

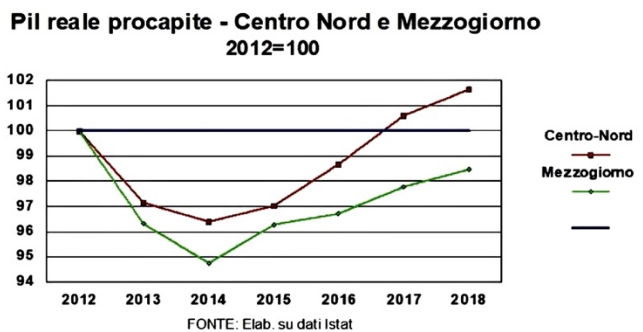
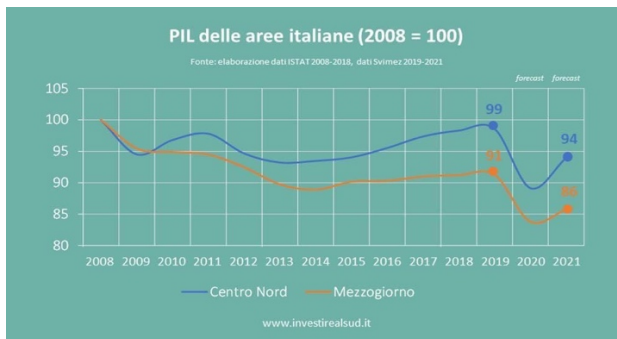
# *An Updated overview about Economic Situation in Sicily*

by Prof. Gaetano Armao, Councillor for Economy of the Sicilian Regional Government

1. As of today, Sicily has to deal not only with a very serious pandemic that continues dramatically to reap victims dispensing disease and suffering but also with the most serious economic recession in its history, which has brought real GDP to the level of 1985 (-7.5 billion € of GDP in 2020).

The framework in which the last *Update Note to the Regional Economic and Financial Document* was drawn up is very different from that in which the document was drafted in July, which foresaw mitigated, albeit more lasting, effects of the post-pandemic economic crisis in Sicily which, added to that of 2007-10, still much remained to be recovered due to short-sighted national policies in Southern Italy (-12% on 2008).

The following graphs reveal trends.



While economic activity suffered a major shock during the first half of the year, in the third quarter, with the gradual lifting of the containment measures, a growing recovery phase began. However, the serious recrudescence of the pandemic in recent weeks, with new public health measures introduced by national authorities to limit its spread, is at the origin of increasing and serious disruptions.

The *Update Note to the State's Economic and Financial Document* (NaDEF) 2020 intended to outline the organic and coherent strategy to support the relaunch of growth and employment in a dimension of transformation of the country and, at the same time, put public debt on a credible and sustainable path of structural decline.

A perspective that, if it is affected by the period in which the document was drawn up, is nonetheless optimistic in some ways, outside of which a new serious pandemic crisis could have taken place, which was indeed considered inevitable by many, and unfortunately reached the South of Italy too, but which nevertheless highlights the inevitable passage from the phase of protecting the economic and social tissue to that of relaunching growth, also in the light of the decisive strategy for recovery and resilience facility developed by the European institutions.

This *Update Note*, compared to the document approved by the Council and examined by the Sicilian Regional Assembly (ARS), has some structural differences that take into account the critical issues, representing the economic situation on the basis of analysis and elaboration of a prospective description and its possible evolution.

In relation to this different perspective, the three-year reference period (2021-2023) has been reintroduced, with a new method of comparison between trend forecast (with current legislation and unchanged policies) and planning forecast (including intervention measures), which had remained inapplicable in the April release of the Document.

The result is a picture that although the revision of the estimates determined by the change in the policy profile resulting from the NaDEF approved by the state parliament, also intends to introduce elements of caution, especially with regard to the extent of the effects of the recovery on the regional economy.

The high level of uncertainty that characterizes the economic forecasts and the main risk arise from the heavy aggravation of the spread of the pandemic, which has imposed and imposes stricter safeguards on public health, with inevitable consequences and a more serious and persistent impact on the economy.

This diversified and changing context has led to a scenario analysis focused on two alternative perspectives of evolution of the pandemic's effects: a more favorable one, directly descending from the state NaDEF<sup>1</sup> and to which we must legally adhere in the preparation of this Note, summarized by a more prudent one on the related multi-year economic impact. This is because there is a risk that the negative dynamics triggered by the pandemic and related safeguards, although accompanied by mitigation initiatives such as subsidies, refreshments, support for families and work, do not prevent the profoundly negative effects on workers and businesses.

In line with this overview, in the forecasts for Sicily on the *trend GDP*, if the trend for the current year (from -7.8% to -8.0%) emerges a worsening of the trend for the current year (from -7.8% to -8.0%), in line with what was already projected in the report to the ARS last year, there is, however, a more robust rebound in growth forecasts for 2021-2023 (starting next year): +5.0%, instead of +3.4% and +3.5% in 2022, while the *programmatic GDP* shows +7.6% in 2021 and +4.7 in '22).

