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Abstracts

MARIO DE PROSPO, *La legittimazione dello Stato italiano negli scritti di Guido Dorso. Crisi del liberalismo e avvento del fascismo visti dalla provincia meridionale*

The Italian intellectual Guido Dorso (1892-1947) was an authoritative observer of the political and institutional crisis that happened in Italy within the ending of liberalist age and the beginning of fascist dictatorship.

Starting from his writings and his networks between 1914 and 1925, this essay reconstructs his own point of view on this complex moment of the Italian history. Dorso's analysis took as basis the enduring problem of underdevelopment of Italian southern regions. His own reflections focused in particular in the limits of the Italian State-building and its consequences especially for the Italian South: political elite without turnover and low participation of the masses in the country's political life.

Dorso participated in the debate to support democratic interventionism to bring Italy into the war in 1915. In the years following the Great War, he became an attentive analyst of the success of mass parties in the Italian political scene, illustrating the decay of liberalism and the advent of the dictatorship. He did this first playing a leading role in the lively political press scene in his hometown, and then, becoming an esteemed collaborator of the Turin based liberal-democrat intellectual Piero Gobetti and his publishing project of «Rivoluzione liberale».

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Intellectuals

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Southern Italy

Guido Dorso