

Italians Vote in ‘Democratic’ Coup Against Nuclear Energy

by Claudio Celani

The result of the Italian referendum on nuclear power, which took place on June 12-13, in the aftermath of Japan’s Fukushima crisis, was predictable. The “Yes” to repealing the government plan to build ten nuclear power stations in the next 15 years won with an overwhelming 90%. To be fair, it must be said that all those who would vote “No” stayed home, in the attempt to quash the referendum for insufficient voter turnout. However, this time, the 50% quorum was easily reached and surpassed with a solid 57% turnout, making this the first referendum in recent years to be successful.

A fair assessment of the vote is therefore, that, counting all voters who did not go to the polls, but intended to vote “No,” the margin of the “Yes” votes would be not much higher than 52-53%. Nevertheless, 26 million “Yes” voters means that a major section of center-right voters shifted to the anti-nuclear camp. As soon as the result was made known, Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi announced that Italy must now “go towards renewable energies.” The next day, Industry Minister Paolo Romani announced a national energy conference to define a nuclear-free policy, centered on “renewables.”

For the next five years, according to law, no Italian government can introduce a nuclear energy policy. Italians had previously voted in a nuclear referendum in 1987, in the aftermath of the Chernobyl disaster, to shut down all existing nuclear power stations. It took over 20 years before the issue could be reintroduced.

“Popular referenda,” as they are called, are often not an expression of democratic freedom, but of its opposite. Their original function was to ask voters to decide on fundamental and clear questions, such as Constitutional changes and similar issues. But no referendum was called on the introduction of the euro currency, or on the supranational Lisbon Treaty. Instead, in the past, Italians have been called to vote almost every year on

single issues, or on issues on which a specific competence was required. At a certain point, Italians understood that and, since 1995, quashed each and every referendum by not going to vote.

This time, unfortunately, the Fukushima crisis and the general economic and political crisis supplied the oligarchy with the background to launch a successful coup. The popular rage because of the economic crisis, aggravated by the EU austerity policies, and the participation of the Italian government in the insane NATO war against Lybia, were the two major factors that shifted support away from the government coalition. However, rage makes one blind, and referendum promoters were easily able to induce irrational fears of nuclear energy with a massive Goebbels-like propaganda campaign.

Referendum on Berlusconi

Besides nuclear energy, Italians were called to vote on three other issues: two issues concerning water privatization and one issue concerning Berlusconi’s custom-made immunity law. All four votes showed the identical pattern: over 90% “Yes” (i.e., abrogation of existing laws). Taken in itself, the vote on the three issues expresses a deep dissatisfaction of a majority of Italians for free-market policies and for Berlusconi’s conduct with respect to his judicial problems (a UN report has accused him of “acting above the law,” to fend off corruption investigations), as well as his famously libertine lifestyle.

But since the vote was not a rational one, but rather, one dictated by rage, the same voters behaved insanely, and decided to dump not only Berlusconi, but Prometheus as well. Once the party is over, the voters will likely wake up with a hangover.

Making the tragedy bitter, the day after the Italian vote, Japanese Industry Minister Banri Kaieda was asked for a comment on the referendum, and said that in



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Italians voted in a referendum against nuclear power; like their German neighbors, they were whipped into a state of anti-nuclear hysteria by the eco-fanatics and the media following the Fukushima crisis. Here, Italian Greenpeace cooks campaign for the referendum.

Japan, nuclear energy “will remain one of the four pillars of the national energy policy.” Kaieda’s statements were broadly covered in Italy, and a few media used it as a lesson in common sense.

The Italian population has been duped into supporting a coup organized by the anglophile faction, most visibly represented by financier Carlo De Benedetti, a Rothschild associate. The referendum was organized by the IDV (Italia dei Valori) party, founded and led by Antonio Di Pietro, who is part of the stable owned by De Benedetti, whose agenda is to deindustrialize Italy. The fact that De Benedetti owns the largest company providing “renewable” energies, Sorgenia, is only a predicate of a larger and older behavior of the species. De Benedetti also owns the Espresso/Repubblica publishing house, which is a “market-maker” for the entire media sector—including some sectors of Berlusconi’s own media empire.

De Benedetti’s populist assets are now set to win hegemony in the opposition, as a consequence of local elections in May. This was the first political blow suffered by the current government, since it was formed in 2008, with two major cities, Milan and Naples, surprisingly passing over to the opposition. This was also organized as a coup. For instance, in Milan, both candidates running in the primaries for the Democratic Party were in-house candidates of the De Benedetti family: architect Stefano Boeri, brother of economist Tito Boeri who is the director of the Rodolfo De Benedetti founda-

tion; and Giuliano Pisapia, the legal attorney of the De Benedettis.

Naples’ Political Garbage

In Naples, radical populist Luigi De Magistris won a “surprise” victory based on his “law and order” image. De Magistris made headlines as a prosecutor in southern Italy, with a series of investigations of politicians. Then, as his investigations failed to generate trials, he entered Di Pietro’s IDV party and was elected to the European Parliament. The voters of Naples, where the fight against organized crime is the top priority, saw him as a potential “cleaner” and voted overwhelmingly for him.

However, De Magistris’s radical environmentalist position against the construction of modern incinerators to solve Naples’ garbage problem is suspiciously favoring that very organized crime, the “Camorra,” which controls the garbage system, and is opposing incinerators. De Magistris, like Pisapia in Milan, pushes De Benedetti’s green agenda.

Now, the anglophile oligarchy wants to exploit the momentum created by the local elections and by the referenda to install a national government that implements such an agenda on a national scale, independently from who sits in the driver’s seat. It could be a Berlusconi-turned-green, like Germany’s Angela Merkel, or, if it is decided that his days are numbered, it could be someone else. Gianfranco Fini, the former Berlusconi ally and chairman of the House of Deputies, wrote an article saying that Berlusconi must be replaced by another figure expressing the same political coalition, but adopting the “blood and tears” austerity program laid out by outgoing central banker and future ECB chairman Mario Draghi. In other words, Italy must be sacrificed to save the derivatives bubble built on the euro.

It is not difficult to see how the anglophile oligarchy is manipulating political processes in Italy similar to the situation in Germany, where the government has adopted the WBGU New Dark Age agenda. Similar to Germany, the Italian population is supporting the tyrant because its morale has been broken by decades of economic, political, and cultural warfare. However, this can change if that same population realizes that its manipulators can be defeated, as the LaRouche movement intends, through the Glass-Steagall fight in the United States and in Europe.