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Newsletter



EDITORIAL

Prof. Stelio Mangiameli – Director of the ISSiRFA

Italy bogged down by three paradoxes

The problems that Italy must solve in the short term involve three paradoxes: parliamentary, governmental and political.

1. Our current Parliament will last until it completes its term; or at least this is what we hope considering the problems that await a solution. However, everyone knows that it is a deligitimated Parliament given Ruling no 1 2014 of the Constitutional Court that declared the electoral law to be unconstitutional and hence illegitimate. Caution would have it that once the electoral law was set right, elections would take place. Instead, under the thrust of the Renzi cabinet, a constitutional reform was drawn up that was rejected by the people in the referendum of 4 December, and then an electoral law was approved that was worse than the previous one and it too was rejected by the Constitutional Court. Reasserting the principles recalled in the previous ruling this last electoral law was declared to be unconstitutional by Ruling no 35 of 2017.

At present the Country has two different electoral laws, one for the Chamber of deputies and one for the Senate of the Republic. The Constitutional Court and the President of the Republic have rightly expressed the hope that Parliament will redress this situation with a legislative intervention that will enable the Country to vote with two more uniform electoral laws and without the danger of wasting the next parliament.

And here is the first paradox: the citizens and the voters have to trust this crippled and disastrous Parliament to



set the situation right and hope it will last until the end of its term so as to reach a workable agreement on the new electoral law.

2. During this Parliament there have been three cabinets: Letta, Renzi and now Gentiloni, with whom we hope to reach the end of term. These three governments have in common the fact that they are all post-economic crisis governments (the cabinets of the crisis were the Berlusconi and the Monti cabinets). However, these cabinets are incapable of leading the Country out of the swamps into which it was dumped by the crisis. We are nowhere near finding solutions to the emergency situation we are still in, nor is economic recovery anywhere on the horizon. And this is the second paradox: it is everyone's hope that Parliament will not withdraw its confidence in the Government. To the contrary, everyone hopes that this government will take us through to the approval of the next Budget Law, that could ensure a little more tax fairness and social justice.
3. And finally, the Italian political system is launching signals that are not very reassuring: the participation curve that, with the referendum, had risen to almost 70 per cent, has again dropped to below 50 percent because of what politics has to offer. All the larger parties are incapable of finding common ground for starting to deal with the Country's problems and they appear to be ever more fragmented; and they have even thinned out. Hardly any of the parties have true relationships with their activists nor do they know who their voters are. There is little in terms of programmatic platforms, and actually there seems to be little else besides slogans. There is constantly a tension towards touching up their political image rather than working on a political program; what emerges is a plebiscitary political expression rather than the effort to secure legitimation for the representatives.

In the search for a new political legitimation, it would be necessary to thoroughly rethink Italian regionalism. In particular the cooperation system between centre and periphery should be reformed and the Bicameral Committee for Regional Affairs should be integrated as provided for by Article 11 of Constitutional Law 3/2001. Above all the local bodies should be acknowledged financial autonomy and the functions performed should match the resources available.

WELCOME TO THE NEW SITE OF ISSIRFA

The [new web site](#) of the Institute is been available online since 16 January 2017.

