas' two-volume work (about 1,300 pages in total) entitled Auch eine Geschichte der Philosophie ("Also a History of Philosophy") will be published by Suhrkamp in September. The first volume is devoted to The Western Constellation of Faith and Knowledge; the second is Rational Freedom. Traces of the discourse on faith and knowledge

Journalistic debut

In 1953, at the age of 24, Habermas wrote an article in the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung against Martin Heidegger for republishing his 1935 Lectures on Metaphysics without mentioning Nazism, to which he had adhered. That intervention prefigures Habermas' public role, in which philosophical reflection and civil commitment are based on each other.

A classic

Habermas is an international reference author and several studies are dedicated to his thinking on communicative action. This can be seen in the recent T

he Cambridge Habermas Lexicon, edited by Amy Allen and Eduardo Mendieta (Cambridge University Press, 850 pages),

e 115,30), as well as the collection Habermas Global , edited by Lucia Corchia, Stefan Müller-Doohm and William Outhwaite, soon to be published by Suhrkamp. In Italy, the reception of Habermas's thought began in the 1960s, although the precise study of his theory has been developed above all, since 1990, by the Seminario di Teoria Critica

The author of the article

Marina Calloni is Professor of Political and Social Philosophy at the University of Milan-Bicocca. She was a research fellow at the University of Frankfurt (working with Jürgen Habermas) and has worked at the London School of Economics.

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[***The future of work; The debate of ideas***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5WBV-VK01-F13X-94S4-00000-00&context=)

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**Section:** READING; Page 2.3.4.5

**Length:** 10703 words

**Byline:** conversation between GIANFRANCO BETTIN , MAURIZIO FERRERA and MAURIZIO LANDINI edited by ANTONIO CARIOTI

**Highlight:** Former Green Party member of parliament, now president of the Marghera municipality, Gianfranco Bettin has just published a novel - 'Cracking' - which is the story of a worker in Porto Marghera, then of one of the symbolic poles of Italian industrialisation, now largely abandoned. The point is this, says Bettin: Italy no longer has an industrial policy. In order to discuss the relaunch of production, labour laws, welfare and the environment, "la Lettura" also invited political scientist Maurizio Ferrera and CGIL secretary Maurizio Landini.

**Body**

The novel Cracking (Mondadori) by Gianfranco Bettin, former Green Party member and now president of the Marghera municipality, offers a useful starting point for tackling the theme of work and its transformations. We asked the political scientist Maurizio Ferrera and the Secretary General of the CGIL, Maurizio Landini, to discuss the subject with the author.

GIANFRANCO BETTIN - I tell the story of a worker who in Porto Marghera defends the factory from which he had just retired, in aid of his former workmates. We are at a time when the loneliness of the working class is at its greatest, in the metamorphosis phase between the ruins of the old industrial system and the signs of the new. It is a 'middle ground' in which workers and trade unions are called upon to express a tension, an ability to go beyond. In order to meet their demands, an industrial policy would be needed, but it has been abandoned in Italy. I have tried to describe with the tools of literature the transformation of work, in its social and human aspects, to draw attention to this need.

MAURIZIO FERRERA - I really appreciated Bettin's novel, which is well written and engaging. It tells of a terrible case of deindustrialisation, also accompanied by serious corruption. In Ivrea, where I lived, the Olivetti crisis was better managed, perhaps because the previous company decisions ensured that, once the plants were closed, the desert would not remain and the territory would find a different vocation. Work has always undergone great changes, even in ancient times. Now that we have the infosphere, the pace of change has become so rapid, with the continual de-structuring of production, organisational and social practices, that even the best equipped countries, such as those in northern ***Europe***, where there is closer cooperation between politics and the social partners, are struggling to cope.

GIANFRANCO BETTIN - Even those with an industrial policy are suffering. Let alone Italy, where it is absent.

MAURIZIO FERRERA - In the past, Sweden and Finland, where the mining sector, which was very flourishing in the north of those countries, rapidly went into crisis, managed to implement a real mass transfer of workers and their families to the southern areas, where the new industries were being created, by organising retraining courses and employment services that made it possible to avoid destructive social effects with the help of the trade unions, companies and public authorities.

GIANFRANCO BETTIN - Here, however, state intervention has been limited to cushioning the hardships of redundant workers, without bothering to relaunch production activities and giving rise to predatory behaviour on the part of unscrupulous individuals.

MAURIZIO FERRERA - But now the digital revolution is creating serious problems in Scandinavia too, because employment has become unstable due to the constant metamorphosis of jobs. To remedy the resulting insecurity, a new welfare system is needed. If the worker has a support system to back him up, the prospect of losing his job does not turn into an existential drama. It is a condition to which one can adapt, as long as one does not suddenly risk finding oneself abandoned, without access to services, in the condition of getting up in the morning and having nothing in front of one. In Italy there are no more short-term workers than in other ***European*** countries, but this situation generates greater discomfort in our country, because there is a lack of shock absorbers and adequate employment services, especially in the South, where people can fall prey to forced labour. The low participation of women in the labour market also has an impact, because single-income families are more vulnerable.

MAURIZIO LANDINI - Bettin's book not only tells the story of deindustrialisation in the chemical sector, with the related problems of pollution and reclamation, but also describes the impact of that process on the lives of those affected. For me, this is the point: since work remains a very strong identity trait for people, without which they go into crisis, its centrality must be reaffirmed. It is not easy today for trade unions, because when some employees do the same work as others, but have fewer rights, the worker becomes blackmailable, feels alone, loses confidence in the possibility of organising to protect his or her interests. Globalisation has certainly had an impact, pitting millions of people who had won rights against billions of others who had and still have none. But more generally, the idea that every social constraint, from collective agreements to redundancy rules, was an undue impediment to the free market has taken hold. Thus today, especially for young people, work has become precarious by definition. The system described by Bettin, with contracts, subcontracts and fake cooperatives, does not only dominate the industrial restructuring processes. We find it in hospitals, shopping centres, public bodies and the logistics sector. All this has been favoured by precise legislative choices (also made by left-wing forces in the name of a misunderstood 'lesser evil'), which in Italy and ***Europe*** have called into question the mediation between capital and labour achieved in the past through collective bargaining and welfare. In some ways we have returned to our origins, to a culture whereby work is a commodity to be sold and bought, even if it involves people's lives.

What does the CGIL propose to change course?

MAURIZIO LANDINI - First of all, we are calling for a different labour legislation. For example, we have deposited a bill in Parliament that takes the form of a charter of universal rights. We don't want to go back to the 1970 workers' statute, but to affirm that rights must belong to the individual and must not vary according to the type of employment. Once this principle has been established, we absolutely must put an end to precarious employment, to unhealthy flexibility. Of course, various forms of flexibility can be negotiated according to production needs, but it must not be possible for the company to put workers in competition with each other in order to hire those who accept the type of contract that protects them the least. On the trade union level we want a more inclusive bargaining, which keeps all forms of work within a few major national contracts and includes a number of essential rights. One is lifelong learning: a part of the working time paid and dedicated to updating. This would be something more than the 150 hours that in the 1970s enabled 800,000 workers to obtain a primary or secondary school leaving certificate. I am thinking of training activities carried out by appropriate structures (as in Germany, where there are 120,000 people employed in these tasks) that accompany the employees of a company throughout their careers. Another problem is time management: generalised reductions in working hours, but not the same for everyone, with modulations designed according to discomfort, work performance and life cycles. Some people also work at night or on public holidays, and this must be taken into account.

GIANFRANCO BETTIN - Don't forget the environmental and health issues, which were the subject of important workers' struggles in the past.

MAURIZIO LANDINI - These are battles that must be taken up again. But on the environment I pose a global question. Now that the whole world is industrialising, extending our development model to the whole planet would have catastrophic effects. We must ask ourselves what and how to produce, and how to use technology, which is by no means neutral. The trade unions cannot play a secondary role in this, and can only intervene after the fact.

MAURIZIO FERRERA - Are you thinking of a German-style co-management model?

MAURIZIO LANDINI - We want to go further. It's not enough to have representatives on boards. I have been a member of a cooperative and I know that for real participation it is not enough to elect delegates. If I want workers to be fulfilled in what they do, I have to deal with the right of ownership, according to which it is up to the entrepreneur alone to decide how work is done. I'm not talking about overcoming private enterprise, let me be clear, but I hope for equal dignity between capital and labour, with a new social responsibility of companies. However, this means accepting that operational choices, organisational models, and production are no longer the absolute monopoly of the company or of a management that is often insensitive and detached from production and dedicated only to remunerating capital. And imagine a return to public intervention, to cut the nails of overly aggressive finance and set social, industrial and environmental priorities. In order to put work back at the centre, politics must regain a planning dimension.

MAURIZIO FERRERA - But be careful not to mythologise the State, which in Italy has often acted in a welfare way according to clientelistic criteria. Suffice it to think that at one time invalidity pensions were more numerous than old age pensions, because they were used as a perverse social shock absorber (a risk that may recur today with citizenship income) for the regions of the South where there was a lack of work. It is all very well to call for more planning capacity, but let us not forget what public intervention has been in the past.

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MAURIZIO FERRERA - But such action must be carried out at ***European*** level, not just within Italy. For example, the Union has approved a very advanced ***European*** pillar of social rights. But now the problem is to make it effective, to transform it into Community directives that must then be transposed and above all implemented. In Italy we have many rights on paper, but the actual situation is the opposite. This is why, rather than talking about rights, I prefer to talk about "social guarantees", with subsidiary rules establishing the level of services to which citizens are entitled. And the notion of guarantee must also include the resources to make it effective. Lastly, there is a need for careful monitoring of what happens in actual situations. A new and important issue from this point of view is that, raised earlier by Landini, of lifelong learning, for which, however, efficient structures are needed. In Italy we approve reforms and do not worry about their implementation: the result is that we are a country not only split in two between North and South, but further fragmented, where there is no certainty that the rights ensured in theory (especially those concerning services) are really usable according to uniform standards.

MAURIZIO LANDINI - ***Europe*** is a fundamental dimension. The trouble is that today it exists only as a currency, while in terms of taxation and social policies each State goes its own way. In this way, the Eastern member states, which want walls against immigrants, have attracted productive activities thanks to low wages and taxes, encouraging the relocation of our companies and the spread of a chauvinist, xenophobic and culturally regressive sovereignty. But our country also has its faults and weaknesses. If in Italy we have record tax evasion and huge costs resulting from rampant corruption, it is not ***Europe's*** fault. And this is why we lack resources to implement social rights. Moreover, given that in recent years wealth has increased rather than decreased, there is a problem of redistribution in favour of work, which has suffered enormous devaluation to the benefit of business. In 1970 the workers' statute was voted for by the centre-left parties and the liberals (who were in opposition), while the communists abstained. There was a broad consensus (left, centre and even right) that workers had rights. On the contrary, in recent years, instead of protecting people, it has been preferred to guarantee companies the right to dismiss. This is quite a cultural leap, which some have presented as progressive.

GIANFRANCO BETTIN - Unfortunately, in a situation like this, the workers have no choice but to climb up the chimneys, as the protagonist of my book does.

MAURIZIO LANDINI - Of course. If I am a precarious worker left to my own devices and my loneliness remains the same, whether the right or the left governs, where will I find representation? That's why I say that the turning point is to put working people back at the centre: there have never been as many in the world as there are now, but not as many divided and opposed. I don't have the solution in my pocket, but I do say that giving them back representation and hope is the main issue to be resolved.

GIANFRANCO BETTIN - There is no doubt that in the 1970s, even among the leaders of the government parties (I am thinking of the Christian Democrat Minister of Labour, Carlo Donat Cattin) there were people who saw workers as people of flesh and blood, whereas now they are seen as interchangeable numbers.

MAURIZIO FERRERA - But in the 1970s the unemployed received derisory benefits and the new generation of young people, the children of the baby boom, struggled to find work. Moreover, from that period we inherited a very unbalanced social protection system: disability pensions, whose abnormal weight I remember, were a form of assistance with which the parties fed the vote of bargaining. Wasn't the Jobs Act a step forward, since it made more unemployment benefits accessible, now called Naspi?

MAURIZIO LANDINI - The Jobs Act, adopted without consulting the trade unions, has been a disaster. It has not implemented serious active employment policies: among other things, the majority of job centre employees are precarious and are supposed to help other people find a permanent job, a fine masterpiece. In addition, the Jobs Act has reduced the social safety nets, both in their temporal extension and in the number of workers involved. The Naspi, which lasts a maximum of 18 months (unless there are exceptions), has replaced the mobility allowance, which could last up to four years and therefore offered much greater coverage to those who lost their jobs. It is no coincidence that it was widely used in major restructuring processes.

MAURIZIO FERRERA - Mobility did not concern all workers, but only the employees of certain categories of companies and an agreement between the union and the ministry was necessary to obtain it. For those who did not have that cover, unemployment benefits lasted six months.

MAURIZIO LANDINI - So they should have extended mobility, not cancelled it. Instead, they have also reduced the redundancy fund, which, among other things, costs more than before, so that companies, rather than adopting it, are better off laying off employees and paying them the relevant allowance. We have always tried to cover the employees of artisan companies and we have asked for the redundancy fund to become a right for everyone, for every type of company to pay a contribution to this end.

MAURIZIO FERRERA - It would be a further burden that many small businesses would struggle to bear. We already have a very high tax wedge, which undermines the competitiveness of the Italian economy, because too many taxes and contributions weigh on wages.

MAURIZIO LANDINI: The tax wedge is a big problem, because workers pay too high a tax rate, but it has nothing to do with competitiveness, which is linked to the added value of products. It's not social security contributions that make the difference on the market. However, it is essential to reduce the tax burden on wages in order to increase the income of workers.

MAURIZIO FERRERA - But if all the other countries have been concerned about reducing and rebalancing social security contributions, maybe it has something to do with competitiveness.

MAURIZIO LANDINI - The real point is that we have not invested enough in innovation. If you want to compete on the world car market, you have to develop electric vehicles, not reduce the tax wedge.

GIANFRANCO BETTIN - The interesting aspect is to link the need for innovation with the need to guarantee new rights for workers on a universal basis.

MAURIZIO LANDINI - I am convinced that it is possible to set up a system of social shock absorbers to cover all workers, even those who are formally self-employed with a VAT number. All that is needed is for companies, when they employ these people, to pay appropriate contributions, to be modulated according to the sector. Who is prohibiting this? The only thing is that governments prefer this support not to be a right of workers, but an aid to be granted discretionally, as they did in the 2000s with the redundancy fund and mobility on derogation.

MAURIZIO FERRERA - There is certainly a need for a universalistic instrument to support the unemployed, but it must be an aid in the market, aimed at relocating the worker.

MAURIZIO LANDINI: This idea of putting people on the market, severing the link with their employment, is a way of taking responsibility away from the company, which should instead take responsibility for the social problem it creates by making its employees redundant.

MAURIZIO FERRERA - This creates a segmentation that favours the employees of large companies. For decades, the redundancy fund only applied to companies with more than 15 employees. You asked for it to be extended and you were told no, but Naspi was introduced, which covers more people than before.

MAURIZIO LANDINI - But it gives much less to those who could previously benefit from a wider coverage. On the whole, with the Jobs Act the resources for shock absorbers have not increased, but decreased.

MAURIZIO FERRERA - The real problem is the lack of work in Italy. In Italy, 63% of the adult population works, in France 71%, in Germany 79% and in the Nordic countries even more than 80%. Getting closer to that quota must be the priority. We need an extraordinary investment plan. If it were serious, we could ask for its costs to be excluded from the calculation of the ***European*** parameters for the consolidation of public finances.

GIANFRANCO BETTIN - Among other things, we have once again become a country from which people emigrate in search of work. And not only in the south, where the situation is dramatic, but also in the north.

MAURIZIO FERRERA - This is a phenomenon that impoverishes human capital, but also the territory. If the most active and enterprising leave, those who remain not only struggle to find work, but often no longer have the strength to protest.

GIANFRANCO BETTIN - If you will allow me, I would like to return to the subject of the environment. We need a cultural change. We can no longer treat the environment as a deposit to be exploited. We need to take responsibility for reasons that are not only ethical and philosophical, but also economic. In situations such as Marghera, investing in reclamation means not only cleaning up the land but also creating jobs. In the end, more innovative and less impactful production cycles are also more competitive. It was a mistake to limit ourselves to managing basic chemicals, which are highly polluting, and to neglect fine chemicals research. The same thing has happened in the pharmaceutical and electronics industries. The environmental variable must no longer be considered a secondary element, but the very context in which to develop an industrial policy that respects health, starting with the health of workers. This is where the role of the trade unions is fundamental, and they must make the defence of the ecosystem a priority task.

MAURIZIO FERRERA - Indeed, the green economy has immense potential.

GIANFRANCO BETTIN - This is a partly regenerative and partly innovative dimension, which can provide many jobs if we invest in it. An important sign of this is Eni's decision to take over the "green chemistry" activities of Mossi & Ghisolfi, which has done very important work in this field. We are lagging behind, but a new scenario can be opened up.

MAURIZIO FERRERA - Well, instead of proposing a flat tax, we should go to ***Europe*** with an investment plan for technological innovation, environmental protection, education and culture, perhaps defined in agreement with the social partners. At that point Brussels could not say no. But if the flexibility on public accounts that ***Europe*** grants us is used in the search for consensus, as the current government is doing but as Matteo Renzi has also done, we lose credibility.

GIANFRANCO BETTIN - The trouble is that there is a lack of awareness of industrial problems, not only among politicians, but often also among managers. Bruno Filippini, a chemists' union member who died in 2017, told me that he used to discuss and clash, even harshly, with managers who knew the factory well and breathed the same air as the workers. Then," he told me, "in the 1990s, well-dressed finance men arrived who knew the balance sheets, but knew nothing about the industry. You couldn't talk to them, their job was just to liquidate the chemical industry. Basically, this is the situation described by the writer Paolo Volponi, a former Olivetti manager, in his book Le mosche del capitale (The Flies of Capital). Now, in my opinion, if we don't get back to the idea that we need to put the production side back at the centre, rather than the financial side, we risk losing many precious opportunities and being reduced to a country that lives on tourism and little else. Unfortunately, the political class is not listening in this ear.

MAURIZIO LANDINI - The real issue is how problems are managed, even at world level. Globalisation cannot be reduced to the fact that workers in poor countries will never have rights, and therefore those who do have rights must also be deprived of them. In my opinion, the threshold of rights must be raised everywhere. This cannot be done in Italy, but must be done at least on a ***European*** scale. On the other hand, to return to the issue of public intervention, state capitalism dominates the world. In China, politics counts for a lot. Donald Trump, in order to defend the United States, is imposing tariffs. We are by no means in a situation of absolute market freedom. Even the favourable tax conditions that benefit large groups are the product of legislative choices. So we have to decide whether the priority of politics is the profits of finance or the needs of the people. That is why we are calling for a new welfare system that takes into account factors such as the increase in average age. But in order to build a social ***Europe*** it is necessary to close the chapter of austerity, to change the functions of the Central Bank, to increase the powers of the Strasbourg Parliament. And also to implement decisions that have remained on paper.

For example?

