

'Malthusian International' proposes global environmental law court

by Claudio Celani

Judge Antonio Di Pietro is the most popular man in Italy. He is, in the eyes of the Italians, the prosecutor who has successfully fought "political corruption" and swept away political institutions that had dominated 50 years of Italian life. In reality, far from eliminating corruption, Di Pietro has removed obstacles to the complete takeover by forces that are far more corrupt than the old political parties—forces which believe in the dogma of free-market economy and are prone to manipulation by Anglo-Venetian geopolitical games.

Now, if the plans pushed by the Malthusian International go through, soon we will have a corps of international prosecutors like Di Pietro, to fight a peculiar form of "corruption," which is, in fact, the national right to economic development. That was the initiative discussed at the meeting on "World Governing of the Environment," which took place in Venice June 2-5. The meeting was hosted by the Cini Foundation, which was built by Vittorio Cini, a member of the Venetian trio of families—the Cini, Volpi, and Gaggia—who were key to promoting Mussolini's Fascism in the 1920s. This time, the Venetian oligarchy can be proud of promoting fascism on a much broader and more criminal scale.

The man who initiated the movement for an International Court of the Environment is an Italian magistrate, Amedeo Postiglione, who was born in Abruzzi but lives in Rome, where he sits on the bench at the Italian Supreme Court. The 200 participants from throughout the world came to agree with Postiglione that such an environment court should be established in Venice, and they called upon the Italian government to officially promote the initiative. Postiglione claims that he already has the support of the Argentine, Austrian, and Japanese governments. He is also being supported by Venice Mayer Massimo Cacciari, the emerging figure in the "left" version of Venetian totalitarianism (see *EIR*, Feb. 25, 1994). According to Postiglione, Cacciari will be the man to put pressure on the Italian government to promote the idea of the environment court in Venice.

'I'll talk, if you write good stuff'

Postiglione quickly returned our call to request an interview. And almost from the beginning, he told us, "If you write good stuff, I will give more information"—strange behavior for a sitting Supreme Court judge. Evidently, hon-

esty is not a quality demanded of environmental prosecutors.

In any case, as our conversation started, Postiglione explained that their present work is concentrating on defining the concept of "environmental crime," as well as the jurisdiction of the court, which will lift the sovereignty over ecological matters from nation-states. "There are now 180 states in the world," he said, "which are assuming the exclusive right over environmental protection, which is wrong. Environment has no borders, cannot be under the rule of government, because it does not belong to them, it does not give a s—t about governments." Therefore, governments that "irreparably damage the environment" or neglect to quickly issue adequate information about environmental disasters, such as Chernobyl or Bophal, have to be punished. Economic sanctions would be used as a weapon against governments, along with criminal prosecution of individuals (officials or even heads of governments). It is not clear what would happen if a government refused to comply, even under economic sanctions, whether a war against that government would be declared, because that would turn the "environmental police" into an army.

Since he has to keep a "moderate" profile, in order to push through his project internationally, Postiglione specified: "I am not saying that we should eliminate sovereignty. I am not a radical, you know. But we must build an 'integrated system.'" He explained that what he has in mind is similar to the European Commission presently led by Jacques Delors, i.e., a supranational body composed of non-elected officials (technocrats), but who do not have to get final approval from national governments.

"In its first phase, from 1975 on, the EC directives concerned primarily environmental rules, and that is obvious. All countries had to harmonize their legislation. The business world adapted to it. Today, environmental regulations applied by an international court would be welcome by a part of the economy, the most progressive one, which has made long-term investments in environment-compatible technologies. The others, who make short-term profits by dumping waste would be forced to adapt." What Postiglione calls "progressive business" is in reality international cartels, or the eco-mafia, which use environmental legislation to push small and medium-sized industries out of the market.

For "moderate" environmentalist Postiglione, even the

United Nations is too conservative. "A new world order of nature is indispensable," he explained, "and we do not want the United Nations. The guy who signs the contracts cannot enforce them."

