

Sicily contention. Separatism, war, mafia



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The Sicilian separatism circulates in the summer of '43 with the creation of the Provisional Committee for the Independence, a representative for the aspirations of the people of Sicily.

In 1944, when the island was returned to Italy by the Allies, and the State responded harshly to the demands of autonomy of its inhabitants, there was an intensification of the struggle which was soon transformed into the opening of an internal front between the Royal Army and “guerrillas” separatists; then begun a secret negotiation between the state and the separatists that would lead to the admission of autonomy.

But the autonomy, not infrequently associated to federalism, is still at the center of a wide-ranging debate, in a historical period characterized by a growing distrust for the state and the birth of the movement for independence. As in Northern Italy, in Sicily begin to spread pro-separatist sympathies.

Antonello Battaglia holds a PhD in European History at Sapienza University of Rome, where he teaches History of International Relations. Among his publications are: *La capitale contesa. Firenze, Roma e la Convenzione di settembre (1864)*, Roma 2013.

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