

Italian Parties Probed: Is Monti Now Dictator?

by Liliana Gorini, Chairwoman of
Movisol

This statement has been translated from Italian.

MILAN, April 6—Speaking to journalists in Seoul, South Korea, Italian Premier Mario Monti declared that he has “consensus, while the political parties do not.” As soon as he returned to Italy, the police, together with the inevitable Naples Prosecutor John Henry Woodcock, whose investigations have been discredited in the past, raided the national office of the Lega Nord in Milan, and yesterday, also a building of the regional government. As Lombardy region president Roberto Formigoni declared this morning, “Watch out: At this moment, all the parties represented in Parliament are under investigation.”

One cannot help but notice a particular fierceness towards the Lega Nord, the main opposition party to Monti’s government, which just announced a proposed bill for a Glass-Steagall reform, for which it plans to gather 50,000 signatures, an initiative which has shaken the investment banks which created the crisis.

Leaving aside the question of the merit of the Milan investigation, I share Formigoni’s view that such events are very dangerous, in a period in which the crisis, and the total absence of alternative proposals from those parties that support the Monti government, increase the divide between citizens and poli-

cymakers. Every day, we read about the suicides of entrepreneurs, pensioners, citizens who have lost their jobs, and Monti continues with his austerity package, aimed at bailing out those same investment banks which speculated on our state assets and created the present world crisis.

Greece, Spain, Portugal, Ireland, and now also Italy, have experienced the collapse of their real economies as a result of this. In Italy, 12,000 companies went bankrupt in 2011, because banks shut down the credit lines, despite the fact that they had received hundreds of billions in credit from the ECB, at near zero interest, which they used to bail out the speculative bubble, instead of financing enterprises and jobs, a speculative bubble which is now 12 times the world GDP. And while politicians and the press discuss the parties’ financing and elections, the European Stability Mechanism has been approved without anyone taking notice, depriving us once and for all of our national sovereignty, and violating our Constitution.

In this situation, Monti brags of having a “consensus,” makes deals behind the scenes in order to stay in government after 2013, abolishing national elections, after having formed a government without consulting voters. How long will it take before he repeats Mussolini’s famous statement on the Parliament: “I shall turn this indifferent and gray room into a bivouac for my platoons”?

It’s time for citizens to react against this dangerous dictatorial tendency, to oppose to the ECB and ESM dictatorship, and also the governments installed by Goldman Sachs (not only Italy’s, but also Greece’s). The best way to react is by supporting Glass-Steagall, which will deprive the financial oligarchy that put us in this situation, of its power.