MONICA MISCALI, I rapporti diplomatici tra Italia e Norvegia nel periodo fascista. Emigrazione, diplomazia culturale e scambi commerciali

This article aims to highlight the diplomatic relations between Italy and Norway during the fascist period until the fall of the regime and the end of the Second World War. In particular, the text aims to reconstruct the main features of Mussolini’s foreign policy, how this was perceived in Norway, as Italy was seen during the rise of fascism and how the Mussolini propaganda machine had tried to influence the image of the fascism in Norway. The relations between the two States will follow the constraints of foreign policy and will be characterized by alternating phases of openness and closure. Therefore, we cannot speak of a single phase in the diplomatic relations between the two countries, but of many. Dominating the relations between the two states will be mainly a cultural diplomacy that - through the numerous events, the trips organized in Italy by the regime that involved many Norwegian intellectuals - shortened the distances between the two countries, showing a new face of Italy, more cultured and more tied to its cultural heritage. Cultural policy was able to open the door to the most profitable commercial exchanges between the two countries. Norway and Italy became good trading partners during Fascism, to the point where many ideological contrasts and differences were pushed aside.

Keywords:

Cultural diplomacy
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