



THE LSDP TOP 100 GLOBAL THINKERS OF 2012

www.lospaziodellapolitica.com
segreteria@lospaziodellapolitica.com
twitter: @SpazioPolitica

THE LSDP LIST OF GLOBAL THINKERS.

Inspired by the Foreign Policy list of 100 global thinkers, Lo Spazio della Politica (LSDP) presents its own list of global thinkers every November since 2009. Our list differs from the FP's more prestigious one because we apply a simple rule: we do not indicate any person who appeared in the FP ranking, unless the person has previously been included in one of our rankings (E. g. Dilma Rousseff this year, included in the LSDP 2010 list and in the FP 2011 list).

The list of global thinkers is an opportunity to identify some of this year's trends in politics and the global economy, and it highlights some key aspects of the way we work. We are based in Italy and Brussels, so our rankings always include a number of Italian personalities, as long as their experience is globally relevant. We also include some "viral" actors, as well as names related to trends in popular culture. In addition to individuals, we also include companies, objects and research projects. The list emphasizes mostly political leaders, businessmen, scientists, academics and intellectuals, trying to balance the geographic representation between Europe, the United States and other continents (however, this balance varies on a yearly basis).

Our ranking tries to offer a portrait of the world as it is (and of how it is perceived) rather than the picture of the world as it should be. Therefore, it is not our intention to name the "saints" or "heroes" of 2012, therefore the selected personalities could be seen as inspiring as well as controversial.

READING 2012.

> *Alessandro Aresu*

2011 began with global media focusing on the so-called “Arab Spring”. First on our 2011 list of global thinkers, was the Royal Family of Qatar. With this nomination, we tried to highlight one main feature of the Arab Spring which proved true in a later stage: spring has been followed by autumn and winter, and some key actors (such as Qatar, the ultimate overachiever) profited from this situation of uncertainty and managed to increase their influence in the area.

In a way, 2012 can be viewed as the autumn of 2011. This seems to be true both for the Arab Spring and for the other main event of 2011, the European debt crisis and its spread to Italy and Spain (on the parallel crises of these two countries, *Lo Spazio della Politica* has just published an e-book by Stefano Gatto both in Italian and Spanish). This remains true also for political processes: protest was the form of political participation at the center of the international scene in 2011. It has been followed by elections, rather than revolutions.

Although our lists often highlighted the international relevance of emerging countries, this year we give more emphasis to Europe and the United States. This is clear if we consider the “podium” of global thinkers.

John Roberts, Chief Justice of the United States, was ranked third. Roberts was selected for his key vote (and majority opinion) in

National Federation of Independent Business v. Sebelius, which upheld the constitutionality of most of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, popularly known as Obamacare. Considering his relatively young age, the *Chief Justice* (who voted for the majority in the landmark 5-4 *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* and is certainly not a liberal hero) firmly established himself at the center of the balance of the Supreme Court, where, in all likelihood, Obama will have the chance to replace Associate Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg with another liberal judge.

Our silver medal goes to Mario Draghi, President of the European Central Bank. Mario Draghi, along with German Chancellor Angela Merkel, has been a key player throughout the European crisis which unfolded in 2012. He transformed the simple word “unlimited” into an essential political event, notwithstanding the impossibility to reach a unanimous vote within the ECB board, because of the opposition by the German member. Despite the excitement for “Super Mario”, the European crisis is far from over. However, Draghi’s actions will definitely leave a mark on 2012. Think –for instance- about his trip to the Bundestag on October 24. On that occasion, European public opinion assisted to a unique confrontation between German representative democracy and the ECB economic technocracy.



Our choice for first place may be surprising for most people. We chose Ferdinand Karl Piëch, chairman of the supervisory board of Volkswagen. We acknowledge the leader of one of the greatest European industrial dynasties. Piëch built up a company which was able to address the shrinking European automotive market with a remarkable presence in other markets. 2012 is Piëch's year because, finally, Porsche's shares are entirely controlled by the Volkswagen group. The dynasty was thus reunified, back where it started with the legendary first Porsche and the Beetle. Moreover, unemployment is this year's European fundamental problem. Therefore, we decided to put a job creator in the first place (along with Bertold Huber, president of the union IG Metall). He deserves to stand ahead of Draghi, because the fight against unemployment is not within the ECB mandate, either "formal" or "material".

The list also highlights some general trends and events of 2012. We try here to summarize a few of them.

