

# The Not-So-Hidden Protectors Of Italy's Alessandra Mussolini

by Claudio Celani

We have often warned, in these pages, that there is a plan to promote neofascist parties as major players in European politics. This plan has recently taken a leap forward in Italy, where the granddaughter of Benito Mussolini has received an enormous political boost on the eve of the regional elections. By the time this article is published, the reader will probably know the result of those elections, scheduled to take place April 3-4, but independent of that result, Alessandra Mussolini has already achieved her goal of being "the real leader of the Rightwing in Italy," as a well-informed observer put it to this reporter.

A well-orchestrated scandal has succeeded in giving her unprecedented, cost-free, media promotion. On March 12, an administrative court accepted a challenge filed against Mussolini's party, Alternativa Sociale (AS), in the Lazio region. Last fall AS was credited with 9% of the vote in Lazio, thus being likely to determine the defeat of current governor Francesco Storace, a former comrade of Mrs. Mussolini's in the Alleanza Nazionale (AN) party, and to give the victory to the candidate of the center-left coalition. The challenge alleged that several hundred signatures collected by AS to file a candidate slate were falsified. As a result, the AS slate was banned from the Lazio region, and from two of the other 13 regions where elections are scheduled.

Immediately, Mrs. Mussolini accused Governor Storace of having organized a machination against her. Her allegations were supported by reports that the data presented in court had been collected by a hacker who had used computers belonging to the regional government. The hacker had penetrated the central electoral offices, in the Interior ministry, and stolen the data. Interior Minister Giuseppe Pisanu's son is a candidate on Storace's slate.

Mrs. Mussolini was able to turn the legal defeat into a political victory, by exposing the plot against her, and tapping the widespread anti-establishment, populist mood which is growing in the Italian population. She appealed to the higher court, the Consiglio di Stato and, while waiting for the verdict, parked a camper in front of the court building and staged a hunger strike. Now, hunger strikes in Italy are, like many other things, flexible. Anything not exceeding 4-6 cappuccinos a

day can qualify as a hunger strike. And this was the case for Mrs. Mussolini's. The Consiglio di Stato ruling came on March 22. During the entire period, Mrs. Mussolini's case was the number one issue in domestic politics, both in the print and in the electronic media. Finally, the Consiglio di Stato overturned the initial verdict: the first court had not proceeded according to rules, and therefore the AS slate was valid. Automatically, Mussolini's candidate slates were readmitted as well in the other two regions which had banned them.

The suspicion is strong (and shared by our source) that the whole matter had been staged in order to give Mrs. Mussolini high visibility, and make her a "victim" of the "Palazzo," the centers of power, in the eyes of the voters. Already last autumn, when AS won 9% of the votes in a local elections in Naples, spokesmen for Berlusconi's party had proposed a political alliance with Mussolini, but the idea was fiercely opposed by their government ally AN. Now, it's been reported that Berlusconi himself has dined with Mussolini, in order to seek such an alliance, but again, the opposition inside his coalition was too strong. However, if Mussolini's party shows enough electoral strength to prove indispensable to a defeat of the opposition in the general elections next year, the door is open for a coalition.

## Who Is Behind Mrs. Mussolini?

There is nothing mysterious, or connected to the *Zeitgeist*, in the rise to power of historical fascism; similarly, there is nothing mysterious in the growth of movements such as Mussolini's party, Alternativa Sociale (AS), a party filled with neofascists, anti-semites and veterans of the Strategy of Tension terrorist era. Today, as in the past, powerful international financial circles are behind the project of promoting political parties in the image of the "beastman," as instruments capable of guaranteeing their interests and their policies in a systemic crisis. Such circles—which Lyndon LaRouche calls "synarchist," referencing the French Synarchist Movement of the Empire, an umbrella organization of European fascism in the early 20th century—are behind the pre-emptive war policies and related economic policies of US Vice-President Cheney

and the “beastman” of California, Arnold Schwarzenegger, who is becoming the model for neo-con European leaders.

The case of the rapid growth in “popularity” of Mussolini’s party in Italy is a crucial case in point. According to our sources, Mussolini’s career was decided upon and launched by the powerful Dell’Utri family, a Sicilian clan whose leader, Marcello dell’Utri, is also the person who decided upon and launched the political career of current Italian Prime Minister, Silvio Berlusconi. Mrs. Mussolini’s mother, Annamaria Scicolone, is a close friend of Maria Pia La Malfa Dell’Utri, wife of Marcello’s twin brother Alberto Dell’Utri. The La Malfas are a famous Sicilian political dynasty: Maria Pia’s father, Ugo La Malfa, was an official of the synarchist Banca Commerciale Italiana, and a key representative of the banking community as cabinet member of several Italian postwar governments. Marcello Dell’Utri, a friend of Berlusconi’s in his youth, was a business partner of the current Italian Premier long before Berlusconi became a media magnate. Eventually, he became manager of Berlusconi’s money-making machine, Publitalia, which he turned into a political party overnight, in 1994, convincing a reluctant Berlusconi by faking a national candidates’ slate with names taken out of telephone books.

