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RESEARCH ARTICLES – ABSTRACTS AND KEYWORDS

Carlo Bazzani

Tracking a Revolution: History, Identity and Belonging in 1797 Brescia

Studying Brescia after the revolution of March 1797 allows one to understand how the revolutionary historical revival helped in reaffirming a civic identity that was used as a political ground for the new republican regime. French revolutionary ideals laid in the background, giving way to municipal independence at odds with the idea of Italian unity promoted by other patriots during the *Triennio repubblicano*. This essay will analyse the complex relationship between «piccola patria» and «patria italiana», clarifying the political project of the elite which came to power by establishing the Republic of Brescia.

Keywords: Brescia; Municipalism; Independence; Revolution

Stefano Poggi

A Necessary Collaboration: The Italian Clergy's Contribution to the Napoleonic Civil Registration

According to an influential historical interpretation, the relationship between the State and the Church in Napoleonic Italy was a conflictual one. The case of civil registration in the Kingdom of Italy, however, shows how the clergy were crucial actors in the building of the administrative State. Indeed, pro-French governments argued for years over the convenience of involving parish priests in the procedures of civil registration. In practice, though, local authorities had to structurally resort to priests to overcome the weaknesses of the state bureaucracy. Moreover, Italian bishops provided political and ideological support to the project of civil registration throughout the years. What emerges from this case study is a necessary – although partially unwanted – collaboration between state and church, a collaboration that eventually became structural in the Restoration Kingdom of Lombardy-Venetia.

Keywords: Civil Registration, State Building, Napoleonic Italy, Personal Identification, Administrative State

Marco Maria Aterrano

Salus Patriae Suprema Lex. Gun Control and the Repression of the Fasci in Palermo, 1894

In 19th-century Italy, authorities responded to emergency situations by combining martial law and the disarmament of the civilian population. Within this framework,

the repression of the *Fasci dei lavoratori*, the popular movement of protest which spread across Sicily in the early 1890s, represented the apex of a long trajectory and its most accomplished realization. By making use of archival documentation from Rome and Palermo, the article aims to reconstruct the objectives, the operational practices and the results of the Italian State's campaign to disarm the civilian population of Palermo in 1894. It does so with the intention of filling the gap that exists in the otherwise rich literature on the *Fasci*, highlighting at the same time the continuities in the systematic adoption of extraordinary measures in the management of public order in liberal Italy.

Keywords: Political Violence, Urban Unrest, Gun Control, Public Order