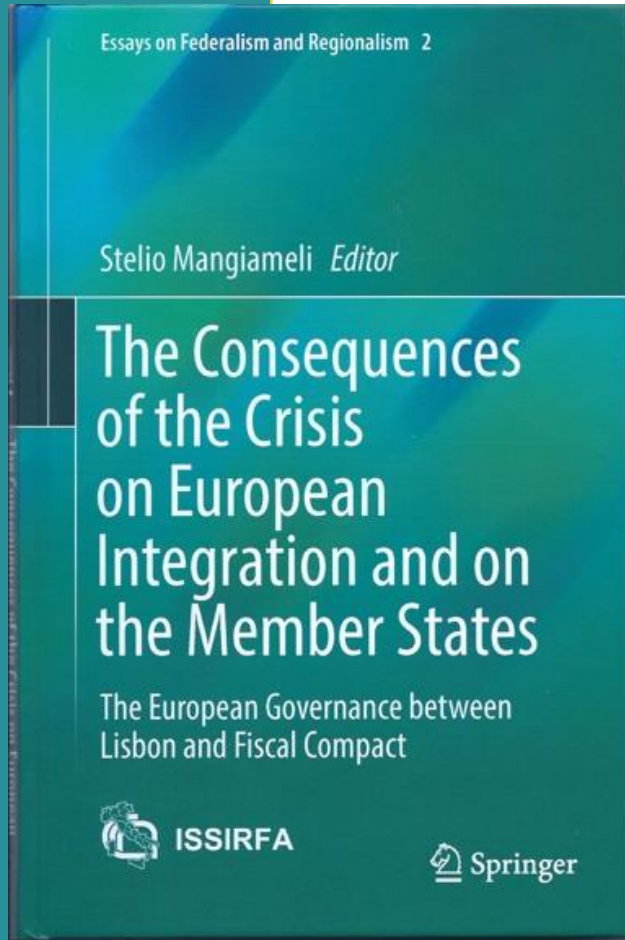


The site has been totally redesigned and its graphics, components and functions are all new. The Institute has updated its web site with the aim of facilitating surfing and of making its contents easier to access by the users. The surfing is simple and intuitive. Users will find information about future events, conferences and seminars and about recent publications on public law and, in particular, about regional law as well as all the most recent news on federalism. Furthermore, the scientific, legal and regulatory material can be downloaded. There are main menus (library, research activities, publications, regional system) which in turn are broken down into specific submenus that cater to the different search needs.

- There are direct links to the online magazine [Italian Papers on Federalism](#), to the Observatory on [Regions and the banks](#), [Regions and the European Union](#) and to [Essays and papers](#), the section that gathers scientific contributions (ISSN 2240-7405).
- By registering with the [Newsletter](#) the users will receive updates on the activities and research work under way at the Institute.

OUT NOW

The volume entitled "[The Consequences of the Crisis on European Integration and on the Member States](#)" presents the contributions delivered at the Conference on "European Governance between Lisbon and Fiscal Compact", promoted by the Institute.



Taking into account the British referendum on Brexit it identifies the main critical elements that are causing the current stalemate in European integration and it advocates a reform of the European Union, to do it more democratic and politically more significant than its member states.

The book examines the economic crisis in the European Union and its consequences for European integration and the member states. Discussing the provisions introduced by the Treaty of Lisbon, from the effects of macroeconomic monitoring to the restraints produced by the Fiscal Compact, it offers an analysis of the European Union's current situation and the effects of the measures

adopted to manage the crisis, making reference also to how Europe is perceived by its citizens.

Moreover, the chapters offer thoughts on the European integration process, in particular the effects that the policies adopted to tackle the crisis have had on the economic and financial sovereignty of member states. This detailed examination of the situation of the EU between the Treaty of Lisbon and the Fiscal Compact is characterized by an original multidisciplinary approach that offers a wide-ranging reflection on the criticalities that affect the actions of both European and national institutions.

PRESENTATION OF THE REPORT OF THE HOUSE OF DEPUTIES

The [Report on State, Regions and European Union Legislation 2015-2016](#) was presented during a seminar organized by the Chamber of Deputies on 14 March 2017.

The meeting was attended by the representatives of the National Legislative Assemblies (Chamber, Senate, Regional Councils) and by the Government and by many scholars and experts.

ISSIRFA drew up the part of the Report presenting the trends and problems of regional legislation. The Director presented a contribution on “Italian Regionalism after the Crisis and the Constitutional Referendum” providing an analysis of the conditions of regionalism and some proposals for actions to be taken in the new situation following the negative results of the referendum on the revision of the Constitution of 4 December 2016.

The work of the Institute consists in making periodical analyses of the changes occurring in regionalism, federalism and local governments with special attention to the constitutional and administrative reforms and to the models of tax federalism.

The study dwells at length on some issues such as regional sources, the quality of the legislation, the relationships between Regional Governments and the Council, institutional regulations, the evolution of some public policies that are particularly important at regional level (manufacturing, health, social security and healthcare policies, policies on migrants), regional finance and tax federalism, and participation in the European Union regulatory process. An introductory paragraph provides a summary of the results of the survey.