As far as technology is concerned, with the choice of Bre Pettis we have stressed the importance of the "makers movement", which in 2012 has become "adult" in its economic and international recognition, joining the well-established (and Made in Italy) name for DIY (do it yourself) in electronics: Arduino. 2012 was also the year of drones, for their role

in the new American way of conducting the war against terror and the emergence of their use for civil purpose. They were mentioned for the first time in a presidential debate: this news, and much more, can be found following the Twitter account @drones. The shale gas revolution (symbolized by the choice of two *almost forgotten engineers*, Joseph Pasini III e William K. Overby Jr.) is perhaps an even greater breakthrough, because of its enormous geopolitical impact, and the change it implies for the United States' approach to energy (according to the International Energy Agency, the U.S. will overtake Saudi Arabia and Russia to become the world's largest global oil producer by 2020). The so-called Start-up nation, Israel, is represented by two scientists, a young researcher and Professor Dan Shechtman, Nobel prize 2011 in Chemistry and a lifelong mentor of entrepreneurship. Even a very controversial figure, Kim Dotcom, is a technological personality of 2012 in our view, because the end of Megaupload and Megavideo raises important issues concerning the relationship between rights, law and social behavior in the age of the Internet. Knowledge spreading is also characterizing another trend, especially in Silicon Valley: online education, which we stressed with the inclusion of edX, the Khan Academy, Udacity and Coursera in our list. At the controversial crossroads between economics and technology, there is



Mark Gorton's high frequency trading, the ultimate phase of the "rise of nerds in finance" (probably, even "nerd bankers" watch "Game of Thrones").

Elections and political leaders are of course well represented. The election of Mursi in Egypt was an important event for the "Arab Spring" and the Middle East in general. It helped us to focus on how political Islamism and the military played a major role in the Egyptian transition, despite the naive Western narrative dealing with the so called "Facebook Revolution".

Dealing with the U.S. election, we decided to avoid obvious choices like Barack Obama, Michelle Obama, Bill Clinton. We included Ohio, the Midwestern State that, for some time, was able to monopolize the attention of the world. The Obama 2012 campaign was perhaps less rhetorically inspired than the one for the election of the "President of the World" in 2008, but has successfully fostered the creation of a winning coalition of minorities. In particular, a record Latino vote was key to Obama's election: to acknowledge this, we included Latino Decisions, one of the best sources for Latino political opinion research. If Wall Street (along with the oil industry, including Exxon, whose story is told in the last book by Steve Coll) decided to bet on Mitt Romney, a lifelong Democrat, Laurence Fink, CEO of Blackrock (3.5 trillion \$ under asset manage-

ment and an enduring line with the White House) is one of the biggest winners among the 1% of the American population: we reserved the 99th spot for him. Firemen represent an American choice, and much more. It reminds us the fragility of earth's environment and the necessity of crises and disasters management, in a year where, before Sandy, climate change was a political "unnamable". The U.S. election revealed a "conflict" between pollsters-statisticians and pundits: the former were the absolute winners, and Nate Silver is the most recognizable face of Karl Rove's humiliation. This is the "rise of nerds in politics". In addition, fact-checking has been playing an essential role in tracing the path of new journalism: an example in this sense is Ezra Klein, born in 1984, whose "**wonkish**" work in the Washington Post underlines "the rise of nerds in good journalism". In the end, Hal Varian was probably right: we live in the century of statisticians and data (and data centers, such as Google's renovated paper mill in Hamina, Finland). In times of elections, verifying the data, often almost "instantly", is a key for a networked-educated public. In Europe, this trend has been well represented by "Le Veritomètre" during the French election.

Europe remains an area of great political risk. After the decline of Merkozy, the Presidency of



Hollande, facing reality, does not possess the magic wand for an easy progressive turn in European policies. The new Wall of Europe, the gap between North and South, is getting higher. In 2012, we saw the increase of a “cultural divide”, fostered by reciprocal prejudices in public opinion. We recognize this predicament by choosing Jutta Urpilainen, Finland’s Finance Minister and Socialist Party leader in a nation which is famous for the narrative of European “ants” of the German core and Mediterranean “grasshoppers”. A key choice on this matter is also the Italian historian Giulio Sapelli, whose prophetic *Southern Europe: Politics, Society and Economics since 1945*, appeared in 1995, explains the coming cultural, institutional and economic asymmetry. We ranked seventh (ex aequo) three heterogeneous figures: Artur Mas, Alex Salmond, Bart de Wever: despite their diversity, they underline an important trend emerged in 2012, the likely dissolution of the national state in some regions of Europe (Spain, United Kingdom, Belgium). Europe is waiting for an absent leader, and it will probably wait long before one comes. An old leader, however, was hailed. We refer to Gerhard Schröder, who went to Göttingen to celebrate the tenth birthday of its Agenda2010, which was introduced in the Bundestag by very timely words: “Either we modernize ourselves, and by that I mean as a social

market economy, or others will modernize us, and by that I mean unchecked market forces which will simply brush aside the social element”. An essential reading to understand the euro crisis is the history of the European Monetary Union, written by historian Harold James. For the Greek elections (which were at the same time real “European” elections) we nominated Loukas Tsoukalis, for his sober thinking on his own country and Europe in difficult times. The Greek elections were also the subject of an interesting narrative of the 2012 European and global apocalypse written by economist Dani Rodrik. In conclusion, The European Union has been living, meeting after meeting, in an everlasting announcement of the “last crucial week of the euro” for a whole year. The best proof of this frustrating routine is the genial Twitter account that mocks Angela Merkel: it has shown how social networks can bring new life to political comedy.

