

SUMMARIES

P. FANTOZZI, *Globalization and localism: at the roots of political transformations.*

The objective of the article is to analyse and describe the recent development in the ways politics is thought of and enacted. The hypothesis is based on the idea that the recent course has been influenced by changes in the relationships between politics and economy, which contribute to shape social interactions between States, organizations and individuals. The article is divided in three parts: in the first some of the meanings of globalization are discussed; in the second, the idea that the meanings of politics depend on the spatial and historical context is illustrated by an example drawn from a modern Western European country; in the third part the issue of the relationship between politics and social regulation is considered.

M. LA ROSA, *Globalization of the market and new concepts of work.*

Another component of the process indicated as globalization is represented by new and emerging cultures, in which all parties involved in the production process take on a new attitude. Having ceased to be oppositive and exclusive, the culture of the labour force and that of entrepreneurs tend to be more convergent and open to discussion. As a result, the labour market has become more respondent to the challengers brought about by globalization. The conceptual hypothesis discussed in the article can be summarized as follows: in the current social, economic and cultural context, workers are more aware of their social and professional responsibility, while entrepreneurs are more committed to guarantee the efficiency and quality standards of productions.

G. PIRZIO AMMASSARI, *Public policies and lobbying in the European Union: the case of the environmental policy.*

The observations contained in this article are based on the outcomes of a study investigating the impact of lobbies on the decisional processes within the European Union. The analysis of procedures and documents and the results of interviews with a number of testimonials highlighted some of mechanisms which lead to the multiplication of lobbies, also sustaining, as an unintended side effect, the already strong groups, characterized by high effectiveness and technical competence. Their activity is particularly relevant in that liminal area which marks the conversion of the high policies, contained in the strategic statements, into the low policies involving the fragmentation of objectives and the definition of technical standards. The case of environmental measures is then considered as a relevant examples of the processes described.

G. ROVATI, *Global politics, development and human rights.*

The boundaries of the Nation-State that characterized the political scenery during modernity, are becoming increasingly meaningless in the contemporary, globalized world. The Nation-State for-

mat is showing its inability to control economic, political and social processes which largely overcome its boundaries. More than ever before sovereignty needs to be delegated to transnational bodies, such as the European Union. The main political outcome of these trends consists of the increasing success of a federalist organization of States. In the context of a cosmopolitan democracy and of a global civil society, a crucial role is to be played by the diffusion of human rights which carry universal values. Such a process is paradoxically hindered by some trends of western thought, in particular radical relativism.

E. SGROI, *City government between localism and globalization.*

The government of cities and of metropolitan areas, on one hand, and local autonomy, on the other, are very distinct concepts at the analytical level. However, they are tightly interwoven in terms of a topic discussed in the article. Globalization underlines the need for substantive changes in the division of competence between central and local governments in big urban areas. The trend of development is turning most big cities into global centres promoting research and innovation while preserving their historical past: these cities must be efficiently and cost-effectively administered. At the same time, in a democratic context, the political participation of citizens also needs to be guaranteed. In this sense the changes at the level of the metropolitan administration must inevitably involve the structure and the functioning of local government.

B. BARBERO AVANZINI, *Globalization, social rules and subjectivity.*

In the article globalization, social rules and subjectivity are considered in their relation with deviance and social control with a special emphasis on juvenile deviance. Apparently the concept of globalization represents a challenge to predominant theories of deviance, such as those of Durkheim and Parsons. Far from determining cultural homogeneity and universal regulations, the process of globalization has brought about legislative pluralism and cultural fragmentation. The loss of a centre at the social level is matched, at the individual level, by a feeling of disorientation, an inability to form one's own identity around a stable nucleus. Subjectivity emerges as the key element, the domain in which deviance in a globalized society might be examined.

A. IZZO, *Globalization and anomie.*

The first objective of this contribution is to identify the meaning, or rather the meanings, of the word «anomie». Although it is one of the most widely used terms in the sociological literature, it is not always clear what its original meaning consists of. Secondly, the most recent meanings of the term will be considered by showing how it can also be applied to some of the problems of contemporary society. Finally an attempt will be made to demonstrate how the old meanings might still be useful to analyse these recent issues; in particular, 'anomie' as indicating a sense of disorientation caused by the lack of internalized norms and, more specifically, as a synonym of a infinite sense of uneasiness.

F. ROSITI, *Morality and the widening of the social horizon.*

The article's main theme concerns our ability of anticipating the development of that particular part of social life indicated as moral life in relation to the widening of the social domains of reference. In other words, the question is: what is going to happen to moral life as the specifically social world is becoming, in front of our eyes, bigger and bigger? Although, at first, it seems very difficult to find indicators representative of moral life, a good solution might be offered by the analysis of public moral debate, an element which can be measured and assessed. In this context the examination of public moral debate shows that the increase in the volume of information available to the public is not matched by an increase in the awareness and in the social knowledge of the populations.