

## Video: For Italy - A New Government, the Same "Privileged Ally" of US-NATO

By Manlio Dinucci

Global Research, May 24, 2018

The "Contract for the Government of Change" – stipulated by **Luigi Di Maio** and **Matteo Salvini** on behalf of the 5 Star Movement and the League – on the one hand "confirms Italy's membership of the Atlantic Alliance, with the United States of America as a privileged ally", and on the other, promises "an open-minded attiutude to Russia, which should be perceived not as a threat but as an economic and commercial partner (which would imply the withdrawal of sanctions), to be rehabilitated as a strategic interlocutor for the resolution of regional crises" and even as a "potential partner for NATO".

The formula is not new. In June 2016, Prime Minister Renzi assured President Putin that "the Cold War is now history", and that "Europe and Russia can be excellent neighbors". A month later, at the Warsaw Summit, Renzi signed the EU-NATO strategic pact against Russia.

How can the new government cease "perceiving" Russia as a threat and act accordingly, while it remains a member of NATO, which, under the command of the "privileged ally", is increasingly committed to combating "the Russian threat"?

The new government intends to "re-evaluate our participation in international missions in terms of their real importance for the national interest". Does this mean that it intends to withdraw the Italian troops deployed in Latvia and the Italian fighter-bombers deployed in Estonia, close to Russian territory, on the pretext, invented by NATO, of facing "Russian aggression"?

Will it prevent US / NATO commands and bases in Italy, from Vicenza to Aviano, from Naples to Sigonella, from being used for military operations against Russia?

First of all, will the new government reject the new B61-12 nuclear bombs that the US is preparing to deploy in Italy against Russia, exposing our country to growing danger as a forward base of US nuclear strategy?

Will it refuse to provide the Pentagon with pilots and fighter-bombers ready for nuclear attack, within the framework of NATO?

Will the new government ask the US to remove all nuclear weapons from our territory, on the basis of the Non-Proliferation Treaty, which has so far been violated? Will it adhere to the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (as Luigi Di Maio is committed to do by signing the ICAN Parliamentary Pledge)?

The decision not to adhere to the UN Treaty was taken before by the Italian Parliament, in the North Atlantic Council, where according to NATO rules "there is no vote or majority

Region: Europe

Theme: <u>History</u>

decision", but "decisions are taken unanimously and by mutual agreement", that is, in agreement with the United States of America, to which the leading role of Supreme Allied Commander in Europe and other key commands are entitled by right.

Source: PandoraTV

With regard to the military industry, the Contract considers "its protection, with particular regard to the financing of research, for the design and construction of ships, aircraft and high-tech systems" to be essential.

What's new in the program of the "Government of Change", compared to the "White Book for Defense" institutionalized by the Gentiloni government, which defines the military industry as the "pillar of our national system"?

Will the new government stop or continue participating in the US F-35 fighter program, which commits Italy to buy 90 planes at a cost of 13-16 billion euros?

With regard to military spending, will the new government refuse to increase it or will it fulfil the commitment agreed between previous governments, the US, and NATO, to raise it from the current 70 million Euros a day to around 100 million Euros a day?

This is unavoidable expenditure if one wants to maintain the United States of America as a "privileged ally".

\*

This article was originally published on Il Manifesto.

Manlio Dinucci is a Research Associate of the Centre for Research on Globalization.

The original source of this article is Global Research Copyright © Manlio Dinucci, Global Research, 2018

## **Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page**

## **Become a Member of Global Research**

Articles by: Manlio Dinucci

## **About the author:**

Manlio Dinucci est géographe et journaliste. Il a une chronique hebdomadaire "L'art de la guerre" au quotidien italien il manifesto. Parmi ses derniers livres: Geocommunity (en trois tomes) Ed. Zanichelli 2013; Geolaboratorio, Ed. Zanichelli 2014;Se dici guerra..., Ed. Kappa Vu 2014.

**Disclaimer:** The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: <a href="mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca">publications@globalresearch.ca</a>

www.globalresearch.ca contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: <a href="mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca">publications@globalresearch.ca</a>