Turning to emerging (or, better, emerged) countries, 2012 marked a decade in power for Erdogan’s AKP in Turkey. This decade brought deep and controversial cultural changes, as well as a stunning season of economic growth. Instead of nominating Erdogan himself or the well-known Davutoglu (who was in our first ranking in 2009), we chose a figure of the second generation, Ali Babacan, who was



appointed Economics Minister from 2002, at the age of 35, and remained in office until 2007. In Brazil, Dilma Rousseff survived the “trial of the century” of the *mensalão* scandal in the Workers’ Party. Her leadership therefore survived the legacy corruption within the party (which she fought); the Workers’ Party, with Fernando Haddad, even managed to win in Sao Paulo against a former presidential candidate, José Serra. As far as the new Chinese leadership, we do not risk any consideration before seeing it at work, but we still propose a few economic personalities and David Barboza’s reporting of The New York Times, on the enormous wealth accumulated by the family of prime minister Wen Jiabao. In times of emerging markets, Malala Youszafai is the symbol of a concern that needs to “emerge” more, all over the world: children education. We also chose a few researchers on crucial issues for developing countries, such as water access for farmers in West Bengali (India’s Aditi Mukherji) and the fight against “Africa’s rice AIDS” (Cameroon’s Marie-Noelle Ndjondjop).

In 2012, many interesting books went to press (either in paper or multimedia format). We chose some, in an obviously non-exhaustive list. In particular, we focused on history, politics and economics, including *The Carbon Crunch*, *Why Nations Fail*, *The Bretton Woods Transcripts*, Jill Lepore’s essays for the New

Yorker (including the wonderful “*The Lie Factory*”, but also “**Battleground America**”, the essay which was plagiarized by Fareed Zakaria).

Changes in the 2012 business world are represented by three significant partnerships and mergers: first, the ongoing Glencore-Xstrata merger which will create an impressive empire of commodities; second comes the merger between Penguin and Random House, creating the largest publishing house in the world, in a market which is severely compromised by the limited ability to respond to technological change; third, the global partnership between Emirates and Qantas in the new paths of the aviation industry. The great absentee is of course the failed EADS-BAE systems merger in the field of defense.

Our list ends with **Enrico Mattei**, founder of Italy’s largest multinational corporation, the energy giant ENI. He died fifty years ago in the skies over Bascapé (close to Milan) in mysterious and controversial circumstances: he played a fundamental role in the Italian economic miracle thanks to his international business strategy which stated Italy’s importance in the world and left a strong legacy for the country. He deserves our last word, a word of remembrance and admiration.

THE LIST



n° 1

FERDINAND KARL PIËCH



(Chairman of the supervisory board of the Volkswagen Group, Austria)

Because he is the ultimate carmaker. He was able to diversify in order to reduce Volkswagen's dependence on the shrinking European market, and he made his ultimate mark on the Porsche dynasty. Since August 1st, Porsche's shares are entirely owned by the Volkswagen Group. Piech, appointed car executive of the century in 1999, is on track to repeat himself in this century.



n° 2

MARIO DRAGHI



(President of the European Central Bank, Italy)

Because the words "Within our mandate, the ECB is ready to do whatever it takes to preserve the euro. And believe me, it will be enough" may go down in history, more than any other contemporary speech of European leaders.

n° 3

JOHN ROBERTS



(Chief Justice of the United States)

For his decisive vote in the 5-4 ruling *National Federation of Independent Business v. Sebelius* on June 28th, which upheld the constitutionality of most of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, popularly known as Obamacare.



n° 4

MALALA YOUSAFZAI



(student and blogger, Pakistan)

Because of her activism towards women's rights for which she was shoot in an assassination attempt by Taliban gunmen while returning home on a school bus. Education is still the first enemy for all obscurantists of the world.

n° 5

@DRONES



(Twitter account, United States)

Because this Twitter account provides an unmatched daily update on the technological prospects, as well as on the civil and military uses of drones.



n° 6

OHIO



(“swing” State, United States)

Because every four years, for a few months, and especially for one night, Ohio becomes the centre of the world. And Mitt Romney wasn’t able to break Ohio’s law: No Republican has been elected President of the United States without carrying Ohio.

n° 7

ARTUR MAS, ALEX SALMOND, BART DE WEVER



(politicians, Catalunya, Scotland and Flanders)

Because, despite being very different figures, their success indicates the political risk of national dissolutions throughout Europe, in Spain, Britain, and, of course, Belgium.



n° 8

JOSEPH PASINI III AND WILLIAM K. OVERBY JR.