MAURIZIO LANDINI - One of the constraints set by the ***EU*** in Lisbon in 2000 was to invest 3% of gross domestic product in projects for innovation, research and culture. Instead we are at 1.9% and Asia invests more than we do. Then 1.9 is an average, because Germany spends more and others (including Italy) much less. But the problem is to plan a policy on innovation that has a ***European*** scope, because individual states alone cannot meet the challenge. The infrastructures we talk so much about today are not only physical (railways, motorways, ports), but also social (health, education, services), which in turn contribute to making the country competitive.

MAURIZIO FERRERA - Another objective on which ***Europe is*** lagging behind is the fight against poverty, a scourge that in many countries, including Italy, is truly worrying.

MAURIZIO LANDINI - Let me give you an example. Supplementary pension funds have accumulated assets of over 160 billion ***euro***. Couldn't some of this money, which belongs to workers, be used, through an agreement with the state that guarantees returns, to invest in innovation and infrastructure? There are bills filed in Parliament for this purpose, but nothing is moving. We always come back to the basic question of priorities, which for me must be - in accordance with the tradition of the ***European*** welfare model, unfortunately now largely abandoned - the protection of the weakest, people's well-being, social justice, and the quality of work and the environment.

But is there any prospect today of united action by ***European*** trade union forces in this regard?

MAURIZIO LANDINI - To be honest, I have to say no at the moment. We still act too often according to national interest criteria. I'll say it in a nutshell: it's clear that if a company relocates to Poland, it's not as if the Polish workers are protesting and asking to keep production in Italy. However, competition between states in terms of taxation and working conditions, in order to attract investment from abroad, must be limited.

MAURIZIO FERRERA - After all, such a race cannot last. Is it conceivable that all German factories will end up in Eastern Europe? And that, on the other hand, all the educated and enterprising young Romanians will emigrate to the West, reducing their country to a desert? In the long run, this drift is in nobody's interest.

MAURIZIO LANDIN I - Demagogy dominates on immigration. People are calling for the closure of ports and borders, but what are we talking about? With an ageing population and a falling birth rate, an influx of workers from abroad is inevitable. There are entire production sectors that would not survive without immigrants.

MAURIZIO FERRERA - The hypothesis of a plan to use the resources accumulated by the supplementary pension funds, which Landini mentioned earlier, is very interesting, but I don't think it can be implemented at national level: it needs to be relaunched in a ***European*** dimension.

MAURIZIO LANDINI - The problem is that in other countries those funds are generally company funds, while in Italy they are established by national labour contracts. The paradox is that the money of Italian workers, paid to guarantee them more substantial supplementary pensions, is used to support economies other than our own.

MAURIZIO FERRERA - In reality, many other ***EU*** countries also have large complementary pension schemes defined by national contracts, and they have been in place for longer than Italy. Apart from pension funds, I think the proposal of the working group led by Romano Prodi, which has designed a very ambitious plan for ***European*** social infrastructures, to be implemented by mobilising private capital, is also useful.

MAURIZIO LANDINI - That's an interesting hypothesis, but I think we also need ***European*** action in the area of taxation. It is not acceptable that large economic groups continue to pay so little on their very high profits. ***Europe is*** now full of tax havens: Holland, Luxembourg, Ireland. These are contradictions that need to be addressed.

MAURIZIO FERRERA - What about a guaranteed minimum wage? There is much talk of a ***European*** directive on the subject.

MAURIZIO LANDINI: For us the problem is how to introduce such an institute in Italy, where we have national collective labour agreements. However, there is actually a proportion of workers who are not covered by those contracts. We are asking for a rule to recognise that national contracts are also valid by law, and are no longer just agreements between private parties. If the government wanted to intervene in this matter, it could transform into law what we have already stipulated with the employers' associations. But for this we need a discipline that allows us to measure union representation, the number of members that the parties have. In order for a contract to be valid in law, it must be signed by organisations that are truly representative, on both the trade union and employer sides. At this point, national contracts, starting with hourly wages (but also for bonuses, sick pay and so on), become the minimum base below which one cannot go.

MAURIZIO FERRERA - It seems to be a proposal compatible with the hypothesis of a ***European*** measure.

MAURIZIO LANDINI - The fact is that our dual level of bargaining, national and company, is unique in ***Europe***. In France, where there is a minimum wage, the law overrides bargaining, whereas we do not, but it is also true that in France national bargaining has historically been marginal. But we are willing to consider legislative support for national agreements, so that they become binding for all. The problem today is pirate contracts, concluded by bogus unions. To fight them we need a law on trade union representation, as provided for in Article 39 of the Constitution, but in Italy the workers' organisations have never wanted that, because they considered it a limitation of trade union freedom. The CGIL has been fighting for years to implement the Constitution in Articles 36, 39 and 46 (fair compensation, representation and contracts erga omnes, economic democracy), I hope the time has come for everyone to overcome that approach.

Antonio Carioti

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The novel Cracking (Mondadori) by Gianfranco Bettin, former Green Party member and now president of the Marghera municipality, offers a useful starting point for tackling the theme of work and its transformations. We asked the political scientist Maurizio Ferrera and the Secretary General of the CGIL, Maurizio Landini, to discuss the subject with the author.

GIANFRANCO BETTIN - I tell the story of a worker who in Porto Marghera defends the factory from which he had just retired, in aid of his former workmates. We are at a time when the loneliness of the working class is at its greatest, in the metamorphosis phase between the ruins of the old industrial system and the signs of the new. It is a 'middle ground' in which workers and trade unions are called upon to express a tension, an ability to go beyond. In order to meet their demands, an industrial policy would be needed, but it has been abandoned in Italy. I have tried to describe with the tools of literature the transformation of work, in its social and human aspects, to draw attention to this need.

MAURIZIO FERRERA - I really appreciated Bettin's novel, which is well written and engaging. It tells of a terrible case of deindustrialisation, also accompanied by serious corruption. In Ivrea, where I lived, the Olivetti crisis was better managed, perhaps because the previous company decisions ensured that, once the plants were closed, the desert would not remain and the territory would find a different vocation. Work has always undergone great changes, even in ancient times. Now that we have the infosphere, the pace of change has become so rapid, with the continual de-structuring of production, organisational and social practices, that even the best equipped countries, such as those in northern ***Europe***, where there is closer cooperation between politics and the social partners, are struggling to cope.

GIANFRANCO BETTIN - Even those with an industrial policy are suffering. Let alone Italy, where it is absent.

MAURIZIO FERRERA - In the past, Sweden and Finland, where the mining sector, which was very flourishing in the north of those countries, rapidly went into crisis, managed to implement a real mass transfer of workers and their families to the southern areas, where the new industries were being created, by organising retraining courses and employment services that made it possible to avoid destructive social effects with the help of the trade unions, companies and public authorities.

GIANFRANCO BETTIN - Here, however, state intervention has been limited to cushioning the hardships of redundant workers, without bothering to relaunch production activities and giving rise to predatory behaviour on the part of unscrupulous individuals.

MAURIZIO FERRERA - But now the digital revolution is creating serious problems in Scandinavia too, because employment has become unstable due to the constant metamorphosis of jobs. To remedy the resulting insecurity, a new welfare system is needed. If the worker has a support system to back him up, the prospect of losing his job does not turn into an existential drama. It is a condition to which one can adapt, as long as one does not suddenly risk finding oneself abandoned, without access to services, in the condition of getting up in the morning and having nothing in front of one. In Italy there are no more short-term workers than in other ***European*** countries, but this situation generates greater discomfort in our country, because there is a lack of shock absorbers and adequate employment services, especially in the South, where people can fall prey to forced labour. The low participation of women in the labour market also has an impact, because single-income families are more vulnerable.

MAURIZIO LANDINI - Bettin's book not only tells the story of deindustrialisation in the chemical sector, with the related problems of pollution and reclamation, but also describes the impact of that process on the lives of those affected. For me, this is the point: since work remains a very strong identity trait for people, without which they go into crisis, its centrality must be reaffirmed. It is not easy today for trade unions, because when some employees do the same work as others, but have fewer rights, the worker becomes blackmailable, feels alone, loses confidence in the possibility of organising to protect his or her interests. Globalisation has certainly had an impact, pitting millions of people who had won rights against billions of others who had and still have none. But more generally, the idea that every social constraint, from collective agreements to redundancy rules, was an undue impediment to the free market has taken hold. Thus today, especially for young people, work has become precarious by definition. The system described by Bettin, with contracts, subcontracts and fake cooperatives, does not only dominate the industrial restructuring processes. We find it in hospitals, shopping centres, public bodies and the logistics sector. All this has been favoured by precise legislative choices (also made by left-wing forces in the name of a misunderstood 'lesser evil'), which in Italy and ***Europe*** have called into question the mediation between capital and labour achieved in the past through collective bargaining and welfare. In some ways we have returned to our origins, to a culture whereby work is a commodity to be sold and bought, even if it involves people's lives.

What does the CGIL propose to change course?

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GIANFRANCO BETTIN - Unfortunately, in a situation like this, the workers have no choice but to climb up the chimneys, as the protagonist of my book does.

MAURIZIO LANDINI - Of course. If I am a precarious worker left to my own devices and my loneliness remains the same, whether the right or the left governs, where will I find representation? That's why I say that the turning point is to put working people back at the centre: there have never been as many in the world as there are now, but not as many divided and opposed. I don't have the solution in my pocket, but I do say that giving them back representation and hope is the main issue to be resolved.

GIANFRANCO BETTIN - There is no doubt that in the 1970s, even among the leaders of the government parties (I am thinking of the Christian Democrat Minister of Labour, Carlo Donat Cattin) there were people who saw workers as people of flesh and blood, whereas now they are seen as interchangeable numbers.

MAURIZIO FERRERA - But in the 1970s the unemployed received derisory benefits and the new generation of young people, the children of the baby boom, struggled to find work. Moreover, from that period we inherited a very unbalanced social protection system: disability pensions, whose abnormal weight I remember, were a form of assistance with which the parties fed the vote of bargaining. Wasn't the Jobs Act a step forward, since it made more unemployment benefits accessible, now called Naspi?

MAURIZIO LANDINI - The Jobs Act, adopted without consulting the trade unions, has been a disaster. It has not implemented serious active employment policies: among other things, the majority of job centre employees are precarious and are supposed to help other people find a permanent job, a fine masterpiece. In addition, the Jobs Act has reduced the social safety nets, both in their temporal extension and in the number of workers involved. The Naspi, which lasts a maximum of 18 months (unless there are exceptions), has replaced the mobility allowance, which could last up to four years and therefore offered much greater coverage to those who lost their jobs. It is no coincidence that it was widely used in major restructuring processes.

MAURIZIO FERRERA - Mobility did not concern all workers, but only the employees of certain categories of companies and an agreement between the union and the ministry was necessary to obtain it. For those who did not have that cover, unemployment benefits lasted six months.

MAURIZIO LANDINI - So they should have extended mobility, not cancelled it. Instead, they have also reduced the redundancy fund, which, among other things, costs more than before, so that companies, rather than adopting it, are better off laying off employees and paying them the relevant allowance. We have always tried to cover the employees of artisan companies and we have asked for the redundancy fund to become a right for everyone, for every type of company to pay a contribution to this end.

MAURIZIO FERRERA - It would be a further burden that many small businesses would struggle to bear. We already have a very high tax wedge, which undermines the competitiveness of the Italian economy, because too many taxes and contributions weigh on wages.

MAURIZIO LANDINI: The tax wedge is a big problem, because workers pay too high a tax rate, but it has nothing to do with competitiveness, which is linked to the added value of products. It's not social security contributions that make the difference on the market. However, it is essential to reduce the tax burden on wages in order to increase the income of workers.

MAURIZIO FERRERA - But if all the other countries have been concerned about reducing and rebalancing social security contributions, maybe it has something to do with competitiveness.

MAURIZIO LANDINI - The real point is that we have not invested enough in innovation. If you want to compete on the world car market, you have to develop electric vehicles, not reduce the tax wedge.

GIANFRANCO BETTIN - The interesting aspect is to link the need for innovation with the need to guarantee new rights for workers on a universal basis.

MAURIZIO LANDINI - I am convinced that it is possible to set up a system of social shock absorbers to cover all workers, even those who are formally self-employed with a VAT number. All that is needed is for companies, when they employ these people, to pay appropriate contributions, which could be modulated according to the sector. Who is prohibiting this? The only thing is that governments prefer this support not to be a right of workers, but an aid to be granted discretionally, as they did in the 2000s with the redundancy fund and mobility on derogation.

MAURIZIO FERRERA - There is certainly a need for a universalistic instrument to support the unemployed, but it must be an aid in the market, aimed at relocating the worker.

MAURIZIO LANDINI: This idea of putting people on the market, severing the link with their employment, is a way of taking responsibility away from the company, which should instead take responsibility for the social problem it creates by making its employees redundant.

MAURIZIO FERRERA - This creates a segmentation that favours the employees of large companies. For decades, the redundancy fund only applied to companies with more than 15 employees. You asked for it to be extended and you were told no, but Naspi was introduced, which covers more people than before.

MAURIZIO LANDINI - But it gives much less to those who could previously benefit from a wider coverage. On the whole, with the Jobs Act the resources for shock absorbers have not increased, but decreased.

MAURIZIO FERRERA - The real problem is the lack of work in Italy. In Italy, 63% of the adult population works, in France 71%, in Germany 79% and in the Nordic countries even more than 80%. Getting closer to that quota must be the priority. We need an extraordinary investment plan. If it were serious, we could ask for its costs to be excluded from the calculation of the ***European*** parameters for the consolidation of public finances.

GIANFRANCO BETTIN - Among other things, we have once again become a country from which people emigrate in search of work. And not only in the south, where the situation is dramatic, but also in the north.

MAURIZIO FERRERA - This is a phenomenon that impoverishes human capital, but also the territory. If the most active and enterprising leave, those who remain not only struggle to find work, but often no longer have the strength to protest.

GIANFRANCO BETTIN - If you will allow me, I would like to return to the subject of the environment. We need a cultural change. We can no longer treat the environment as a deposit to be exploited. We need to take responsibility for reasons that are not only ethical and philosophical, but also economic. In situations such as Marghera, investing in reclamation means not only cleaning up the land but also creating jobs. In the end, more innovative and less impactful production cycles are also more competitive. It was a mistake to limit ourselves to managing basic chemicals, which are highly polluting, and to neglect fine chemicals research. The same thing has happened in the pharmaceutical and electronics industries. The environmental variable must no longer be considered a secondary element, but the very context in which to develop an industrial policy that respects health, starting with the health of workers. This is where the role of the trade unions is fundamental, and they must make the defence of the ecosystem a priority task.

MAURIZIO FERRERA - Indeed, the green economy has immense potential.

GIANFRANCO BETTIN - This is a partly regenerative and partly innovative dimension, which can provide many jobs if we invest in it. An important sign of this is Eni's decision to take over the "green chemistry" activities of Mossi & Ghisolfi, which has done very important work in this field. We are lagging behind, but a new scenario can be opened up.

MAURIZIO FERRERA - Well, instead of proposing a flat tax, we should go to ***Europe*** with an investment plan for technological innovation, environmental protection, education and culture, perhaps defined in agreement with the social partners. At that point Brussels could not say no. But if the flexibility on public accounts that ***Europe*** grants us is used in the search for consensus, as the current government is doing but as Matteo Renzi has also done, we lose credibility.

GIANFRANCO BETTIN - The trouble is that there is a lack of awareness of industrial problems, not only among politicians, but often also among managers. Bruno Filippini, a chemists' union member who died in 2017, told me that he used to discuss and clash, even harshly, with managers who knew the factory well and breathed the same air as the workers. Then," he told me, "in the 1990s, well-dressed finance men arrived who knew the balance sheets, but knew nothing about the industry. You couldn't talk to them, their job was just to liquidate the chemical industry. Basically, this is the situation described by the writer Paolo Volponi, a former Olivetti manager, in his book Le mosche del capitale (The Flies of Capital). Now, in my opinion, if we don't get back to the idea that we need to put the production side back at the centre, rather than the financial side, we risk losing many precious opportunities and being reduced to a country that lives on tourism and little else. Unfortunately, the political class is not listening in this ear.

MAURIZIO LANDINI - The real issue is how problems are managed, even at world level. Globalisation cannot be reduced to the fact that workers in poor countries will never have rights, and therefore those who do have rights must also be deprived of them. In my opinion, the threshold of rights must be raised everywhere. This cannot be done in Italy, but must be done at least on a ***European*** scale. On the other hand, to return to the issue of public intervention, state capitalism dominates the world. In China, politics counts for a lot. Donald Trump, in order to defend the United States, is imposing tariffs. We are by no means in a situation of absolute market freedom. Even the favourable tax conditions that benefit large groups are the product of legislative choices. So we have to decide whether the priority of politics is the profits of finance or the needs of the people. That is why we are calling for a new welfare system that takes into account factors such as the increase in average age. But in order to build a social ***Europe*** it is necessary to close the chapter of austerity, to change the functions of the Central Bank, to increase the powers of the Strasbourg Parliament. And also to implement decisions that have remained on paper.

For example?

MAURIZIO LANDINI - One of the constraints set by the ***EU*** in Lisbon in 2000 was to invest 3% of gross domestic product in projects for innovation, research and culture. Instead we are at 1.9% and Asia invests more than we do. Then 1.9 is an average, because Germany spends more and others (including Italy) much less. But the problem is to plan a policy on innovation that has a ***European*** scope, because individual states alone cannot meet the challenge. The infrastructures we talk so much about today are not only physical (railways, motorways, ports), but also social (health, education, services), which in turn contribute to making the country competitive.

MAURIZIO FERRERA - Another objective on which ***Europe is*** lagging behind is the fight against poverty, a scourge that in many countries, including Italy, is truly worrying.

MAURIZIO LANDINI - Let me give you an example. The supplementary pension funds have accumulated assets of over 160 billion ***euro***. Couldn't some of this money, which belongs to workers, be used, through an agreement with the state that guarantees returns, to invest in innovation and infrastructure? There are bills filed in Parliament for this purpose, but nothing is moving. We always come back to the basic question of priorities, which for me must be - in accordance with the tradition of the ***European*** welfare model, unfortunately now largely abandoned - the protection of the weakest, people's well-being, social justice, and the quality of work and the environment.

But is there any prospect today of united action by ***European*** trade union forces in this regard?

MAURIZIO LANDINI - To be honest, I have to say no at the moment. We still act too often according to national interest criteria. I'll say it in a nutshell: it's clear that if a company relocates to Poland, it's not as if the Polish workers are protesting and asking to keep production in Italy. However, competition between states in terms of taxation and working conditions, in order to attract investment from abroad, must be limited.

MAURIZIO FERRERA - After all, such a race cannot last. Is it conceivable that all German factories will end up in Eastern Europe? And that, on the other hand, all the educated and enterprising young Romanians will emigrate to the West, reducing their country to a desert? In the long run, this drift is in nobody's interest.

MAURIZIO LANDIN I - Demagogy dominates on immigration. People are calling for the closure of ports and borders, but what are we talking about? With an ageing population and a falling birth rate, an influx of workers from abroad is inevitable. There are entire production sectors that would not survive without immigrants.

MAURIZIO FERRERA - The hypothesis of a plan to use the resources accumulated by the supplementary pension funds, which Landini mentioned earlier, is very interesting, but I don't think it can be implemented at national level: it needs to be relaunched in a ***European*** dimension.