A more cautious forecast (*risk scenario*) linked to the possible continuation of the second wave of pandemic contagion - and which we intend to propose for a more complete forecast - shows a contraction in GDP for 2020 of 9.5% and a slower recovery in *trend GDP* in the following period. Although in this case, the effects of the policies of development, recovery and resilience by the state and regional governments, with an increase in GDP in the three-year period 2021-23 of 16.3%, would allow not only to recover what was lost in 2020, but even much of the contraction of the last decade, thus bringing the Sicilian economy back to the highest levels of growth.

According to the European Commission's Autumn Economic Forecast<sup>2</sup>, the resumption of the COVID-19 pandemic, interrupts the short summer economic recovery and exacerbates the uncertainty, representing a huge shock for the world economy and the EU economies, causing very serious social and economic consequences. The worsening of the epidemiological situation determines that the growth projections in the forecast period are characterized by an extremely high degree of uncertainty and risk. Consequences that have even more significant effects in economically weak regions - such as Sicily - to which the vulnerability of the economic environment is added the limited ability to react in terms of resilience and recovery at the end of the effects of the pandemic.

While Banca d'Italia has highlighted that since last March, after two months of substantial stagnation, employment has suffered the most significant consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic emergency and the consequent measures to suspend activities. The drastic contraction in economic activity was further aggravated in the second quarter: 1.2 per cent in the North, 1.1 in the Centre and 4.4 in the South with a rapid drop in hours worked<sup>3</sup>.

These negative dynamics, as is known, have penalized and still penalize the South and the Islands, Sicily in particular, mainly due to the different productive structure of the

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<sup>1</sup> SVIMEZ 2020-21 forecasts <https://lnx.svimez.info/svimez/previsioni-regionali-svimez-2020-2021/>

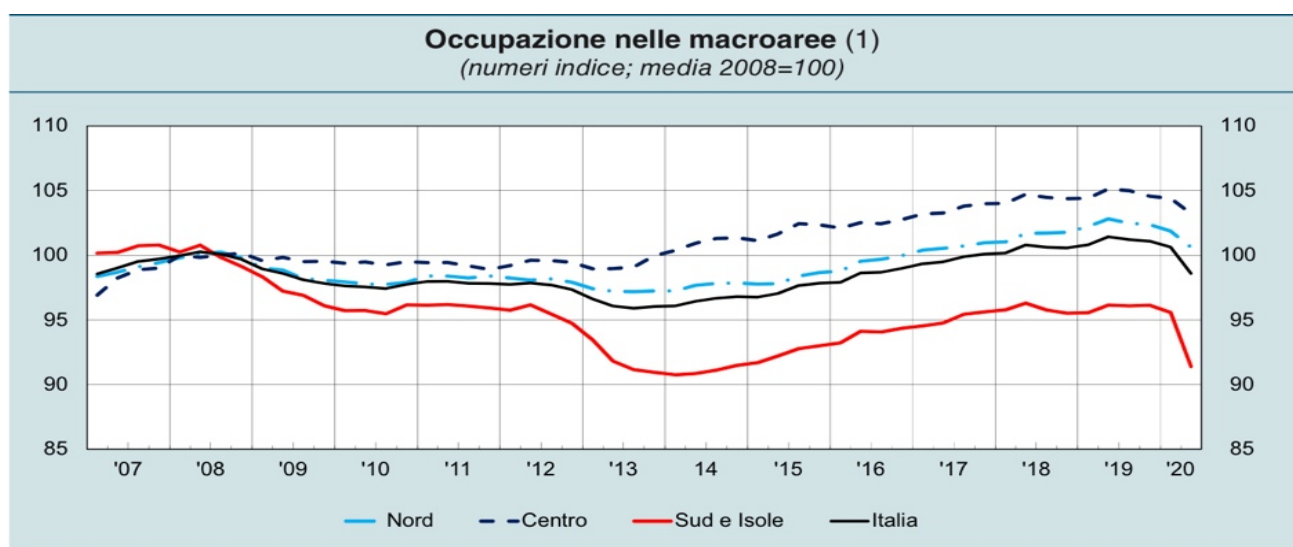
<sup>2</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/italy/news/20201105\\_previsioni\\_economiche\\_d\\_autunno\\_2020\\_it](https://ec.europa.eu/italy/news/20201105_previsioni_economiche_d_autunno_2020_it)

<sup>3</sup> BANCA D'ITALIA, *Economie regionali. L'economia delle regioni italiane Dinamiche recenti e aspetti strutturali*, 11/2020, <https://www.bancaditalia.it/pubblicazioni/economie-regionali/2020/2020-0022/20-22-eco-regioni.pdf>

macro-area, more oriented towards activities that have been more affected by the effects of the post-pandemic crisis (tourism and services related to the cultural heritage), and the different morphology of the labor market, where there is a more marked presence of temporary employment contracts.