(engineers, United States)

Because the techniques for the extraction of shale gas they patented decades ago are already revolutionizing energy markets, and they may change global geopolitics.

n° 9

JUTTA URPIILAINEN



(Finance minister and socialist leader, Finland)

Because her country's stance and her pronouncements emphasise the gap between Northern and Southern countries in Europe, one of the key weaknesses of the euro project.



n° 10

FIREFIGHTERS



(Citizens of the World)

Because from 9/11 through the earthquakes in Italy to Hurricane Sandy, the firefighter is the hero of a modern world in perpetual emergency. Luckily, as the Italian anthem says, "The fireman has no fear".

n° 11

KIM DOTCOM



(Megaupload founder, Germany and New Zealand)

Because his spectacular arrest and the outbreak of the Megaupload case led us to reflect on the relationship between rights, intellectual property and collective behaviour in the Internet age.



n° 12

BRE PETTIS



(MakerBot founder, United States)

Because in 2012 the makers movement has gone from hobby to mainstream. Makerbot, with products such as Replicator 2, is opening up the mass market with low-cost, high quality and attractive desktop 3D printers.

n° 13

THE GOOGLE DATA CENTRE IN HAMINA



(Data centre, Finland)

Because sometimes even data need a sauna and because the rearrangement of a former paper mill is an example of post - post - industrial architecture.



n° 14

MARIE-NOELLE NDJIONDJOP



(molecular biologist at Africa Rice,
Cameroon)

Because Africa suffers of “rice AIDS”, too, and her researches on the NIL 130 rice variety could help on the fight against it.

n° 15

ALI BABACAN



(Minister of Economy, Turkey)

Because he is a co-founder of the AKP party, but he is relatively young (born in 1967), and a likely leader of the new generation, after Erdogan's decade of power. In 2002, he was appointed Minister of the Economy, and contributed to relieve Turkey from one of the most serious financial crises in its history.



n° 16

NKOSAZANA DLAMINI-ZUMA



(physician, South Africa)

Because, through her election to the presidency of the African Union Commission, she has become a symbol of how the continent is becoming more open to women

n° 17

LIU HE

(economist, China)



Because, considering his role in the World Bank China2030 report and his accession to the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, he is now one of the top Chinese economic policymakers.



n° 18

JILL LEPORE

(history professor at Harvard University, United States)



For her careful analyses of the American society published by "the New Yorker", including "Battleground America" which was famously plagiarized by Fareed Zakaria.

n° 19

STEVE COLL



(President of New America Foundation, United States)

Because his writing ability, after being challenged by writings on Bin Laden, the CIA and the South Asian conflicts, succeeded again while describing one of the giants of the American economy, the “private empire” of Exxon.



n° 20

EZRA KLEIN AND THE WONKBLOG TEAM



(Washington Post journalists, United States)

For their “wonkish” and huge work on economics, politics, energy and health policy for the Washington Post WonkBlog

n° 21

THE ROYAL FAMILY OF QATAR



(Royal Family Qatar)

Because every year, thanks to the smart investment of gasdollars, they are able to increase their leverage over the larger Middle East area. Al-Thani was the first head of state to go to Gaza under Israeli siege and successfully pushed Hamas against the Syrian regime.



n° 22

22 JULY COMMISSION

NOU Norges offentlige utredninger 2012: 14

Rapport fra
22. juli-kommisjonen



(Commission on the Utoya Massacre,
Norway)

Because its honest and courageous work in identifying the gaps in the Norwegian security system has restored the country's credibility that the Utoya massacre had damaged.

n° 23

MOHAMMED MORSI



(President, Egypt)

Because his election shows that, in a democracy, leaders are selected by voters and not by foreign leaders (goodbye Amr Moussa and ElBaradei). He is the first Muslim Brother in power in any country in the Arab-Islamic world, as well as the first civilian president in the history of modern Egypt.



n° 24

BERTHOLD HUBER



(President of the IG Metall union,
Germany)

Because he proves that it is possible to be a very effective and hard-liner trade union leader, who can succeed in major negotiations even without saying “no” to everything.

n° 25

THE VERITOMÈTRE



(fact-checking site, France)

For its contribution to the quality of the French campaign and especially for having led Twitter users during the Hollande-Sarkozy debate, checking 137 numbers in two hours and a half, almost once every minute. Their experience will surely be an example for other European countries.



n° 26

HAROLD JAMES



(historian at Princeton University, United States)

Because he has always tried to put the current crisis in an historical perspective. This year, in particular, we remember his writings on the lessons that Europe can learn from Alexander Hamilton, and especially the history of the EMU which he wrote consulting the archives of the ECB.

n° 27

DAVID BARBOZA



(Shanghai bureau chief of The New York Times, United States)

Because his report on the wealth accumulated by the family of outgoing Chinese premier Wen Jiabao is a real example of global investigative journalism, and it contributes to the debate on the private appropriation of wealth derived from economic growth.



