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A. Danese, *Il federalismo. Cenni storici e implicazioni politiche (Federalism. Historical and Political Questions)* Città Nuova, Roma 1995

Federalism is not a fashionable word, coming outside from the contemporary debate on the Italian Constitution and on the shape of the State, but it has a history that roots in the Pre-Roman world and that is at the basis of the Western World. Starting from ****Illuminism**** a new concept of federalism had been developed reaching – at the end of the XVIII century – the newborn American democracy and, in the two centuries that followed, various and new European federalist tendencies. With numerous values (peace, freedom, solidarity, harmony, unity and diversity), the Personalist Federalism conjugates flexible shapes of organization of the State and the person: the State does not contrast with an active citizenship. Excellent names of federalist thought, such as P. J. Proudhon, A. Marc, Otto von Gierke, L. Sturzo, are introduced together with less famous names (but equally strong from the point of view of their thought), such as C. Cattanto, G. Salvemini, G. Ferari, A. Olivetti, E. Rossi, L. Einaudi. The text is equipped with wide historical excursus on European federalist models, with an analysis of the Italian debate on new federalist regionalism, with an updated concept of fiscal federalism.

This book is a remarkable attempt of ecology of federalist culture in order to deepen a political debate that appears sometimes run aground in sand banks of demagoguery and opposite factiousness.

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