

# The Growing Danger of Synarchism in Germany

by Claudio Celani

The electoral successes of extreme right-wing parties in the Sept. 19 state elections in Germany, with the right-wing nationalist German People's Union (Deutsche Volkunion, DVU) getting 6.1% in Brandenburg, and the openly pro-Nazi National Democratic Party of Germany (Nationaldemokratische Partei Deutschlands, NPD) surging to 9.2% in Saxony, should ring an alarm bell. Although it is not the first time that such parties have scored high percentages in local and state elections—the DVU holds seats in Brandenburg, while this is the first time the NPD has won seats since 1968—this occurs in a changed international and national context:

1. Since December 2002, the NPD has been an active part of the recently formed international alliance centered around Spanish synarchist-falangist Blas Piñar, which represents a terrorist potential dating back to the days of the “Strategy of Tension” in Italy and internationally.

2. Immediately after the Sept. 19 elections, the DVU and the NPD—traditionally engaged in a mutually destructive competition for hegemony over the right-wing political spectrum—have joined in an electoral alliance.

3. Both the NPD and the DVU have been deployed in an attempt to discredit the mass protests, especially the Monday Demonstrations in eastern Germany, which were called against the government-sponsored “Hartz IV” austerity budget cuts; prominent supporters of the Hartz IV budget-cutting policies suddenly promoted anti-semitic, neo-Nazi NPD leaders to the status of credible interlocutors, and engaged in a dialogue with them.

In light of such facts, it is not merely hypothetical to see a scenario in which traditional elements of German politics are being redefined, such that radical right-wing and outright neo-Nazi organizations are activated not only in terrorist functions, but also as a political factor, in view of the self-discreditation and potential disintegration of mass-based parties, such as the Social Democratic Party (SPD, Chancellor Gerhard Schröder's party), or the Christian Democratic Union (CDU). Such a scenario is clear to any sane political observer who knows the lessons of history, forecasting the inevitable result of those parties' blind support for Schachtian economic policies imposed on Germany by international synarchist banking interests.<sup>1</sup>

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1. By the term “synarchist,” we mean here a faction of the international neo-liberal oligarchy, which is committed to authoritarian, fascist-like systems

As an Italian looking at German developments, this writer is forced to draw the lessons of the 1992-93 history of Italy, where the process called “Clean Hands” helped to eliminate, almost overnight, traditional anti-communist and anti-fascist parties. Nobody suggests that history will repeat itself in exactly those forms in Germany. But those readers who reject as unthinkable the idea of Brownshirts again assuming a political role in Germany, should reflect on the fact that someone who was still, in 1989, publicly praising Mussolini’s Fascism, is now Deputy Prime Minister in the Italian government. Sure, Gianfranco Fini has made quite a conversion, including formally abjuring both Fascism and Mussolini’s Social Republic last year; however, what counts is that such forces, even when they take off their black shirts, and swear democratic allegiance, offer themselves as viable instruments to enforce strategic and economic policies which are fascist in substance, whereas traditional political parties fail by their nature to sell out to such policies, even though their leaders may want to do so.

Let us examine the elements briefly mentioned above.

### The New Synarchist-Terrorist Alliance

On Nov. 16-17, 2002, an international meeting in Madrid launched the new Synarchist International. Among the groups and individuals participating, co-hosted by former Franco minister Blas Piñar’s Fuerza Nueva and Falange Español, were: Roberto Fiore of Forza Nuova, Italy, who was a featured speaker; Thibault de la Tocnaye, of the French National Front of Jean-Marie Le Pen; Udo Voigt of the German National Party (NPD); a representative of Final Conflict-Third Position of Great Britain, a collection of neo-Nazi organizations affiliated with the Romanian Iron Guard; and Argentine retired Army captain Gustavo Breide Obeid, representing the Popular Party for Reconstruction (Partido Popular por la Reconstrucción, PPR).