n° 28

GIULIO SAPELLI



(historian and economic historian, Italy)

Because his book *Southern Europe Since 1945*, written in 1996, is a consistent prophecy of the great divergence between areas of Europe, which were accentuated by the crisis.

n° 29

IVAN GLASENBERG



(CEO of Glencore International, South Africa)

Because, even if the longest section of the Wikipedia page of Glencore is “Controversies”, the forthcoming merger with Xstrata will change the global commodities market.



n° 30

PSY



(rapper K-POP, South Korea)

Because the viral video of 2012, “Gangnam Style”, comes from Asia and has produced countless parodies.

n° 31

MASSIMO BANZI



(creator of Arduino, Italy)

Because Arduino is the de facto standard in the new wave of electronics and robotics DIY, used by drones Arducopters and by apprentice engineers in the best universities in the world. Arduino is now an important part of Made in Italy.



n° 32

DIETER HELM



(professor at Oxford University, United Kingdom)

For the vision and the courage of his The Carbon Crunch, which reminds Europe that its efforts to tackle climate change are going nowhere.

n° 33

MARK GORTON



(Founder of Research Tower, United States)

Because high-frequency trading companies such as Tower Research are substantially changing the landscape of global finance. Mark Gorton entered this market with an approach of “finance hackers”, thus creating a culture that is distant to banks and similar to start-ups. The new Gordon Gekko is a nerd.



n° 34

PETER THIEL



(Investor, United States)

For the philosophy of Founders Fund: “We wanted flying cars, we have 140 characters”. For his role as a public intellectual of technology and his theory of “technological stagnation”. For his harsh exchange with Google’s CEO Eric Schmidt, in which he accused the search giant of thinking for the sake of computers and not for the sake of people.

n° 35

EIKE BATISTA



(Mining magnate, Brazil)

Because a self-made billionaire with a million of Twitter followers reminds us that, at least in some countries, the world is still growing.



n° 36

AKBAR AL BAKER, JAMES HOGAN AND AHMED BIN AL MAKTOUM



(Qatar, UAE, Australia, aviation executives)

Because they are the CEOs of the three airliners that have revolutionized the civil aviation landscape in 2012.

n° 37

EDX AND KHAN ACADEMY



(Non-profit education companies,
United States)

Because edX is an innovative collaboration between MIT and Harvard University (and more universities have submitted) to offer free online courses to a global audience and the Khan Academy is now an established reality in online education, with a worldwide grasp.



n° 38

JULIA GILLARD



(Prime Minister, Australia)

Because, facing a sexist attack from the opposition leader, she was not afraid to fight back, with a replica which became viral and brought the Macquarie Dictionary to extend the definition of "misogyny".

n° 39

LENOVO

(PC company, China)

lenovo

Because the bet of the acquisition of IBM's computer division by a Chinese company seems to be won, despite the industry's declining trend. The first place in world sales proves it.

L



n° 40

THE INDONESIAN PEOPLE

(Citizens of a nation-archipelago)



Because they show that pessimism has not taken over the world completely: according to a poll by Ipsos, they are the happiest people on earth (a strong 51 percent of the respondents consider themselves "very happy").

n°41

KEN ROBINSON



(Educator and consultant, United Kingdom)

Because, as he said, “many highly talented, brilliant, creative people think they’re not – because the thing they were good at school wasn’t valued, or was actually stigmatized” and, in order to fix this problem, he imagined an educational system capable of fostering creativity rather than putting it at risk.



n°42

NICK D’ALOISIO



(Creator of Summly, United Kingdom)

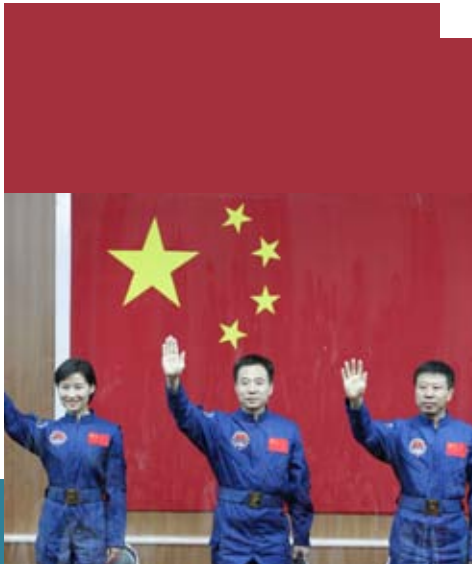
Because, at sixteen, he created an app offering summaries of the main contents on the web, which has attracted the interest of a giant corporation such as Horizon Ventures. GigaOm calls him “The Internet’s newest boy genius.”

n°43

JING HAIPENG, LIU WANG AND LIU YANG

(astronauts, China)

Because they are the astronauts (or, better, taikonauts) of Shenzhou-9, the first manned Chinese space mission.



n°44

SHI ZHENGRONG

(Founder, president and CEO of Suntech Power, China).