MAURIZIO LANDINI - The problem is that in other countries those funds are generally company funds, while in Italy they are established by national labour contracts. The paradox is that the money of Italian workers, paid to guarantee them more substantial supplementary pensions, is used to support economies other than our own.

MAURIZIO FERRERA - In reality, many other ***EU*** countries also have large complementary pension schemes defined by national contracts, and they have been in place for longer than Italy. Apart from pension funds, I think the proposal of the working group led by Romano Prodi, which has designed a very ambitious plan for ***European*** social infrastructures, to be implemented by mobilising private capital, is also useful.

MAURIZIO LANDINI - That's an interesting hypothesis, but I think we also need ***European*** action in the area of taxation. It is not acceptable that large economic groups continue to pay so little on their very high profits. ***Europe is*** now full of tax havens: Holland, Luxembourg, Ireland. These are contradictions that need to be addressed.

MAURIZIO FERRERA - What about a guaranteed minimum wage? There is much talk of a ***European*** directive on the subject.

MAURIZIO LANDINI: For us the problem is how to introduce such an institute in Italy, where we have national collective labour agreements. However, there is actually a proportion of workers who are not covered by those contracts. We are asking for a rule to recognise that national contracts are also valid by law, and are no longer just agreements between private parties. If the government wanted to intervene in this matter, it could transform into law what we have already stipulated with the employers' associations. But for this we need a discipline that allows us to measure union representation, the number of members that the parties have. In order for a contract to be valid in law, it must be signed by organisations that are truly representative, on both the trade union and employer sides. At this point, national contracts, starting with hourly wages (but also for bonuses, sick pay and so on), become the minimum base below which one cannot go.

MAURIZIO FERRERA - It seems to be a proposal compatible with the hypothesis of a ***European*** measure.

MAURIZIO LANDINI - The fact is that our dual level of bargaining, national and company, is unique in ***Europe***. In France, where there is a minimum wage, the law overrides bargaining, whereas we do not, but it is also true that in France national bargaining has historically been marginal. But we are willing to consider legislative support for national agreements, so that they become binding for all. The problem today is pirate contracts, concluded by bogus unions. To fight them we need a law on trade union representation, as provided for in Article 39 of the Constitution, but in Italy the workers' organisations have never wanted that, because they considered it a limitation of trade union freedom. The CGIL has been fighting for years to implement the Constitution in Articles 36, 39 and 46 (fair compensation, representation and contracts erga omnes, economic democracy), I hope the time has come for everyone to overcome that approach.

Antonio Carioti

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GIANFRANCO BETTIN

Cracking

MONDADORI

Pages 187, and 17

The author

Born in Marghera (Venice) in 1955, Gianfranco Bettin is both a writer, essayist and politician. He has been an MP and regional councillor for the Greens, and currently chairs the Marghera municipality, where he was elected in 2015 as a centre-left candidate. Together with Maurizio Dianese, he wrote the books La strage (Feltrinelli, 1999), on the Piazza Fontana massacre, and Petrolkiller (Feltrinelli, 2002), on the damage to health caused by industries in Marghera. Among Bettin's novels: Nebulosa del Boomerang (Feltrinelli, 2004); Nemmeno il destino (Feltrinelli, 1997); Qualcosa che brucia (Garzanti, 1989; Baldini & Castoldi, 2003). With Marco Paolini, Bettin wrote the play Le avventure di Numero Primo and the novel of the same name (Einaudi, 2017).

The trade union leader

Born in Castelnovo ne' Monti (Reggio Emilia) in 1961, Maurizio Landini started working at the age of 15 as an apprentice welder in a red cooperative. Since the 1980s he has dedicated himself to union activity in the CGIL and between 2010 and 2017 he was national secretary of Fiom, the Federation of Metalworkers and Clerical Workers. In that capacity he led some extremely important disputes, such as those concerning Fiat and Ilva in Taranto. On 24 January 2019, he was elected secretary general of CGIL, replacing Susanna Camusso, with more than 90 per cent of the votes. Landini has published the book interview with Giancarlo Feliziani Cambiare la fabbrica per cambiare il mondo (Bompiani, 2011) and the volume Forza lavoro (Feltrinelli, 2013). He also edited in 2015 for Edizioni Clichy the anthology Giuseppe di Vittorio. The value of work

The political scientist

Born in Naples in 1955, Maurizio Ferrera is Professor of Political Science at the University of Milan. A columnist for Corriere della Sera, he is an expert on the problems of the welfare state and has written Rotta di collisione (Laterza, 2016) on the relationship between ***European*** constraints and welfare systems. This year he published with philosopher Franca D'Agostini the book

La verità al potere (Einaudi, pp. XII-144, e 12)

The controversial Jobs Act

Law 183 of 10 December 2014 and subsequent legislative decrees constitute the labour reform promoted by Matteo Renzi's government, much criticised by the trade unions (especially the CGIL) and known as the Jobs Act. These measures have overtaken the famous Article 18 of the Workers' Statute, which provided for the obligation of reinstatement for workers dismissed without just cause: now it is enough for the employer to pay compensation. In addition, employment relationships were reshaped, with the introduction of the 'crescent' contract, and a new 18-month unemployment benefit called Naspi was introduced, cancelling other forms of protection against job loss. The reform also included an incentive scheme for open-ended employment.

Constitutional standards

In the last part of the conversation Maurizio Landini recalls three articles of the Constitution concerning work and the regulation of trade union activity. Article 36 establishes the worker's right to a decent wage, weekly rest and holidays, stipulating that the maximum duration of daily working time be established by law. Article 39, which has remained unimplemented to date, stipulates that collective agreements with mandatory effect for all members of a category must be concluded by registered trade unions in accordance with the provisions of a law that has never been enacted. The current collective agreements are therefore only agreements between private social partners. Finally, Article 46 provides for the right of workers to participate in the management of companies.

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[***Lost Opportunities (withEurope); Government choices***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5WBV-VK01-F13X-94H5-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

16 June 2019 Sunday

Rebuttal Edition

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**Section:** FIRST PAGE; Page 1.40

**Length:** 997 words

**Byline:** Mario Monti

**Body**

C

ow will the infringement procedure for excessive deficit, initiated by the ***European*** Commission against Italy, end? For now, we know that all ***eurozone*** countries have shared the Commission's analysis and have called on Italy to take the necessary measures to comply. The Italian government will soon present elements to demonstrate that a possible procedure is unfounded. If, in spite of this, the procedure is opened, there seem to be different positions within the government: from contesting the legitimacy of the procedure, to the political refusal to comply with the requests, to accepting them if only to avoid greater damage in the event of turbulence in the financial markets.

It is certainly important to imagine how this affair will end, what its economic and financial consequences will be, what the repercussions will be on the difficult relationship between our country and ***Europe*** and on domestic politics. But it is even more important to analyse - and this can best be done today, before the bowls start rolling again in the coming days - how Italy managed to end up in this uncomfortable corner, after being the first country to emerge, in spring 2013, from the previous excessive deficit procedure to which it had been subjected, along with many others, in 2009.

The battle of these days was not wanted by ***Europe***, which had in fact given many preventive and not at all warlike signals. It was desired by the Italian government. One can, and sometimes must, give battle in ***Europe***, but it is essential to choose well. This battle, even if it ends "well", that is, without the formal opening of the procedure, will not have been a winning battle.

There would have been two sacrosanct battles, in the interests of Italy and ***Europe,*** even if not appreciated by Berlin, that the government should have fought immediately after its birth a year ago and on which it would have found several allies: 1) within the current rules, to press with other governments on the Commission to fully activate the procedure on macroeconomic imbalances, for which Germany is responsible in particular; 2) in view of a revision of the rules, to propose in a reasoned manner a greater space for public investment in the stability pact. Instead, the wrong battle was chosen, both strategically and tactically.

Wrong in the ***European*** concert, in that it is of interest only to Italy and frowned upon by many others: that Italy be allowed a little more flexibility on the deficit, in fact on the current deficit. Exactly the line sought - with a shrewdness and, at least at the beginning, a charm unknown to the current government - by the much reviled Matteo Renzi.

Above all, it is a battle that is wrong in its object, in its economic content. It was true in Renzi's time and it is true today. Who benefits from the fact that the Italian state is authorised by ***Europe,*** not to receive funds from ***Europe*** itself, but to increase the deficit even further in order to finance not public investment, which generates growth, but more current expenditure (from ***€80*** to the citizenship income)? At least for a while, it will help those who receive the money. It certainly benefits - and this explains why it is such a widespread practice in Italy - the politicians who hope to have the votes of those citizens. On the other hand, the generality of citizens is harmed today (higher interest on mortgages, more expensive money for businesses, higher taxes because the state pays higher interest). Above all, it is the Italians of tomorrow and the day after who will be affected, as they will have to carry an increased public debt. This is why it is completely misleading that those who govern, if they obtain more flexibility from Brussels to do this, present the result as a "victory" for Italy. This was true in Renzi's time, as demonstrated by the very modest benefits in terms of growth of the 30 billion ***euros*** of "flexibility" granted to Italy; and it will be true on the day when, eventually, ***Europe*** should "pardon" Italy from the infringement procedure, for the sake of quiet living but actually doing our country harm.

It is a battle that is also wrong in its timing. First of all, in the timing of history. In fact, as Federico Fubini clearly explained in yesterday's Corriere, a "war on austerity" declared to ***Europe*** today resembles a war against a ghost - which certainly existed, with serious errors committed above all to the detriment of Greece, on which the Troika, to which Italy did not want to submit, inflicted its rage - not a war against an evil that is roaming ***Europe*** today.

Secondly, it is a clash that is wrong in its tactics. Going against everyone - from the Commission to all the ***eurozone*** states, finding hostility even from states that are outside the ***eurozone*** and that our government considered its allies - in the very weeks in which the games are being played for ***European*** appointments with effects on the next five years, offers other countries the easy way to silence the ambitions of the Italian government on that table with the promise not to rage against Italy when deciding on the infringement procedure.

While waiting for ***Europe's*** fateful decision - and if the dreaded procedure does not arrive, when singing Mameli's anthem a question mark should be inserted after "Where is Victory" - it is worth reflecting on the series of errors that have led our country to depend on the clemency of others, after several displays of strength that do not seem to have impressed anyone. Except, of course, millions of docile and unsuspecting voters, who are finally proud to be Italian because they are told that after a long time Italy has raised its head, has shown its fists and that for the first time it is being respected in ***Europe*** and the world.

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[***I'LL TELL THE COURIER***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5WBV-VK01-F13X-94KD-00000-00&context=)

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**Section:** LETTERS TO THE COURIER; Page 41

**Length:** 452 words

**Body**

***EU*** INSTITUTIONS

The Senate likes it

only to us

Dear Aldo, after the elections for the ***European*** Parliament, the manoeuvres for the formation of the ***EU*** bodies begin: the Commission and the various Councils. I must admit that I don't have very clear ideas about the nature, functions and method of appointment of these groups, so I would ask you to explain them to us, perhaps comparing them with those of the Italian Republic. To be clear, if the ***EU*** Parliament is practically our Chamber of Deputies, what, if any, is the ***EU*** Senate and what is the government?

Salvatore Mastroianni

Dear Salvatore, in extreme synthesis: the 'government' of the ***EU*** is the Commission, even if the Council, made up of the heads of government (or of state when they actually lead the executive, like the French one; but at the time of the cohabitation both came, the neo-Gollist president Chirac and the socialist prime minister Jospin), counts more. As for the Senate, it does not exist in ***Europe,*** and in the various ***European*** countries the Senate either does not exist or does not count for anything. But we Italians are very fond of it (actually, in the referendum, 60% only wanted to send Renzi home; they were voting on bicameralism, however).

TRIESTE

"Gabriele D'Annunzio

does not deserve a statue'.

I understand that the municipality of Trieste has decided to erect a monument to Gabriele D'Annunzio reading on a pile of books in a square. The statue is supposed to convey a message of peace and serenity. But the self-described bard was not only venal, a tax evader and a rhetorical decadent even in his private life, but he was above all one of the advocates of Italy's entry into the war in 1915, through fiery speeches to the many poor, naive and illiterate people of the time about the beauty of blood, battle and sacrifice. What is worse, he was a theorist of nascent fascism, later endorsing its dictatorial drift. He is therefore a figure opposed to what the Constitution calls for: to work for peace and harmony among peoples. He has no prerogative to be shown to young people as a righteous, honest and life-loving man.

Carlo De Bac SECOND HOME

"Taxes for owners

destined to grow'

By tomorrow, owners of second homes will have to pay the first instalment of Imu. The amount will be equal to the amount already paid last year. While in December the balance could be higher. It depends on the individual municipalities. The way is therefore open to increases in taxation. In fact, the 2019 Budget Law has removed the stop to municipal increases, operational since 2016. For second homes for rent, you must also pay Irpef on rents. In this case, a double taxation. And nobody thinks about the negative effects on the real estate market.

Angelo Ciarlo

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[***Salvini's stop: Sea Watch outlawed Sick people and pregnant women disembarking***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5WBV-VK01-F13X-94HM-00000-00&context=)

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**Byline:** Fabrizio Caccia

**Highlight:** Minister: can stay there until New Year. The new decree is applied. The NGO: we're not going back to Libya.

**Body**

ROME

Yesterday, the Security bis decree came into force: a fine from 10 to 50 thousand ***Euros*** for the captain and shipowner and confiscation of the ship that does not respect the ban on entering territorial waters. Thus, last night, Interior Minister Matteo Salvini cut short the fate of Sea Watch 3: "This outlawed ship can stay there for me (i.e. 15 miles from the island of Lampedusa, in waters that are still international,

Editor's note:

) for weeks, for months, until New Year's Eve. Children, pregnant women and sick people have already been allowed off. I want the good of everyone, but if there are people still on board it is by choice of these criminals, these kidnappers of human beings, who will answer to their consciences for any problems. They had to go to Libya, Libya had given them a port. They could have gone to Tunisia or Malta: instead they arrived back in Italy. They disobeyed.

Indeed, the Sea Watch 3 seems to be treading carefully in the face of new regulations. Last month it headed straight for Lampedusa, but for now it is staying offshore. The 53 migrants rescued last Tuesday 47 miles off the Libyan coast became 43 yesterday, including four unaccompanied minors: another 10 - three minors, three women, two of whom are pregnant, two companions and two sick men - were disembarked in Lampedusa by the Viminale after Italian doctors visited them on board. However, the Italian ports remain closed to the German NGO ship flying the Dutch flag, which had just been released from seizure on June 1 by the Agrigento Public Prosecutor's Office: yesterday morning Salvini had already signed a "ban on entry, transit and stopover" for Sea Watch 3, which was then countersigned by Defence Minister Elisabetta Trenta and Infrastructure Minister Danilo Toninelli. This was an important fact, after the contrasts of recent months between the Italian deputy prime minister and his two M5S government colleagues on immigration issues.

The reply to Salvini from Sea Watch 3 spokeswoman Giorgia Linardi is just as harsh: "We are not going back to Libya. By bringing these people back we would be committing a collective refoulement, a crime for which Italy has already been condemned. On board they told us they had suffered unspeakable harassment. One man said he was forced to bury bodies when international workers visited a detention centre. We will never take anyone back to such a country.

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Background

21 December 2018 Spanish NGO Proactiva Open Arms rescues 313 migrants off Libya. Malta denies disembarkation. It is a clash with Salvini: "Ports closed". Spain welcomes them on 28

18 March 2019 Mediterranea Saving Human's Mare Jonio rescues 49 people, docks in Lampedusa on the 19th and they all disembark despite the Viminale's 'no'. Salvini: "Ship seized".

Crew, financing

and rescues at sea

How activists act

?

Flag of the Netherlands but German organisation

1 What is Sea Watch?

Sea Watch is a German humanitarian, non-profit, non-governmental organisation founded in Berlin at the end of 2014 by Harald Höppner. On its website ( Sea-Watch.org) it claims to have as its purpose "search and rescue at sea" in the Mediterranean region. It is composed 'mainly of volunteers from all over ***Europe***'. It is 'politically and religiously independent'.

2 How is it financed?

It is financed "solely" through donations. The register of donations received is published online: in 2018 the total takings were ***€1*** million 797,388.49 against expenses of ***€1*** million 403,409.26; 55.9 per cent, or about ***€784,***210, went to the funding of Sea Watch 3.

3What is Sea Watch 3?

It is the Dutch-flagged ship that is directly managed by the Berlin-based NGO.

4 How many saves have you made?

Since its foundation, Sea Watch has so far been "involved in the rescue of over 35,000 migrants".

5 The first problem with the ***EU***?

On 2 July 2018, the ship was detained in the port of Malta by the Valletta government, which took action against all Dutch-flagged rescue ships for alleged registration irregularities. Thus Sea Watch 3 remained stationary for three months and only resumed rescue at sea on 20 October.

6 The first problem with Italy?

On 9 January this year, after the umpteenth negotiation between ***EU*** countries to share out the quotas of rescued migrants, the Sea Watch 3 was again authorised to land in Malta. After a tough night-time confrontation between Salvini and Prime Minister Conte, Italy agreed to take charge of a quota of the migrants on board the NGO ship, thanks to the willingness of the Waldensian Church, but at no cost to the State.

7 Subsequently the Sea Watch 3 was the protagonist of another 'action' in Catania?

On 30 January, the Sea Watch 3 with 47 other migrants on board landed in Catania after 13 days of waiting. However, on 1 February, it was detained by the Coast Guard for violations of safety and marine environment regulations. On 22 February, it was taken to Marseille to undergo adaptation works, and on 11 May it sailed again.

8 Last May there was yet another tug-of-war with Minister Salvini?

On 19 May, while Salvini denied disembarkation of Sea Watch 3, which was at anchor in Lampedusa with 47 migrants, on a live TV broadcast by Massimo Giletti (on La7), the Agrigento prosecutor authorised it, although he ordered the seizure of the ship and opened an investigation against its captain, Arturo Centore, for aiding and abetting immigration. On 1 June, however, the Public Prosecutor's Office, infuriating Salvini, decided to release the vessel and on 10 June the Sea Watch 3 left Licata. Until yesterday's final clash.

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[***"Your public debt is a sword of Damocles but Italy has strengths"; The interview The ECB Vice-President***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5WBV-VK01-F13X-94HR-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

16 June 2019 Sunday

NATIONAL Edition

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**Section:** FIRST FLOOR; Page 9

**Length:** 1543 words

**Byline:** Federico Fubini

**Highlight:** De Guindos: in Spain not even Vox calls the ***euro into*** question

**Body**

Those who pass through the glass doors of the ***European*** Central Bank's tower, inaugurated in 2014, have the sensation of entering a Gothic cathedral and at the same time a space forcibly taken from the future: when the ***eurozone, in its*** intentions, will really have become a power that is sure of itself and of its place in the world. For the past year, Luis de Guindos Jurado has been sitting on the 40th and top floor, not far from President Mario Draghi: the Spaniard who, as a minister, led Spain from the deepest crisis in its democratic history to the fastest growth rates among the major ***European*** economies. Today, at 59, de Guindos is vice-president of the ECB, and in this exclusive interview with Corriere he shows that, as a central banker, he has not lost the concreteness that has helped his country so much in the past.

Vice-President de Guindos, investors expect inflation in the ***eurozone*** to remain below the ECB's targets over the next ten years. Their expectations have never been so low. You have already done a lot, but Draghi said this month you have discussed other options, including a restart of securities purchases ("quantitative easing"). What signal can make you decide?