OSSEVATORIO SULLA LEGISLAZIONE

PRESENTAZIONE DEL RAPPORTO SULLA LEGISLAZIONE TRA STATO, REGIONI E UNIONE EUROPEA

14 martedì 14 marzo ore 14.00

Camera dei deputati
Palazzo Montecitorio
Sala della Regina
Roma

Organizzazione:
Servizio Studi - Osservatorio sulla legislazione
Camera dei deputati
Palazzo Montecitorio - 00186 Roma
tel. 0667609265
e-mail: st_legislazione@camera.it

Conferenza dei Presidenti delle Assemblee legislative delle Regioni e delle Province autonome
via Pietro Cossa, 41 - 00193 Roma
tel. 0636003673
e-mail: segreteria@parlamentregionali.it

Ore 14:00 **Presidente**
Luigi DI MAIO
VicePresidente della Camera dei deputati

Relazioni
Rosa Maria DI GIORGI
VicePresidente del Senato della Repubblica
Andrea GIORGIS
Presidente del Comitato per la legislazione

Ore 14:30 **LE POLITICHE LEGISLATIVE TRA STATO E REGIONI NELLA PROSPETTIVA EUROPEA E COMPARATA**
Intervengono
Paolo CARETTI
Direttore dell'Osservatorio sulle fonti dell'Università di Firenze
Stefano MANGIAMELI
Direttore dell'ISSIRFA (CNR)
Andrea MAZZIOTTI DI CELSO
Presidente della Commissione Affari costituzionali della Camera
Gianpiero D'ALIA
Presidente della Commissione parlamentare per le questioni regionali
Giancarlo GIORGETTI
Presidente della Commissione parlamentare per l'attuazione del federalismo fiscale
Mario Cosimo LOIZZO
Presidente del Consiglio regionale della Puglia
Bruno TABACCI
Presidente della Commissione parlamentare per la semplificazione

Moderatore
Giorgio GIOVANNETTI
giornalista parlamentare

Ore 16:00 **CONCLUSIONI**
Franco IACOP
Presidente del Consiglio regionale del Friuli-Venezia Giulia e Coordinatore della Conferenza dei Presidenti delle Assemblee legislative delle Regioni e delle Province autonome
Anna Maria FINOCCHIARO
Ministra per i rapporti con il Parlamento
Luigi DI MAIO
VicePresidente della Camera dei deputati

INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

The Institute participated in the 4th annual Deil S. Wright Symposium, organized by the Section on Intergovernmental Administration and Management (SIAM) of the American Society for Public Administration (ASPA).

The symposium honored the career and contributions of Professor Deil S. Wright, who was a charter member of the Section and remained active until his passing in 2009. The Wright Symposium was a preconference event held on Friday, March 17, 2017 at the national conference of the American Society for Public Administration (ASPA) in Atlanta, Georgia.

The theme of the all-day symposium was **Evidence-Based Intergovernmental Management: Knowledge at Work** and focused on **U.S. federalism and comparative federalism**.

Issirfa presented [two papers](#):

Stelio Mangiameli and Jacopo Di Gesù. **The intergovernmental relations in the European Union: democracy, transparency of the decision-making process and efficiency of the Institutions.**

Paolo Colasante and Antonino Iacoviello. **Practice and potential developments of intergovernmental management in the Italian system. Reflections on the principle of fair cooperation.**



COURSES, LECTURES, AND PAPERS

Stelio Mangiameli presented a paper on [Crisis of Constitutionalism and Sovereignty](#) at the Conference organized by the University of Catania at the [Institutional transformations in sixty years from the Treaties of Rome](#), March 31-April 1.

Andrea Filippetti published the paper [Academic inventors: collaboration and proximity with industry](#) on [The Journal of Technology Transfer](#), together with Riccardo Crescenzi and Simona Iammarino.

Andrea Filippetti co-organized the workshop [Innovation Investment and Economic Recovery](#) held at the Birkbeck Centre for Innovation Management Research on 23 February 2017.

Laura Ronchetti presented a keynote on [Art. 138 Cost. and the Electoral system](#) at the Round Table [The guarantees of Article 138 of the Constitution](#). University of Molise - Campobasso - 28 February 2017.

Laura Ronchetti presentation of the book [La Riforma Del Bilancio dello Stato](#) – edited by Francesco Boccia, Michele Della Morte, Gianmaria Palmieri – University of Molise - Campobasso - 13 March 2017.