On Jan. 26, 2003, a follow-up meeting took place in Madrid, drawing a reported crowd of 3,000 people, addressed by Fiore and Voigt. On that occasion, Blas Piñar presented a new alliance of Spanish right-wing parties, including his Fuerza Nueva, called Frente Español. This was the first of similar alliances to be pursued in all European countries, indicating that money was now available for an operation which otherwise would not have been possible, and that such formations would play a new role in the post-Sept. 11 strategic picture.

The Spanish example was followed in mid-December 2003 in Italy, where Roberto Fiore announced a new electoral bloc with several other neo-fascist splinter parties, including the virtually one-woman party of Alessandra Mussolini, II

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as their political philosophy, in the tradition of Martinist philosopher Joseph de Maistre and, in modern history, Carl Schmitt and his protégé Leo Strauss. Historically, the synarchists tend to make the power of the international oligarchy hegemonic in the wake of economic depressions caused by neo-liberal economic policies.



*The central figure in the re-emergence of an international fascist movement is Spain’s Blas Piñar. The former minister of the Franco government is forming an alliance of neo-fascist parties from Europe and South America. Udo Voigt of the German National Party is part of Piñar’s project.*

Duce’s granddaughter. Ms. Mussolini was then appointed lead candidate for the new bloc, called Alternativa Sociale, and was eventually elected to the European Parliament in May 2004.

Such a regrouping on the national and international levels implies a terrorist potential. As Lyndon LaRouche warned, before the March 11, 2004 Madrid train bombings, we are dealing with veterans of the Italian “Strategy of Tension” terrorist operations, controlled by synarchist factions in military and intelligence circles, who are now being reactivated in the context of new terrorist scenarios. One such scenario was laid out by Harvard’s Prof. Samuel Huntington, who, in an article in *Foreign Policy* in March 2004, promoted a civil war in the Americas between Hispanics and what he called “the distinct Anglo-Protestant culture” of the United States. Huntington invoked a “white nativist” fascist movement to be born in the United States against Hispanic immigrants.

The hatred of Hispanics promoted by Huntington, is one ingredient of an explosive mixture, together with the virulent anti-Americanism of the Blas Piñar/Roberto Fiore (and NPD-DVU) apparatus. Perhaps the most vicious example of such anti-Americanism was an article which appeared on Oct. 26, 2001, barely six weeks after 9/11, in the bulletin of the Charles VII Traditionalist Brotherhood, part of the South American

Carlist grouping which founded Blas Piñar's Argentine publication, *Maritornes*. Citing some Spaniard's assertion, back in 1981, that the building of the World Trade Center towers represented the re-establishment of the columns of the Masonic Temple, author Alvaro Pacheco Seré, president of the Uruguayan branch of the Charles VII Traditionalist Brotherhood, celebrated the 9/11 attacks: "Seen from traditionalist thought, Sept. 11, 2001 appears as 'The Day that the Columns Were Brought Down' . . . the false premises of pacifism, ecumenicism, and the civilization of love preached by the modern masonized world, and with it, by the Church since Vatican II, have been questioned. . . . God has His Designs. They must be adhered to, and we ask Him humbly for Faith, Hope, and Charity."

In this context, networks like those represented by Roberto Fiore's Forza Nuova represent a terrorist potential which has been active at least since 1969, the start of the "Strategy of Tension" terrorist bombings in Italy. Forced to flee the country in 1980, in the aftermath of the Bologna train station bombing, Fiore found refuge in London, where he enjoyed political protection by Margaret Thatcher's government, according to Italian officials. In London, Fiore founded Forza Nuova, mutating the name from Blas Piñar's organization in Spain, with which he developed close contacts.

Spain, under Francisco Franco's dictatorship, had kept the flame of international synarchism burning, functioning as the harbor for about 16,000 Nazi emigrants, including the famous SS special operations commando leader Otto Skorzeny. Such an arrangement had been part of the Anglo-American settlement negotiated by OSS leader and then CIA director Allen Dulles, and SS leaders Wolff, Dollman, and Rauff at the end of World War II, to recycle SS intelligence and special operations people into the "anti-communist" fight in the West. No wonder that countless neo-fascist terrorists from Italy and other places found refuge in Spain, during and after the regime of Franco.