"We need to see a break in the anchoring of inflation expectations. It has not happened yet, despite the fall in market expectations. If you look at the survey of analysts' expectations, the Survey of Professional Forecasters, the situation is slightly different: expectations have remained stable. Then we have to see whether there will be a further significant decline in economic activity, a crystallisation of the downside risks that we have indicated. We can always try to look forward to get an idea of what might happen, but in the end reality is reality. We'll see what happens. But I think the important part of our position is that we are fully prepared to react."

Does this mean that your current orientation is the right one, if the predictions of your experts are confirmed?

"Yes. If there is a further deterioration, at that point we will react. For now, our monetary policy stance is fully compatible with both inflation and real activity levels in the economy. What is important is that we are fully prepared to react. And I would add another element, if I may: risks are tilted to the downside."

You mean, in terms of real economic activity?

"Both in terms of real activity and inflation. So if those risks materialise, we will react."

Will cutting rates help if there is a ***euro*** exchange rate problem and quantitative easing if there is a weak economy?

"We don't allocate different instruments to different objectives. What I find important, but sometimes a bit overlooked, is that monetary policy is not the panacea. If there is a problem of price stability, it is within our mandate. But there is something everyone should keep in mind to avoid creating unrealistic expectations: we do not have the philosopher's stone."

You, who were Minister of Economy in Madrid, know that the yields of Italian and Spanish government bonds were at similar levels during the crisis. Today the spread between Bonos and ten-year BTPs is over 180 basis points, in favour of Madrid. More than what Germany had on Italy until May 2018. How can this divergence be explained?

"I say at the outset that I don't want to make comparisons between Spain and Italy. But if I focus on Italy, I think the main problem has been very low growth for a long time. Italy has not returned to the levels of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) that it had in 2008".

Why do you think?

"I think there are two elements. The first is the extremely high level of public debt, a sword of Damocles hanging over our heads. Secondly, there is a problem of structural reforms. But in the Italian economy there are pros and cons. The cons are slow growth, public debt, a lack of structural reforms and therefore low productivity growth. But Italy also has advantages that we must recognise. The first is that it has a current account surplus, in overall trade with the rest of the world. The net foreign financial position is good and this reduces the vulnerability of the economy. And when you look at the budgetary situation over time, it hasn't been bad: almost every year Italy has had a surplus before paying interest on its debt. It's not very easy to do that, so it's a very good precedent, especially compared to other countries."

So what should we do?

"It comes back to the problem of low growth, which immediately brings us to the issues of structural reforms, barriers to market entry, efficiency in the labour market.... Things that are sometimes a bit neglected."

You say: no Spain-Italy comparisons. But there is nothing wrong with doing it the way we were in June-July 2012. The situation was very similar.

"We were very close. We were on the verge..."

And the two countries took different paths. Madrid decided to accept a ***European*** programme for the banks, Italy committed to go it alone.

"The situation in Spain in 2012 was different: here the government had an absolute majority in Parliament, in that we were lucky. And the cleaning of the banks was deep. It wasn't easy; it was bloody, I can assure you. But we did it and, afterwards, we managed to deal with an issue like Banco Popular. That wasn't easy either. Then Spain gained a lot of competitiveness thanks to the labour market reform. Those were the two factors. But I don't want to make a comparison with Italy, I'm talking about Spain now. In 2013 we started to grow again and in the last five or six years the country has performed better than its peers."

So you think it worked for Spain to concentrate those efforts as soon as possible?

"Yes, I think so. In Madrid there was a government with an absolute majority, but even then it was politically difficult. But in Spain, regardless of which parties are in power, the ***pro-European*** approach is guaranteed. Even if you consider the two extreme wings, Vox and Podemos."

Don't they question the ***euro*** either?

"They may have different approaches on budgetary policy, but they don't say they want to leave the ***euro***. Not at all."

French President Emmanuel Macron has proposed a ***Eurozone*** budget to stabilise countries hit by economic crises. A minimum instrument is on the way. What do you think?

"What was agreed in the ***European*** Council (a small Budget for 'competitiveness and convergence', ed.) is a first step. But it should not be the permanent status of that instrument. It can grow and it can be given a clear function: countercyclical stabilisation. We need more risk sharing if we want to improve the performance of the ***euro*** area and reduce the burden on monetary policy. And there is one element that will be critical to achieve this: confidence".

You refer to the trust that needs to be had in every country that everyone else is behaving properly. But if one is not seen that way, as is the case with Italy today, does it worry you that this could create damage?

"Italy is not a very financially vulnerable economy, if you take into account the net international investment position and other factors. If you want an example of a vulnerable economy, look at Spain in 2010. It had an external deficit of 10% of GDP and a negative net asset position of 90% of GDP. That is not the situation in Italy today. My point is that confidence sometimes depends on the political intentions of the government".

Do you mean that the Italian government should provide some clear objectives that are acceptable to the rest of the club?

"Yes, on both sides. It is a bilateral game, so on both sides. I think it's very difficult to make progress if you can't build trust. And since we are talking about trust and uncertainty in difficult times, I think this idea of discussing mini-bots was a mistake. Draghi said that if it was a legally usable currency, it would be illegal and that if it was debt, then it would accumulate even more debt. From my point of view, the worst consequence is that this kind of decision destroys confidence".

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The monetary policy of the

***European*** Central Bank today is adequate. But there are downside risks and we are ready to react

The word

qe

Mini-Bots: Draghi says they are illegal or increase debt.

I also say that they destroy trust and this is a serious mistake.

It takes

an anti-choc ***European*** budget. We need to share more

risks to improve

the performance of the ***euro*** area

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So-called 'quantitative easing' is a tool used by central banks to stimulate growth. The ECB launched its programme in 2015 by creating debt money and has done so through liquidity injections, open market operations, through the purchase of government bonds and other bonds. The aim of the programme is to revive banks' lending to the real economy and counter the risks of deflation.

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[***Is German Hollywood going right? Star appeal: 'Vote right'; The story***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5WBV-VK01-F13X-94J7-00000-00&context=)

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16 June 2019 Sunday

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**Section:** FOREIGN; Page 17

**Length:** 695 words

**Byline:** Paolo Valentino

**Highlight:** Görlitz could elect the first AfD mayor today. Letter to citizens: 'Be wise'.

**Body**

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

BERLIN With its medieval porphyry-covered streets and art nouveau buildings, it's more than a city - it's a natural film set. Wes Anderson shot The Grand Budapest Hotel there, Tarantino chose it for Inglourious Basterds and Stephen Daldry for The Reader . Lying on the left bank of the Neisse, the river that marked the fracture of the Cold War and now joins it to its Polish twin Zgorzelec, Görlitz summarises the wounds of the Short Century. But it also embodies like few others the rebirth of the new ***Europe***.

This is one of the reasons why the electoral challenge taking place on this Sunday in June in the little jewel of Saxony has come to mean so much to Germany, to ***Europe*** and to... Hollywood.

Voting for the second round of the municipal elections is now underway, after none of the pretenders to the post of burgomaster won an absolute majority on 6 May. But the surprise eight weeks ago was the first place taken by the candidate of the AfD, the ultra-nationalist far-right party: former policeman Sebastian Wippel won 36.4% of the vote, more than six points ahead of the favourite, Octavian Ursu, a musician of Romanian origin put forward by the Cdu, which has been administering the city for 30 years. If Wippel wins today's runoff, he would be the first AfD mayor in the whole of Germany. What's more, his success would be a perfect viaticum for the regional elections on 1 September in Saxony, where 4 million people vote and Alternative für Deutschland (which came first in the ***European*** vote on 26 May last year) is given the lead in all the polls.

The world of cinema enters the scene. The prospect of a city like Görlitz in the hands of the xenophobic far right has prompted Michael Simon de Normier, the producer of The Reader , to write a letter to voters, urging them "not to give in to hatred, hostility and exclusion". "Vote wisely," says the appeal, "do not betray your convictions in the face of someone who claims to be able to solve your problems. The director of The Reader, Stephen Daldry, and a host of German actors and intellectuals also signed the text, including Daniel Brühl, famous for Good Bye Lenin! the protagonist of Babylon Berlin, Volker Bruch; writers Bernhard Schlink and Daniel Kehlmann, and musician Marius Müller-Westernhagen.

Whether this is the factor capable of overturning the result of the first round remains to be seen. Much more effective will probably be the invitation to vote for Ursu, launched to his voters by the green candidate, Franziska Schubert, who finished third with 27.9%. In response to the appeal, Wippel plays the moderate, saying that "there is no reason to attribute hatred and hostility to more than a third of our fellow citizens". The AfD, on the other hand, is fully committed to the battle of Görlitz, mobilising its leaders and members of the Bundestag: "Germany and the world are looking to this city, make history on Sunday", said co-president Alice Weidel in a rally. But Octavian Ursu, once again the favourite because of the green desistance, is optimistic: "The choice is between an open and ***European city*** and a city that turns its back on the world".

Whatever the outcome, AfD's advance confirms the great discontent that dominates in the Länder of the former East Germany. Thirty years after the fall of the Wall, the rift is still deep: unemployment is almost 8%, twice as high as in the West; average salaries are 30% lower; people are excluded from all positions of leadership and cultural marginalisation. Not even the tourist boom triggered by the film industry has spared Görlitz the massive exodus of population recorded in the so-called new Länder, where, according to a study by the Dresdner Bank, the population has fallen to the same level as in 1905, from 17 million in 1990 to 13.6 million today.

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The word

Afd

Alternative für Deutschland (Alternative for Germany), abbreviated AfD, is the fastest growing far-right party in the Federal Republic. Its members are accused of racist, if not neo-Nazi, views.

Mobilisation

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**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Campaigns + Elections (94%); Human Rights Violations (81%); National Debt (78%); Territorial + National Borders (65%); Artists + Performers (63%); Economic Growth (63%); Call Centers (61%)

**Load-Date:** June 16, 2019

**End of Document**

[***galperti speaks: SAFE SHOES UNDER THE ROADS; The interview***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5WBV-VK01-F13X-94CN-00000-00&context=)

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16 June 2019 Sunday

BRESCIA Edition

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**Section:** FIRST FLOOR; Page 2

**Length:** 915 words

**Byline:** Pietro Gorlani

**Body**

The slogan 'no more landfills' has everyone in agreement. But in the meantime, with no regional or national exclusionary constraints, the Province has approved two new disposal sites. While much waste is produced here (given the high concentration of industries), imports from outside the province are also massive, since there is no territorial limit to the marketing of 'special' waste. What should be done? "Alternatives to landfill must be provided for in the name of the much-vaunted circular economy. We urgently need criteria to regulate the end of waste, to recover waste that we consider safe even under the streets, as they do in other regions and abroad. The completion of the SP 19 road from Azzano Mella to Ospitaletto will soon begin, and this could be a good test case. This is the realpolitik of Guido Galperti, former regional councillor, for ten years member of the PD parliament, today vice-president of the Province with the delicate delegation to the Environment. On Thursday, he will visit the regional councillor for the environment, Raffaele Cattaneo, "to ask for an acceleration on the end of waste". And he wants to reopen a round table between industrialists and environmentalists and seek funds in ***Europe*** to finance environmental research and innovation.

These days, everyone is pointing the finger at the Province for giving the go-ahead to new landfill sites. Yet last year, a moratorium was unanimously approved by the Broletto council to stop new landfills.

"Wednesday's TAR ruling on Castella confirms the correct behaviour of our offices. That request could not be rejected. It is a question of laws. It is as if a mayor were to deny a building permit, even if it conformed to the town plan of his municipality. I fully support the spirit of the moratorium, but we need regional and state regulations to prevent the arrival of new landfills. It is true that the territory has already given, but I would point out that for four years there have been no requests for new disposal sites. Today we have ten active ones: Gedit, Systema and Ecoeternit in Montichiari, Eco.Pa and Faeco in Bedizzole, Gedit in Calcinato, Tecnoinerti in Ghedi, Vergomasco in Odolo, Eredi Compagnia Nazionale in Cazzago, Bettoni in Travagliato, while Mdc in Calvagese has not yet started".

The government has not approved the moratorium on landfills in Brescia. Is it necessary to tighten the pressure index, a coefficient on cumulative impacts, as Rolfi asks?

"Brescia and Lombardy manage urban waste well, thanks to a 60% differentiated waste collection and a network of 13 incinerators. The problem, as regional councillor Cattaneo reiterated, is special waste, which is four times higher than urban waste. We must act on their recovery. We don't want to go back to the Tree of Clogs, but neither can we deny that the province of Brescia is a highly industrialised province where there is a flourishing waste disposal chain, with 500 authorised companies, 80 of which are under AIA. Now, the ***European*** Court of Justice has said that it is only the central government that can authorise regions and provinces to issue end-of-waste permits. There is an urgent need for rules that say which waste can be reused as raw material, other than nappies. I'm thinking of steel mill slag and construction waste. I have a meeting with Cattaneo on Thursday and I will urge him to put pressure on the government. The League governs in the region and in Rome, Fontana can talk to Salvini and Conte.

In the Brescian landfill 75% of Lombardy's waste and 20% of national waste is dumped, so does it all have to come here?

"The region must manage the planning. It would be right to open up sites in other provinces, and I repeat, our province has already given.

Rules and controls are needed to reuse waste. Think of the eluate release test.

"By the end of the first ten days of July, I'm going to restart the environmental council and I'm going to sit twenty people around a table, including social partners, business organisations and the five most representative environmental associations, which have done a great deal of work over the years. Of course, we have to start somewhere: in the next few years we'll be completing the soft rope, the stretch of the SP 19 road from Azzano Mella to Ospitaletto. This could be an opportunity to experiment with controlled waste recovery. Of course, it's not easy: when the marble quarrymen's consortium contacted Cepav Due offering to use stone waste as a foundation for the Tav shunt, no agreement was reached: it was cheaper to dig sand and gravel. On the subject of controls: we have six provincial police officers working with the public prosecutor's office and we are involved in the expeditious protocols of the environmental unit set up by the Prefect.

But a slimmed-down quarry plan will raise the price of sand and should encourage the recovery of materials.

"This is our goal. We can also imagine incentives for the re-use of waste.

However, the province's environment department should also be strengthened...

"I intend to place the ***Europe*** and sustainable development office under the presidency of the Province and to seek funding from Brussels and the CIPE for independent studies, but also to strengthen the staffing of the environment sector with figures that are now necessary: I'm thinking of an environmental engineer and a chemist. We are seriously behind in terms of professionalism.

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[***Our political squares; Italians***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5WBV-VK01-F13X-94KB-00000-00&context=)

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**Section:** LETTERS TO THE COURIER; Page 41

**Length:** 418 words

**Byline:** Beppe Severgnini

**Body**

C remona, Matteo Salvini's rally in support of the mayoral candidate Carlo Malvezzi (who will then lose in the ballot). A young man held up a scarf with the words 'Love thy neighbour' written on it. He is approached and insulted by four or five people known for their closeness to Forza Nuova, which has an office in the city. He lowers the scarf, then raises it again. At that point, they beat him: in the face, chest and nape of the neck. The victim does not react, he falls to the ground. Three plainclothes policemen intervene and take him to the emergency room. Minor injuries, fortunately. There is a grotesque aspect to the story: at the rally of the leader-col-rosario (Salvini), one is beaten for having waved the highest evangelical precept ("Love your neighbour"). But the main point is another. Violence must stay out - at all costs - of Italian politics. When you start, in fact, you don't know where you're going to end up: my generation, which has known terrorism on a daily basis, knows this.

The absence of political violence is a boast and a credit that we Italians should spend in ***Europe*** and beyond. To those who treat our democracy with condescension, let us remind them that in Italy organised violence does not invade the capital for months at a time, as happened in France; and our collective life is not marked by massacres and shootings (as in the USA). The League and the Five Star Movement - this is written by someone who has often criticised them - have never practised or threatened physical violence (verbal violence has, but let's not go there). This is a credit to them and to the Italians. Our distaste for violence is also evident when it comes to voting: the extremist bashers take very low percentages.

Matteo Salvini - today's most popular leader and a possible future head of government - should not be tempted: it would mark his own political end and put Italy to shame. Demagogy is debatable; violence is unforgivable. Certain equivocal exits, certain acquaintances, photos with machine guns and Mussolinian balconies are dangerous. The ill-intentioned - there are some - are waiting to be stirred up, but even a smoothing of the hair is enough.

I'm from Lombardy and I've known a lot of Legazi people for years: they are not violent. Salvini knows that certain attitudes and certain acquaintances are disastrous. And they could cost him dearly. There is not always a rosary to wave, without even asking the permission of the person concerned. She is as distant from the violent and from violence as the sky is from that square in Cremona.

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**Subject:** Riots (94%); Criminal Offenses (83%); Sex Offenses (81%); Homicide (63%)

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[***A coin to celebrate Brexit. But Boris bans parties for ministers; The week of farewell to the EU***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5Y2T-FBB1-F13X-955J-00000-00&context=)

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**Section:** FOREIGN; Page 17

**Length:** 268 words

**Byline:** Luigi Ippolito

**Body**

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

London The commemorative coin - 50 cents - will be put into circulation on Friday morning, Brexit day: it will bear the inscription "Peace, prosperity and friendship with all nations".

But numismatics aside, the tone adopted by Boris Johnson's government to greet the exit from the ***European Union*** is low profile, with a desire to avoid triumphalism. The Brexit ultras, led by Nigel Farage, will hold an evening party in front of Parliament: but ministers have been told to steer clear. "We understand that many people want to celebrate," explained Downing Street sources, "but for many others it is a sad day.

So the watchword is "turning over a new leaf". And aim to heal the wounds caused by three and a half years of bitter opposition. A luminous clock will be projected on the facade of Downing Street to mark the countdown of the last 60 minutes before Brexit (which begins at 11pm, London time). There will also be a play of light to underline the bond between the four nations that make up the United Kingdom.

Because this will be the challenge of the immediate future: holding England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland together. And so this will be the main theme of Boris's speech to the nation at 10pm on Friday, as well as the call to look ahead and commit to rebuilding the country, from schools to healthcare to infrastructure.

From 1 February, the government explains, it will be forbidden to even utter the word Brexit: the aim is instead the "future partnership" with ***Europe***.

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[***Wall Street-EuropeDueling begins again; Investment macro scenarios***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5Y2T-FBC1-F13X-907D-00000-00&context=)

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27 January 2020 Monday

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**Section:** CORRIERECONOMY; Page 37

**Length:** 803 words

**Byline:** Walter Riolfi

**Highlight:** US still preferred by 25% of managers surveyed by Goldman, Old Continent by 23% The tariff truce will not last: many think Beijing will not be able to double imports

**Body**

Bank of America's prediction in mid-December, when its strategist predicted the S&P index would reach 3,333 points on 3 March, had the appearance of a provocation. Wall Street reached that symbolic level five days ago (albeit in the middle of the day) and, to play along with Michael Hartnett, we can see that it did so 30 (working) days earlier: in spite of the Iranian crisis, corporate profits that did not beat expectations and, lastly, the dreaded new coronavirus epidemic. Once the trade war with China has been resolved (this is what traders want to think), nothing seems to worry the American stock market any more and its greatest worry, judging by BofA's monthly survey, seems to be the outcome of the presidential elections: mentioned by 29% of those interviewed, more to indicate a distant, potential threat than to express real fear.

