

# Nuova Rivista Storica

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## Abstracts

LUCIANO MONZALI, *Il governo Orlando-Sonnino e le questioni coloniali africane alla Conferenza della Pace di Parigi nel 1919*

The article analyses the Italian Government's attempts to obtain territorial annexations in Eastern and Northern Africa and Italian attitude towards the establishment of the mandate system of the League of Nations during the negotiations at the Paris Peace Conference. Main Italian aim was to convince Great Britain and France to cede territories at the borders of Italian Somaliland and Eritrea so as to allow Italy to encircle Ethiopia and establish Italian supremacy in that part of Africa; Italy wished as well to strengthen its position in Libya. London and Paris refused Rome's demands fearing Italian expansionism in the Horn of Africa and in the Mediterranean. Italian diplomatic and political strategy shows that Italian leaders pursued a traditionalist and old-fashioned colonial policy, little sensitive to changes in international public opinion and power politics provoked by first world war. For instance Italian politicians and civil servants showed little interest towards the idea of establishing forms of international control on the administration of former German and Ottoman colonial territories.