Telling the Truth

by **Ida Magli**

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More than a third of the voters did not vote in Italy's last administrative elections. We can be sure that most of them were voters of the Center-right parties. The higher negative turnout was in the provincial elections, and this is surely due to the fact that Provinces were not abolished as promised. I am starting from this fact to analyze the reasons of this defeat from a different point of view – compared to what has been said until now. First of all, Berlusconi's politicians must face a simple reality: their voters are not children that can be rewarded with candies, they are extremely serious people who know the problems of Italy in depth. They chose the occasion of the administrative vote – which is not a decisive one – to yell to Berlusconi and Bossi that their patience is over, and therefore they must finally address the real problems, before the political elections.

Although the campaign has been very tough, the Center-right voters were not reassured, because nobody spoke the truth. Which were the subjects that should have been dealt with, the matters that would arouse the critical interest of everybody? First of all the public debt, the crisis of the Euro, the perpetual call of the European Central Bank to do the famous "sacrifices". Culture must be neglected in the name of "sacrifices"... Does Berlusconi believe that his voters ignore that we are closed inside the prison of the loss of coinage sovereignty? That this is the reason why we cannot lower the taxes? Does Berlusconi believe that his voters are all illiterates, who are interested only in soccer? If the Center-right politicians do not discuss about these topics, if they do not show their negative consequences in all fields, they will lose votes on their political side. And – also – they will not take votes away from the Left, because Europeism, Globalization, Internationalization, Common Market and Single Currency are values of the Left. The famous "strong powers" did not stay on the side just watching.

What about the Libyan war? Surely the Left was not guilty of such a betrayal, since friendship with Qaddafi, orders for the italian firms and the stop to illegal immigration were achieved by Berlusconi. Why nobody talked about this? Do they think that the inhabitants of Milan do not care about these matters? And what about the League? Their voters are expert of these problems, they freely discuss about the possibility that

Italy gets out of the Euro or suspends the Schengen Treaty in order to face the problems of illegal immigration. But they had to see with surprise and anger that their League politicians were hesitant, weak and accommodating; they were not able to oppose to powers that are more than strong: are the strongest. To keep on pretending to stay with both parts is just the best way to lose.

To all these negative aspects we must add the grey atmosphere we are breathing right now in the intellectual, cultural and artistic world. It was created by the Center-right and has become so oppressive that we are breathless. No critical thought, no intelligent proposals. As far as Religion is concerned, many believers would like to discuss about their disagreement with hierarchies, but they cannot. How and were could they do so? In Politics, Berlusconi and Bossi carefully discarded any people who had the least intellectual prestige; and to achieve maximum security, they did not create anything where cleverness could come out. The Center-right does not have a cultural magazine nor a TV program: nothing at all. The best forces – the only ones that could have defeated the Left and maybe still could do so – were thus mortified. Mr. Berlusconi always said that he wanted to save Italy from Communism: but Globalization, Multiculturalism, the primacy of Economy and Market are the sons of Marx: before being "facts" these are "ideas". And therefore they can be defeated only by other ideas, fighting a very strong battle open face.

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