To be fair, the risk of the new Chinese epidemic had not yet been covered by the BofA survey conducted between 9 and 16 January. But the near indifference shown by the stock markets suggests that the new potential threat is little more than a nuisance. While the Iranian crisis had produced falls of less than 1%, the coronavirus scare did not go beyond a 30 cents filing and only Shanghai saw a more marked fall. Why wrap your head before you break it? And then there is an instructive precedent: the almost 9,000 cases of SARS in 2003, resulting in 700 deaths, had caused rather limited and temporary damage only in the countries where the contagion had spread. Between March and April, the world stock exchange index underwent a very modest correction, while the S&P500 hardly cared.

Why should it be any different now? A 2017 study by three economists (including Larry Summers) estimated the economic damage caused worldwide by the various pandemics at 500 billion a year, 0.6% of global income. Another study by the Health Risk Framework estimates global economic damage at 6 trillion for the entire century: 60 billion a year, less than 0.1% of global GDP.

The stock markets can therefore continue to rally undaunted. A survey conducted by Goldman Sachs among 250 of its clients shows that 81% of them expect stock market gains, at least in single digits, so that the 3,500-point index is within reach. The possibility of a bear market during the year is contemplated by only 20% of participants. Most (45%) say they expect it next year and 34% even further out. Similarly, hardly anyone sees an imminent recession, with 35% moving the event to next year and 60% saying maybe 2022 or later. To hear them out a year ago, we should have been in a depression by now. Not a different picture is offered by BofA's monthly survey. The 249 respondents see the index rising to 3,400. A month ago they said it would go to 3,300; in November to 3,200 and in October to 3,100, showing a predictive capacity directly proportional to the growth of the stock market. And since an economic recovery is needed for the market to rise, investors are also estimating that the Ism manufacturing index is about to take off: up to 52 points for more than 90% and up to 54 for almost 60% of respondents. In December, the Ism was pegged at 47.2. The conclusion is: stay long on tech stocks, as you did between the summer and autumn of 2018, just before Wall Street fell. When asked which markets will do best this year, 25% of Goldman's clients said Wall Street and Asian exchanges. But 23% also pointed to ***Europe***. There is a risk that the latter will end up disappointed, and this time through no fault of our own, if it is true that the next front in Trump's trade war will be towards the ***Eurozone***.

New front

State Street analysts predicted this a fortnight ago, even before the Washington Post revealed Trump's threat to impose 25% tariffs on ***European*** cars if the ***EU*** refused to approve sanctions on Iran. This was confirmed a few days ago in Davos: the ***Europeans*** "will want to make a deal, because they have to", the American president intimated. Thus ***Europe***, whose economy is likely to suffer most from the recent agreement between China and the US, would face another trade war that would exacerbate the recession in the manufacturing sector. And although economists note that ***Europe*** is less vulnerable than China, since it imports three times more goods and services from America, the fact remains that the US trade deficit with the ***EU*** still stands at $163 billion.

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**Load-Date:** January 27, 2020

**End of Document**

[***Global bonds, less tight yields; Bond investments***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5Y2T-FBC1-F13X-9079-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

27 January 2020 Monday

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**Section:** CORRIERECONOMY; Page 34

**Length:** 684 words

**Byline:** Angelo Drusiani

**Highlight:** From US and Canadian dollars to Norwegian kroner, Poland and Hungary: how to go above 1% with short (currency) bonds and a buffer of 10-year bonds A world tour of government issues in currency and the recipe for a medium-risk portfolio only half invested in ***euros***

**Body**

Statistical surveys tell us that every year a not inconsiderable number of Italians, particularly young people, emigrate. But there are also many financial emigrants: they do not leave, they simply invest in government bonds, not only those issued by ***Eurozone*** issuers. In search of higher yields or greater security.

Leafing through the two "governmental" almanacs, since the issues are organised by the individual Treasury ministries, one comes across an equal division between instruments denominated in the single ***European currency***, Anglo-Saxon currencies, and Northern and Eastern ***European*** currencies. The United States, Canada, Norway and Poland are the most generous. Attractive yields are accompanied by currency opportunities and risks. The maturities are on average close to each other in order to avoid taking on interest rate risk should their value rise, even if this is unrealistic in the short term.

Only the UK and Norwegian debts exceed the two-year maturity. The former, because in the negotiations with the ***European Union*** to define the regulations that will accompany London's exit from the ***EU***, it cannot be ruled out that, at least temporarily, the Channel currency may benefit. Taking advantage of the divisions between the ***euro*** countries. The other, Oslo's debt, could reward the investor at times when the price of oil, as happened in the early days of this year, rises due to tensions inflaming some Middle Eastern countries. The generosity of Warsaw's slightly less than two-year issue is the result of a political situation subject to tensions, which, on the other hand, are not present in Hungary, which, although slightly less reliable, offers a yield of just over zero.

Uncle Sam

The two bonds denominated in US dollars are similar in terms of duration, yield and exchange rate risk. The legacy of last year is a trend in exchange rates between the ***euro*** and the two North American currencies with not particularly significant deviations. The US presidential vote could produce a not dissimilar trend. But currency risk is only suitable for those with a discreet propensity for volatility swings.

The ***Eurozone, in*** part, confirms the very low profitability of the proposals: Germany, France, Spain and also Italy. The only yield of positive sign, in the table, is offered by the Cct, the issue indexed to the six-monthly Euribor rate, which, in the course of the next three years, could change course, allowing the security to pay coupons of greater thickness. For an average risk appetite, we can assume 20% of bonds in dollars, 15% in Norwegian kroner and sterling, and no more than 5% in the two Eastern ***European*** currencies. To cope with the currency risk, a slightly higher weighting, 45%, in securities that provide security, Germany, France and Spain.

The remaining 15% in the three Italian bonds, with a slight overweight going to the Cct.

Ten

There is a further table comparing ten-year maturities. In this case, the Btp joins the two issues in dollars and the Norwegian one in terms of yield generosity. The Athens issue is missing. There is a reason for this and it is linked to the exchange value, currently around 122, a price not appreciated by a large part of investors during the purchase phase. Berlin's yield is still negative: it is no longer the minus 0.71% of last summer, but is still minus 0.20%. While the US government issuer is offering just under 2%.

Other ***European*** issuers are not all that attractive: France, Belgium and the two Iberian countries, Spain and Portugal, do not even offer half a percentage point. In addition to the concept of security, which is typical of the four countries mentioned, there is not only the exchange rate risk for issues in ***non-euro*** currencies, but also the duration risk. Even in the short term, interest rate tensions should not arise. If so, the portfolio should be reviewed.

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**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Securities + Other Investments (94%); National Debt (75%); Public Debt (68%); Economic Growth (67%); Economic Conditions (62%); Inflation (62%)

**Load-Date:** January 27, 2020

**End of Document**

[***Facebook, the rules that Nick Clegg likes; Digital heresies***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5Y2T-FBC1-F13X-906C-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

27 January 2020 Monday

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**Section:** CORRIERECONOMY; Page 20

**Length:** 343 words

**Byline:** Edoardo Segantini , edoardosegantini2@gmail.com, @Segantini

**Body**

We want new rules, says Nick Clegg. But which ones? Nick Clegg is one of Britain's brightest politicians: former leader of the Liberal Democrat party, former deputy prime minister under David Cameron, he was hired by Facebook a year ago as president of global affairs and communications.

In this capacity he is trying to prevent the ***European Union*** from adopting measures unfavourable to the social network. In recent days he has been on a conference tour between Brussels, Berlin and Davos, with a stop in Rome. In the course of his mission, which for the tones used seemed almost a humanitarian mission, Clegg did not tire of explaining how good the oligopoly founded by Mark Zuckerberg is doing to ***Europe.*** Subtly: a ***Europe*** that perhaps does not deserve it. Facebook, he said, speaking at the Luiss University, gives back to the Old Continent what it earns by helping the companies that use its apps to generate more than 200 billion ***euros***. As for the tax issue (which his company, like other tech giants, has sensationally evaded in intra- and ***extra-European*** tax havens), Clegg dismissed it by saying: we pay taxes in Ireland and we respect the law. The aim of the former British politician and his powerful employer is to oppose the Digital Services Act. That is, the bill the ***European*** Commission is working on in Brussels to make digital platforms legally responsible for everything users publish. On a par with publishers. The social network fears the path followed by the Germans and the French (rapid removal of illegal or illicit content on the social network), which could point the way to the ***European*** directive. For this reason, with its lobbying offensive (also supported by the Trump administration), it aims to move the ***European*** negotiations to the OECD. Facebook is counting on the fact that through that route (more like a shifting sand than a swamp) an agreement will never be found. So this is what Nick Clegg means when he says we want new rules.

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**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject: *European*** Union (88%); Politics (84%); Human Rights Violations (81%); Multinational Corporations (74%); Globalization (69%); Territorial + National Borders (67%); Conferences + Conventions (63%); Homeowners (63%); Riots (63%); Fraud + Financial Crime (62%); Larceny + Theft (62%)

**Industry:** Internet + Www (94%); Budgets (88%); Computer Networks (69%); Agriculture (65%)

**Load-Date:** January 27, 2020

**End of Document**

[***Europe and migratory waves: Luciano Canfora's appeal against closed doors and ports; At the Circolo dei Lettori***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5Y2T-FBC1-F13X-904T-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

27 January 2020 Monday

TURIN Edition

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**Section:** CULTURE AND SHOWS; Page 19

**Length:** 158 words

**Body**

Written in the days of the "closure of the ports" imposed by the Italian government in the face of the wave of refugees fleeing Libya, "Stop the hate" is the latest book by Luciano Canfora, published by Laterza. The philologist and professor emeritus of the University of Bari will present it tomorrow at the Circolo dei Lettori, in dialogue with the literary critic Gian Luigi Beccaria. The meeting will be an opportunity to talk about ***Europe***, migratory waves and a possible "reversal of perspective". Canfora's book reflects on the need to "consider the migratory wave as an outpost of a world with which rich ***Europe*** could create a ***Euro-African*** federal structure gravitating on the Mediterranean, effectively equal and, in perspective, increasingly integrated".

The meeting opens at 6 p.m. Admission is free while places last (distribution of tickets from 5 p.m.). © RESERVED REPRODUCTION

**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Immigration (94%); Conferences + Conventions (75%); Religion + Spirituality (70%)

**Industry:** Publishing (63%)

**Load-Date:** January 27, 2020

**End of Document**

[***The Brexit of Erasmus***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5Y2T-FBB1-F13X-953F-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

27 January 2020 Monday

MILAN Edition

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**Section:** MILAN NEWS; Page 6

**Length:** 661 words

**Byline:** Federica Cavadini

**Highlight:** New agreements with UK universities: extra resources and guaranteed departures 'More students coming from ***EU*** countries'

**Body**

British universities are seeking agreements so that exchanges can continue. Milanese universities, including state universities, are guaranteeing departures for the United Kingdom by allocating extra funds. And some have already seen an increase in international student arrivals. These are the first effects of Brexit reported by universities.

From the Politecnico to the Statale University and the Cattolica University, they all focus on exchanges and collaboration. In recent years, the number of incoming and outgoing students has increased, including those from and to the United Kingdom (which is now the fourth most popular destination country after Spain, France and Germany, and the seventh most popular country of origin). And the collaboration with British universities continues. "In the calls for applications, places are also confirmed across the Channel" is the communication from the universities. "The exit of the United Kingdom from the Erasmus programme worries above all students, who unlike researchers, have this unique opportunity. But we have positive signals from British universities. And after Brexit we have set aside a specific fund to cover expenses for those who choose that destination," says Gabriella Pasi, pro-rector at Milano Bicocca, with responsibility for internationalisation.

This is what is happening at this state university, which also has an international medicine course open in Bergamo with the University of Surrey and in the last year has sent forty students from the Medicine, Psychology and Geology departments away: "We are receiving requests from UK universities for bilateral agreements, and they are willing to offer economic support to continue exchanges. The interest is mutual," explains Pasi.

Bocconi, a private university that focuses on international openness, has also reported a positive impact: last year there were more than two thousand arrivals and just as many departures, almost ten per cent from and to the UK. "We have bilateral agreements with 25 English universities, including double degree programmes. Mobility programmes are guaranteed, with or without Erasmus funds. And the Brexit effect is positive for us," says Stefano Caselli, pro-rector of International Affairs. And he explains: "***European*** cities and universities will have an advantage. We are already receiving more applications from Chinese, French and German students who decide not to enrol in the UK. We are also getting more applications from teachers: researchers in British universities could lose out on coveted and prestigious ***European*** funding. Brexit will be a difficult game for UK universities.

In the meantime, an 'Erasmus +' call for applications closes on 31 January, and then there will be windows for traineeships, for Bachelor, Master and PhD students. And on the website of the ***European*** programme regarding the situation in the United Kingdom it is stated that "until the end of 2020 it will remain unchanged". "The ***European*** programme, however, also provides funds for ***non-EU*** countries, which can also access Horizon funds for research by paying a fee. This could also be a solution for the United Kingdom.

Studying in England after Brexit. Those undergraduates ready to take their entire degree course there are also looking for guarantees. "There is the unknown factor of the government loan for university studies. We still don't know if it will be confirmed and it was an opportunity for many Italians - explains Diana Frattini of Wep, an organisation that deals with youth mobility -. On the other hand, the departures of high school students studying abroad in their fourth year are confirmed. Even in Milan, there are more and more of them, and English colleges are still the most popular".

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We are already receiving more applications from the French and Germans, and there are also applications from lecturers. Brexit will be a tough game for British universities Stefano Caselli Bocconi

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After Brexit we have set aside a fund to cover

the expenses of those who choose Great Britain as their destination for

studies abroad Gabriella Pasi Bicocca

**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Teaching + Teachers (94%); Student Financial Aid (65%)

**Load-Date:** January 27, 2020

**End of Document**

[***Those doubts about aid to those who speculated with derivatives; by Ivo Caizzi***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5Y2T-FBC1-F13X-9070-00000-00&context=) [***icaizzi@corriere.it***](mailto:icaizzi@corriere.it) [***Offshore***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5Y2T-FBC1-F13X-9070-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

27 January 2020 Monday

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**Section:** CORRIERECONOMY; Page 29

**Length:** 363 words

**Highlight:** From green investment funds, to limits on public spending, to bank bailouts: how many dossiers are open?

**Body**

Last week's two-day meeting of the ***Eurogroup/Ecofin*** finance ministers in Brussels revealed the difficulty of overcoming reservations and divisions on the important dossiers under discussion: from the funds for green investments to be allocated in the 2021-2027 ***EU*** budget to the reforms of the Economic and Monetary Union or the recommendations to countries with ailing public accounts.

It does not seem easy to reach an overall agreement quickly with the strategy of "concessions" on one measure to obtain in exchange for giving up something on another. For the Minister of the Economy, Roberto Gualtieri of the Democratic Party, the need to obtain more flexibility in public spending in order to boost growth opens up the risk of a further postponement of the ***European*** guarantee on bank deposits and penalties in the reform of the Savings Fund (ESM), especially for national government bonds.

The director of the ESM, German ***Euro-bureaucrat*** Klaus Regling, said he was confident that Italy would give the go-ahead "in March" for the strengthening of its institution for bank bailouts, which is supported by Germany, France and various Nordic countries. In substance, it would guarantee an additional "bailout" even for banks with maxi exposures to high-risk speculative derivatives (especially German, French and Nordic).

But it would open up a political problem in Italy, where Matteo Salvini's Lega and M5S have shown their opposition to parts of the text. Moreover, a substantial problem may emerge.

It can be proposed to use public money from the ESM to avoid bankruptcies of traditional banks, which would reduce the supply of credit to businesses and households. On the other hand, it seems difficult for citizens to swallow the fact that the bailout fund can help banks that have slipped into high-risk speculative derivatives.

The ***EU*** introduced the 'bail-in' legislation (the bail-out of shareholders, bondholders and holders of large deposits) precisely in order to stop states paying for the cost of the 'moral hazard' of casino bankers: if they gain, they cash in, if they lose, they prefer to pass the cost on to taxpayers.

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**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** National Debt (94%); Public Debt (88%); Economic Growth (69%); Gross Domestic Product (64%)

**Load-Date:** January 27, 2020

**End of Document**

[***Why markets like the environment; Investing sustainability***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5Y2T-FBC1-F13X-907J-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

27 January 2020 Monday

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**Section:** CORRIERECONOMY; Page 40

**Length:** 755 words

**Byline:** Andrea Beltratti and Alessia Bezzecchi\*

**Highlight: There** is still no positive correlation between the application of the ESG criteria and share valuations, but there is a growing demand from investors for listed companies to make responsible choices The new regulations must be applied with ideas that also have an impact on unlisted economic activities ***Europe*** could increase the impact of "green" finance, without penalising its companies too much

**Body**

Investors around the world are increasingly expressing interest in investing in securities issued by companies that meet environmental, social and governance (ESG) criteria. Is this investment method likely to have a real impact on the global economy? The impact depends primarily on the amount of assets managed by ESG investors. Today, it is estimated that assets under management with a focus on the best companies from an ESG perspective amount to around $30 trillion, about 36% of the world's gross domestic product. This is a very high value and has the potential to change the management policies of companies that fear being punished by a lower stock market valuation. Recent academic research shows that companies in sectors such as alcohol, tobacco and gambling are particularly undervalued on the stock market, by up to 8%, especially in those countries where social norms are more attentive to ESG factors, and there are important processes of change in China that bear witness to the relevance of this approach.

The ***EU*** Commission

However, it has to be admitted that it is still generally difficult to identify stable and robust empirical relationships between the application of EGS criteria and stock valuations. Much more agreement exists on the positive effect of ESG criteria on corporate performance when assessed on the basis of balance sheet indicators.

In any case, the recent initiative of the ***European*** Commission, which is working on three regulations concerning issues such as taxonomy, i.e. the classification and issuing of labels to define 'green' financial products, increasing the transparency of companies regarding their policies with respect to ESG factors, and the introduction of new benchmarks, could further increase the potential impact of sustainable finance, putting ***Europe*** at the centre of international action without penalising ***European*** companies.

However, we should not think that all obstacles have been overcome, as there are many economic activities that are carried out by unlisted companies. We know that the stock market has always been of varying importance in various countries around the world. But the decline in the number of listed companies in the world widens the area of economic activity that is not directly affected by investors. Investors need to broaden the ways in which they intervene, asking listed companies to be responsible not only for their direct choices in terms of production, but also for the choices they make within their value chain, particularly with regard to suppliers. Active action asking listed companies to take into account how their suppliers and product purchasers behave in terms of ESG is therefore essential.

Real estate

Another area that risks escaping the effects of investors' portfolio choices is real estate, which is estimated to be worth $220 trillion worldwide, more than twice the world's output. This stock is of fundamental importance for environmental quality, as it is responsible for a significant share of energy absorption and gas emissions related to climate change. Only a fraction of real estate assets are listed in the world, further limiting the impact of financial investors. The challenge is even more complex than that described above, and can only be met with a truly global view of economic activity, which also extends to urban regeneration planning, traffic management, new construction criteria and the use of proptech.

Asset and wealth managers must certainly play the role of a transmission belt, and amplify the vision of society and the new generations that show a marked sensitivity to social issues. Given the scale of the problem, however, it is important to remember that changing portfolios may be necessary but not sufficient: new regulations need to be supported by effective actions that can have an impact on unlisted assets and businesses. In many countries, financial intermediaries may be more important than markets in achieving sustainable finance objectives.