Because solar power is almost competitive with other sources mainly thanks to the low prices of Chinese panels.



n°45

STEVE TSANG



(Director, China Policy Institute at Nottingham University, Hong Kong).

For his analyses of the fall of Bo Xilai and on the new balance of power within the Chinese Communist Party leadership.



n°46

UDACITY AND COURSERA



(online education companies, United States)

Because in 2012 online education became a reality: with Udacity one can learn computer programming by Google's Peter Norvig and Coursera has almost 2 million users and could be able to receive college credit for its courses.

coursera

n° 47

MO YAN



(Writer, China)

Because being able to remain within a system and criticise it at the same time is worth a Nobel.



n° 48

JAMES ROBINSON



(professor of Government at Harvard University, United States)

For the debate stimulated by his book *Why Nations Fail* (co-authored with Daron Acemoglu) and the definition of “extractive ruling class”, which includes those who extract national wealth for personal purposes.

n° 49

LOUKAS TSOUKALIS



(president of the Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy, Greece)

For his sober and acute analyses on Greece and European politics, particularly “Steering Europe out of the Crisis”, published by Policy Network.



n° 50

@QUEEN_EUROPE



(Fake Twitter account of Angela Merkel, Unknown Nationality)

For being the perfect reference for the European crisis. Two top comments: “It’s tiny, impossible to find and we’re all hoping it will solve the mysteries of the universe. Yes, Cyprus has the EU presidency”; “A *true European victory for Chelsea: aging workforce, leadership in flux, paid with foreign cash, German economy wins in the end.* # CL.”

n° 51

ALDO MUSACCHIO AND SERGIO LAZZARINI



(Professors at Harvard University,
Mexico and at Insper, Brazil)

For their studies on the “evolution of
Leviathan”, and particularly on state
capitalism in Brazil.



n° 52

AMELIA ANDERSDOTTER AND SKA KELLER



(European MPs, Sweden and Germany)

For the battle they won against ACTA
(Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement) in the
name of Internet freedom

n° 53

ODD ARNE WESTAD



(LSE professor, Norway)

Because, after having edited the Cambridge History of the Cold War, in *Restless Empire* he provides an original look to the past, present and future of the Chinese empire



n° 54

MINDLAB



(inter-cell innovation, Denmark)

For redesigning the format of the Competitiveness Council of Ministers in Copenhagen, co-producing new ideas.



n° 55

SARIT SIVAN



(Senior research fellow at Technion, Israel)

For her research on materials capable to restore the biomechanical function in case of spinal disc degeneration, for which she was awarded the Marie Curie Award on innovation and entrepreneurship.



n° 56

DILMA ROUSSEFF



(President, Brazil)

Because in 2012 she gained further independence from the image of her mentor Lula and initiated a fundamental process in the fight against corruption, one of the key actions for the strengthening of emerging countries: the statements in the *mensalão* case have great symbolic importance in Brazil and beyond.

n° 57

NICOLAS VÉRON



(Bruegel and Peterson Institute, France)

For having invented the concept of European Banking Union.



n° 58

DANI RODRIK



(Economist, Turkey)

For his articles on Project Syndicate, in particular the June dystopia “The End of the World as We Know It”, but also for the contributions on national sovereignty and on the end of economic miracles

n° 59

MARISSA MAYER



(Yahoo CEO, United States)

Because she could prove that you can revive a global technology company and be a mum at the same time.



n° 60

DAVID ATTENBOROUGH



(Naturalist and broadcaster, United Kingdom)

Because the 2012 Diamond Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II is not unique: the BBC king has given voice for 60 years to the discovery and love of nature.

n° 61

D-WAVE ONE

(quantum computer, United States)



Because it is one of the first commercially available quantum computers, and it is already at work on complex calculations.



n° 62

MARK MAZOWER

(Historian, United Kingdom)



Because “world governance” is a concept at the same time fascinating, controversial and difficult to achieve. He filled a gap telling its history



n° 63

LUCREZIA REICHLIN



(Economist, Italy)

Because she has been the first woman at the top of ECB research department and she is a major contributor both to econometric theory obscure to normal people and to policy discussions on the Eurozone. And because she would have made a perfect Finance Minister in Monti's Government



n° 64

THE TEAM THAT FOUND THE HIGGS BOSON



(CERN)

Because waiting for Godot sometimes pays off. And especially because for once Europe came before the US in scientific research with an international and intergenerational quest for knowledge.

n° 65

WOLFGANG MUNCHAU AND SUSANNE MUNDSCHENK



(co-founders of EuroIntelligence,
Germany)

Because EuroIntelligence is an important example of a European-wide evolution of information and commentary.



n° 66

JOHN QUIGGIN AND HENRY FARRELL



(Political scientist, Ireland, and
Australia, economist)