By contrast, in permanent employment the constraints on layoffs and the use of wage subsidies have limited the impact of the crisis. The decrease in the intensive margin, also due to the flexibility of the types of work and the greater incidence of distance working in the North, has also been more pronounced in the South and the Islands. From this data the State must start not only in providing the necessary measures of rebalancing and equalization, but especially in developing infrastructure and investments to be included in the *National Plan for Recovery and Resilience* (NRRP).

This plan represents the last opportunity to face and start to solve the economic, social and territorial gap that has afflicted Italy for 160 years.



Fonte: Istat, *Rilevazione sulle forze di lavoro*; cfr. nelle Note metodologiche la voce *Rilevazione sulle forze di lavoro*.  
(1) Dati trimestrali destagionalizzati aggregati per tre macroaree: Nord, Centro e Sud e Isole.

2. The severe economic crisis related to the COVID-19 pandemic, which is global before continental and national, requires effective and far-sighted measures that - at the same time - can respond to the demand for support of families and economic categories most affected by the pandemic measures but prepare the recovery and the future through investments and strategic choices.

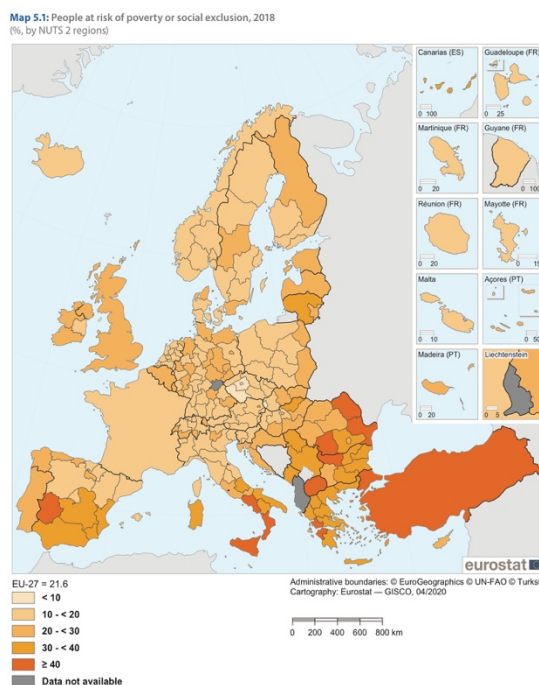
Europe that we knew until the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic is gone, while the foundations are being laid, among difficulties and contradictions, for the birth of a new Europe that has found its own proposal in the *Recovery and resilience facility* and that will be outlined by the *Conference on the future of Europe*, designed to strengthen the participation of citizens and territories in EU democracy beyond the elections and to ensure that their voice is heard and understood better.

COVID-19 pandemic has caused and is still producing extremely severe economic and social effects, triggering the most serious crisis since World War II, much bigger than the economic and financial crisis of 2007-10. The COVID-19 crisis has severely tested the ability of European states and the Union to cope with large and unexpected shocks. A multidimensional crisis whose induced effects are influencing the growth capacity of the EU and its Member States, while aggravating macroeconomic imbalances and, with good probability, creating new ones.

Italy has faced the dramatic economic and health crisis with determination, and Sicily has shown in recent months to have good resistance and strong civic sense, despite the risks related to immigration, but especially the dramatic and lasting economic effects of the pandemic on an island with a vulnerable and weak economy that *Eurostat* has indicated among the most exposed to the risk of poverty in the EU<sup>4</sup>.

Italian institutions have arranged, also thanks to the relevant exemption granted at European level, a decisive reaction at both state and regional level<sup>5</sup>, although the worsening of the spread of the pandemic and the related safeguard measures risk to frustrate its scope.

According to the data of the *ECONomic Bulletin COVID-19 impact and response measures* (n. 8), of the *Economic Commission of the European Committee of the Regions*<sup>6</sup>, the Sicilian Regional Government is among the first European regions to have adopted the broadest range of actions to combat the post-pandemic economic crisis. Among these are: establishment of credit lines on advantageous terms, expansion of loan guarantee schemes<sup>7</sup>, support systems for granting loans at preferential or non-repayable rates<sup>8</sup>, exemption, discount, deferred or split regional taxes<sup>9</sup>, additional transfer to local authorities<sup>10</sup>. This analysis was confirmed by the *Eurobarometer 2020 on regional and local policies* by the same Committee, which indicated the measures adopted by the Sicilian Regional Government as a European reference for differentiation and relevance<sup>11</sup> and for the simplification of liquidation procedures<sup>12</sup>.



