

USE:FUL

- ATRI – ITALY 26th MAY – 1st JUNE 2019



THE FIGHT FOR OUR DEMOCRACY AND EUROPEAN UNION

**ЕВРОПЕЈИ ЛИОН
ДЕМОСКУСА УИД
ДНЕ ЛИГНД ЛОН ОЛК**

ALCIDE DE GASPERI



•EARLY LIFE

Alcide De Gasperi was born on 2 April 1881. He grew up in Trentino. As there were no Italian universities that he could attend with a study grant, he went to Vienna in 1900 to study Philology. There he became active in the Catholic student movement. It was during these student years that he was able to hone the mediating skills that would later become so essential during his politically active years. When he graduated in 1905, he returned to Trentino where he became a reporter for the newspaper "La Voce Cattolica". At this time he also became politically active in the "Unione Politica Popolare del Trentino" and was elected in 1911 to represent Trentino in the Austrian House of Representatives.



•ROLE IN EUROPEAN INTEGRATION

De Gasperi was an enthusiastic proponent of international cooperation. As the man responsible for most of Italy's post-war reconstruction, he was convinced that Italy needed to restore its role on the international stage. To this end he worked to set up the Council of Europe, persuaded Italy to be part of the American Marshall Plan and to join NATO. His strong cooperation with the United States took place at the same time as Italy had one of the largest communist parties in Western Europe.

• **EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY**

During these first steps towards European integration De Gasperi's role has been described as that of a mediator between Germany and France, which had been divided by almost a century of war.

During the final years of his life he was also an inspiring force behind the creation of the European Economic Community. Although he would not live to see this come to fruition - he died in August 1954 – his role was widely acknowledged when the treaties of Rome were signed in 1957. He was motivated by a clear vision of a Union of Europe that would not replace individual states, but would allow for them to complement each other

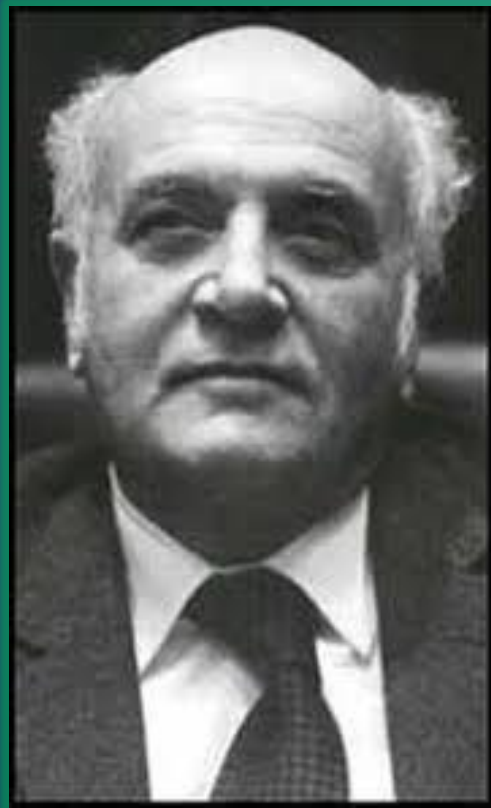


ALTIERO SPINELLI

•REVOLUTIONARY COMUNIST, DEFENDER OF A FEDERAL IDEAL FOR EUROPE

Born in 1907 of socialist parents, the young Altiero was immersed very early in politics and revolutionary ideal. He joined the Italian communist party in 1924, right before Benito Mussolini took over the whole Italian society. As a consequence of his role in the opposition to fascist totalitarianism, he was sentenced in 1927 to 16 years of jail.

Isolation determined the intellectual path of Altiero Spinelli. In jail, he (temporarily) distanced himself from communism, as the Soviet dictatorship was against his ideals. He was eventually excluded from the communist party in 1937. In 1941, in the middle of the world war, he co-wrote with Ernesto Rossi and Eugenio Colorni the famous “Manifesto for a free and united Europe” (better known as the “Ventotene Manifesto”, the name of the island where he was imprisoned).





•A FEDERALIST, RADICAL DEMOCRAT WHO DEMONSTRATED PRAGMATISM

The construction of a democratic Europe in which the citizens had a first-class role was the focus of Altiero Spinelli. This is why he first rejected the European Steel and Coal Community (ECSC) and the European Economic Community (EEC), much too technocratic for him. However, it did not prevent him from demonstrating a certain realism when he became European commissioner between 1970 and 1976 and, most importantly, a Member of the European Parliament between 1976 and 1986. He conducted his last combats within the Strasbourg chamber. Between 1982 and 1984, he developed his project of Treaty on European Union, a project that inspired the Single Act and the Maastricht Treaty. This was a posthumous victory for Spinelli, who died in 1986. He was buried in Ventotene, as a return to the roots of his European commitment.

REALIZED BY:

- **CATERINA**
- **GIULIA**
- **MARCO**
- **MASSIMO**

Istituto Istruzione Superiore "A. Zoli"