But the best part came when we asked Postiglione about his personal beliefs, and whether population control was a topic of discussion at the Venice meeting. "Yes, they did in one panel, but I was not there," he answered. "You see, I am a Christian believer, but at the same time I am deeply *laico* [which means "liberal" in Italian]. The overpopulation problem exists, one cannot ignore it; therefore, policies to solve the problem are necessary." Pressed a bit more, he revealed: "I have not matured a precise idea on population control. . . . On the other hand, it is true that man occupies everywhere, creating problems for birds, plants, animals, grass, etc. I have not matured a position, I let others do it, who are more expert"—and, I suggested, who do not have problems with their conscience. Postiglione did not respond.

The green man from Oxford

If Postiglione can still sell to a corrupt public opinion the striking contradiction between his professed faith and his practical respect for evil using his moderate image, things became a little bit clearer when we spoke with another participant at the Venice conference, the British expert Norman Myers, who works at the Green Center of Oxford University. Myers is an active organizer for the U.N. population conference in September in Cairo, and adviser to many U.S. government institutions on demographic policy.

"Of course there is the need for some international body to enforce environmental policies," Myers told us, and the best institution to do that could be the United Nations. However, the U.N. hasn't succeeded in enforcing anything, and therefore some other solution has to be found, such as an international court or, in absence of that, investing the present International Court at The Hague with regulatory and enforcement powers in environmental policy.

Myers is apparently no Christian, and therefore can freely state that "population control and environment issues are intimately connected; however, the issue is too sensitive" for demographic policies to be enforced by a court. "The optimal level of the world population should be about one-third, as my friends Pimentel and Ehrlich found out." Myers then pointed to the Italian case as a successful model for population control. Italy has attained zero population growth, with the lowest rate of births per woman in the world (see box). Myers discarded as "mistaken" present concerns for negative effects of population decline in Italy, explaining that "all developed countries have to reduce their population."

Well, that is the real story behind those who follow the example of Prosecutor Di Pietro in the international ecological world order. We can end it, by asking an apparently unrelated question: What does Henry Kissinger have to do with it? Myers could not answer that question, despite the

fact that both he and Kissinger are active in the Inter-Action Council, an international organization which, in a meeting at The Hague on May 7-8, discussed exactly that question of handing over to the International Court supranational jurisdiction in environmental questions. The Inter-Action Council report said, "The suggestion has been made that it would be desirable to have in this area a body as powerful and efficient as the [U.N.] Security Council is in its field." The document recalled that an agreement has been reached among 24 nations to establish a "High Authority" which "should be accorded regulatory and enforcement powers, subject to control by the International Court of Justice."

What hath Malthus wrought?

Italy's "demographic revolution" is "an unprecedented phenomenon in the history of humanity," according to a government report prepared for the U.N. population conference, Cairo '94. The report, prepared by a team led by Prof. Antonio Golini and recently issued by the Italian Ministry for Social Affairs, calls for domestic population growth, but unfortunately supports U.N. guidelines for population reduction in developing countries.

In 1992 the average number of children per woman in Italy was 1.25-1.26, which the report characterizes as "the lowest value in the world, and maybe the lowest ever recorded in the history of humanity for a large population."

If fertility continues to decrease, and mortality rates continue a minor decrease, the report projects that in the year 2021, Italy would need "an annual immigration flow of up to 300,000" in order to balance the population pyramid. Another chapter of the report states: "The fact that the present structure per age has been so deformed that it will involve a more or less intense population decline *in any case* over the next 30-50 years, no matter what the fertility rate is (unless a very improbable upswing takes place) is . . . not well perceived or well known. . . . The conclusion is that, for Italian demographic trends, there has been and is no specific policy. Only some intervention can be signalled, by 'green' politicians who stress, from an environmental standpoint, that in a densely populated country such as Italy, the announced population decline is not only to be faced, but rather should be supported in order to decrease the demographic pressure on the environment."