The EU, through the Commission, has shown that it is looking to the future by launching measures of remarkable financial impact and proving capable of overcoming initial national selfishness. The severe economic crisis caused by the pandemic and the measures to combat its spread must be tackled and overcome by preparing for the future. The forecasts for the recovery in the three-year period 2021-23 are unanimous and focus on the extraordinary measures that will be included in the NRRP, but also on the definition of the new European programming and that of the national cohesion policy 2021-27.

To this regard the Sicilian Regional Government has requested, together with the other Regional Authorities, that:

- a) agreements for the reprogramming of *ERDF* and *ESF* 2014-2020 O.P. and new development and cohesion plans in the light of the agreements made with the State should urgently lead to the recovery of expenses for health emergency;

<sup>4</sup> Eurostat regional yearbook 2020. *Regional diversity in the EU – how does your region fare?*, 140/2020 - 18 September 2020, <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/2995521/11337697/1-18092020-AP-EN.pdf/bfd412a2-0bba-7387-a8ab-b387364d2044>

<sup>5</sup> In this sense, the action of the Region has moved with the Regional Stability Law 2020-22 (No. 9 of 2020) and its implementing measures.

<sup>6</sup> [https://cor.europa.eu/en/news/Documents/ECONomic\\_Bulletin-08.pdf](https://cor.europa.eu/en/news/Documents/ECONomic_Bulletin-08.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> Through “*Sezione Sicilia*” of the Fondo centrale di garanzia. But also to the bank credit moratoriums extended to regional financial institutions.

<sup>8</sup> Think of the measures under the “*Fondo Sicilia*” at IRFIS-Finsicilia S.p.a. at IRFIS-Finsicilia S.p.a. and disbursed through financial intermediaries ( “*Misura straordinaria di liquidità*”, Confidi, Crias ed Ircac, and also to the forms of interest-free financing with the EIB.

<sup>9</sup> The reference is to the exemptions for maritime concessions, the reduction of the car taxes, the deferment of payments to the regional treasury, until the facilitation measures just launched with the “*Resto in Sicilia*” programme.

<sup>10</sup> Think of the Equalization Fund for Municipalities, which has almost doubled the annual budget transferred from the Region.

<sup>11</sup> <https://cor.europa.eu/en/our-work/Pages/EURegionalBarometer-2020.aspx>

<sup>12</sup> The measures to simplify the control procedures of the central accountancy offices of the councillorships adopted by various circulars of the Department of Economics and General Accounting are recalled.



- b) timely involvement in the preparation of the new programming cycle 2021-27, which must be defined in the light of the negotiations at EU level for the Cohesion Policy 2021-27, and the progress of the Partnership Agreement and the complementarity of the timing of the *ReactEU* and the *NRRP* with the 2021-2027 programming, with the urgent need to strengthen with an appropriate fund the staff of the Regions;
- c) a commitment on the issue related to the simplification of procurement regulations (Italian Procurement Laws) and to the removal of the limitation to subcontracting that has been found to be in conflict with European directives.

Unfortunately, the limited involvement of the Regions must be noted so far, not only in financial terms, but also in the development of measures for recovery.

From the financial point of view, it should be noted that unlike other countries characterized by a regional structure such as Spain (which has supported its Autonomous Communities by providing € 16 billion) and Germany (€ 13 billion) where all measures had been carefully coordinated with the *Länder*, in Italy the central government has limited itself to cover the lower revenues of the Regions by allocating about € 6 billion. But what seems more relevant is the lack of involvement so far guaranteed to the Regions which, if we exclude a purely informative activity, are not adequately involved in the selection of projects to be included in the *National Recovery and Resilience Plan*.

The Conference of Italian Regions and Autonomous Provinces has presented requests for greater involvement, consistent with the Italian National Constitution which entrusts economic development to the State and Regions<sup>13</sup>. In the document, drafted on the Recovery Fund, they noted that the investment priorities indicate that they are configured in line with the strategic assets to be developed within the *NRRP*.

The *challenge* with regard to the full use of the recovery funds and those already allocated by current legislation for investment expenses, must be addressed with the new model of multi-level development for the growth of territories in full inter-institutional collaboration. This is a general trend in regional systems and in many federal systems, the pandemic increases conflicts between the federal and sub-national levels or even between sub-national units with regard to the competences and measures adopted<sup>14</sup>.

In the same way, despite the branched guidelines, it is not clear how the Plan intends to address the recovery and with what measures of cohesion and territorial rebalancing, in particular, in a country strongly divided on the economic, social and territorial level as Italy. Just think of the economic and social gap between the North and South of the country, which has increased dramatically in recent years (over € 60 billion per year withdrawn from the economy of the South<sup>15</sup>), but also the condition of insularity, one of the essential elements for cohesion policies and territorial rebalancing<sup>16</sup>.

