

THE ITALIAN SITUATION AND THE GOVERNMENT ALTERNATIVE

The descent is going on

Imperialist Italy is sinking in one of the gravest crises of the history of capitalism: it realizes that its difficulties are growing, it's moving back and loses unceasingly its positions in comparison to its competitors.

From the beginning of the crisis the GDP has dropped to 8,6 %. After a partial and ephemeral recovery in 2009-10, a new, profound recession followed. The second quarter of 2013 has been the eighth quarter (two years) in a row in which the GDP is falling. For the end of 2013 is foresaw a fall of 2%. In the Italian history never occurred a so long, so profound and generalized reduction of the wealth.

The causes os of the present recession can be so determinated:

- a persistent overproduction in the fundamental sectors of productive apparatus;
- a strong decrease of the internal demand (the purchases are gone back to the level of 1998);
- a politics of austerity and of cuts of social expenditures (the non-product consequent upon this politics has been appraised at 230 milliards).

Nowadays no true signal of a short-term recovery is visible, and one can foresee that, if a recovery will occur, it will be low, weak, uncertain, without increase of employment.

At the same time the public debt is unceasingly and rapidly rising, and in May 2013 has reached the 2075 milliards (its historical maximum). In the last year the debt is increased of 170 milliards in order to finance the big banks and enterprises. In 2014 it will cost yearly about 100 milliards of interests. Without an economic recovery the situation will be unsustainable and the risk of a bankrupt will become actual, in spite of the reassuring declarations of the ministers of duty. Is not underestimable the fact that some big banks, some local boards and the Treasure are crammed of toxic bonds.

An imperialism more and more worn-down

The profound economic crisis has disclosed the structural anomalies and the frailty of Italian monopolistic capitalism: the limited number of monopolies able to compete at international level, the economic and financial weakness of the groups, their mainly family-linked structure, the industrial nanism, etc.

The Italian imperialism is by now absent in some strategic sectors (electronics, informatics, chemistry, pharmaceutical industry, aerospace industry); motor-car and steel industries are risking their disappearance. Foreign *shopping* goes on in the sectors of transports, telecommunications, energy, steel and metal advanced industry, and in particular market fields (great distribution, gas and oil market, tourist and hotel trade, acquisition of brands).

More and more low is the technological content of Italian enterprises, that restricted themselves to the traditioal productions, without research-and-development, with scanty qualified labour-force.

Another element of weakness is the fragmentation of the small and middle enterprises (in which is employed more than 70 % of the workers), incapable of renewing themselves and of sustaining the international competition, with enormous difficulties of financing their actvity, that often put them in the hands of the Maffias.

The productivity is low and stagnant, more and more distant from the productivity of the others powerful imperialist countries, since the employers do not invest in fixed capital, in research-and-development (the expenditure of Italian enterprises in R&S is, in reference to GDP, lower of 50

% with respect to the European average), do not introduce innovations in the industrial and technological apparatus, and prefer to evade paying taxes and social contributions.

The Italian bourgeoisie realizes that it's not able to reach the stronger imperialist powers, as France and Germany, and that the gap is not even reducible. So, as not to be marginalized, it's increasing the exploitation of workers, is putting down wages and rights, is delocalizing and deindustrializing the enterprises, in order to invest in the financial field and to compete with the new emerging capitalistic powers that are reaching and surpassing it, playing an aggressive role.

A massive destruction of productive forces

With effect from the beginning of the crisis, the 15% of the industrial productive base has been destroyed. The industrial production is collapsed, on the average, of 25 % (in some sectors, as the motorcar industry) of the 40 %). In the four years 2009-2012 more of 50 000 enterprises have shut up shop. The building industry is in a profound crisis. In a period of six years about 700 000 jobs were lost. In many enterprises (Fiat, Fincantieri, Natuzzi, Alcoa, Indesit, Irisbus), in the building industry, in the agricultural and food chain, in the trade business, the dismissals are daily on the agenda, and thousands of the so-called "esuberanti" [redundant labours] are declared, for speculative reasons. The official unemployment rate broke through the 12 %, and will grow in the near year. The rate of the youth unemployment is of the 40 %, the highest registered for twenty years. The emigration of the qualified labour-force is quickly growing.

The workers in "zero-hours redundancy fund" are more than 500 000; about a third of them will not come back to fabric. The 36 % of the labour-force is without a labour contract. The wages are constantly losing their purchasing power, while the inflation is starting to rise again.

