



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI
DI MILANO



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO
DIPARTIMENTO DI STUDI
SOCIALI E POLITICI

Truth and Justice

NORMATIVE QUESTIONS, POLITICAL PRACTICES

April 13th and 14th, 2011

Sala Lauree, Facoltà di Scienze Politiche
via Conservatorio 7, Milano

Outline and purposes

To consider the relation between truth and justice requires to move on different levels of enquiry and to assume different perspectives of research. To simplify it could be said that the basic question the Conference aims at answering is the following: is it possible to consider truth as a fruitful notion in political theories and political practices?

From this perspective one of the main purposes of the Conference is to look at the relationships between truth and justice well beyond the experience of Truth Commissions. Such a question will be addressed both in normative terms and by referring to practices appealing to truth out of political or juridical intents.

To begin with, it is necessary to investigate the sources of the widespread diffidence and uneasiness toward truth. This requires to assess whether the desire for truth is hazardous and pointless or unavoidable and potentially productive from the perspective of political problems.

The need to go back over the relationship between politics and truth and to, eventually, rehabilitate the positive role of truth, is urged not only by philosophical considerations or

normative insights about the necessity of critically revising the main paradigms of political philosophy. It also springs from the need of reconsidering those practices that cannot but explicitly put into question the relationship between politics and truth.

In fact, focusing on how similar practices understand such a relationship opens up new lines of investigation about this theme.

In particular, the case of the Truth Commissions raises the question concerning the link between truth and justice and between truth and reconciliation.

Such a case also helps enlightening the tensions and the possible arrangements among truth, justice, and agreement and it seems to hint at a conception of justice that cannot avoid reference to truth.

More generally, it seems that the connection between judicial proceedings and truth is a constant through the history of human societies and that it is meant to accommodate fundamental and universal social or political exigencies.

April 13th, 2011

MORNING

9.00: WELCOME ADDRESS

Prof. Marco Maraffi Department of Social and Political Studies
Prof. Maurizio Ferrera Graduate School in Social Economic and Political Sciences

9.30: JUSTICE, TRUTH, TRANSITIONS

Chair
Antonella Besussi University of Milan

TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE AND CONSTITUTION-MAKING PROCESSES

Andrea Lollini University of Bologna

TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE AS LIBERAL NARRATIVE

Ruti Teitel New York Law School

11.30: Coffee Break

Discussant
Claudio Corradetti University of Rome "Tor Vergata"
Chantal Meloni University of Milan

AFTERNOON

15.00: ANOTHER KIND OF JUSTICE?

Chair
Alessandra Facchi University of Milan

DRAWING THE LINE AMNESTY TRUTH COMMISSIONS AND COLLECTIVE DENIAL

Frank Haldemann Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights

WHEN TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE BECOMES RESTORATIVE

Sandrine Lefranc Institut des Sciences sociales du Politique
ISP/CNRS Université Paris Ouest

17.00: Coffee Break

Discussant
Enrico Biale University of Piemonte Orientale, Vercelli
Beatrice Magni University of Milan
Valeria Ottonelli University of Genoa

April 14th, 2011

MORNING

9.30: MEMORY, FORGIVENESS AND THE UNFORGIVABLE

Chair
Franca D'Agostini Politecnico of Turin
University of Milan

THE (IM)POSSIBILITY OF POLITICAL FORGIVENESS

Paige Digeser University of California, Santa Barbara

JUSTICE, PEACE, TRUTH. GERMAN AND ITALIAN WAR CRIMES AND ALLIED JUSTICE IN ITALY: 1945-1948

Michele Battini University of Pisa

11.30: Coffee Break

Discussant
Francesca Pasquali University of Milan
Mario Ricciardi University of Milan
Gabiella Silvestrini University of Piemonte Orientale,
Alessandria

This event is also supported by



Organizing Committee

Antonella Besussi (University of Milan), Beatrice Magni (University of Milan), Francesca Pasquali (University of Milan).
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