



## A New Stage in the Italian Providence

“Santa Maria in Aquiro” Hall, Italian Senate, Rome, Italy, November 13, 2019

By *Giuseppe Cali*

On November 13th 2019, we held a seminar in the hall “Santa Maria in Aquiro” of the Italian Senate, on the topic: “Mediterranean Sea as a Bridge of Peace. Building the World of co-prosperity, universal shared values and interdependence in the Mediterranean Rim”.

The participation was top level: politicians, religious leaders, ambassadors, university professors and leaders of the civil society. The conference was organized in two sessions: in the morning IAPP and in the afternoon IAPD. The level of the paper presented was really the best for us, up to date. Political, sociological, diplomatic,

inter religious analysis were very deep and wide.

Especially worthy to mention was the participation of Senator Rampi that offered a speech in the morning and a comment in the afternoon, and attended the meeting all day long, canceling all his previous engagements. It is thanks to him that we could benefit of such a prestigious hall for our meeting. Other speakers were: Ambassador Enrico Granara, coordinator for the relationship Euro Mediterranean and the Gulf, Marco Ricceri from the research institute EURISPES, Marino D’Amore, university professor, Marco Fornerone, pastor of the Valdese Church, Don Valentino Cottini, Catholic Priest and Director of the magazine “Christian-Moslem dialogue” and University professor, Nader Akkad, Muslim Imam and university professor, Franca Eckert Coen, Vicepresident of “Religions for Peace” and coordinator of “Women in dialogue”, prominent member of the Jewish community in Rome, Raffaella di Marzio, director of “Study Center for religious freedom LIREC”. From our side, Giuseppe Cali, in the IAPP session



and Carlo Zonato, in the IAPD session gave the first speech to set the direction to the contents. In the audience several other VIPs, from embassies, civil society, universities and NGO, that could comment and ask questions at the end of each session.

Our amazing team of UPF and WFWP, Carlo Zonato, Elisabetta Nistri, Gabriella Mieli, Franco Ravaglioli and Giorgio Gasperoni, worked hard for its success, contacting several new top level people in the days before the event, so, even those who couldn't come, expressed their interest to receive information about the content and our future programs. We had a web TV and National radio, broadcasting live the event, as well.

It was a success but a big challenge as well. The political situation is quite unstable in Italy and we had to change hall and program several times. Few times we were on the verge to postpone the event, but finally, thanks God, we could make it, even though we were late in organizing invitations and programs.

Another aspect is very much internal and providential. With this conference we wanted to make clear that True Parents view is the solution. Our main concern was to indicate a concrete way to a new stage of the relationship between Europe and Africa. Everybody agrees about the basic principle is "Living for the sake of others", but what does it mean politically, economically, socially in a

substantial way, considering the life of populations?

So, I prepared a lecture based on my political science studies and including True Parents quotes, and tried to give a clear direction. "Africa and Europe are for each other an opportunity and not a problem, as usually people think".

Our common feeling is that we cannot be satisfied anymore only by the appreciation of the people, that usually we receive at the end of our conferences. It easy to see that we are people of good will, but are we really capable to change the world concretely? How can we put True Parents at the center of the democratic world? How can we make decision making processes basing on God and True Parents' view? I strongly feel that we have to develop knowledge and strategies, to indicate the way to such highly demanding goals.

This was just a start, but we could see already the response of this challenge in the heart of the VIPs that participated. They surely struggled, but on the same time they found a new hope. We have to make people passing from the perception of the impossibility to really change things on a fundamental level, to the realm of infinite possibilities. Politicians, religious leaders, everybody know that "living for the sake of others" is correct, but when they engage in decision making, self-centered priorities prevail.

Showing them the way, by which we can prosper on a much higher level, by applying the correct Principle, opens a completely new world in front of them. Basically, we have to lead them out of the realm of the Archangel and enter in the realm of the only begotten True Parents. Among the speakers the priest was the most challenged by our view, especially when was mentioned that even the big churches lost authority to guide the society. So, we should all unite big and small and make a unified front to promote brotherhood, shared prosperity and true justice. The world is suffering to a great extent, and especially religious leader should unite and act together to change the status quo, bringing back God into our societies. IAPD can be a great chance for all religions to really "live for the sake of the world".

Anyway, in the final embrace, all the hearts were melted down by True Parents' love and we all ended being very grateful for the experience we had.

In this conference we moved one small step in this new direction. There is much more to do, but we will not stop until the "exodus" will be completed. The next night after the conference, I had an amazing and very meaningful dream with Father, encouraging us to go ahead and giving some guidance on the proper approach to the providential work. We can only say: Thank you True Parents!