\*SDA Bocconi School of Management

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**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Company Strategy (93%); Business Forecasts (90%); Financial Performance + Reports (84%); Company Activities + Management (78%); Securities + Other Investments (78%); Economic Growth (71%); Safety, Accidents + Disasters (65%); Economic Conditions (61%)

**Industry:** Alternative + Renewable Energy (75%); Farmers + Ranchers (75%); Energy + Utilities (68%); Marketing + Advertising (68%)

**Load-Date:** January 27, 2020

**End of Document**

[***The return of Forza Italia with the Calabrian vote Berlusconi exults: "We are fundamental".***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5Y2T-FBB1-F13X-9558-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

27 January 2020 Monday

Rebuttal Edition

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**Section:** FIRST FLOOR; Page 13

**Length:** 602 words

**Byline:** Paola Di Caro

**Highlight:** Radar on M5S MPs: 'Let's bring them to us'

**Body**

ROME He had already decided on the eve of the election that this time he would not remain silent, he would not wait the usual 24 hours before commenting. Because Silvio Berlusconi had been sure for some time of the success of his Jole Santelli in Calabria - announced by the polls and by the great enthusiasm that he himself had touched with his own hands during his visits during the electoral campaign - and he knew that the conquest of the Region was a fundamental lifebelt to which he could cling. His Forza Italia, in difficulty, in constant decline in consensus, engaged in the arduous challenge of Emilia Romagna where it has never managed to achieve good performance and today is almost at the brink of collapse, risked being overwhelmed by the advance of Matteo Salvini. Almost wiped out.

For this reason, the first thing to do - also to silence the area that does not see the alliance with the League as the only way to exist - was to exalt and enhance the conquest of Calabria and 'our weight in the South'. And Berlusconi did just that. With the counting still to be completed, the former Prime Minister - who phoned Santelli live on TV - chose to see the glass almost full: "All the FI candidates have won where the coalition has given us the mandate to present them. Jole's result was great, with her leadership Calabria will become an emblem of the redemption of the South. And FI demonstrates its widespread roots and its irreplaceable role". Then, the attack on the opponents: "The vote in Emilia, the challenge to which we have subjected them, show that the left is no longer able to speak to its reference block, and the data condemn the M5S to irrelevance," reason why "if the word democracy has a meaning, we must change the government and the word must return to the Italians.

These words would have been stronger if the centre-right had managed to win both regions, as Salvini in particular but also Berlusconi in recent days had been convinced could happen. There was one doubt, however, which became a certainty during the night: the choice of candidate Borgonzoni, who never convinced the allies. "Salvini has done everything on his own, he has imposed his candidate on us, who has always seemed weak to us," say everyone from the general staff in Arcore. And "this was Matteo's real mistake", is Berlusconi's reasoning, while many from FI are - if not exulting - at least not crying over the leghist leader's stop: "Maybe now he will lower the crest, never make a referendum on oneself...", many say.

And yet Berlusconi had already begun to discuss future scenarios with his faithful: "Perhaps there won't even be a need to go to the polls, because the M5S is breaking up. They could come to us en masse, and at that point our government could be formed in parliament with their contribution. Or the vote could come closer. These discussions are premature at the moment, while the dialogue in the centre-right is open, on perspectives, candidates, moves to be made. Because the FI has shown that it is in great difficulty in the North, but for the first time in months it has reversed the balance of power in the South, doubling the League in Calabria thanks to the votes of the party, of the Santelli list and of a civic group that can be traced back to the Azzurri. And he brought home the fourth regional president, scoring a goal. This was not to be taken for granted.

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The ***EPP*** Group - ***European*** People's Party - is the largest and oldest group in the ***EU*** Parliament. It brings together several popular and centre-right parties. It is led by the German Manfred Weber, a member of the Bavarian Csu.) Forza Italia is the Italian party that is part of the EPP.

**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Politics (94%); Campaigns + Elections (86%)

**Load-Date:** January 27, 2020

**End of Document**

[***Meloni pressed her ally and commented via Twitter: "To have fought is already a success"; the centre-right***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5Y2T-FBB1-F13X-9557-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

27 January 2020 Monday

Rebuttal Edition

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**Section:** FIRST FLOOR; Page 13

**Length:** 593 words

**Byline:** Paolo Foschi

**Highlight:** Fratelli d'Italia in Emilia-Romagna gains 8.1% according to the second Swg-La7 projection Donzelli (FdI): "We are the third party in Emilia".

**Body**

ROME "We have doubled the number of votes, we have gone from 4% of the ***European elections*** to 8, maybe 9%, we will see at the end of the count. For us it is a victory, an extraordinary result": Giovanni Donzelli, MP and head of the Fratelli d'Italia organisation, summarises the outcome of the vote in Emilia Romagna. And he adds: 'We are the third party'. The region has remained in the hands of the centre-left with the affirmation of Stefano Bonaccini, but all in all it does not seem a drama for Giorgia Meloni's party. On the contrary. The strategy had been outlined for days: 'If Borgonzoni wins, it is our victory; if she loses, it is Salvini's defeat'.

The party leader, with the count still in progress and the list data provisional, limited herself to an institutional comment, congratulating Jole Santelli for the success in Calabria and defining "already a victory to have fought in Emilia".

In reality, Fratelli d'Italia's result went far beyond the coalition's honourable defeat in the reddest of regions: the party's broad consensus is worth its weight in the centre-right alliance's internal balances. Meloni may have hoped for a better performance, but in any case, if the results are confirmed, it will significantly increase the specific weight of FDI in the opposition that dreams of returning to government. In any case, if the results are confirmed, it will significantly increase the specific weight of FDI in the opposition that dreams of returning to government. Moreover, for weeks the polls have indicated the growth of the right-wing leader compared to Captain Salvini, thanks in part to the "belly-to-belly" campaign - as Francesco Lollobrigida, FDI's group leader at the Chamber of Deputies, has defined it - conducted by Meloni in a chase after the leader of the Italian League rather than the exponents of the centre-left. Meloni has beaten Emilia Romagna far and wide, often raising the tone to avoid being overshadowed by Salvini. Will Fdi now take up with her rival ally? "It's too early to talk about this subject," Donzelli cuts the question short, commenting hotly on the first projections. "If anything, Giorgia will do so in the press conference" called for today at 10.30am. "In any case, we certainly won't be defeated by the polls". In short, if Borgonzoni did not manage to achieve the historic feat, the fault lies with others, namely the League.

Last night, the Fratelli d'Italia (Brothers of Italy) gathered to follow the vote count in the congress hall on the ground floor of the An Foundation building in Via della Scrofa. A return to the historic headquarters of the Social Movement inaugurated by Giorgio Almirante in 1984. This is where Fdi moved its headquarters a few months ago. And it is from here that the leader symbolically dreams of restarting the relaunch of the Italian right, closing for ever with the Fiuggi turning point and recovering in some way the Missina soul. To assess the data during the long electoral night, many prominent FDI representatives arrived: from Adolfo Urso to Fabio Rampelli, from Isabella Rauti to Carlo Fidanza and many others, all smiling and serene. Of course, the pushback to Prime Minister Conte, threatened on the eve of the meeting, has been postponed. But many are ready to bet that the centre-right pasionaria will already be relaunching the catchphrase: "I am Giorgia, I am Italian. And I'm ready to govern.

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The word

It is the political position of those who argue that a country must defend or regain national sovereignty in areas that are delegated by treaties or international policies to supranational entities such as the ***EU***. Salvini's Lega and Meloni's Fratelli d'Italia are the protagonists in Italy.

**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Politics (94%); Campaigns + Elections (75%); Tobacco Regulation + Policy (65%); Tobacco + Health (63%)

**Load-Date:** January 27, 2020

**End of Document**

[***Burioni and anti-vaccines 'The coronavirus has silenced them'***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5Y61-10N1-F13X-911M-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

11 February 2020 Tuesday

TURIN Edition

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**Section:** TURIN NEWS; Page 4

**Length:** 609 words

**Byline:** Lorenza Castagneri

**Highlight:** Virologist in Turin today for a meeting on fake news in medicine The message We should thank the people back in China who decided to self-quarantine The risks We are back to realising how dangerous infectious diseases are

**Body**

Professor, should we be worried about the coronavirus then?

"No, because in Italy the virus is not circulating, but in China the situation is not under control and we cannot underestimate it. The solution is quarantine. For weeks, Roberto Burioni has been talking of nothing but the health emergency that has spread from China to the rest of the world.

Already on 8 January," proudly recalls the virologist at Milan's San Raffaele hospital and well-known publicist, "I wrote on the Medicalfacts website that trouble was on the way for us too.

And this afternoon, at 5pm, Burioni will also discuss the issue during a meeting organised at Ce.Me.Di, a structure just acquired by the Lifenet Healthcare group, in corso Massimo D'Azeglio 25 in Turin.

No fear for the children either, Professor?

"I repeat, today in our country the risk does not exist. We must be afraid of the coronavirus just as we are afraid of lightning. It is no coincidence that the only three people infected in Italy fell ill in China. The problem is that the disease may emerge later.

So I welcome quarantine?

"Of course. The Ministry of Education was right to say that children and young people returning from China should stay at home for 14 days. And it is good that adults should do the same. Quarantine is one of the two weapons we have to contain the epidemic.

What's the other one?

"Having a test available to diagnose the disease. Which is no small thing.

What about the vaccine?

"I don't think it will be available for another year or two. In the meantime, Italy has blocked flights from China, but those arriving from that country can come to us via different routes. This was a missed opportunity for the ***European Union*** to move in a cohesive manner: health must come first'.

Is it therefore necessary to rely on alternative protection measures?

"Of course. And instead of avoiding going to restaurants or Chinese shops because we are afraid of being infected, we should say thank you to the people returning from China to Italy who, as advised by the embassies, have decided to put themselves under self-quarantine. Ours is an odious and negative behaviour'.

Professor, the theme of today's meeting at Ce.Me.Di was supposed to be fake news in medicine, right?

"Yes. The debate has been on the agenda for months, but the coronavirus affair overwhelmed us. The other topic was homeopathy. And about that I asked myself a question."

Which one?

"What happened to the homeopaths these days? And the antivaccinationists?".

Everybody quiet?

"Yes. The coronavirus has shown that only science saves our skin, that this is the only thing to consider, to trust. Homeopathy has no utility, no plausible benefit and in fact total silence. People would like a vaccine but we don't have one. If we did, the coronavirus would be defeated, for sure.

Do you think the world is afraid?

"We have come back to realise how dangerous infectious diseases are. In the 1950s, in Italy, polio caused 8,000 deaths and paralysis and people realised how serious these diseases were. It is only thanks to the vaccine that certain situations have disappeared. Now, with the coronavirus case, we have suddenly remembered the past.

The people of Turin are waiting for you to give free rein to their curiosity. Do you come here often?

"I used to do it more in the past because I worked with a company based in Turin with which we did important things. It's a very elegant city where I always come back with pleasure. And it has a cuisine that combines French refinement with attention to raw materials.

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**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Diseases + Disorders (94%); Viruses (80%); Epidemics (68%)

**Load-Date:** February 11, 2020

**End of Document**

[***IN THE 5G CHALLENGE A PLACE FOR EUROPEEUROPE BETWEEN CHINA AND THE UNITED STATES; COMMENTARY ANALYSIS italics of the day***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5Y61-10N1-F13X-90WN-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

11 February 2020 Tuesday

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**Section:** IDEAS & OPINIONS; Page 20

**Length:** 326 words

**Byline:** Salvatore Bragantini

**Body**

Transmitting the big data needed for the Internet of Things, artificial intelligence, will require a newly developed network, 5G, whose top provider is China's Huawei. Its government can call it to order because of fears that it will 'suck' data from Huawei. China is now the US's antagonist, hence Trump's push to prevent allies from outsourcing 5G networks to the Chinese. The president berated the British prime minister, Boris Johnson, for doing so. US Justice Secretary William P. Barr proposed that the US should buy shares in two of Huawei's competitors, Ericsson of Sweden and Nokia of Finland, in order to achieve Huawei's quality and break its monopoly in 5G.

***Europe*** remains silent. But if public funds are needed for the technical development of two large ***European*** companies, let them come from the ***EU, which*** could then direct their work. If the ***EU*** wanted to proceed, it is not obvious who would decide, because the ***EU does*** not have a suitable entity, and it is no coincidence that such operations have never been carried out. Neither the ***European*** Central Bank nor the ***European*** Investment Bank can carry them out. Entering the two companies with an appropriate entity would open up new avenues for the Union.

The future is already here, if we want to see it and influence it. And it would be a good idea to prepare for the long, bitter winter of relations with the United States that is looming with the probable re-election of the person who is destroying the checks and balances, tracks from which the train of democracy cannot leave. Four more years (one of Trump's slogans) would give no better guarantees than China on the use of 5G data. America first cannot mean that the US must maintain dominance, if necessary by force: that would negate the very idea of liberal democracy. The "Iron Curtain" did not fall by force, but by the superiority of the Western model of society. © CONFIDENTIAL REPRODUCTION

**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Trade Treaties + Agreements (78%); Treaties + Agreements (78%); Economic Growth (73%); ***European*** Union (67%); Business Forecasts (63%); Globalization (63%); Multinational Corporations (63%); Securities + Other Investments (63%); Foreign Policy (62%)

**Industry:** Telecommunications (94%)

**Load-Date:** February 11, 2020

**End of Document**

[***Recession risk, measures under consideration for recovery; Analysis***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5Y61-10N1-F13X-90X4-00000-00&context=)

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11 February 2020 Tuesday

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**Section:** ECONOMY; Page 23

**Length:** 784 words

**Byline:** Federico Fubini

**Highlight:** Demand for more public investment and direct intervention in the most exposed sectors Germany and Spain German industry is in deep recession. In the ***eurozone,*** only Spain is growing slightly.

**Body**

It is too early to attempt to assess the damage that the coronavirus is inflicting on the global economy. But it is not too early to note that this latest shock has hit a weakened fabric in difficulty, both in the ***eurozone*** and, even more so, in Italy. In recent days it has become clear that the risk of a new recession in the country - it would be the fourth since the 2008 financial crisis - can no longer be dismissed as entirely improbable.

A recession, in the most widespread school definition, is a drop in gross product (GDP) for two quarters in a row. France, and Italy even more so, are already halfway there: in recent days it has emerged that both countries have surprisingly recorded a fall in GDP of 0.1% and 0.3% respectively. Strikes and street protests against the government's proposed pension reform have certainly had an impact on the transalpine economy. For Italy, the explanation lies largely in the malaise in industry and yesterday's data on a reduction in its production rates in December only confirmed this. Similar trends, at least on the last month of 2019 even more pronounced, can be seen in France and Germany. German industry is in deep recession, while Spain remains the only major ***eurozone*** economy to maintain even a slight growth in activity.

All this is true today, but of course it was before the negative events of the last month: the braking - or freezing - of whole sectors of trade because of the coronavirus, hand in hand with the difficulty Brussels is having in getting the White House to give the signs of truce it has long been seeking on trade.

Both factors risk prolonging the ***eurozone***'s industrial recession, despite the partial recovery in managerial confidence (manufacturing PMI) marked in January in Germany, France and Italy. The coronavirus in this could not have come at a worse time. Panic over the epidemic began to spread just as the Chinese New Year was approaching, mowing down sales especially in the fashion and luxury sectors. For all the major Italian and French brands, the People's Republic, Hong Kong and Macao together account for a quarter of sales or more, and for now their turnover in the area for 2020 does not reach a third of the levels of a year ago. Just yesterday, Moncler announced that the drop in traffic for its brand in China is 80%, so it will postpone projects and investments to cut costs. Other major fashion houses will surely follow. Today, exports to China are worth 0.7% of GDP each year for Italy, almost one per cent for France and almost three per cent for Germany, Axa estimates. A prolongation of the health crisis can only deeply affect growth in ***Europe***. In recent days there have also been warnings of supply chain problems from Asia to ***Europe*** in the automotive, mechanical engineering and electronics sectors.

Trade concerns are more subtle, but they too are holding back investment. Ursula von der Leyen, the new president of the ***EU*** Commission, had reserved 4-5 February for a summit at the White House with Donald Trump to reach a détente on duties. That was the date set by the two sides, according to four sources close to the talks. The fact that that date has passed but the meeting has not taken place suggests that the threat of a trade war between ***Europe*** and the United States is more difficult to defuse than the ***Europeans*** thought. According to one knowledgeable observer, Trump has essentially dropped Brussels' attempts to set up an agenda for the talks for now.

Nothing in this picture can support a recovery in investment and industry in ***Europe in the*** short term. But there is no sign of a swift and coordinated reaction by the main governments: Berlin is paralysed by the crisis in the Cdu, Chancellor Angela Merkel's party; in France, President Emmanuel Macron has to deal with the unpopularity of the pension measure; in Rome, on the other hand, the majority seems to be on the verge of unravelling every week, and is therefore focused solely on itself. But Italy, with more public debt, more unemployed and a falling GDP, is the most exposed economy in ***Europe*** at this terrible start to 2020. The government announced measures for businesses on Thursday, but the state of the accounts does not allow for incisive operations in the immediate future. It would be something for the parties in Parliament to avoid scaring consumers and investors even more with yet another Titanic deck fight.

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**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Economic Growth (94%); National Debt (94%); Economic Crisis (83%); Public Debt (83%); Gross Domestic Product (82%); ***European*** Union (74%)

**Load-Date:** February 11, 2020

**End of Document**

[***"A mistake to raise VAT The real challenge is to grow'; Interview***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5Y61-10N1-F13X-90X7-00000-00&context=)

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**Section:** ECONOMY; Page 25

**Length:** 608 words

**Byline:** Rita Querzè

**Highlight:** Sangalli (Confcommercio): more strength to fight evasion Coronavirus effect We risk closing 2020 with zero growth also due to the effects of the coronavirus

**Body**

VAT on milk at 10%, on eggs at 4%. The government would like to put a stop to this and other paradoxes. What do you think?

Rationalising and simplifying are good things," replied Confcommercio chairman Carlo Sangalli, "but beware of upward revisions of legal rates. All the more so because of the impact of VAT on consumption by lower income levels".

Many ***EU*** countries have only two rates. We have 4, 5, 10 and 22%. Reducing the rates would generate the same amount of revenue and 8-10 billion more because it would reduce evasion...

"It is one thing to put things in order, but quite another to increase VAT rates for entire economic sectors. One example among many: the tourism sector is now subject to the so-called reduced rate of 10%. Everyone (or almost everyone) says that tourism is an extraordinary resource for our country. I imagine, then, that everyone (or almost everyone) agrees that any hypothesis of an upward revision of this rate is wrong. Also because VAT is currently evaded to the tune of 37 billion ***euros***. An evasion that must be combated with determination. From this point of view too, raising the legal rates is not helpful.

The ***EU*** calls for a shift in the tax burden from direct taxes such as IRPEF to indirect taxes such as VAT.

"As Confcommercio, we appreciate the caution shown by Economy Minister Roberto Gualtieri regarding possible VAT increases. Whether the compensation between more VAT and less personal income tax can generate positive effects is in fact an economically very uncertain matter. All the more so considering the impact of higher VAT on domestic demand and household consumption. Demand and consumption remain the fundamental driver of growth.