For their essay on the rise and fall of Keynesianism during the crisis, which offers an interesting perspective of intellectual history: the housewife from Stuttgart “defeats” the great Cambridge economist.

n° 67

GUAN JIANZHONG



(Founder and President of Dagong, China)

Because his rating agency tries to break the oligopoly of Moody's, Standard & Poor's and Fitch.



n° 68

PRYSMIAN



(Cable company, Italy)

Because almost all daily activities in a global world depend on cables, and this Italian company is an industry leader.

n° 69

CALESTOUS JUMA



(Professor at Harvard Kennedy School, Kenya)

Because his writings on innovation in Africa enhance the understanding of the region which is essential for the economic and political growth of this decade.



n° 70

LENA DUNHAM



(TV writer and actress, United States)

Because struggling twenty-somethings do exist in many other countries, but in the United States a girl born in 1986 can write and tell their story for HBO, not for TV.

n° 71

FABRIZIO BARCA



(Minister for Territorial Cohesion, Italy)

Because of his evidence-based work on cohesion policy, which is not only a fundamental tool for the survival and the renaissance of the EU after the crisis, but also an example for other regional unions in the world.



n° 72

MATT BARRETO AND GARY SEGURA



(University professors and founders of Latino Decisions, USA)

Because Latino Decisions is a key reference to understand that group which had a strategic role in Obama's victory.

n° 73

DAN SHECHTMAN



(Nobel for Chemistry 2011, Israel)

Because he believes that the only method to establish and maintain peace everywhere in the world is to push people to create businesses together.



n° 74

MAELLE GAVET



(Entrepreneur, France)

For the rise of ozon.ru, the largest e-commerce site in Russia. Fast Company and Forbes compare her to Jeff Bezos. She won her challenge by matching Russian habits and building the right logistics network.

n° 75

YVAN SAGNET



(26-years-old, student and worker,
Camerun and Italy)

For his courageous rebellion against 21st century-form slavery in Italy. Battles for basic labour rights are not over in Western countries, and immigrants can teach us a lot.



n° 76

FAUZIA YUSUF HAJI ADAN



(foreign minister, Somalia)

Because the first woman foreign minister in Somalia's history will have to face not only the fragile geopolitical situation of her country, but also the hopes and expectations of women, who live in what her colleague Maryan Qasim Ahmed, minister of social affairs, has called "a living hell".

n° 77

TULSI GABBARD AND MAZIE HIRONO



(Members of Congress, United States)

Because the United States truly became a “Pacific nation” when Hawaai elected the first Hindu-American member of Congress and the first Senator born in Japan.



n° 78

LA 27ÈME RÉGION



(do-tank, workshop of public transformation of Regions, France)

For founding a virtual Region that is a laboratory for innovation in public administration and contributed to shape the future of the design, extending it from the Stark chair to public action.

n° 79

KHALID A. AL-FALIH



(CEO of Saudi Aramco, Saudi Arabia)

Because, following sanctions on Iran, he provided more oil for the market and announced investment of billions of dollars over the next five years to keep oil price in check.



n° 80

GEORGE R.R. MARTIN



(writer and screenwriter, United States)

Because “Game of Thrones” is a geopolitical saga and because the huge success of the second season of the TV series increased the number of fans who wait “impatiently” for the completion of the novel series.

n° 81

PRATAP BHANU MEHTA



(director, Center of Policy Research, India)

Because India, even when facing hard times, can be better understood through his articles on The Indian Express. This year, we noticed in particular the dialogue in heaven between India's founding fathers, which was written to celebrate 65th birthday of the largest democracy of the world.



n° 82

ADITI MUKHERJI



(researcher, International Water Management Institute, India)

For her research on water access for the farmers in West Bengali, which helped the government to improve its policies and for which she received the first Norman Borlaug Award, endowed by the Rockefeller Foundation

n° 83

MICHAEL SANDEL



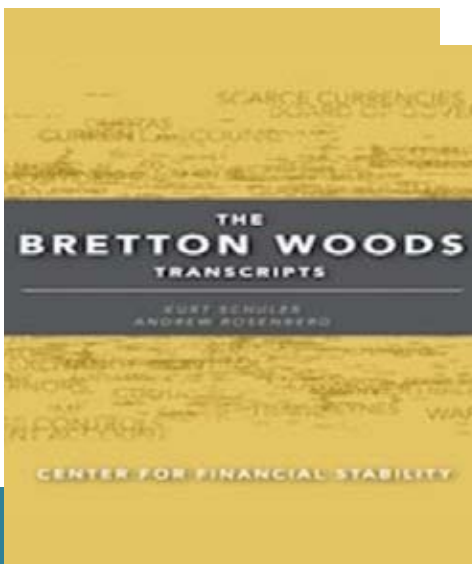
(Philosopher, United States)

