



One-day workshop in a round-table setting **Saturday 22nd May 2010**  
**Nihon Room, 10.00 am - 16.30 pm**

## **Italy's Foreign Policy in the 21st Century**

Italian foreign policy has often been dismissed for 'punching below its weight', for being too idiosyncratic and inconsistent. The aim of this workshop is to encourage a better understanding of Italy's foreign policy since the turn of the century. Those invited to contribute include academics, policy researchers, specialists from the defence industry and from the wider community involved in foreign policy diplomacy at both the national and European levels.

The workshop seeks to explore both developments in Italian foreign policy and the changes brought about by the growing interaction with the EU's Foreign, Security and Policies. The growing interaction between the national and European levels suggests that the areas of predominantly Italian concern are now seen and dealt with increasingly within the broader European framework. The consequence is an expanding degree of interdependence linking agents, states and international actors within a continuously widening network which raises important issues of governance, responsibility and accountability. The problems of Italy as an actor are widely replicated elsewhere in the Union and many of the problems faced are common, yet the weight of Italy's history and geography, as well as institutional particularities make for differences and a continuing individuality. That in itself can become a problem for other Member States, particularly when complex questions require global solutions.

The workshop's contention is that Italy is engaged internationally but there is a perceived gap between its actions – what Italy is expected to do in the world – and what it is actually doing. As long as this gap continues, Italy is likely to remain a partial and inconsistent foreign policy actor. The specific aim of the workshop is that of making clearer what Italy is attempting to do, how it seeks to do it and through what channels and policy instruments and with what effect.

The contributors have very different fields of expertise thereby providing an interdisciplinary framework for the debate. Interdisciplinary resources are relevant for the issues in Italian foreign policy that the debate seeks to explore. These include the processes that characterise Italy's foreign policies, the synergies behind its choices and whether together they make up a national strategy. The extent to which they provide a coherent or other basis for the dialogue with other Member States within the EU and how they inter-relate with the EU's CFSP and CSDP are a central concern of the project. Italy's critical position in relation to the Mediterranean region is given particular space since it reveals both continuing bilateral ties – as in the case of Libya – and the pressures for acting within an EU framework – whether in promoting European and other values or in attempting to secure borders against migrants. Italy's traditional Atlanticism especially in terms of defence policy has not yet led to any

serious question of its support for the CSDP but it has rarely been in the vanguard of the evolution of the CSDP. Perhaps as important in approaching Italy as a comprehensive actor have been the roles of non-government bodies, whether its defence industry or other actors – as in the Darfur and Somalia cases. Yet at the formal level, there are questions about Italy's management of international crises and the wider European framework. Lisbon has introduced potentially significant changes in both the policy-making processes and the execution of foreign policy decisions. How these may affect Italy – from a practical and more theoretical basis – in terms of its foreign and security policies provides a core dimension to the project.

## Programme

10.00 Registration and coffee

**10.20 Welcome: Geoffrey Edwards, Ludovica Marchi and Richard Whitman**

**10.25-13.00 Round-Table with Chapters' Presentations**

**Chair: Geoffrey Edwards, University of Cambridge**

- Foreign Policy Analysis exploring the foreign policy of EU states: the state of the art  
**Ludovica Marchi, University of Cambridge**

- The European post-Lisbon *milieu* in which the EU states operate  
**Geoffrey Edwards, University of Cambridge**

- Processes of Italian foreign policy since 1989 – how black boxes can change  
**Paul Furlong, Cardiff University**

- Foreign policy as a national strategy - Italian transition and possible options  
**Federico Eichberg, LiMes, Rome**

- Italy in Europe: Between the first and second republic  
**Antonio Missiroli, EU Commission, Bureau of European Policy Advisers (BEPA), Brussels**

Coffee: 11.35 - 11.50

- Explaining continuity and changes in post-1989 Italian Foreign Policy: the case of Libya  
**Nicola Chelotti, University of Pisa, and Elizabeth Johansson-Nogues, LSE**

- Italy and the challenge of mass migration: risks and opportunities vis-à-vis the EU's awareness of migrants' "rights" violations in the Euro-Mediterranean region  
**Germano Dottori LUISS, Rome and Emanuela Paoletti, Oxford University**

- Promoting values and managing security in Euro-Mediterranean relations: the case of Italy  
**Fabrizio Tassinari and Hulla Holm, Danish Institute for International Studies (DIIS), Copenhagen**

- What is defence now for Italy in the changing strategic environment of the Mediterranean region?

**Lucio Martino**, Centro Militare di Studi Strategici (CeMiSS), Rome

- Fascinated by how the market is going to be: Finmeccanica as a security player

**Alberto DeBenedictis**, Finmeccanica UK

- The Darfour and Somali crisis areas: knowledge, memory, informality and cautiousness. The *Comunita' di Sant'Egidio's* diplomacy

**Matteo Zuppi**, *Comunità di Sant'Egidio*, Rome

13.00 - 14.00 Coffee, sandwiches and lunch

**14.00-16.30 Round-Table: Feedback, Discussion and Conclusions**

**Discussants: Geoffrey Edwards, Ludovica Marchi and Richard Whitman**

**Chair: Richard Whitman**, University of Bath

16.30 Coffee

## **Chapters' abstracts**

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