What do you expect from the reorganisation of Irpef?

"The structure of the tax is affected by a long series of tax deductions and bonuses differentiated by categories of taxpayers. To such an extent that neither the principle of the same tax regime for the same income nor the principle of progressivity is guaranteed any longer. Fairness, simplification and helping to reduce the tax burden on compliant taxpayers: this is what we expect on the Irpef side. Less evasion, an effective spending review and, in particular, the careful reorganisation of tax expenditure. This is the way forward.

The propensity to evade IRPEF for self-employed and business income is 69% compared to 3.6% for employees. How can this be remedied?

"The 69% also includes income from second jobs received by anyone; and then, still in that percentage, there are also the many who declare what is due, but really cannot pay. We need to reduce the cost of tax compliance, increase the quality of controls, improve the public services provided to citizens, and curb tax demands".

What stage has been reached in the discussions with the government on tax issues?

"We have been calling for this for a long time. We really need a working method based on a stable and structured comparison. Recently, Deputy Minister Antonio Misiani spoke of the need for a new alliance between the state and the private sector and of the usefulness of a sort of 'National Economic Security Council'. It would be good if the operational response could arrive quickly'.

Do you have an idea of the impact of the coronavirus on GDP and consumption?

"We are very concerned, the coronavirus effect may lead - and this is a conservative estimate - to a 0.3% reduction in GDP with the likelihood of zero growth for the current year. President Conte's willingness to adopt measures to support the sectors most directly affected is therefore a good thing".

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**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Taxes + Taxation (94%); Income Tax (89%); Tax Law (82%); Corporate Tax (70%); Value Added Tax (65%); Excise Tax (62%)

**Industry:** Real Estate (63%)

**Load-Date:** February 11, 2020

**End of Document**

[***Tripadvisor and other sites: unfair competition from Google; The Lens***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5Y61-10N1-F13X-90X2-00000-00&context=)

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**Section:** ECONOMY; Page 22

**Length:** 112 words

**Byline:** Martina Pennisi

**Body**

It's raining accusations, and they are always the same. In a letter sent to the ***European*** Commissioner for Competition, Margrethe Vestager, 34 companies (including Tripadvisor and Expedia) accused Google of prioritising its holiday rentals window to the detriment of its competitors. As in the case of job offers or Google Shopping, the Californian giant is accused of giving greater prominence to its services when it 'answers' users' questions on (its) search engine. It was precisely for Shopping that BigG was fined ***€2***.4 billion in 2017. Starting tomorrow, it will try to overturn the decision at the ***EU*** General Court.

**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Multinational Corporations (69%); Online Marketing + Advertising (62%)

**Industry:** Internet + Www (94%); Marketing + Advertising (87%); Electronic Mail (80%); Telecommunications (69%)

**Load-Date:** February 11, 2020

**End of Document**

[***The day of the foibe reignites the controversy between the PD and the centre-right***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5Y61-10N1-F13X-90VR-00000-00&context=)

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**Section:** FIRST FLOOR; Page 9

**Length:** 518 words

**Byline:** Mariolina Iossa

**Highlight:** Dems leave ceremony for Gasparri's speech CasaPound's aggressive slogans and Vauro's gaffe

**Body**

ROME Official commemorations but also polemics. Institutional speeches but also provocative banners. The Day of Remembrance for the massacre of the Foibe, 16 years after its establishment, has not yet overcome the divisions and pacified the souls with the judgment of history, as in the intentions of the legislature.

Yesterday, too, while the Senate was remembering the massacre, and warnings were being issued "not to forget" and against "any negationism", and all the high offices of the State, from Elisabetta Casellati to Roberto Fico and Giuseppe Conte, agreed on the need to "heal" wounds still open by fighting any form of "oblivion", in Basovizza, the district of Trieste where last year Matteo Salvini inflamed the souls, there was a break. Dem MPs Debora Serracchiani, Luigi Zanda and Tatjana Rojic left the foiba in protest when Forza Italia Senator Maurizio Gasparri took the floor.

The Foibe has become 'a stage for the sovereignist right', Serracchiani tweeted. Zanda condemned the "excess of propaganda tones". Before Gasparri, the president of Friuli-Venezia Giulia, Massimiliano Fedriga, of the League, had given his speech. Both were judged not to be 'canonical' by the Democratic Party. "I took over Mattarella's speech, was that propaganda too?" retorted Gasparri, who then praised the large participation of young people and exiles.

The Julian shrine was in fact invaded by citizens, but many faces from national politics were also seen, as never before, including the M5S minister for relations with Parliament Federico D'Incà, the leader of FdI Giorgia Meloni and Salvini himself, the latter also in Monrupino.

Before the ceremony, CasaPound banners appeared in Trieste and other towns in the region with the inscription: "Infamous and murderous Titoan partisans", to which the Anpi reacted with a note: "The traditional misery of neo-fascists is answered by history and their irrelevance. The Anpi will continue to do its duty of remembrance especially towards the new generations".

There was also controversy over Vauro's harsh remarks. The cartoonist criticised the "instrumental use" of the Day of Remembrance, which has become a "crude instrument of sovereignist and neo-fascist propaganda".

In the Senate chamber, Prime Minister Conte stressed the importance of "never underestimating the risk of new nationalisms, hatreds, divisions and oblivion". Chamber of Deputies President Fico apologised "once again" for "the wound inflicted on those people and their descendants", and Senate President Casellati remarked on the "deafening silence" of too many years, which had given rise to "anti-historical, anti-Italian and anti-human denialism".

The ***European*** Parliament remembered "the Italian victims of all the foibe massacres" and in Rome David Sassoli, with mayor Virginia Raggi, laid a wreath at the Altare della Patria. "A national tragedy that for too long people have tried to deny", the president of the ***EU*** Parliament then tweeted.

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**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Campaigns + Elections (94%); Riots (77%); ***European*** Union (74%); Tobacco + Health (67%); Genocide (63%); Immigration (63%); Minority Groups (63%); Communities + Neighborhoods (62%)

**Load-Date:** February 11, 2020

**End of Document**

[***"There are not two Popes Married priests? No, I'm against it"; The interview MONsignor Camisasca***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5Y61-10N1-F13X-90WF-00000-00&context=)

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**Section:** NEWS; Page 17

**Length:** 1435 words

**Byline:** Aldo Cazzullo

**Highlight:** Bishop of Reggio Emilia: Catholic politicians fighting among themselves

**Body**

M onsignor Camisasca, in your latest book "Inhabit the earth and live by faith" you write that we are at a turning point in human history. Why?

"Because today man is able, through science and technology, to get down to the roots of life. Man could "create" man. But which man? This "creation" can coincide with his destruction. Man can also create machines that dominate him, thus ending up as a slave to what he himself has wanted. Enormous benefits can be reversed in the destruction of the human".

The upheavals also seem to affect the Church. How is it governed at the time of the two Popes?

"There are not two Popes. There is only one Pope: Francis. The Petrine ministry has become increasingly important worldwide in recent decades. The voice of the Pope is heard and contradicted all over the world. Newspapers not only talk about the Pope, they also create an image of him. But the Pope must be free from what the world thinks of him. He must be an echo of the word of Christ. Certainly this word will also have a political influence, but he must not think about this".

Is Francis more loved by non-believers than by practitioners?

"This is the first impression one gets from looking at the newspapers, but it is not the truth. Many non-believers think that Francis has softened the yoke of Christ, abolishing dogmas and rules; but this does not bring them closer to Christ. Some, on the other hand, are attracted by the charity and strength with which Francis goes out to meet people. This converts. As for the believers: I think we need to discern continent by continent. Francis is the first South American Pope. He brings a new eye to ***Europe.*** We need to meditate on his essential words. The plethora of books about him makes it more difficult to concentrate on what is really important. Neither do those who continue to repeat some of his phrases, such as "Church outgoing", as a slogan, but without helping us to grasp the depth of it, do any good".

Is there anyone working against the Pope?

"The first to work against the Pope are the flatterers, who prevent us from seeing the truth. When John Paul II was elected, his friend Bishop Andrea Deskur told him: "From now on you will not know who your friends are". It was an exaggeration, but it contained a truth. Then there are those who are a priori "for" or "against", without making the effort to enter into the words of this pontificate. But there are also those who would like to canonise every word of the Pope, as if what he says on the plane or in a solemn document were the same".

Isn't it?

"The Pope is Peter. It is not necessary to adhere to every detail of his personality. The Pope must be loved and recognised as the guide of the Church. Above all, it is necessary to ask what Christ wants to say through him to all of us".

For the German bishops the Pope does not do enough, for the American bishops he does far too much. Is there a risk of a schism "from the left" and one "from the right"?

"I believe that the situation of the German Church is dramatic. Deeply marked by the terrible contradiction of being a rich Church but without faithful, it thinks it can recover them by following the logic of the world. The American Church, on the other hand, is very much alive. But I don't think there are any American bishops against the Pope".

Are you in favour of allowing married men to be ordained, at least in the Amazon and in depopulated areas? Is celibacy really indispensable?

"I am absolutely against the ordination of married men. What was asked for the Amazon would become a premise for the whole Church. Celibacy was first and foremost Christ's choice for his life. He then also called some of his apostles, such as Peter, among the married men. Jesus also asked them to leave everything, including their families, to follow him. Today's priests work hard and carry a great deal of responsibility. Shall we also add the responsibilities of a family? How could they then be willing to move? What about divorced priests? It seems to me a great wisdom to reaffirm the absolute convenience of celibacy".

The Church in Italy counts for less. Its voice rarely leaves its inner walls. Why?

"Many speak of a silent Church. The Italian Church speaks in its communities through the witness of holiness and hope: families that go through difficulties by remaining united; people who fight against abortion and euthanasia, who dedicate their lives to helping immigrants, the sick and all the great 'discarded' of whom Pope Francis speaks. This whole world of holiness struggles to become culture, a judgement on history and worldly cultural trends that want to replace God. This is the task we have before us as bishops and as the Italian Church".

Is there room in Italy for a Catholic party?

"In the abstract, yes, but not in practice. Catholic politicians are militating in different parties, they don't listen to each other anymore, they oppose each other.

Have you seen the film 'The Two Popes'? And Sorrentino's 'The New Pope'?

"I saw The Two Popes. I was fascinated by the actor who plays Pope Francis, whereas Pope Benedict is absolutely wrong in his performance. Ratzinger remains unknown to most people: they don't know his writings and ignore his gentle and shy manner, which is absolutely positive towards the interlocutor. I don't think I will watch Sorrentino's series'.

There was a vote in the region where you are bishop, Emilia-Romagna, and Salvini did not win. How come? Did the red soul of this land prevail, starting with Reggio? Or did Salvini go too far, with the intercom and all?

"I had the impression that the centre-right was ahead until two to three weeks before the elections. Then the insistence on Bibbiano in an inappropriate way, the intercom case and certain tones led many voters from wanting change to fearing change. I think the left must listen to those who voted for the centre-right. Their questions raise real and profound problems'.

Ruini advised the Church to dialogue with Salvini. Is it right to do so?

"Ruini is an excellent politician. In his words, however, I heard first of all the voice of the bishop. Bishops must meet everyone, they must listen to everyone. Salvini, for better or worse, represents the voice of millions of people, mostly believers. Pius XII received Togliatti in audience, even if secretly. Why should one not meet Salvini?".

At what point is Communion and Liberation, whose history you wrote? Has it been demonised? Is it still alive and influential?

"Certainly in the past there has been a demonisation, not without fault on the part of Cl. It was not able to show how much the courage of political action of some of its members and the inevitable mistakes had to be linked and distinguished from the movement itself. Today, it seems to me that the movements have all taken steps backwards, even numerically. God is the judge of their influence on souls. It is still strong in human history. They must certainly grow in their capacity to create culture and to express judgements.

A chapter of your book is dedicated to migrants. Has the Church lost some harmony with public opinion by preaching welcome? Was Biffi wrong when he said that it was better to favour arrivals from Catholic countries?

"The Italian Church has done a lot. I could see it from the inside. But we have not been able to reassure or influence integration processes. If we welcome those who cannot be integrated, we do harm to people. Between 'we welcome everyone' and 'we welcome no one' there is the line of prudence and wisdom invoked by Pope Francis."

What does this mean in concrete terms?

"Agreements with African countries to reduce departures; the fight against the merchants of migrants; the stabilisation of Libya and neighbouring countries; humanitarian cordons to welcome those fleeing violence; ***European*** agreements for the distribution of refugees; security in our streets. You cannot build the future without preserving your traditions and values. We want to remain ***Europe***, even with the help of new presences. We do not want to become a faceless continent. That is why the insistence of fifteen years ago on Judaeo-Christian roots, perhaps politically wrong at the time, is the condition for building the future".

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We want to remain ***Europe***, even with the help of new presences We do not want to become a faceless neighbour. This is why the insistence of 15 years ago on the Judeo-Christian roots, which was perhaps politically incorrect at the time, is the condition for building the future.

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**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Religion + Spirituality (94%); Marriage (83%); Witnesses (69%); Conferences + Conventions (65%); Christians + Christianity (64%); Gays + Lesbians (63%); Weddings + Engagements (63%); Divorce + Dissolution (62%); Marriage Law (62%)

**Load-Date:** February 11, 2020

**End of Document**

[***Angela reigns in the ruins of a party in disarray But her mandate is at risk; The scenario***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5Y61-10N1-F13X-90VV-00000-00&context=)

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**Section:** FOREIGN; Page 10

**Length:** 704 words

**Byline:** Paolo Valentino

**Highlight:** Heirs 'devoured' and siege from the right. Will it make it to 2021?

**Body**

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

Berlin In the end, like Cronus, Angela Merkel devoured another of her sons, aka possible successors. Like Christian Wulff, like Friedrich Merz. The dramatic exit of Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer leaves the eternal chancellor once again dominating the scene, mistress of the Cdu and indispensable giant of German politics. But this time there is only a landscape of ruins around her. And what had seemed like a show of strength in the previous days, the determination with which she apparently closed the crisis in Thuringia, turned out to be just an optical illusion. Merkel now looks like a T

rummerfrau, a woman of the rubble, as the millions of Germans who literally cleaned the cities of Germany from the remnants of war were called.

The Cdu is a divided party. It is exhausted by 15 years of "asymmetric demobilisation", by a policy that is no longer guided by strong ideas, let alone ideological positions, but by the needs of the moment, by the seizure of the positions of others and by the Stimmung , the prevailing mood. And it is torn between those who call for a conservative repositioning in the name of old values and those who still want to believe in the long-won formula of Merkelian centrism. Outside AKK, the succession to Merkel promises to be an existential battle for the soul of the Cdu, its nature as a popular party, its vocation to govern. And no one sums up the prevailing anguish better than Wolfgang Schäuble, the president of the Bundestag and one of those (father rather than son) whom Merkel has devoured, when he warns that 'our next chancellor candidate may never become chancellor again'.

It had taken Angela Merkel only a few hours to put the church back at the centre of the village, after the "slave revolt" in Thuringia, where the local Cdu had broken the taboo of collaboration with the extreme nationalist right. The resignation of the liberal prime minister elected with the votes of the Cdu and AfD, the resignation of the federal government's commissioner for the East, who had applauded the choice, is a clear confirmation that the road to dialogue with the ultra-right remains blocked.

But even fewer were needed to realise that nothing is the same as before and that there is deep discontent with Merkel in the Cdu. Especially in the East, where local organisations have to deal every day with the mother of all questions: the existence of a political force that, despite its clear neo-Nazi contamination, attracts the consent of one in four voters.

Put another way, Angela Merkel can no longer compact the party behind her. What is more, perhaps for the first time she seems to have lost her sense of power. Determined to remain chancellor, she has denied her mantra of dual office by relinquishing the presidency of the Cdu. And she made a gross error of personal and political judgement, throwing her weight behind AKK and designating her as his heir, only to see her accumulate gaffes, mistakes and electoral defeats. And now that he has corrected it, he realises that perhaps it is too little too late.

And if this is probably enough to guarantee the Grosse Koalition's temporary survival, from now on it is no longer Merkel who dictates the timing of her power. Everything will depend on who is elected as leader of the Cdu in the autumn. Until then, with Germany's ***EU*** presidency starting in July, she will remain chancellor. But whether she will be until September 2021 remains to be seen. Perhaps, with AKK, Angela Merkel has devoured one child too many.

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Christian Wulff, Merkel's potential rival for the party leadership, was strategically promoted by Merkel to the presidency of the Republic in 2010. But he was forced to resign in 2012 for accepting a soft loan from a friend when he was minister-president of Lower Saxony.

Friedrich Merz , a lawyer and conservative, was ousted by Merkel from leading the Christian Democrat MPs in the Bundestag in 2002. Having retired from politics, he ran in 2018 against Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer for the party leadership: but at the Cdu congress in October 2018 the vote was taken and she won by a handful of votes

**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Politics (94%)

**Load-Date:** February 11, 2020

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[***Fitoussi: 'Beware of the neo-language trap'***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5Y61-10N1-F13X-911S-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

11 February 2020 Tuesday

TURIN Edition

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**Section:** TURIN NEWS; Page 5

**Length:** 370 words

**Byline:** Paolo Morelli

**Highlight:** French economist tomorrow at the Sao Paulo Skyscraper: "Debt in ***Europe*** can be said without fear".

**Body**

He is a member of the board of directors of Banca Sella and was previously on the supervisory board of Intesa Sanpaolo, which is why he knows Piedmont. The economist Jean-Paul Fitoussi, however, will be in Turin tomorrow for another reason, because he will be at the Intesa Sanpaolo Skyscraper (6 p.m.) for a meeting based on his latest book, La neolingua dell'economia (Einaudi). Edited by Francesca Pierantozzi, the book starts from an assumption: the use of words that have been emptied of meaning (in economics, as in politics) leads to the spread of false concepts. This, according to Fitoussi, suits those who hold the reins of power.

"In 1984, Orwell tells of a dictator who created a department to impoverish the language. When you take words out of the vocabulary, they no longer exist: this is neo-language. In my book I try to show that we have all fallen into this trap'. It prevents us, for example, from expressing concepts clearly. "These words,' continues Fitoussi, 'have a considerable influence on politics, such as the one that considers debt to be a bad word that should not be uttered'. Yet in this example, the discourse is more complex and concerns ***Europe***. "In fact it is a region," he explains, "where each country suffers like a dictatorship, as decisions depend on humanity. On debt it is Germany in the position of dictator, while on competition it is the northern countries". In this great "federation-state" in which decisions appear impossible, ***European*** cynicism is that of wanting to be a creditor, says Fitoussi, without loving the debtors. "***Europe,"*** says the author of the lamppost theory, which he says has in fact come true, "needs pragmatic policies. It is better to have one point more in deficit in exchange for 10 points more in human capital". That index of well-being and sustainability that GDP, for example, cannot measure. Yet "***Europe*** has all the cards in its hand to make its population richer, smarter and happier, but it does not make these arguments". The words identified by Fitoussi, from "free market" to "competition" to "tax wedge", seem to be increasingly distancing the economy (and politics) from reality.

