

NATO and Nukes are not “Electoral Themes” in Italy

The Art of War

By [Manlio Dinucci](#)

Global Research, February 06, 2018

ilmanifesto.it

Region: [Europe, USA](#)

Theme: [Militarization and WMD, US NATO War Agenda](#)

In-depth Report: [Nuclear War](#)

During the election period the Italian Government remains in charge only for the «handling of current affairs». Nevertheless it is about to take on other binding commitments in NATO on behalf of Italy.

These commitments will be officialized in the North Atlantic Council, taking place in Brussels on February 14-15 at a defense ministers' level. (Roberta Pinotti for Italy).

The agenda has not yet been communicated. But it is already written in the «National Defense Strategy 2018», that the US Defense Secretary Jim Mattis released on January 19. The Pentagon report is top secret this year, unlike the previous ones. Only a summary has been published, enough to make us understand what is going to prepare in Europe.

Accusing Russia of “violating the borders of nearby nations” and “insisting on the veto power over the decisions of its neighbors», the US report states: «The surest way to prevent war is to be prepared to win one». Therefore it is a call on the European allies to «fulfill their commitments to increase defense spending to bolster NATO». Italy has already committed in NATO to bring military spending from the current approximately 70 million euro a day to about 100 million euro a day.

No one, however, talks about it in the electoral debate. As they do not mention the Italian contingent deployed in Latvia near the Russian territory, nor the Italian fighters, *Eurofighter Typhoon*, deployed in Estonia since January 10, a ten minute flight from St. Petersburg. The motivation is to protect the Baltic countries from «Russian aggression».

Silence shades the fact that Italy took over the command of the land component of NATO Response Force, projectable anywhere in the world «under the command of the Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces in Europe» on January 10, always appointed by the President of the United States.

The news of the Italian Navy receiving the first short takeoff and vertical landing fighter, F-35B, on January 26 is ignored. The F-35B personnel will be trained at the Beaufort base of the Marines in South Carolina.

All this and more is kept silenced in the electoral debate. The debate focuses on the economic implications of Italy's membership in the European Union, but consequently ignores the political and military and economic implications of Italy's NATO membership, the Alliance under US command, to which belong 21 (after Brexit) over the 27 EU States.

In this framework the question of the new B61-12 nuclear bombs is not raised. The Pentagon will start to deploy the bombs on the Italian territory in 2020 replacing the current B-61. The Pentagon will set our country on the front line in the increasingly dangerous nuclear confrontation with Russia.

In order to break the cloak of silence on these fundamental issues we should ask the candidates in the parliamentary elections at public meetings, social media and radio-television programs two precise questions (as proposed by the No-War No-Nato Committee): «Are you in favor of Italy's exit from NATO? Are you in favor of the immediate removal of US nuclear weapons from Italy? Answer Yes or No, possibly motivating the reason of your choice».

A third question should be asked to the 243 members of Parliament (among whom the candidate prime minister Luigi Di Maio stands out), signatories of the Ican commitment to have Italy join the UN Treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons: «In accordance with the commitment you signed, will you commit yourself, in the next legislature, to the immediate removal from Italy of US B-61 nuclear bombs, which already violate the Non-proliferation Treaty, and to the non-installation of the B61-12 and other nuclear weapons?».

Article in italian :



[Nato e nukes non sono temi elettorali](#)

The original source of this article is ilmanifesto.it
Copyright © [Manlio Dinucci](#), ilmanifesto.it, 2018

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: [Manlio Dinucci](#)

About the author:

Manlio Dinucci est géographe et journaliste. Il a une chronique hebdomadaire "L'art de la guerre" au quotidien italien il manifesto. Parmi ses derniers livres: Geocommunity (en trois tomes) Ed. Zanichelli 2013; Geolaboratorio, Ed. Zanichelli 2014; Se dici guerra..., Ed. Kappa Vu 2014.

Disclaimer: The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants

permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: publications@globalresearch.ca

www.globalresearch.ca contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: publications@globalresearch.ca