Dell’Utri represents an intersection of interests, where freemasonic lodges meet traditionalist catholic circles, in the vicinity of organized crime. Last December, a court in Palermo sentenced Marcello Dell’Utri to nine years in jail because of Mafia connections. The conviction is now in an appeals court. Dell’Utri has insisted he is the victim of a legal persecution, and has compared himself to Socrates. Through a cultural organization he himself founded, called “I circoli,” Dell’Utri sponsored a staged version of Plato’s “Apology of Socrates,” which collapsed when the leading actor, after the Palermo sentence, announced on stage that he was withdrawing from the job.

A member of the European Parliament, Dell’Utri is a staunch supporter of globalization and free-market policies. He was the main opponent of former Finance Minister Giulio Tremonti, who represented the “colbertist” faction in Berlusconi’s Forza Italia party, and successfully forced Tremonti to resign last spring, by intriguing together with Central Bank defender and Deputy Prime Minister Gianfranco Fini.

Two years ago, Dell’Utri founded a cultural magazine, called *Il Domenicale*, and launched a project to train youth cadre in “liberal” ideology, to become the future leadership of the party and the nation. His magazine announced the ambitious project of becoming the forum for dialogue between the two alleged liberal traditions of Italy: the “aristotelian-thomistic one” which they identify with, and an unspecified “other” liberal tradition, which is presumably the freemasonic one represented in Italian history by Giuseppe Mazzini and others. Or, one could say, the left-wing and the right-wing versions of the synarchist, beast-man tradition otherwise called fascism.

## Old Wine in New Bottles

If the Mussolini project goes through, and next year Berlusconi is elected Prime minister again, thanks to Mrs. Mussolini’s votes, we could have a situation with hard-core neofascists in cabinet posts; maybe as deputy police or defense ministers. As we have reported previously, in fact, Alessandra Mussolini is only the lead candidate for a coalition of neofascist parties, whose most “distinguished” representative is Roberto Fiore, a former fugitive from Italian justice who became a millionaire in London, protected by MI6.

Fiore left Italy in 1980, in the aftermath of the Bologna train station bombing, to escape a death threat which originated from obscure circumstances of contiguity with the perpetrators of that terrorist attack. Eventually, an arrest warrant was issued against him, and his organization, called “Third Position,” was disbanded as a terrorist organization. Italian officials tried repeatedly to obtain Fiore’s extradition from London, but their requests were regularly rejected by the Thatcher and Major governments, with formal pretexts.

In London, Fiore strengthened his connections to the religious right and associated himself with representatives of the anti-ecumenical faction in the Catholic Church, the so-called Society of Pius XI led by schismatic Bishop Marcel Lefebvre. At the same time, he cultivated his ties to Spanish fascist leader Blas Piñar, and founded an organization carrying the same name as Piñar’s “Forza Nueva.” From London, he directed the Italian-based Forza Nuova organization, at the same time financing legal assistance for old fascist comrades who had problems with Italian justice. He built the base of his organization among soccer hooligans, introducing British-style methods and rapidly taking over soccer-fans’ organizations in Rome and throughout Italy.

After the statute of limitations expired, in 1997, Fiore went back to Italy, and started to work to unify all radical rightwing groups. Such a united front policy reflected a European-wide thrust, decided centrally, and formalized in a congress which took place in Madrid, under the sponsorship of Blas Piñar. Among the participants were France’s Le Pen, who played a direct role in putting together the squabbling Italian groups, and Germany’s National Democratic Party (NPD) leader Udo Voigt. Fiore and Voigt developed a close collaboration, with Fiore participating to NPD meetings in Germany, and Voigt visiting Forza Nuova’s meetings in Italy.

It is clear that the synarchist elites are preparing pawns to be deployed in the near future, as they themselves know that the systemic crisis is going to explode. This does not necessarily mean that such people as Fiore or Voigt would play the main roles, since other populist figures are getting ready as well, but it indicates that all elements are being put in place in order to set the stage. This project has to be stopped not only with correct information, but also and foremostly, by pushing for an alternative to the neo-liberal policies which are creating the conditions for fascist regimes.