



Ressort: Politik

## Italian government crisis as a summer shower

Rome, 12.08.2019 [ENA]

Politics is the art of the possible, but sometimes also of the impossible or at least of the improbable in the country of The Prince by the Italian diplomat and political theorist Niccolò Machiavelli. Granite certainties crumble in the space of a morning.

At the end of a long and difficult day of his 55th birthday, on Thursday 8. August, while his experience as President of the Council of Ministers

seems to have ended, the professor Giuseppe Conte walked in the press room at Palazzo Chigi, in Rome.

He announced that he was going to address the Parliament, because the Chambers only (Salvini alone is not enough) have to dictate the steps of the political crisis. Conte revealed that if Mr. Salvini decided to provoke a political crisis, it is only because the League is by far the best-supported party in Italy at the moment, according to the opinion polls .

The League presented a motion of no confidence in Premier Giuseppe Conte in the Senate on Friday after the party's leader, Deputy Premier and Interior Minister Matteo Salvini, said Thursday that the ruling majority no longer exists and called for early elections.

The motion said there were "too many noes" within the government and referred to the opposition of the League's coalition partner, the 5-Star Movement (M5S), to the TAV Turin-Lyon high-speed rail link project. "Too many noes are bad for Italy, which needs to grow and, therefore, to have new elections soon," the League said. Conte answered saying this has to be the most transparent crisis in Italy.

It is difficult to foresee what will be the outcome of the government crisis triggered by Matteo Salvini. In the meantime, there is a news item that needs to be recorded: the beach tour organized by the Minister of the Interior between selfies and swims, is proving to be less successful than expected.

For a couple of days, at each stage Salvini is forced to confront with protests of his traditional adversaries and of the new and angry ones, that is the supporters of the Five Star Movement.

In this situation PD (Democratic Party) will be decisive: if the Renzi line prevails, it is very likely that a new government will be formed, without the League. Otherwise, early elections in autumn remain the most realistic scenario, since there are no majorities able to support a government without the support of the PD. One thing seems certain: again, in the Italian politics, one has to leave many granitic certainties to go towards something unknown and uncertain, a blank sheet still to be written. Years of political tweets have been wiped out.

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