

Summary

Salvatore Lupo

*The myth of the civil society. Antipolitic rhetorics
in the crisis of italian democracy*

In the last decade took place in Italy a political earthquake. A lot of members of Parliament go under the old. The parties wich dominated the national political life since 1945 disappear. According a large part of the public opinion, the Ancient Regime of the parties had to be replaced by a new order in wich the civil society had to be invested with direct power. Was this a new idea in Italian history? Or recent crisis reflect an ancient lack of legitimation of political parties? And wath does it mean «civil society» in this context?

Alfio Mastropaolo

The crazy cow of democracy

One of the main traits of the post-modern political scenery in Western Europe is the flourishing of the so-called New Radical Right parties and movements. These parties and movements belong neither to the traditional Conservative political family, nor to the family of Fascist parties, although they hardly share democracys values and policies and, even less, democracys style. It is this style, which is demagogic, plebiscitary and based on populaces rhetoric, that urged, first the media and political competitors, then scholars, to rediscover the old label of populism. What are the reasons for the New Radical-Populist Rights success? This article puts forward five hypotheses, dealing not only with structural changes occurred in society and in the political system, but also with the choices of conventional political actors. These choices are especially crucial in the Italian case, where the conventional political actors, in spite of a deep-seated and

troubling antiparliamentary tradition, have been eager to react boldly to structural changes.

Carlo Donolo

How democracy can productively confront antipolitics

The author interprets the antipolitical phenomena in the frame of the democratic processes. The antipolitical culture is stimulated by systematic deficits of the democratic regime. Only the revitalisation of the democratic polity can offer a rational outlet for radicalised demands. A systematic phenomenology and typology of antipolitics is outlined, as well as an evaluation of the antipolitical potential of collective movements.

Leandra D'Antone

Tecnocrats and politics in the 20th century

Throughout the 20th century, technocrats have played a crucial role within Italian public institutions. Yet, both technocrats holding positions within the government and the so-called «technical governments» have never produced an antipolitical ruling model. One is either stuck by the pragmatic spirit with which specialists of economy and law have made themselves available to politics in the name of their passions and civil ideals. The most important of which have been patriotism, Europe and the economic development of Southern Italy.

Guido Crainz

The movement's season. When things do not square

The article considers the period (between '60 and '70) of the collective movements in Italian contemporary history. The perspective chosen is to include in the analysis the local and municipal movements and the right-wing forms of collective action (as in the Reggio Calabria's revolt case). This perspective helps to question the role of the collective movements in those years as well as the closure of the political system and the processes of degeneration which begun to hit it.

Paolo Viola
Eighteenth century roots of antipolitics

Antipolitics is intended here as a political response, a way of discrediting and overwhelming current political practise and indicating a procedure for realizing people's unity. A first example of antipolitical discourse can be found in the Tory concept of patriotism. A second example is Jacobin radicalism. The jacobin club in Aix-en-Provence was named «Circle of Antipoliticians».

Sergio Lodde
*Envy and entrepreneurship. About the role
of emotions in economic development*

The main hypothesis of this paper is that envy may play a role, although hardly quantifiable, in the explanation of economic backwardness. Its main effect is to stimulate social reaction and opposition against entrepreneurial effort and innovative behavior which inhibit the development of a diffused entrepreneurial attitude in the population. This is more likely to happen in the transition phase from an agrarian economy to industrial development when income distribution becomes more uneven and envy still acts as a control device against social differentiation in a subsistence economy. More generally the paper argues that extending the framework of rational choice to include emotions may help to go deeper into the social mechanics of economic development.

Valeria Siniscalchi
*«The nugat's sweet town». Economy, the production
of typicality and history in a southern italian town*

This paper analyzes the process of construction of a field of «typicality» in the economic system of a town in the Campania region (Southern Italy). By means of the ethnography of a handcraft confectionary tradition and of its transformation during the last century, an analysis of the connections between the singling out a typical sector into the local economic system, and local, regional and national levels of political action, is attempted. From this point of view, the typi-

cality is seen as an aspect of the politics of culture, and as a symbolical instrument through which social actors define the town identity in the national turistic market.

Giulio Machetti

*The lobby of piazza Municipio: municipal workers
in Naples at the end of the 19th century*

The article analyses the mechanisms by which the Neapolitan municipal bureaucracy was formed and developed in relation to the processes of administrative modernization encouraged by the unified State. By using the rich but unpublished documentation of the Saredo Inquiry it has been possible to reconstruct in a particularised fashion the various sides of all aspects and subjects involved in the Saredo Inquiry, as well as the mechanisms through which the patronage relations between the workers and the political exponents in the city were built. This way, an effort has been made to verify the validity of the most widely diffused interpretative model, which sees this category in southern Italy as a hardly professionalised sector, in many cases even precarious, capable of playing a mediation role only as clientele and sometimes in a illegal way. In the light of the political crisis at the end of the century the Saredo Inquiry reconstructs the administrative history of the city during the forty years after unification, with focusing possible on the relations that form with the centre from the point of view of the periphery. A picture emerges in which the municipal workers act with corporative strategies and behaviour, with a tendency to defend their place in society and to apply pressure on political personnel which seeks legitimation.