Today, Italian law enforcement agents suspect that Fiore's Forza Nuova has a double structure: a public, legal one, and a parallel, terrorist one. This came out in an investigation in Bari when, last April 14, fifteen local leaders and members of Forza Nuova were arrested on charges of practicing violence against political enemies, immigrants, and minorities. This question should be raised also in the case of the NPD, given the close ties existing between collaborators Voigt and Fiore inside the falangist international.

### Secret Service Manipulation

The other question to be raised is: What is the role played by intelligence agencies in the new neo-fascist-synarchist alliance? We know, at least from the 1999 debate on the proposal to outlaw the NPD, that Voigt's party is heavily infiltrated by national security agencies. It has been calculated that over 200 national and local members of the NPD presidium, about 15%, were agents for the Bundesverfassungsschutz

(BVS, the German equivalent of the FBI). In one blatant case, in the state of North Rhine-Westphalia, the head of the party, Udo Holtmann, worked for the state Verfassungsschutz, while his deputy, Wolfgang Frenz, worked for the BVS. Apparently the two agencies did not know about each other's agents. The intelligence infiltration of the NPD was ultimately the cause for the failure of the government attempt to outlaw the NPD. The prosecution's case would have necessitated that the identity of the agents be made known, or their statements of testimony as witnesses would have been invalidated.

German security and law enforcement agencies have reportedly been proud of having established a system through which, by infiltrating and controlling the extreme right-wing circles, they have made sure that, in the past 50 years, no party to the right of the CDU/CSU really could grow. And indeed, if one looks at the role played by Gerhard Frei's DVU, for instance, in the virtual destruction of the Republikaner Party, such a proposition seems to be proven. The DVU, furthermore, has alternated electoral successes with defeats, so that the DVU itself seemed unwilling to really become a significant, mass-based party. The same goes for the NPD: In the last three decades, the neo-fascist threat in Germany has played the role of a media operation, punctually activated to smear the image of Germany every time Bonn or Berlin manifested intentions disapproved of by Washington, London, Moscow, or even Paris.

Things might be changing now in this respect, as the DVU alliance with the NPD indicates a break. Such an alliance occurs unmistakably as part of the international strategy discussed in Madrid, as indicated by articles that have appeared in the DVU publication, the *National-Zeitung*. In July 2003, Frei's newspaper had published an interview with Blas Piñar, stressing his role in the successful alliance of neo-fascist and

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falangist parties in Spain. Similarly, in November 2003, the same publication interviewed Alessandra Mussolini, on her decision to abandon the party Alleanza Nazionale (AN), in disagreement with AN leader Gianfranco Fini's abjuration of her grandfather's tradition. Also, German agencies are not the only intelligence structures which have penetrated German right-wing and neo-Nazi groupings. In 2002 it was revealed that the former head of the NPD, Adolf von Thadden, who died in 1996 and was replaced by Voigt, had been an agent of the British MI6 foreign intelligence service from at least 1967 to 1976. Such a revelation prompted the head of the BVS in Hamburg, Hans Josef Horchem, to comment that the MI6 "has conducted its operations in Germany like an old colonial power." Nothing suggests that things have changed with the new leadership. Also in the case of Voigt's Italian ally, Fiore, the connection to British intelligence is incontrovertible. The magazine *Spotlight* exposed him in June 1989 as an MI6 agent. The same allegations were contained in a 1991 report by the European Parliament Committee on Racism and Xenophobia. And, in December 1999, Italian anti-terrorism chief Ansoino Andreassi testified to a Parliamentary Committee that at minimum, Fiore was "protected" by MI6. And a recent court decree in Naples has established that it is not a crime to call Fiore a British intelligence agent. If one considers that the territories of both Germany and Italy, in the past five decades, have been open battlegrounds for intelligence agents of at least six nations—Britain, Russia, the German Democratic Republic (communist East Germany, before reunification), America, France, and Israel—one wonders whether today there is even one prominent neo-Nazi without a string attached.

