

Overview main insitutional activities 2003 – 2017 for

SOS RULE OF LAW and the RIGHT TO KNOW

- **2003 – 2013:** Starting from the initiative “Free Iraq – Only alternative to the War” follows an in-depth in-house research on the mechanisms behind the decision-making. Accompanied by a series of bilateral meetings (in particular with Members of both Chambers of the UK Parliament, Arab League representatives, journalists, and activists). Research and encounters, in combination with a decade-long struggle for the Italian citizens’ right to be properly informed in order to be able to make democratic choices, leads to the identification of the lack of a citizens’ right to know within the international human rights framework.
- **February 2014: First International Conference** on the Rule of Law and the Right to Know at the European Parliament and the European Commission, hosted by then European Commissioner (currently President of the European Parliament) Antonio Tajani, bringing together politicians, human rights activists, and academics.
- **March 2014: Meeting** of a Nonviolent Radical Party delegation headed by Marco Pannella with **High Commissioner for Human Rights Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein** to discuss the right to know. The proposal is met with interest, and further development is encouraged.
- **June 2014 – May 2015:** Presentation of the Written Proceedings (published in English, French and Italian) of the February 2014 Conference at the House of Commons in London (hosted by Norman Baker MP, former Under-Secretary for Home Affairs); French Senate (hosted by Senator André Gattolin); Palais des Nations in Geneva (seat of the UN Human Rights Council, with the active involvement of Italian Permanent Representative Maurizio Serra); Camera dei Deputati in Rome; and the Institute for Philosophical Studies in Naples. The most significant contributions during these additional debates are bundled and have been published in Italian.
- **March 2015:** Meeting of Nonviolent Radical Party delegation with Prof. Em. M. Chérif Bassiouni, to lay the foundations for the development of a scientific study for the definition of the right to know.
- **July 2015: Second International Conference** on the Rule of Law and the Right to Know at the Italian Senate, bringing together politicians (with the participation of Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs Paolo Gentiloni and Niger’s Minister of Justice Marou Amadou), human rights activists, and academics. The Written Proceedings of this conference have been published under the title “SOS *Rule of Law*” in Italian (ISBN Number 978-88-95284-60-6).
- **July 2015 – ongoing:** Launch of the Appeal for the affirmation of the right to know redacted by Prof. Em. Aldo Masullo. Thanks to local activists, the Appeal has

so far been adopted by 40 city and/or regional council across Italy. It has been signed by over 50 international personalities.

– **September 2015 – September 2016:** Scientific investigation by Laura Harth into the background and definition in legal and public policy terms of the Right to Know at the University of Exeter, in collaboration with the Nonviolent Radical Party, funded by the ESRC South West Doctoral Centre and supervised by Prof. Claudio M. Radaelli. The study is accompanied by a legal definition by the Members of the Scientific Council: Prof. Francesca Graziani for the Italian Organization for the International Organization (SIOI); Prof. Natalino Ronzitti for the Istituto Affari Esteri (IAI); and Avv. Ezechia Paolo Reale for the Siracusa International Institute for Criminal Justice and Human Rights.

Upon completion, both studies are examined and developed further by the full Scientific Council, headed by Prof. Em. Chérif M. Bassiouni.

– **September 2015 – April 2016:** Bilateral meetings with Diplomatic Representatives in Rome to present the campaign on the right to know and request their endorsement and participation at the round-table conference in Geneva. Meetings with Officials from the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs to endorse the active participation of Italy.

– **May 2016: Round-table conference “SOS Rule of Law”** at the Palais des Nations in Geneva (seat of the UN Human Rights Council) on the Rule of Law and the Right to Know, with the active participation of the Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Institutions in Geneva of Canada, Italy, Ireland, Mexico and Morocco. Over 23 delegations participate in the meeting.

– **September 2016: Hearing at the Foreign Affairs Committee** of the Italian Chamber of Deputies on the right to know, with the participation of former Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs Amb. Giulio Terzi di Sant’Agata and former Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs Franco Frattini. Subsequently, the Committee adopts a Resolution calling for the further involvement of the Italian Government.

– **November 2016: International Conference** at the Italian Senate, hosted by President of the Italian Senate Pietro Grasso. Presentation of initial findings by the Scientific Council by Prof. Em. Chérif M. Bassiouni.

– **12 May 2017: International Conference “Information and Public Debate in 21st Century Consolidated Democracies: What Issues and What Reforms?”**; at the Italian Senate with the participation of former Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs Amb. Giulio Terzi di Sant’Agata; Herdis Kjerulf Thorgeirsdottir, Vice-President of the Venice Commission of the Council of Europe for Democracy through Law; Matthijs Berman, main adviser to the OSCE Representative for Freedom of Media; André Gattolin, French Senator; Francesco Posteraro, Commissioner AGCOM (Authority for Communication Warranties); Stefano Polli, Deputy Director Italian National Associated Press Agency; Giuseppe Giulietti, President National Italian Press Federation; Andrea Saccuci, international lawyer.

– **29 May 2017:** Press conference presentation of the Definition Paper on the Right to Know by Prof. Em. Chérif Bassiouni at the Siracusa International Institute for Criminal Justice and Human Rights.

- **June 2017: International Conference** on the Rule of Law and the Right to Know at the French Senate, hosted by Senator André Gattolin, and with the participation of Daniel Cohn-Behndit.
- **27 – 29 October 2017: International Conference** at the headquarters of the Nonviolent Radical Party in Rome.