For giving a strong cultural companion to the Mastercard spot about “What Money Can’t Buy”, for the distinction between “market economy” and “market society” and for front-running the trend of online university education with his courses on Justice.



n° 84

KURT SCHULER AND ANDREW ROSENBERG



(Center for Financial Stability, United States)

Because many people call for a new Bretton Woods, but at least thanks to the new documents included in “The Bretton Woods Transcripts” we can finally have a comprehensive picture of the original one in 1944.

n° 85

BERTELSMANN AND PEARSON



(Germany and United Kingdom,
publishing houses)

For having created Penguin Random House merging Penguin and Random House. Now the largest publisher in the world, it has the right size to match the digital challenge.

n° 86

NATE SILVER



(Pollster, United States)

Because Hal Varian was right when he said that the sexy jobs in the next ten years would be statisticians, particularly when talking about American elections.

n° 87

IGOR SECHIN



(President of Rosneft, Russia)

Because, as deputy Prime Minister of Putin and President of Rosneft, he is the bogeyman of Russian energy diplomacy.



n° 88

NIRAJA GOPAL JAYAL



(professor at Jawaharlal Nehru University, India).

Because after her studies on Indian democracy, diasporas and citizenship, we are looking forward to her new book, which will be released in January 2013.

n° 89

THE TEAM OF THE VENICE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL



MOSTRA INTERNAZIONALE
D'ARTE CINEMATOGRAFICA
la Biennale di Venezia 2012

(Film festival, Italy).

Because for the first time it made available on an online platform the movies out of competition.



n° 90

JAN TORGENSEN, JÜRGEN STAMPFL, ROBERT LISKA



(researchers at Vienna University of
Technology, Austria)

Because they are driving the development of a 3D printer which can work very quickly on a nanometric scale.



n° 91

RYAN GERMICK



(Graphic designer, United States)

Because he heads the small team which creates Google's doodles, a new form of art/entertainment.



n° 92

DONNA J. NELSON



(Professor of Chemistry, United States)

Because one of the best TV series of the last years, "Breaking Bad", provides plausible scientific information thanks to her advice.

She is the true chemistry teacher behind Walter White / Heisenberg.

n° 93

GERHARD SCHRÖDER

(former Chancellor, Germany)



Because this year the German academic community has celebrated ten years of his Agenda 2010, which may have contributed to the 3.6% growth of the German economy in 2010. And today, even if the party of the “post-crisis German miracle” could be over, no sane person could call Germany “the sick man of Europe”.



n° 94

ADRIAN DAVID CHEOK

(Japan)



For having launched the magazine “Lovotics” devoted to academic studies of love and friendship between humans and robots.

n° 95

TAREK OSMAN



(writer, Egypt)

For his book “Egypt on the Brink” and his lucid analyses on Al-Jazeera during the Arab Spring.



n° 96

ESTHER MWANGI



(researcher at Center for International Forestry Research, Kenya)

Because of her studies on property rights to land, forestry and natural resource management, and because of her reflections about her mentor and advisor, **Elinor Ostrom**.

n° 97

GIGI CHAO



(heiress, Hong Kong)

Because she has become the most famous lesbian in the world after the father offered 65 million dollar to any male suitor who can 'turn his daughter straight'. Our advice: "Dad, forget about it!"



n° 98

GILLIAN TETT



(journalist and writer, United Kingdom)

Because her articles in the Financial Times are always acute and interesting, and we look forward to reading her new book of "financial anthropology".

n° 99

LAURENCE FINK



(CEO of Blackrock, United States)

Because he is the CEO of the largest asset management company in the world (more than 3,5 trillion \$ of assets under management at the end of 2011), but everyone talks about Goldman Sachs and nearly nobody talks about him.



n° 100

ENRICO MATTEI, IN MEMORIAM



(founder of ENI, Italy)

Because, fifty years after his death, we cannot forget the man who operated with vision, stubbornness and dignity and sacrificed his own life to connect Italy with the world.

LO SPAZIO DELLA POLITICA.

Lo Spazio della Politica is an independent think tank based in Italy and Brussels, founded by young Italian professionals and scholars in several fields (geopolitics, public policy, economics, energy, web sciences, urban studies, cultural policy).

Lo Spazio della Politica provides a daily analysis on international and Italian politics, social affairs, arts and creativity, and global economics. It also publishes ebooks and policy papers.

Our associates closely collaborate with Limes, the leading publication in Italy on international affairs. We also collaborate with veDrò, a prominent network of Italian talents, and with several other associations, such as Societing and RENA. We organized events and panels at the European Parliament and at the Italian Parliament, as well as events and projects on technology policy together with Google, Telecom Italia and RENA. Recently we published an ebook on the future of unions and one in Spanish and Italian on the "parallel crises" in Italy and Spain. In December we will publish a collective work on "Italy after B.". All our publications are freely available on our website.

www.lospaziodellapolitica.com
segreteria@lospaziodellapolitica.com
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