### Neo-Nazis Are Made 'Socially Acceptable'

The *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* of Oct. 7 reported an interesting profile of the new generation of NPD leaders, who are ideologically and culturally rather more prepared than the figures of the past, who usually were hardly able to articulate a complete sentence. This time, people like Holger Apfel, Alexander Delle, Jürgen Gansel, Jürgen Schön, and Uwe Leichsenring, who are going to enter the Saxony Parliament, will probably not need BVS agents to write their speeches.

A look at the issues on which the NPD campaigned in the Saxon elections, indicate that Voigt's party has been deployed to discredit the anti-Hartz IV popular movement, by addressing the right issues in the wrong form, or in the context of raving anti-Semitic or openly pro-Nazi outbursts.

On Oct. 11 a most astonishing debate took place on a talk-show broadcast by the N-24 television network, hosted by *Bildzeitung* journalist Klaus Strunz. On one side was Peter Glotz, former secretary general of the Social Democratic Party (SPD), and on the other Udo Voigt, secretary general of the NPD. In a form of political correctness that some newspapers correctly called "perverse," Glotz and Strunz allowed Voigt to "democratically" express such views as his admira-

tion for Hitler and the Third Reich, and to profile himself as a champion of the opposition against Hartz IV.

Nobody should delude himself that this is merely some Machiavellian attempt to discredit the anti-Hartz IV movement; it is an outright attempt to promote neo-Nazism. Look at who Peter Glotz is: He was the first, in the SPD, to introduce a shift away from the traditional pro-labor orientation, and has systematically promoted neo-liberal policies. On Oct. 2, he signed a newspaper ad against the Monday Rallies, under the headline, "*Wir sind auch das Volk*" ("We are also the people"; the Monday Rallies' slogan, like that of the anti-communist freedom movement in 1989, was "We are the people"). Among other things, he sits on such neo-conservative boards as the Convention for Germany, where he works as a nominal Social Democrat, together with neo-cons such as Meinhard Miegel and Arnulf Baring, and old free-market supporters like Otto Graf von Lambsdorff, former economics minister and member of the Trilateral Commission.

The Convention for Germany emanates a certain "nostalgic" aura which is due not only to its Schachtian economic proposals, but also to a sort of umbilical chord to the Crown Jurist of the Third Reich, Carl Schmitt. Take, for instance, the chairman of the Convention, former German President Roman Herzog, who has been tutored by one of the most prominent Schmitt scholars, Theodor Maunz. With Maunz, Herzog discussed his dissertation in 1958; he was then Maunz's assistant from 1958 to 1964 at Munich University, and finally got his habilitation, or inauguration into an academic career, in 1964, the same year that Maunz was forced to resign as Bavarian cultural minister because his National-Socialist past was unveiled.

After Maunz's death in 1993, the ARD TV program "Panorama" reported that from 1988 to 1993, he had regularly given legal assistance for Gerhard Frei's DVU party. According to other sources, until his death Maunz was an anonymous commentator for Frei's *National-Zeitung*.

Both Maunz and his pupil Herzog were teachers at the Higher School for Management Studies in Speyer, where a selected circle of personalities, scholars, and politicians gathered on Oct. 1-3, 1986, one year after the death of Carl Schmitt, to celebrate his life and his thought. The same experience was repeated one year later, also in Speyer, at a symposium sponsored by the Friedrich Naumann Stiftung, a foundation associated with the Free Democratic Party (FDP). Unfortunately, we don't know what was discussed there, because the records of the Naumann Stiftung are classified for 30 years.<sup>2</sup>

2. The information on the two conferences on Carl Schmitt, and the Maunz-Herzog relationship, is taken from an unpublished report by Hans-Peter Müller, "Einige Anhaltspunkte für die Beziehungen Carl Schmitts und seiner Ideen zum aktuellen politischen und kulturellen Leben der Bundesrepublik Deutschland" ("Some Leads on the Relation of Carl Schmitt and His Ideas to the Current Political and Cultural Life of the Federal Republic of Germany"), Mainz 2003.