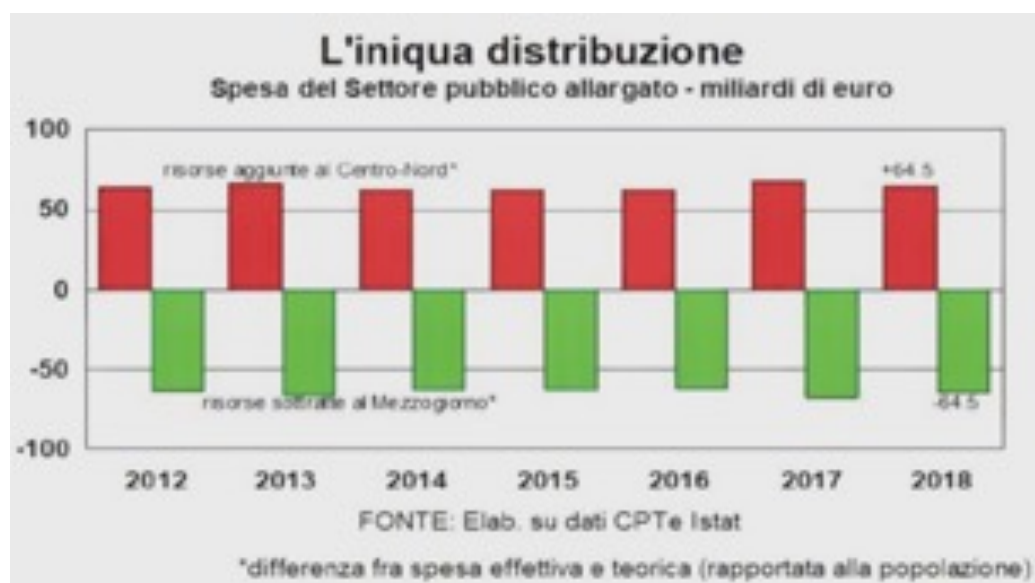
<sup>13</sup> Regions are proposed for the role of "*hub*" as implementing bodies, in particular, at the level of provinces and municipalities, for all public investments in order to meet the time required by Europe - reforms 4 years - investments 7 years. In both cases it is from the EU that an impact on the economy and employment is expected. Already in the opinion on the NRP the Regions and Autonomous Provinces have expressed their candidacy as implementing and programming body that, in light of the amount of investment required, the timing and size of the objectives set by the *European Recovery and Resilience Facility* seems the only possible way to make the required reforms feasible without running the risk of losing resources for the economic and social growth of the country.

<sup>14</sup> In Italy, as in other European regional or federal states, the state of emergency has triggered phenomena of: (a) prevalence of the central executive over parliamentary organs, (b) prevalence of small or monocratic organs over large collegiate organs, and (c) prevalence of centralism over regionalism or federalism. It should also be noted that in Italy, following the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, an attempt at centralization in contrast with constitutional principles is underway.

As in Austria, where the Federal Parliament has issued (and continues to issue) the COVID legislation, which not only amended dozens of federal laws and created new laws, but also amended the Federal Constitution with the aim, among other things, of centralizing competences. In several areas, such as energy law or procurement law, the *Länder* have lost some competences, which is in line with the general trend towards centralisation in this country A. GAMPER (2020), *Austrian Federalism and the Corona Pandemic*, in <http://www.foederalismus.at/blog/austrian-federalism-and-the-corona-pandemic> 237.php

<sup>15</sup> Available at [http://www.regione.sicilia.it/delibereggiunta/file/giunta/allegati/N.440\\_22.10.2020.pdf](http://www.regione.sicilia.it/delibereggiunta/file/giunta/allegati/N.440_22.10.2020.pdf)

<sup>16</sup> *Manifesto for european Islands of the Regional Intergroup on Insularity* of the European Committee of the Regions, <https://cpmr-islands.org/uncategorized/the-regional-intergroup-on-insularity-of-the-coradopts-its-manifesto/5544/>



Condition of insularity for which the Sicilian Regional Government Council has fought at national level, obtaining direct recognition by the central government in the agreements signed, but also providing, in accordance with constitutional jurisprudence, to identify the *costs of insularity*: over 6.5 billion of hidden taxation for citizens and businesses which the State must take into account in the definition of financial relations with the Region.

Italy is the country with the most dramatic failure of integration at national level in Western Europe, with a poor effectiveness of integration policies pursued in the last 50 years<sup>17</sup> and this is emblematically confirmed by the level of young people who do not work, do not study and do not receive training (neet).

This unfair dichotomy is one of the main causes of Italy's very low growth, together with social and economic imbalances that are unparalleled in other countries of the Eurozone. Moreover, due to the migration to the North (not only of Italy) of highly qualified human resources, the South continues to weaken<sup>18</sup>.