9 millions of proletarians (unemployed; in redundancy fund; with precarious jobs) are in difficulty: they don't succeed in arriving to the end of the month, and so are forced to give up the Health service, the nourishment, the household heating, the garments, the culture, the recreation. Their savings are exhausting. The poverty is spreading. The relative poverty is striking presently the 15,8 % of the population (9 millions and 563 000 persons), the absolute poverty the 8 % (4 millions and 814 000 persons). Almost the half of the absolute poors are dwelling in the Southern Italy, ravaged by many decades of neo-liberal and Mafia politics.

At the other pole of the society the wealth is rising: in Italy the 10% of the population owns the 50% of the wealth. Capitals are hidden in the fiscal paradises. The fiscal evasion has been evaluated in 180 annual milliiards of euros. The cost of corruption is of 60 annual milliiards. In the capitalistic rottennes prospers the parasitism.

An organic crisis of the bourgeoisie...

In the least years emerged unhealed contradictions, inborn in the economic basis and dues to the huge decompensations of world capitalism, although the political forces that defend this system are making every effort to deny or tampon them.

The process of the crisis involves the whole of the social life and is not reducible to its particular aspects. It's a crisis of the economy and of politics, an environmental, energetic, moral, cultural, intellectual crisis. It's a crisis of authority and consent of the bourgeoisie. It's a crisis of its State and of its international relations, where the lack of economic weight and the politica weakness turn to a higher subordination to USA, EU and Vatican.

So it's a protracted crisis of an historical purport, organic to the dominant class, that cannot resolve itself by means of a simple exchange between the political parties of center-right and center-left. The dominant class itself is responsible of the Italian failure and aims to the retrenching and to the reactionary involution. Not one of the bourgeois governments can overcome the present contradictions, can make Italy out of decline.

...and a decomposition of the political system

On this fundament is advancing the decomposition of the institutions and of the political parties of the bourgeoisie, that discloses a profound crisis of consent; to the economic instability is joining the political instability; is rising the crisis of bourgeois democracy, that is gradually liquidated together with the rights of workers.

For two years Italy is actually "under the guardianship" of ECB, EU and IFM, that dictate their instructions to the governments coming in succession. The national sovereignty is almost set to zero. The governments no more reflect the choices of the electors. The parliament is an obedient vote-machinery, substantially deprived of its prerogatives (cfr. lately the bloc of the parliamentary activities on account of the Mediaset criminal trial and of the question of F 35 aircrafts).

After the fall of the Berlusconi government, a Monti government was installed by the financial oligarchy with the aid of Napolitano: a government without any popular legitimation, whose program was founded on a letter of Trichet and Draghi.

The Monti government has done a series of financial manoeuvres, has cut the social expenditures (the National Health Service is collapsing, the conditions of the system of State schools and universities are disastrous). In a few months it unhinged the pension system, abolished the article 18, introduced an austerity regime which is exasperating the heaviest crisis of the second after-war.

A parliament of corrupted men and of servants of oligarchy has approved the *fiscal compact* (which involves cuts - of annual 45 milliards of euros for 20 years - of the public expenditure) and has inserted in the republican Constitution the balance of budget, so preparing in advance a framework within which all the bourgeois governments are obliged to move.

A growing detachment between the masses and the bourgeois parties

In the general elections of February 2013 all the traditional bourgeois and petty-bourgeois parties suffered a defeat. 11 500 000 citizens are not gone to the polls. The party of the abstentionists was the first party. More of the 50% of the population expressed in various forms (abstention, invalid vote, blank ballot, protest vote to the "Five Stars" populist movement) the refuse of the politics of austerity, of the spreading corruption, of the bourgeois privileges.

In the following local government elections the abstention is increased further on. Is growing the detachment between the traditional parties and the social groups that not acknowledge any more in the leaders of these parties the political expression of their interests.

In this scenery of a loss of consent, of a crisis of the political representation, the financial oligarchy and the fundamental bourgeois institutions continued at all costs the politics of austerity and competitiveness, centralizing the political leadership and direction under the slogan of emergency and the "social cohesion". The re-election of Napolitano to the Presidency of the Republic and the formation of the Letta-Alfano government in spite of all the electoral promises, are the expression of this process and warrant, although temporarily and with internal conflicts, this antipopular politics.

For the nth time a reactionary and antipopular government

The illegitimate government of the «wide ententes», imposed by the Italian financial oligarchy, by USA, UE and Vatican, is supported by the reformists, by the middle-of-the-way politicians of Monti and Casini and by the outlaw Berlusconi (who manoeuvred so as to condition the birth of the government, to blackmail it and to save his own judicial lots) and is armour-plated by Napolitano; it continues the so-called "Monti Agenda" and tries to prevent every change possibility.

