



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI  
DI MILANO



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO  
DIPARTIMENTO DI STUDI  
SOCIALI E POLITICI

# Truth and Justice

NORMATIVE QUESTIONS, POLITICAL PRACTICES

april 13<sup>th</sup>, 2011 – april 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Sala Lauree, Facoltà di Scienze Politiche  
via Conservatorio 7, Milano

## Outline and purposes

To consider the relation between truth and justice requires to move on different levels of enquiry and to assume different perspectives of research. To simplify it could be said that the basic question the Conference aims at answering is the following: is it possible to consider truth as a fruitful notion in political theories and political practices?

From this perspective one of the main purposes of the Conference is to look at the relationships between truth and justice well beyond the experience of Truth Commissions. Such a question will be addressed both in normative terms and by referring to practices appealing to truth out of political or juridical intents.

To begin with, it is necessary to investigate the sources of the widespread diffidence and uneasiness toward truth. This requires to assess whether the desire for truth is hazardous and pointless or unavoidable and potentially productive from the perspective of political problems.

The need to go back over the relationship between politics and truth and to, eventually, rehabilitate the positive role of truth, is urged not only by philosophical considerations or

normative insights about the necessity of critically revising the main paradigms of political philosophy. It also springs from the need of reconsidering those practices that cannot but explicitly put into question the relationship between politics and truth.

In fact, focusing on how similar practices understand such a relationship opens up new lines of investigation about this theme.

In particular, the case of the Truth Commissions raises the question concerning the link between truth and justice and between truth and reconciliation.

Such a case also helps enlightening the tensions and the possible arrangements among truth, justice, and agreement and it seems to hint at a conception of justice that cannot avoid reference to truth.

More generally, it seems that the connection between judicial proceedings and truth is a constant through the history of human societies and that it is meant to accommodate fundamental and universal social or political exigencies.

## April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2011

### MORNING

#### 9.00: WELCOME ADDRESS

Prof. Marco Maraffi Department of Social and Political Studies  
Prof. Maurizio Ferrera Graduate School in Social Economic and Political Sciences

#### 9.30: JUSTICE, TRUTH, TRANSITIONS

**Chair**  
Antonella Besussi Università degli Studi di Milano

#### TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE AND CONSTITUTION-MAKING PROCESSES

Andrea Lollini Università degli Studi di Bologna

#### TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE AS LIBERAL NARRATIVE

Ruti Teitel New York Law School

#### 11.30: Coffee Break

**Discussant**  
Claudio Corradetti Università di Roma Tre  
Chantal Meloni Università degli Studi di Milano

### AFTERNOON

#### 15.00: ANOTHER KIND OF JUSTICE?

**Chair**  
Alessandra Facchi Università degli Studi di Milano

#### DRAWING THE LINE AMNESTY TRUTH COMMISSIONS AND COLLECTIVE DENIAL

Frank Haldemann Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights

#### WHEN TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE BECOMES RESTORATIVE

Sandrine Lefranc Institut des Sciences sociales du Politique  
ISP/CNRS Université Paris Ouest

#### 17.00: Coffee Break

**Discussant**  
Enrico Biale Università del Piemonte Orientale, Vercelli  
Beatrice Magni Università degli Studi di Milano  
Valeria Ottonelli Università degli Studi di Genova

## April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011

### MORNING

#### 9.30: MEMORY, FORGIVENESS AND THE UNFORGIVABLE

**Chair**  
Franca D'Agostini Politecnico di Torino  
Università degli Studi di Milano

#### THE (IM)POSSIBILITY OF POLITICAL FORGIVENESS

Paige Digeser University of California, Santa Barbara

#### JUSTICE, PEACE, TRUTH. GERMAN AND ITALIAN WAR CRIMES AND ALLIED JUSTICE IN ITALY: 1945-1948

Michele Battini Università degli Studi di Pisa

#### 11.30: Coffee Break

**Discussant**  
Francesca Pasquali Università degli Studi di Milano  
Mario Ricciardi Università degli Studi di Milano  
Gabiella Silvestrini Università del Piemonte Orientale, Alessandria

This event is also supported by



### Organizing Committee

Antonella Besussi (University of Milan), Beatrice Magni (University of Milan), Francesca Pasquali (University of Milan).  
National Research Program "Truth and Politics" PRIN2008  
Research Group of the University of Milan

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All detailed information at [www.graduateschool.unimi.it/truth\\_justice\\_2011.html](http://www.graduateschool.unimi.it/truth_justice_2011.html)