



**'Political Academy
National sovereignty and European
Union'**

Rome, 10 May – 28 June 2018

FEPS Activity Report

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ASSOCIAZIONE SOCIALISMO

FOUNDATION FOR EUROPEAN
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The Foundation for European Progressive Studies, together with the Associazione Socialismo and in collaboration with the monthly magazine Mondoperaio organised from May to June 2018 a “Political Academy” focusing on the issue of “National Sovereignty and the European Union”. The cycle of seminars were addressed to students, local administrators, trade unionists and media professionals.



The Academy complements the work done within the framework of the residential training seminars of the “Luciano Cafagna School of European Democracy”, and was meant to provide to the participants a deeper political understanding of one of the most crucial issues of Italian and European politics, in a moment in which nationalist and extreme-right parties and movements are growing throughout our continent.

The Academy was structured in eight seminars hosted in Rome, at the headquarters of the Modigliani Foundation - Organization for the History of Socialism and of the Italian Labour Movement, each one focusing on a different aspect of the relationship between the Italian institutional system and the policies of the European Union, highlighting convergences and points of frictions. Prestigious academics, such as **Stefano Ceccanti**, **Luigi Capogrossi** and **Claudia Mancina**, tackled different topics: The crisis of liberal democracy; national sovereignty and European Union; Europe’s cultural borders and migration; revising

regionalism in the European Union: Cataluña and Alto Adige; revising the form of government in the context of the European Union; local, national and European electoral laws, the autonomy of the public administration. The panellists highlighted the urgent need to resume the path of institutional reforms interrupted after the negative outcome of the 2016 referendum. A reform of the institutional architecture was described as indispensable in adapting Italy's institutional architecture to the challenges of globalisation and the opportunities offered by the European Union.



The cycle of seminar was concluded by the lecture of Prof. **Giuliano Amato**, former Italian



Prime Minister and currently member of the Italian Constitutional Court, who in his wide-range analysis discussed the current political and institutional challenges that Italy and the European Union will have to face in the next future.