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**Classification**

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**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** National Debt (94%); Politics (90%); Economic Growth (84%); Public Debt (76%); Gross Domestic Product (71%); Economic Policy (65%)

**Load-Date:** February 11, 2020

**End of Document**

[***Brexit postponed L'Europe pushes back (to 31 January) the last deadline; The tug-of-war***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5XCM-2V01-JDMV-K385-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

29 October 2019 Tuesday

NATIONAL Edition

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**Section:** FOREIGN; Page 15

**Length:** 351 words

**Byline:** Luigi Ippolito

**Highlight:** Britain to vote? Motion for December elections defeated again. But Johnson will try to convince Liberal Democrats today

**Body**

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

London The date for Brexit is moving forward again. It has now been set by the ***European Union*** at 31 January: and Boris Johnson has accepted, albeit reluctantly. The Prime Minister has therefore had to go back on his promise to take Britain out of the ***EU*** by 31 October, 'dead or alive': but there wasn't much else to do, since the alternative was a no deal, a divorce without an agreement, a catastrophic prospect that no one has any interest in accepting.

The 27 eventually found a common position, which consists of a "flexestension", i.e. a flexible extension: which means that if the Westminster Parliament were to approve the agreement negotiated with Brussels sooner, the date of Brexit would be brought forward accordingly.

British MPs had already given the first green light to the text of the agreement last week, but then asked for more time to examine the whole bill and possibly amend it. A prospect that is not looked on favourably in Brussels, where they stress that the agreement on the table is just that and that there is no more room for manoeuvre.

The focus therefore shifts, once again, to the ongoing political dynamics in London. The only way out of the impasse is to go to early elections, from which Johnson hopes to obtain a solid majority that will allow him to bring the Brexit to a smooth conclusion by January.

That's why last night he presented a motion in Parliament to go to the polls on 12 December: but as it had already happened twice in September, it did not gather the necessary two-thirds of the votes. The Labour Party does not want to allow him to take part in elections that at the moment only suit Boris. So today he will try to circumvent the electoral law, presenting a text with a few lines to go to the vote in December, which in this case requires a simple majority: a manoeuvre that could succeed thanks to the votes of the Liberal Democrats and the Scottish nationalists. But it is not certain that they will be fooled.

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**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject: *European*** Union (94%); Politics (88%); National Debt (83%); Campaigns + Elections (71%); ***European*** Union Regulation + Policy (71%); Mergers + Acquisitions (64%); Divorce + Dissolution (61%); Marriage Law (61%)

**Load-Date:** October 29, 2019

**End of Document**

[***"Politicians should do as Draghi did: strengthen Europe.Europe at any cost".***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5XCM-2V01-JDMV-K388-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

29 October 2019 Tuesday

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**Section:** FOREIGN; Page 17

**Length:** 635 words

**Byline:** Paolo Valentino

**Highlight:** Macron's appeal at ECB president's farewell ceremony with Mattarella and Merkel

**Body**

FRANKFURT Even Mario Draghi, the man of ice, is moved. When Emmanuel Macron calls him a "worthy heir of the founding fathers", placing him alongside Monnet, Schumann and De Gasperi, the imperturbable lord of the single currency appears transfixed. There are no stealthy tears in the wrinkles of his ancient face. But by pointing to him as 'the man who holds high the ***European*** dream', the French president has visibly touched his heart.

There is much more to the farewell ceremony for the man who saved the ***euro***. And not only because with Macron, Angela Merkel and Sergio Mattarella are also here to pay him a non-formal tribute. But also because, true to his mystique, not even now, before handing over the presidential bell to Christine Lagarde, Mario Draghi is refusing to proudly define his legacy and issue a final warning: "Today there are 11 million more employed people in ***Europe***, the popularity of the ***euro is at*** its highest level and politicians are saying that the single currency is irreversible. It is in front of everyone's eyes that now is the time for more ***Europe***, not less".

A friendly audience has gathered in the foyer of the ECB skyscraper on the banks of the Main. There are Ursula von der Leyen and Jean Claude Juncker, the new and the old Commission. Paolo Gentiloni and Economy Minister Roberto Gualtieri. But King Mario's opposition is also paying homage: sitting in the third row, Jens Weidmann, head of the Bundesbank and leader of the hawks on the bank's board, smiles ambiguously.

The Chancellor was the first to speak. She recalled the Roman origins of Frankfurt, the Limes of the empire, linking it to that of Draghi, Mario civis romanus: "You are moving in the right tradition, leaving behind great traces. Of course, in German the phrase may sound ambiguous: in the thrifty Teutonic culture of money, Draghi leaves deep scars. Merkel was sincere, however, when she acknowledged his "decisive contribution to the stability of the ***euro***", thanking him "for having ensured the independence of the ECB and strengthened monetary union".

Now Macron finds the best of his rhetoric. He praises the knowledge, courage and humility of a central banker who became a statesman, showing creativity, vision and saving ***Europe*** from shipwreck. But above all he celebrates his humanism, his ability to "look at people's real lives, beyond figures and words" and to always decide in the name of what "in France we call the general interest".

Mario Draghi," said President of the Republic Sergio Mattarella, "has been authoritatively at the service of a more solid and inclusive ***Europe***, interpreting the defence of the single currency as a battle to be waged with determination against the forces pressing for its dissolution". The Head of State also looks ahead. And invoking the same courage shown by Draghi in pronouncing the famous "whatever it takes", he urges the Union to a "further change of pace", essential to complete the ***European*** building site, "an existential necessity if ***Europe*** wants to become a real global player".

Then it was the turn of Christie Lagarde, the heir, who did a great job of keeping a low profile and being careful not to steal the show. She celebrated Draghi's "wisdom", almost recreating the atmosphere of the many meetings where she had seen him at work: "I have always been impressed by your contribution, you have visions based on solid analysis and evidence. When you speak you create attention and silence. And sometimes you cause concern. And this time too, when Draghi goes to the podium, emotion barely concealed, silence falls in the room. He speaks for the last time, with the serene confidence of someone who has done the right thing and the trust that he is leaving the ECB 'in good hands'. This is probably true. But, in any case, we will regret Mario Draghi.

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**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Heads Of State + Government (94%); Politics (92%); Central Banks (84%); National Debt (82%); Public Debt (69%); Monetary Policy (62%)

**Industry:** Budgets (70%)

**Load-Date:** October 29, 2019

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[***"We must become autonomous I was perplexed about the alliance"; THE INTERVIEW LUIGI DI MAIO***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5XCM-2V01-JDMV-K37G-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

29 October 2019 Tuesday

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**Section:** FIRST FLOOR; Page 3

**Length:** 1313 words

**Byline:** Emanuele Buzzi

**Highlight:** M5S leader: great humility needed, let's not forget where we come from

**Body**

Luigi Di Maio, you said that being in government with the League first and then the Democratic Party has penalised you: but if you have gone from 27 to 7 in Umbria or from 32 to 17 nationally, you must be doing something wrong.

"Actually, all the vote analysis says that half of our voters abstained because of the coalition with the PD. So the issue is there. Then I think we need great humility in starting again. We have to reset expectations and face the regional and municipal elections with the spirit of those who want to give citizens the opportunity to participate.

If you went back, would you make the same choices again?

"It is no mystery that during the formation of the government I was quite perplexed. But the approval of the cut in the number of members of parliament, the imprisonment of big tax evaders, the climate decree and the decree stabilising temporary teachers have convinced me that if we are doing things for the Italians it is right to go ahead. I am of the opinion that we always win and lose together, and never as in this moment has the Movement in its various parts agreed to remain in government.

So it looks like the M5S will have to go back to Gianroberto Casaleggio's version: governing alone with 51%.

"We have to think that our journey has just begun, that we must now responsibly give our best to bring home what the citizens are asking of us, but the objective must not change: to get to the government of the country with an independent majority that will allow us to really put ourselves to the test, if we significantly improve the quality of life of the Italians then the perception of our proposals will also improve".

Renzi said that the Narni photo was a genius.

"I don't comment on these things, I don't care. I find it a bit awkward to identify with the anti-Salvini. Citizens don't want political leaders who pick on each other on talk shows, but they want to be involved in political choices so that they can really solve problems.

Did you inform Zingaretti of your decision not to repeat the Umbrian experiment?

"Going it alone in local elections has always been the position of the M5S: we are alternatives to parties, not complementary. The experiment in Umbria was an experiment, it didn't work and that's that. We look ahead.

But did you hear it?

"I've heard from Franceschini, and in the next few hours I'll hear from Zingaretti.

And Conte?

"We have spoken with Giuseppe and we are all perfectly aware that we need to give the country more answers. Even on the issue of migrants, let me say, you cannot make it an election issue. Let's face it: is there a problem? Yes. Should it be solved? Yes, and we must not be afraid to say so; we cannot reach the paradox that saying that Italy cannot take charge of all the migrants leaving from the coasts of North Africa becomes a reason for shame. We must do the right thing, not the thing that scares us the least. It is not possible for the Viking to land in Italy for the umpteenth time.

Conte seems to be relaunching with alliances: he says that if the experiment did not go well, it can be improved.

"I understand that Conte is calling for reflection. But after one of our historic lows at the regional elections, I would say that it can be considered a closed experience. In the next few hours I will have meetings with the elected representatives of Calabria and Emilia-Romagna to start a process. The territories will decide, but I'm ready to bet that no one will ask me to ally with the PD after the Umbrian data.

What changes now?

"In government, nothing, as long as we take forward, with dialogue and responsibility, the points we have committed ourselves to with the citizens. This is the way forward".

He said that the government lasts but must be renewed. Do you want to write a new government contract now?

"It's not a question of a new or old contract. When I proposed it, when I raised my voice during the consultations, everyone accused me of wanting to drop everything, but the reality is quite different, the reality is the content, we must think not of who but of what is done. There is nothing unconditional, there is the programme. During the week I spent in Umbria, citizens, artisans and shopkeepers came up to me and asked me about credit cards, compulsory pos and so on.

Will the Movement be there in Emilia-Romagna?

"I will listen a lot to our activists, to those who put their hearts into this project in the streets, after which we will decide together on what to do, but if each regional election becomes decisive for the government, then for the citizens it will be a continuous thriller since there are seven more until May. For the Italians, the measures that we will put in the budget law for their children and families are decisive. Forget exit polls.

So you confirm that there will be no vote if the centre-right wins in Emilia-Romagna?

"But it's not like we can do this for all seven regional elections between now and May 2020. A regional election is a regional election, not a national election."

It would be a strong signal to the government, however, you will also admit....

"We'll see how it goes, I'm a pragmatic person, I don't talk in front of ifs".

With these numbers, the M5S risks being marginalised at national level.

"It seems to me that on the national level the numbers are different. We are the needle of the scales in the ***European*** Parliament where acts are passed or rejected according to the vote of the 5 Star Movement. Like the last resolution on NGOs. And we continue to be so in Italy. Of course, this does not mean that Umbria should not make us think. As I said before, we need humility and we must never forget where we come from.

Several parliamentarians are calling for his head.

"I am not aware of that.

Well, some have publicly criticised the choices.

"It is right that they have done so, if they think so. This is M5S and we have to keep saying things to each other's faces."

Do you feel responsible for the defeat, given that you launched the civic pact, or do you feel that this time you share it with those who, like Grillo and Fico, supported the axis with the PD?

"I reiterate that we win and lose together".

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We need great humility to start again. We have to reset expectations, rewind the tape and understand that today we need a change of pace because the dynamics have changed compared to a few years ago.

~

To the polls if the centre-right wins in Emilia-Romagna? We can't do this for all seven regional elections between now and May 2020 A regional vote is a regional vote, not a national one.

The choices

The Alliance

with the Carroccio

As 5 Star leader, elected on the Rousseau platform in September 2017 with 30,936 votes (82%), Di Maio led the Movement into government with Salvini in June 2018: the balance of power saw M5S at 32.7% and the League at 17.4%. With the ***European elections*** in May, the balance of power was reversed: the M5S fell to 17.1% and the League rose to 34.3%. August: government crisis

1

The new executive and the internal fractures

With the fall of the yellow-green government,

Di Maio, who had already been challenged by his own people for his collapse at the ***European elections***, saw the internal fractures within the Movement worsen. In September, after the approval on Rousseau of the agreement with the PD (79,634 votes, 79%), Count II was born. But the criticism of the leader did not subside, until the M5S thud at the Regional elections in Umbria on Sunday.

2

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We've spoken to Conte, and there's an awareness that we need to give the country more answers.

The comparison

franceschini

For Luigi Di Maio, Dario Franceschini - Minister of Cultural Heritage and Activities and head of the PD delegation in the Conte II - is a good interlocutor: "I heard Franceschini, in the next few hours I will hear Zingaretti - said the leader of the 5 Star Movement and Minister of Foreign Affairs -: we work well with them, better than we worked with the League".

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**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Politics (94%); Minority Groups (75%); Campaigns + Elections (71%); Immigration (67%)

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**End of Document**

[***Segre and those who insult her on the Web 'People I pity'; The case***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5XCM-2V01-JDMV-K38R-00000-00&context=)

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29 October 2019 Tuesday

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**Section:** NEWS; Page 24

**Length:** 782 words

**Byline:** Giovanna Maria Fagnani

**Highlight:** Milan, prosecutor's office opens file on threats against senator

**Body**

Milan "They are people to be pitied" and "who should be treated". Liliana Segre does not change her tone, not even when talking about the new brood of invisible cowards who take pleasure in pouring gratuitous, misplaced, completely idiotic hatred on her. Even if every day she is targeted by at least two hundred racist, provocative, mocking or insulting messages, her language continues to be based on measured words that compose positive messages. And while news arrives of a judicial file against unknown persons, opened by the Milan Public Prosecutor's Office back in 2018 with the hypothesis of the crime of harassment and threats, she - at 89 years old - continues to meet young people all over Italy to explain what hatred was, the real one, which she experienced, suffered and saw deformed into horrors she witnessed in the Auschwitz extermination camp.

So even on a Monday afternoon in October 2019 here she was at a conference on the "language of hate" organised at the Iulm University in Milan, where she reiterated her feeling of pity for the new haters hiding behind the screens of the web (the meeting was attended by Gian Battista Canova, rector of Iulm; (The meeting was attended by Gian Battista Canova, Rector of IULM; Alessandro Galimberti, President of the Lombardy Order of Journalists; Carlo Borghetti, Vice-President of the Lombardy Regional Council; Roberto Jarach, President of the Milan Shoah Memorial Foundation and Daniela Dana Tedeschi, Vice-President of the Association of Children of the Shoah). "Every day, together with seven hundred other skeleton women, I would leave the Auschwitz camp to go and work in the Union munitions factory and they, who must have been 15 or 16 years old, would spit on us and insult us. I hated them, those people of my age, I felt an immense hatred for them. But when I became a grandmother I thought about those boys and something extraordinary happened to me: I was back, I was alive, I could count on love. And I thought: I was luckier to be a victim than they were to carry that belief inside.

The senator for life, who escaped from the lager where her father and grandparents were killed, also manages to deliver a stinging phrase imbued with subtle irony for those fearful anonymous people who come to wish her death: "Every minute should be enjoyed and suffered, we must study, see the good things around us, fight the bad ones - she says -. But to waste time writing to a ninety-year-old to wish her death.... Nature already takes care of that". And with regard to the sleazy messages addressed to her, she explains that in reality, 'I haven't read any of them, they are so old-fashioned that they don't exist on social networks at all'.

But what can be done to drain these puddles of wilful ignorance? "I don't think there is a method to root out the serial haters, they are sick people who should be treated and have time to waste," says the senator. Nor is there any point in pointing the finger at the social media: "They are not used to talk about the good," acknowledges Liliana Segre, "but as a grandmother, I trust young people, they will be the ones to get rid of hatred.

The senator for life was surrounded by the solidarity of the political world, from the governor of Lombardy, Attilio Fontana, to the president of the ***European*** Parliament, David Sassoli, who was visiting the Jewish community in Rome yesterday and launched an appeal for Italy to make up for its "delay" and move "quickly" towards compliance with certain indications that the ***European*** Parliament has long given to the Member States", such as that of "appointing a national commissioner for anti-Semitism". Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte announced that he would "invite all the political forces in Parliament to agree to introduce rules against hate speech", and Liliana Segre herself admitted that she expects a lot from the Anti-Hate Commission to be discussed in the Senate.

Giampiero Rossi

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The word

Auschwitz

The vast complex of concentration and labour camps built by the Nazis near the Polish town of Oswiecim, where Liliana Segre was deported.

The story

The Milan Public Prosecutor's Office opened an investigation in 2018 against unknown persons for harassment and threats due to the insults made to Senator Liliana Segre on social networks Yesterday, at a conference organised by IULM in Milan, the Senator spoke about the investigation and the social aggression of which she is a victim The Anti-Semitic Observatory's report calculated that on average the Senator receives around 200 insults and threats every day

**Classification**

**Language:** ITALIAN; ITALIANO

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CORSERA

**Subject:** Adolescents (94%); Minority Groups (90%); Jews + Judaism (88%); Children (82%); Human Rights Violations (70%); Bullying (69%); Religion + Spirituality (67%); Sexual + Reproductive Health (61%)

**Load-Date:** October 29, 2019

**End of Document**

[***Export, the great opportunity is the US-China war***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5XCM-2V01-JDMV-K34B-00000-00&context=)

Corriere della Sera (Italy)

29 October 2019 Tuesday

BRESCIA Edition

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**Section:** BRESCIA; Page 9

**Length:** 375 words

**Byline:** Massimiliano Del Barba

**Highlight:** Confindustria Lombardy's Internationalisation Survey presented The penalising factor Our companies are still too tied to German and French supply chains

**Body**

The advance of emerging economies and the increasingly close confrontation between the United States and China are changing the geography of internationalisation of Lombardy's businesses, which should take advantage of the conflict between the two superpowers and the relative fluidity of alliances in the new bipolar context.

This is the political indication that emerges from the seventh edition of the Internationalisation Survey carried out by Confindustria Lombardia in collaboration with Sace Simest and Ispi and presented yesterday at the Assolombarda headquarters in Milan. New outlet markets, which could open up as a result of trade wars and export bans between China and the USA, plus the increasingly strategic value of participating not only as subcontractors but as protagonists in ***European*** industrial supply chains: "This is a complex path," explained Sace president Beniamino Quintieri, "but one that Lombardy companies must take, aware that exports are the vocation of this area and the driving force behind the Italian economy.

While it is true that 45% of the turnover of Lombard companies derives from commercial relations with foreign countries, it is also true that for 94% of international companies exports are the only form of presence abroad. This gives the image of a region that is highly dependent on commercial choices generated outside the regional and Italian context. In fact, the authors of the report write: "Forms of direct commercial presence and productive presence in foreign countries are little implemented. Commercial representative offices (10.6% of companies have them) and branches or direct shops (9.8%) are only widespread among larger companies".

Once again, the size factor is the limit to the penetration strength of Made in Lombardy on international markets. And the dependence on foreign supply chains is confirmed by the expectations of growth in external turnover, which have been reduced compared to the last survey in 2017 due to increased geopolitical uncertainty. In short: very good suppliers, but still too tied to the traditional destination channels of orders: Germany, France and Spain.

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**Subject:** Manufacturing Facilities (94%); ***European*** Union (86%); Company Revenues (84%); Goods + Services Trade Balance (68%); Globalization (63%); Small Business (63%)

**Industry:** Marketing + Advertising (68%); Fashion + Apparel (63%)

**Load-Date:** October 29, 2019

**End of Document**