The gap between North and South is persistent despite the substantial financial transfers intended to promote the socio-economic development of this part of Italy. The funds are provided by the national budget for investment and the European Structural Funds. The territorial disparities are a serious issue, with very serious consequences for the competitiveness of the country, which undermine the consideration of Italy in the EU.

The national vision is entangled in descriptions that emphasize traits of persistent socio-economic dualism. Many reforms, resulting from the spirit of modernization of the last thirty years, have been designed to facilitate the adaptation of the system to global competition and market pressures, to strengthen the capacity of the state in planning and developing new government strategies<sup>19</sup>.

<sup>17</sup> My contribute (2017), *European cohesion principle and the institutional and economic development of an insular region: the case of Sicily*, [http://www.ambientediritto.it/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/European-principle-and-the-institutional- and-economic-the-case-of-Sicily\\_Armao.pdf](http://www.ambientediritto.it/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/European-principle-and-the-institutional- and-economic-the-case-of-Sicily_Armao.pdf)

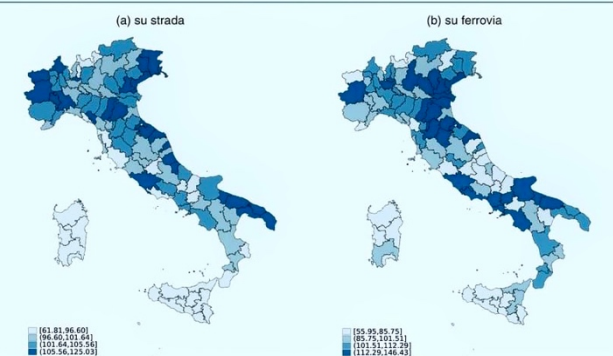
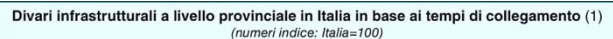
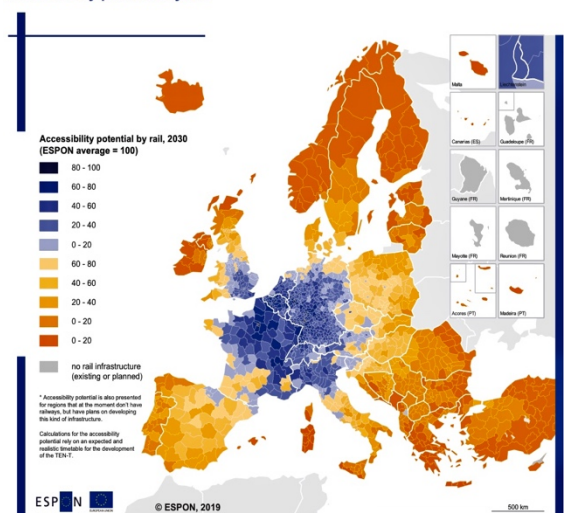
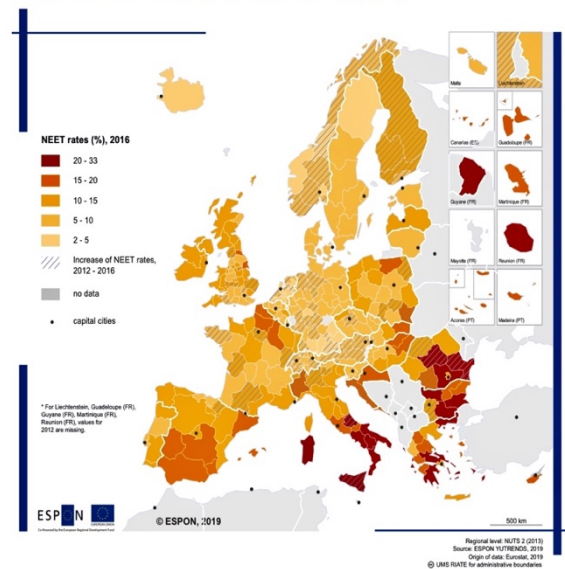
<sup>18</sup> V. DANIELE, P. MALANIMA (2017), *Regional wages and the North-South disparity in Italy after the Unification*, <https://www.siecon.org/sites/siecon.org/files/oldfiles/uploads/2017/04/Daniele.pdf>, E. FELICE, M. VASTA (2015), *Passive modernization? The new human development index and its component in Italy's regions (1871-2007)*, in *European Review of Economic History* 19, 44 ss.; G. VECCHI (2017), *Measuring Wellbeing: A History of Italian Living Standards*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

<sup>19</sup> E. FELICE (2018), *The socio-institutional divide. Explaining Italy's regional inequality over the long run*, <https://www.carloalberto.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/no.503.pdf>

On the contrary, the dichotomy is growing, as SVIMEZ pointed out in its last report. From this point of view Italy is a *divided country* and its South is defined "a land at risk of human industrial desertification where people continue to move, have no children and become poor", without support, this involutive process can lead to a situation of irreversible underdevelopment<sup>20</sup>.

