



I.P.R. F.T.T. Member State *de jure*
of the United Nations

International Provisional Representative of the FREE TERRITORY OF TRIESTE

Rappresentanza Internazionale Provvisoria del Territorio Libero di Trieste
Začasno Mednarodno Predstavništvo Svobodnega Tržaškega Ozemlja
Provisorische Internationale Vertretung des Freien Territoriums Triest

SG/2019/02/03-en

14 February 2019

**To Mr. President of the Council of Ministers
of the Italian Government**
Giuseppe Conte

To Mr. President of the Italian Republic
Sergio Mattarella

To Mr. President of the European Commission
Jean-Claude Juncker

This Representative has the honor and duty to make a formal protest before the Italian Government, the President of the Italian Republic, and the European Commission following recent political provocations that perturb the political balances of the strategic region to which the present-day Free Territory of Trieste belongs.

On February 10th, 2019, representatives of the Italian Government, as well as the current Italian President of the European Parliament, were in Trieste to preside a political demonstration during which they released violent, revanchist official statements against Slovenia and against Croatia, insulting the European Resistance and the victims of the Shoah.

The demonstration was attended by Italian nationalist and neo-fascist organizations that question the Treaty of Peace between the Allied and Associated Powers and Italy, signed at Paris on 10 February 1947, and they also displayed the banners of World War II Italian fascist and collaborationist armed forces.

These representatives of the Italian Government, as well as the Italian President of the European Parliament, accused the Slovene and Croatian Resistance of implementing, after the war, a “genocide against Italians” (even children) in Trieste, Istria and Dalmatia, but that has never happened, yet, they went as far as comparing it to the Shoah.

It is accusations that revive fascist and nazi propagandas of war years 1941-45, in spite of the historical truth ascertained in 2000 by an official Commission of Italian and Slovenian historians, as well as offending the sorrow, honor, and legacy of the Slovene and Croatian Resistance, which did also include combat units of Italians, Austrians, and Jews.

The revival of said propagandas is possible because, contrarily to Germany, Italy has systematically prevented its own public opinion from discovering the crimes against humanity and war crimes that were committed by Italians against Slovenes and Croats in the territories occupied after WWI and during WWII.

Since 2004, Italy has consolidated these propagandas declaring 10 February a day of national mourning to complain against the 1947 Treaty of Peace with official demonstrations, during which the President of the Italian Republic awards memory certificates of merit to fascists and to collaborationists killed by the Slovene and Croatian Resistance during war years 1941-45.

This political operation started in Italy during the Craxi government, at the same time as the Sigonella crisis (1985), and developed after 1989, following an agreement between Italian neo-fascists and former communists to achieve and to take advantage of the violent dissolution of Yugoslavia, contrasting the attempts of the United States of America to prevent that outcome and then to limit its consequences. Countering those Italian operations required extensive intelligence activities, also from Trieste.

Now, in 2019, we see the same revanchist propagandas being revived to obstacle with new provocations the stabilization of all States of former Yugoslavia in the Euro-Atlantic Alliance as well as in the Three Seas Initiative, in which the present-day Free Territory of Trieste and its international Free Port have a relevant strategic role.

This Representative deplores and rejects such provocations, and reminds that, when it comes to the present-day Free Territory of Trieste, the Italian Government is vested with the duty to exercise properly the sub-mandate of temporary civil administration that is entrusted to it by the Governments of the United States of America and of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland as primary administering Governments on behalf of the U.N. Security Council.



Paolo G. Parovel
I.P.R. F.T.T. Secretary General