Have We Lost Italy?

by Gary Fouse



Giorgia Meloni and Matteo Salvini

With this month's resignation of Italian Prime Minster Giuseppe Conte, and Interior Minister Matteo Salvini's calls for a new election, things looked promising in Italy. Salvini, who has become a folk hero in Italy (except on the left), and his Lega party, seemed to be poised to take power in Italy after winning so many regional elections. Salvini's popularity is principally due to his steadfastness in trying to close Italian ports to NGO ships loaded with African and Middle Eastern migrants crossing the Mediterranean. That had brought him the enmity of the EU and European leaders like Angela Merkel of Germany and Emmanuel Macron of France, all of whom want open borders no matter the cost in crimes. terrorism, lives lost, rapes, social breakdown, and everything else that goes with uncontrolled immigration-especially from mostly

Muslim lands.

Conte, for his part, was <u>caught</u> on camera chatting it up with Merkel at an economic meeting in Davos, Switzerland this year, telling her how he wanted to cooperate with Germany and the EU in the immigrant matter, but that Salvini was gumming up the works.

So with Italy ready to turn out for Salvini and the Lega in (predicted) large numbers, the tricksters in the Italian Parliament pulled a fast one, something we in America would call a "smoke-filled room." The Cinque Stelle party (Five Stars) and the Partido Democratico joined together this week to form a coalition and voila! They now were in a position to take over the government. Salvini was out as interior minister, and now it is to Italy's president, Sergio Mattarella, to call on a new prime minister (probably Conte!) to form a new government. Salvini and his allies in the Fratelli d'Italia (Brothers of Italy) party have asked Mattarella to call for new elections.

<u>Salvini</u>, as well as <u>Giorgia Meloni</u>, the leader of *Fratelli d'Italia* held press conferences this week to denounce the cabal. Salvini asked why should Italians bother to vote when the politicians they regularly vote out just "crawl back in through the window."

Unless Mattarella does the right thing, it appears that Italy is headed back into the arms of the EU, France and Germany. Heretofore, the country had stood in solidarity with the Eastern European members of the EU in rejecting mass migration. Now Salvini's security decrees, designed to stop NGO ships from landing migrants in Italian ports, will likely be rescinded. Italy will continue to be swamped with so-called refugees, who are, in reality, mostly young African male fortune-seekers. Already, the country is having to deal with a particularly vicious