The premier Letta is a member of Bilderberg Group and is greatly supported by the USA. The program of his government is the defense of the bourgeois privileges, the pursuance of the social pillage in order to recapitalize banks and enterprises (directly or through the underselling of the public patrimony), the intensification of the exploitation, the extension of the flexibility and the precariousness of the work, the increase of the repression and criminalisation of the social protest. In the foreign policy "the engagement for the consolidation of the international order", or rather the military aggressions in service to the USA and EU in Asia, Africa, Middle East, and so on, in order to take part in the sharing out of the energetic booty, of the influence spheres, etc.

No politics in defence of the work, no plans for a development of the occupation, no measures for make the rich minority pay the crisis, but a stark impulse to the political-institutional counter-reforms, as to prepare the transition to the presidential and reactionary "Third Republic". A mass struggle is necessary so as to break the political stalemate and overthrow this antipopular and antidemocratic government, implicated in scandals and obscure plots.

Social-traitors

The role of reformists and opportunists and of trade-unions leaders in the latest years has been a role of servile support to the governments of the financial oligarchy, a role of brake of the struggles, of division and isolation of the more fighting worker sectors, of unrestrained collaboration with capitalists, of appeal to the repression of the struggles, of support of the imperialist war missions and to the rearmament (F, 15, Muos, etc.), while is cut the outlay for the Public Health Service, the schools, etc.

Split internally, they recompose themselves in order to make a common front with the banks, the Confindustria, the illegitimate governments and the right-wing forces, preventing the mobilisation and the generalization of the struggles. They had an active role in the dismantlement of some fundamental rights of workers, as the right of strike and the art. 18 of the Statute of Workers, in application of the «Fiat regime» in the factories and in the society. They organize the witch-hunt and the expulsion of the more fighting workers and of communists from the trade-unions, while they save politically a criminal like Berlusconi and his ministers.

In this way they unmask more and more themselves, in front of the workers, as supports of capital and ditchers of every request of popular change.

The shameful «government of the wide ententes» is not an exception, but the logic conclusion of a long process of approach of two euro-parties, the liberal-reformist and the reaction/Maffia one. The economic crisis only speeded up the process of convergence between the parties of the bourgeoisie that now present themselves as a single party in the defence of the *statu quo*.

Limits of the working people-and-popular resistance

The protraction and the increase of the economic crisis with its heavy social consequences, the capitalistic offensive and the defence at outrage of the privileges of the classes of owners are the objective basis of the development of the class struggle in our country.

In spite of the difficulties, the struggles never stopped. From workmen to students, from precarious workers to those that struggle for the house, from the mobilisation of the women to the struggles against the privatisation of the water, from the struggle against the devastation of the environment to the democratic movements against the corruption and the Mafia, we see an amount of episodes of a relentless workers and popular resistance, with hard forms of struggle too, that met an increasing repression (policy charges, denunciations, fines, arrests, imprisonments, etc.).

The resistance of the working class was unceasing, with many national and local manifestations. But its limit was its non-unification on anticapitalistic purposes, the lack of a political design, largely due to the influence of reformists that up to now has impeded the development of a social class conflict adequate to the present capitalistic offensive. Therefore the

encirclement of many defensive struggles, the widespread sensation of impotence among the workers, the passivity in many sectors, that can not going on a long time.

An alternative of revolutionary breaking off

All the subaltern social classes are conscious of the degradation and rush down of Italy: they realize that it's impossible to go on like that. They aspire to a profound change, negated by the dominant class.

So, in the context of the worker and popular struggles and inside the political debate is gaining an ever-growing ground the question of a government alternative able to resolve the vital necessities of workers and unemployed, to assure a future to the young generations, and to charge the debt and the crisis on those who are responsible of both.

The absence of this alternative of breaking off with the bourgeois and reformist politics, and the disunity of the proletarian struggles, favour mistrust and passivity, benefit the supporters of the «low level» of the struggles, promote solutions (or models of "living together" with the crisis) utterly interior to the capitalistic projects, weaken our camp and strengthen the camp of the bourgeoisie.

At the same time, this profound limit leads to exclude from the debate some fundamental problems as the question of political power, and has negative effects on the organisation of the exploited people.

These are some consequences of the "loss of aim", one of the reformism's products, that leads to lose sight the basic interests of the proletariat and subordinates everything to the presumed advantages of the moment.

Communists have the duty of indicate a political solution that replaces the bourgeois and reformist coalitions, in order to develop the political activity of the popular masses. This solution has a fundamental value in the periods of deep economical and political instability, where the question of a government alternative has an immediate practical value.

"We want a Government of the workers and of all exploited people!"

The formula that we marxist-leninists agitate for the forming of the government in Italy is clear: a Government of the workers and of all the exploited people, coming out the revolutionary movement of the exploited and oppressed masses and tightly linked with this real movement.