Such cultural and economic division finds its roots in elements of historical, geographical, economic and cultural character, which have contributed to the most distinctive character of Southern Italy. However, it is clear that the *Next Generation EU* launched by the EU Commission is the last opportunity to solve "the biggest failure of the Italian State"<sup>21</sup>, after 160 years of national unification with a significant cohesion response, also counteracting the effects induced by the pandemic of widening the North-South divide.

After Brexit, Italy is the European state with the highest number of island citizens (6.5 million). Well, in the documents drafted so far by the Italian Government, the main work that could have a positive impact is not yet supported, but doubtful: the Bridge over Messina Strait, a project strongly desired by Sicily and Calabria and now requested by all Italian Regions. Being one of the most important European infrastructures, in line with the green new deal for the positive influences on the environment, the bridge is not only a practicable project, but above all an essential step to complete the Scandinavian-Mediterranean European corridor<sup>22</sup>.



Fonte: elaborazioni su dati Openrouteservice

(1) I cartogrammi raffigurano un indicatore infrastrutturale calcolato come differenza fra una misura di accessibilità basata sui tempi di collegamento e una misura di accessibilità basata sulle distanze fisiche; le soglie della scala dei colori corrispondono ai quartili; cfr. nelle Note metodologiche la voce *Indice infrastrutturale basato sui tempi di collegamento*.

<sup>20</sup> SVIMEZ, *Report Mezzogiorno 2019*, <http://lnx.svimez.info/svimez/il-rapporto/>

<sup>21</sup> S. CASSESE (2016), *Il maggiore fallimento dello Stato unitario*, in <https://www.storiairreer.it/sites/default/files/convegni/2016%2011%2012%20cassese%201l%20maggiore%20fallimento%20dello%20Stato%20unitario.pdf>

<sup>22</sup> The Scandinavian-Mediterranean Corridor represents a crucial north-south axis for the European economy. The corridor extends from Finland and Sweden in the north to the island of Malta in the south, and includes Denmark, northern, central and southern Germany, the industrial heart of northern Italy and the ports of southern Italy. [https://ec.europa.eu/transport/themes/infrastructure/scandinavian-mediterranean\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/transport/themes/infrastructure/scandinavian-mediterranean_en)

Unlike previous crises, the post-COVID-19 crisis has been symmetrical in hitting Member States, but the impact will further aggravate economic, social and territorial divisions, especially in those regions where the situation before the crisis was already more fragile and where the prospects for recovery are compromised due to geographical disadvantages and greater difficulties in benefiting from the common market<sup>23</sup>. It is therefore unavoidable, at this stage of the recovery of measures to combat the pandemic, to think about saving the Sicilians first of all from contagion and at the same time from the devastating economic consequences. This must involve immediate compensation to those who have had to close their businesses or lost their jobs, as requested by the Regional Government.

In terms of economic-financial balance, even in a particularly critical context, the positive judgments of the rating agencies (most recently Moody's<sup>24</sup>) should be mentioned, which have confirmed the forecasts of regional economic-financial stability, pointing out the reduction in debt (which fell below € 7 billion), accompanied by a drastic reduction in cost, the progressive increase in liquidity over the two-year period (well over € 1 billion), with a more comfortable situation of government revenue.

In this sense, the multiple agreements with the State have also been decisive in this regard, which have, in just one year, led to the decennial settlement of the deficit (art. 7 of Legislative Decree no. 158 of December 27, 2019), to the full recognition of the coverage of the expected lower revenue for 2020 (art. 111, May 19, 2020, no. 34), the extension of the mortgage deferral for 2020 (art. 42 of Legislative Decree no. 104 of August 14, 2020), but also the important exception to the use of the administrative surplus (art. 33 of Legislative Decree no. 137 of October 28, 2020).

It should also be noted that the effects of the current pandemic, also thanks to these agreements, will have a limited impact on the budget forecasts for 2020/2021, further demonstrating the judgement of financial strength. The considerations on the improvement of the administrative management of the Region through budget policies defined as "credible and restructuring", ensuring transparency and detail in the information through open data, also underlined the importance of the financial autonomy deriving from the Statute of which negotiations are being defined for full implementation with the State, achieving important recognition of higher revenues for Sicily.

Sicily has to face an epochal challenge that it will be able to accept and win only if it deploys, as it did in other historical events, its strengths and talents. This requires politicians, trade unions, trade associations, universities, professions, and private and social workers to make a choral effort and moral tension without which it will be difficult to react with the necessary determination.

In this context, essential leverages for the recovery of Sicily are: digitalization, simplification and reorganization of the public administration on which the regional government is working.

