

## **The evolution of the relations between Italian antifascists and US Intelligence agents from World War II to the Early Cold War: the time dimension in Alfredo Pizzoni and Allen Dulles ego-networks.**

How do you deal with the dimension of time when one of the key questions in your historical research is to understand how two interconnected ego networks evolved over the course of a decade? The paper will show how I have tried to answer this question in my PhD dissertation, which is about the political legacies of the relations between Italian anti-fascists and U.S. intelligence agents during the early Cold War. I have developed this theme through the case study of the relationship between the American Allen Dulles, chief of the OSS station in Bern during World War II and director of CIA in the postwar years, and the Italian Alfredo Pizzoni, president of the Comitato di Liberazione Nazionale Alta Italia during the war and president of Credito Italiano Bank in the postwar period. While I followed the evolution of their relationship from a traditional historical, qualitative perspective, I used parallel network analysis to understand what social context framed it. Time was a critical factor in determining how to structure my analysis. In fact, as I will explain in more detail later in the paper, I initially decided to divide it into two parts: one related to the wartime period and the other to the postwar period. The reason for this decision was not only the fact that the end of the war marked a profound change in the biographies of the two protagonists and in the context in which their political actions took place, but also the different nature of the available sources for the two periods and thus the different nature of the data sets created for the network analysis.

In the first part of the dissertation, devoted to the World War years II, I reconstructed how Dulles developed his connections with the anti-fascist resistance in Switzerland and northern Italy, while Pizzoni did the same with Anglo-American officials. The relational dataset was therefore based on OSS reports sent from and received at the OSS station in Bern, where Dulles was active. Secondly the dataset was based on Pizzoni's personal papers and diaries related to his role as president of the CLNAI. The network analysis in this part of the dissertation traces the development of Pizzoni's and Dulles's networks continuously from 1943 to 1945, with the analysis divided into three time periods.

The second part of the dissertation, dedicated to the postwar years, shows how the relationship between Dulles and Pizzoni persisted and had political implications that led to the development of a project of anti-communist covert propaganda to be disseminated in Italy. In the same part of the dissertation, I also focus on the fact that Pizzoni and Dulles, who had met in Switzerland in the context of the war and underground political activities, shared a completely different social environment in the postwar years, linked to the financial elites of Wall Street. For this part of the dissertation, the network analysis mainly used Pizzoni's diaries, which refer to three trips to the United States in 1949,

1951, and 1953, as well as the records of some cultural transatlantic associations in which both Dulles and Pizzoni were involved. The network analysis that refers to the postwar years does not show a continuous evolution, but a picture of some specific moments.

The historical network analysis allowed me to exploit the full potential of the available sources, using graphs when possible and integrating qualitative analysis in a meaningful way. In this way, I was able to explore the nature of the relationships that emerged from the collaboration between the Italian Resistance and the American OSS during the war and continued in the postwar years. I found that, in the case of the Pizzoni-Dulles network, these relationships were linked to the environment of financial elites and transatlantic cultural associations associated with what historians call the Cultural Cold War.

In the paper, I will discuss these aspects and focus on how the use of time was functional for my network analysis to answer my research questions, but at the same time dictated by the nature of my sources.

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