A government representing the vital interests of proletariat, of all the town and country workers, of all the impoverished and oppressed masses; a government that not bows to the «sacred principles» of capitalism and to the «constitutional dogmas», that not asks «permission» to the employers and their Liberal Vestals, but is resolute to rout the financial oligarchy, the bourgeoisie, the inside and outside reactionary forces, making them powerless.

A revolutionary government adopting vigorous measures against exploiters and parasites, abolishing all the privileges of the bourgeoisie and the clergy, expropriating the capitalistic monopolies, socializing the principal means of production and exchange; a government that refuses the debt and leaves the EU and the OTAN, that destroys the oppressive State machine of the bourgeois State and gives to the the workers their rights and liberties.

This government can be only the political exit of a wide uprising of the worker and popular masses against the domination of financial oligarchy and its political parties, the issue of the United Front of proletarian struggles and the starting point of the decisive battles in order to revolutionize our country.

Its program? The resolute breaking off with a system that brings to us only poverty and wars, that sacrifices the man and the nature to profits and militarizes the society; in other words, the starting of the transition from capitalism to socialism , the new and superior social system able to generate the revival of our country.

So, in order to put an end to the imperialist rottenness, to resolve the essential problems of the social life and open the road to socialism is needed an authentic revolutionary government which, for its nature itself, opposes old socialdemocratic illusions.

It can not form on the basis of parliamentary solutions (not a «Left or Center-left Government», not a « Government of the Left»), but on the basis of the organisms arising from the worker and popular struggles (factory councils, quarter councils, committees of struggle, control commissions of contrl, syndical class-conscious structures, organisms of unemployed people, etc.). in order to unify the proletariat as a revolutionary force and to create around it a system of alliances with the popular sectors that are undergoing the capitalistic offensive.

The necessity of the class alliances

The developments of the present, deep economic crisis of capitalism, and the predatory measures adopted by the bourgeoisie, put on the agenda the necessity of the creation of a large Popular Front, a steady alliance of political, trade-union and social forces and organisms of the worker and popular movement (semiproletarians, urban and rural petty bourgeois, teachers, students, women of popular strata, migrants, etc.). In latest years this practice got stronger and gave rise to the first attempts of construction of a bloc of popular opposition to the politics of austerity and war, to liberalism and capitalism: attempts restrained and deviated by the socialdemocratic and opportunistic forces.

The fight for not to dissipate many precious energies, potentialities and experiences, for the construction of a coalition of popular forces around the working class and under its leadership, a coalition suitable to strenghten the mobilitation of all the malcontent forces and social sectors, victims of the bourgeois offensive in all its aspects (work, income, environment, militarisation, corruption, etc.) is a fundamental step of the effort aiming to clear the way to more advanced political perspectives in which the question of the government and the power is set in a revolutionary way. In Italy this problem has a particular importance, on account of the weight and function of the intermediate groups in the social reality, of their active presence in the social and political field.

The presuppositions of the alternative

The government alternative that we indicate is an alternative of power, in which the proletariat accomplishes its egemony, since the petty-and middle bourgeoisie, the intermediate social strata and their parties, are not able to adopt the measures necessities to put an end to the power of the financial oligarchy and to the measures of the reactionary forces.

The proletariat is the only force able to liquidate a past and a present of oppression, exploitation and crimes of the bourgeoisie, to give a future of genuine freedom to all the working classes.

The revolutionary perspective is developing and approaching through some preparatory stages that speed out the decomposition of the bourgeois power and create conditions more favourable for the vigorous action of the proletarian masses: for example, a situation can arise in which will appear necessary, in the interest of the proletariat, the establishment of a Popular Front government of an antimonopolistic, anti-imperialist, antifascist character. So, the alternative matures on the basis of the sharpening of the class conflict, on the basis of the tendency to realize that struggle unity through which the exploited and oppressed masses defend their economical and political interests, their existence itself, against the insatiable voracity of the capitalists that will ruin Italy.

Inside this process the communists have the task of act so that the revolutionary government alternative, strictly tied to the partial claims, become the more vital component of the political life, as a question that is put and has to be solved.

The presupposition of the Government of the working-men and of all exploited workers, as a new type of government that is the expression of the genuine popular democracy against the reactionary and exploiter governments of the bourgeoisie, is the unity of communists and of the better elements of proletariat in a strong Communist Marxist-Leninist Party. Without this indispensable instrument of the class struggle, without this revolutionary force of revolutionary cadres with a mass line, able to mobilize and lead the proletariat and its allies toward the conquest of political power, no real alternative will be possible.

Let's unite, let's organize, let's strengthen ourselves in order to build the Party that will defeat the bourgeoisie!

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