FRIDAY 27th OCTOBER

10.00 | OPENING

Fabrizio Cicchitto MP, President of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Chamber of Deputies (Italy)

Giulio Terzi di Sant'Agata, Ambassador, former Minister of Foreign Affairs (Italy)

Sam Rainsy MP, former President of the Cambodia National Rescue Party, former Minister of Finance (Cambodia)

Stefano Polli, Deputy Director of ANSA press agency (Italy)

10.45 | RULE OF LAW IN TIMES OF WAR ON TERROR, STARTING FROM THE MIDDLE EAST

Introduction: Sid Ahmed Ghazali, former Prime Minister (Algeria)

Abdelbasset Ben Hassen, President of the Arab Institute for Human Rights (Tunisia)

Laura Harth, NRPTT Representative to the United Nations (Belgium)

Nicola Ciraci MP, President of the Inter-Parliamentary Friendship Group Italy – Morocco (Italy)

Ismail Mohades, Writer and activist (Iran)

15.00 | HUNGER, THIRST, WAR AND POVERTY IN THE WORLD

Introduction: Maurizio Turco, Coordinator of the Presidency of the NRPTT, former European and Italian MP (Italy)

Najima Thay Thay Rhozali, former Secretary of State for non-formal Education (Morocco)

Abdirahman Mahdi, Vice President of the Unrepresented Nations & Peoples Organization (UNPO), Representative of the Ogaden people (Ethiopia)

Mu Sochua MP, Vice President of the Cambodia National Rescue Party (Cambodia)

Shukri Said Journalist, founder of the Association Migrare (Somalia)

Martinho Mateus da Silva, President of the Mozambican Community in Italy (Mozambique)

Jean-Léonard Touadi, former MP (Italy)

17.30 | RIGHT TO KNOW – FUNDAMENTAL BASIS FOR THE RULE OF LAW

Introduction: Giulio Terzi di Sant'Agata, Ambassador, former Minister of Foreign Affairs (Italy)

Matteo Angioli, Secretary general of the Global Committee for the Rule of Law "Marco Pannella" (Italy)

Norman Baker, former Under-Secretary for Home Affairs, former MP (UK)

André Gattolin, Senator La République En Marche!, Vice-President of the Committee on European Affairs (France)

Paul Strauss, Senator for Washington D.C. (USA)

Saumura Tioulong MP, Vice President of the Committee on Foreign Affairs (Cambodia)

Ben Wizner, American Civil Liberties Union (USA)

SATURDAY 28th OCTOBER

10.00 | JUSTICE, PRISONS AND FREEDOM RESTRICTION

Introduction: Elisabetta Zamparutti, Italian member of the European Committee for the prevention of torture and inhumane and degrading treatments, former MP, treasurer of Hands Off Cain (Italy)

Rita Bernardini, Coordinator of the Presidency of the NRPTT, former MP (Italy)

Maria Rita Morganti, Member of the European Committee for the prevention of torture and inhumane and degrading treatments (CPT) of the European Council (San Marino)

Mukuna Samulomba Malaku, Professor of European law at the University of Kisangani and University of L'Aquila (Democratic Republic of the Congo)

Alaa Shalaby, Secretary General of the Arab Organization for Human Rights (Egypt)

15.00 | CLASH OF CULTURES, VALUES AND PRINCIPLES: RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE OR HUMAN RIGHTS?

Introduction: Sam Rainsy MP, former leader of the opposition, former Minister of Finance (Cambodia)

Marino Busdachin, Secretary General of UNPO (Italy)

Luigi Compagna, Senator (Italy)

Jianli Yang, Founder and President of Initiatives for China (China)

Sergio D'Elia, Coordinator of the Presidency of the NRPTT, former MP (Italy)

Niccolò Rinaldi, President of LiberalItalia and Liberi Cittadini, former MEP (Italy)

Paul Strauss, Senator for Washington DC (USA)

Thubten Wangchen, Director of Tibet House Barcelona, Member of Tibetan Parliament in Exile (Tibet)

17.30 | MEETING OF CAMBODIAN MEMBERS ON THE COUNTRY'S CURRENT POLITICAL CRISIS

SUNDAY 29th OCTOBER

10.00 | FREEDOM OF RELIGION OR BELIEF

Introduction: Giulio Terzi di Sant'Agata, Ambassador, former Minister of Foreign Affairs (Italy)

Dolkun Isa, Vice President of UNPO, President of the World Uyghur Congress (China/Germany)

Maryan Ismail, Member of the Movement Secular Muslims (Somalia)

Mona Silawi, UNPO Representative for freedom of religion or belief (Iran)

Moderator: Valter Vecellio Journalist (Italy)

15.00 | RULE OF LAW STARTING FROM THE UNITED STATES OF EUROPE

Hassan Abouyoub, Ambassador of Morocco in Italy (Morocco)

André Gattolin, Senator La République En Marche!, Vice-President of the Committee on European Affairs (France)

Sandro Gozi, Under-Secretary to the Presidency of the Council of Minister in charge of European Affairs (Italy)

Maurizio Turco, Coordinator of the Presidency of the NRPTT, former MP and MEP (Italy)

Moderator: Francesco De Leo Journalist (Italy)

- **13 November 2017: Round-table conference** at the University of Milan on the right to know and impact of modern technologies: possibilities and negative effects.
- **March 2018: Second round-table conference** at the Palais des Nations in Geneva (seat of the UN Human Rights Council) (under definition).