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

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Graphs and Networks in the fourth dimension – time and temporality as categories of connectedness
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2) Introduction of HNA and graphs in my study
3) Historical sources and temporalities
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RESEARCH QUESTION

Did the relations between **Italian antifascists** and **US agents** persisted and had a **political impact** on the **postwar US-Italian relations**?

Methodology: case study and HNA

- Case-study of the relation between Allen Dulles and Alfredo Pizzoni from WWII to the early Cold War.
- **Relational approach** to reconstruct the two protagonists’ **political networks** and **their evolution** in the time period analysed (1943-1956).
- Research built around **individual** and **institutional relations**, the one between the **main dyad** (qualitative analysis) and the **ones in their ego networks** (network analysis and graphs).
• Focus on Allen Dulles and Alfredo Pizzoni as main dyad and egos.

• Focus on Pizzoni and Dulles’ relations developed during their political activity with the perspective of reinforcing US-Italian relations.

• Their relationship is an interesting case to show how cooperation between antifascists and US agents during WWII knew a political evolution mainly in the domain of Cultural Cold War.
Graphs were mainly used to reconstruct Pizzoni and Dulles ego-networks and analyse their evolution from WWII to the postwar years. Complementary to qualitative analysis, graphs were used to connect individual relations with institutional relations.

Two-layer graphs with little use of mathematical properties (weight, Degree centrality) to underline the protagonists’ networks’ characteristics in different historical phases.

**Pizzoni:** President of the Committee of National Liberation for Northern Italy (1943-1945); President of Credito Italiano Bank (1945-1958).

**Dulles:** Chief of the OSS station in Bern (1942-1945); CIA director (1953-1961).

Legend:
- Red: Istituzioni USA
- Green: Istituzioni UK
- Light blue: Antifascisti (IT)
- Blue: Istituzioni Italiane
- Light blue: Partito d’Azione (IT)

Settembre 1943-settembre 1944

**Italiano Bank (1945-1958)**
Main findings related to the use of HNA:

- **The Pizzoni-Dulles tie** in their own networks was a **weak tie**.
- The legacy of the relations born during WWII is **limited**.
- In the **postwar years**, Pizzoni and Dulles shared the social and **political environment** of a **transatlantic anticommunist élite** (banks, cultural associations, editorial sector, entreprises).
- **Pizzoni’s** view of relations as **fruits** to be harvested.
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<th>World War II years</th>
<th>Postwar years</th>
<th>Considerations</th>
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<td>• Dulles’ OSS reports related to the Italian situation. (1942-1945)</td>
<td>• Pizzoni’s diaries (1949;1951;1953)</td>
<td>• Asimmetry btw Pizzoni and Dulles.</td>
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<td>• Pizzoni’s diary and memoir (1942-1945)</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Different sources=different temporalities= different conceptualization and representation of time in graphs.</td>
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<td>• Pizzoni’s correspondance with Anglo-Americans and Italian colleagues involved with them. (1943-1945)</td>
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Considerations

- Asimmetry btw Pizzoni and Dulles.
- Different sources=different temporalities= different conceptualization and representation of time in graphs.
Time as a key factor for my (network) analysis: preliminary thoughts

- **Time** as a crucial factor for my research questions → **continuity**, **evolution**, **legacy**: all concepts related with a time flow.

- Sources have gaps. How to put together the continuity of time flowing with fragmented sources?

- How to translate «evolution» in a static PhD dissertation?

- I saw only one option
Time slices comparisons.
Why?
WWII phase 1, Dulles ego-network
WWII phase 2, Dulles- Pizzoni ego-networks combined 1/2
WWII phase 3, Dulles- Pizzoni ego-networks combined 2/2
Postwar phase, Pizzoni ego-networks 1/3
Postwar phase, Pizzoni ego-networks 2/3
Postwar phase, Pizzoni ego-networks 3/3
Conclusions. Why I used time slices to represent and conceive temporality in my graph?

- My categorization of time and temporality was shaped not only by my research questions, but also by the nature of historical sources and by the temporality that they themselves suggested.

- Time slices were the best solution because of my own time constraints, the purpose of the research (a classical written dissertation), and the tools in my hands (Gephi).

- Conception of time as a line probably prevented me to visualize it in another way. This could open opportunities of improvement.
Thank you!