On digitization, in three years, the expenditure has gone from 1.5 million € to 283 million €, reaching 88% of the European allocation (321 million €) and turning Sicily into one of the most digitized regions<sup>25</sup>. This will be even more evident for the activities that the fight against the pandemic requires remotely (smart working, digital education, etc.), while

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<sup>23</sup> The EU Commission recently stressed that "Member States are invited to detail the processes and structures created at national and regional level to ensure complementarity and coordination of the management of the various sources of EU funding", [https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/3\\_en\\_document\\_travail\\_service\\_part2\\_v3\\_en\\_0.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/3_en_document_travail_service_part2_v3_en_0.pdf).

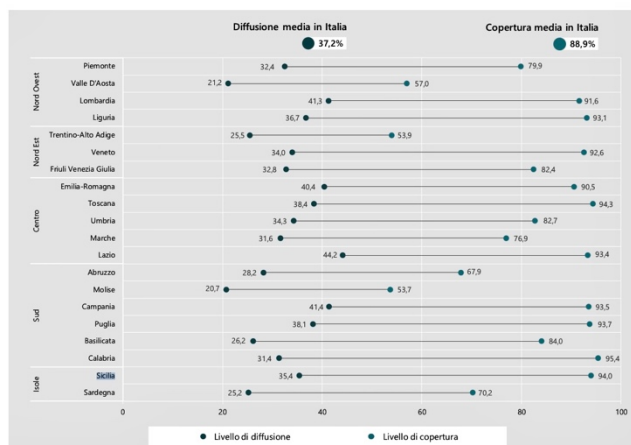
Recovery strategies must therefore be based on local and regional needs and opportunities and rely on partnerships between business, public administration and civil society. Therefore, for Italy, as for any other European country, a centralized approach by States in the elaboration and definition of the recovery strategy must be considered unacceptable, not only in contrast with the principles of European law, but also with domestic constitutional law.

<sup>24</sup> Cfr. <https://www.moody.com/credit-ratings/Sicily-Autonomous-Region-of-credit-rating-600049263>.

<sup>25</sup> The reference is to the mix of diffusion level and coverage level, <https://www.agcom.it/documents/10179/19267334/Allegato+6-7-2020+1594044962316/36cac229-dcac-4468-9623-46aabd47964f?version=1.1>.

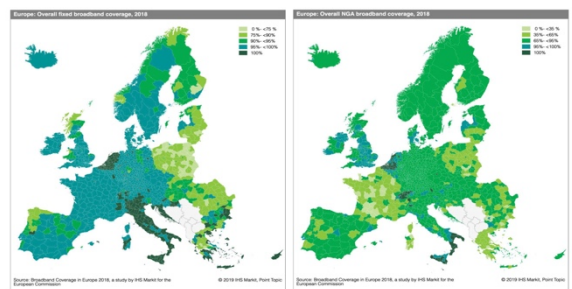


now the commitment with the competent state institutions (MISE) is on the allocation of vouchers for connections and tablet or computer buying. Digitization is a fundamental axis to combat the migration of young human resources, especially those highly specialized, also through policies of incentives to return ("Sicily working") and to attract "new citizens and entrepreneurs in Sicily", including through the tax development.



Fonte: elaborazioni su dati aziendali (per la diffusione) e dati utilizzati dalla Commissione Europea per il calcolo del DESI, indicatore 1b1 Copertura della banda larga veloce - NGA (per la copertura)

Overall fixed broadband and NGA broadband coverage by region.

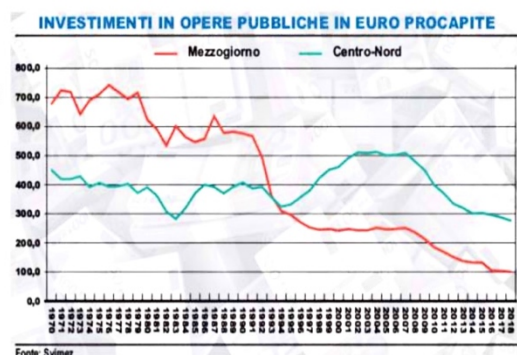


DESI Report 2019 - Connectivity



The administrative streamlining, with an innovative legislation (l.r. n. 7 of 2019 and l.r. 13 of 2020), while d.d.l. n. 774 on the digital transformation (cyber first) of the regional public administration. and the administrative strengthening, starting from the turnover, of obsolete organizational structures, are decisive elements to support the development.

The Note, together with the DEFR of which it is the update, is intended to correspond to the provisions of the law in programmatic terms, but also to offer elements that can be the basis for the relaunch of the largest Region of Italy, the frontier of Europe, a patchwork of millenary cultures, but also a platform for innovation, elements that are the engine of economic and social progress that needs a great redemption in terms of infrastructure investment, but also immaterial on human capital. The increase in spending capacity for investments is, and will be even more, an essential choice to ensure the country's recovery, but absolutely essential for the South and Sicily.



Fonte: Svimez

