

## **Right-wing parties in the Italian party system of the "Second Republic"**

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In the Polish and foreign literature on the subject, there is a lack of synthetic, exhaustive literature concerning the ideology, organization and support of the electorate and the success factors of the right-wing parties of the “Second Republic.” The genesis and characteristics of the right-wing parties functioning in the Italian party system during the “Second Republic” were the principal objective of this study (the research was primarily concerned with the years 1994-2008). In 1994, the first elections were held in the “mixed” system, when the parties first sought to form a joint electoral bloc or a coalition, and even in 2007 they were united into a single party. The year 2008 is the date of the last election of the “Second Republic.” The last parliamentary elections were held in 2013, which I consider to be the "Third Republic" when voters were divided into three political options.

The parties are commonly regarded as right-wing parties, although they have often avoided this term. They were in effect during the “Second Republic” (1994-2008), two of which were derived from the party system of the “First Republic” (so called “long-serving parties”). Those that took into account the rules in the democratic countries were also selected. Another important selection criterion was the low rotation among the party members in the strict leadership of the party, as well as the stability of leadership. It was also about large, high-relevance parties, with high scores in the parliamentary elections, and recognized for their unchanging names and symbols, which were supported in many regions of the country (hence the absence of regional parties like the SVP), which also translated into their potential as coalition builders. Therefore, three parties were selected for analysis: FI, LN and AN.

The author puts forward the following hypothesis: 1. in the “Second Republic,” there was stabilization of the party system and consolidation of two coalitions on the left and on the right of the political spectrum, with a real alternation of power, within a polarized bipolar system. Moreover, the “Second Republic” party system has retained many of the features of the “First Republic” system. 2. The distribution of seats in the parliament and on electoral territory reflects the antagonism between the two coalitions. 3. The studied right-wing parties were different in terms of program, but their organizational structure and methods of operation were similar. In addition, they often changed their political agenda, which is characteristic of populist parties. 4. Populism

of the right-wing parties strengthened the phenomenon of personalization and mediatization, as well as regionalism. 5. The investigated right-wing parties were all statewide parties rather than regional parties.

The historical method has been used to show the genesis, course and significance of political processes and to identify causal relationships. A comparative method was used to compare parties in the Italian party system. On the basis of the source materials and crucial studies, an analysis of the facts and relations taking place between the parties was also conducted. The author also studied the right wing party views on key political issues. A systemic analysis was used to examine the electoral support for particular parties and their place in the allied alliances. Statistical methods were used to analyze quantitative indicators of processes discussed in the work, whereas the bibliographic method allowed to isolate and elaborate sources, and to analyze and critique the current literature of the subject. The first SWOT analysis (1994), the second (2001) and the fourth (2008) were conducted for the right-wing government. The author's version of the method of content analysis, developed by G. Ierati for the years 1994-2006, was used in this study to analyze the Prime Minister's speech at the inaugural ceremony of the Government of S. Berlusconi in 2008. Statistical data and scientific visualization of the analyzed regularities helped to present a clear illustration of the functioning of individual right-wing parties. In addition, a comprehensive list of literature was prepared. Quotations from source materials and the works are translated from English, Italian and French by the author of this work.