



Italy in Perspective

July 2015



DLIFLC 1759 Lewis Rd. Bldg 614, Ste. 251
Presidio of Monterey • Monterey, CA 93944
831.242.5119 (DSN-768)

Technology
Integration
Division

FAMiliarization

Italy in Perspective: Contents

Chapter 1 Geography	5
Introduction	5
Geographic Divisions and Topographical Features	6
<i>Northwest</i>	6
<i>Northeast</i>	6
<i>Central Italy</i>	7
<i>Southern Italy</i>	7
<i>Insular Italy</i>	8
Climate	8
Bodies of Water	9
<i>Po River</i>	9
<i>Adige River</i>	9
<i>Tiber River</i>	9
<i>Lake Garda</i>	10
<i>Lake Maggiore</i>	10
<i>Lake Como</i>	10
Major Cities	11
<i>Rome (Roma)</i>	11
<i>Milan (Milano)</i>	12
<i>Naples (Napoli)</i>	12
<i>Turin (Torino)</i>	12
<i>Palermo</i>	13
<i>Genoa (Genova)</i>	13
Environmental Concerns/Issues	13
Natural Hazards	14
Endnotes	15
Chapter 1 Assessment	20

Chapter 2 History	21
Introduction	21
Origins	22
Roman Empire	22
Medieval Italy	23
18th and 19th Centuries	24
20th Century	25
Italy After World War II	26
Endnotes	28
<i>Chapter 2 Assessment</i>	33
Chapter 3 Economy	34
Introduction	34
Agriculture	35
Industry	36
Energy	37
Natural Resources	38
Trade (Exports and Imports)	39
Tourism	40
Banking and Finance	41
Standard of Living	41
Employment Trends (Unemployment Rates)	42
Public vs. Private Sector	43
Future Outlook	44
Endnotes	45
<i>Chapter 3 Assessment</i>	52
Chapter 4 Society	53
Introduction	53

Ethnic Groups and Languages	54
Religion	55
Cuisine	56
Traditional Dress	57
Gender Issues	57
Arts and Letters	58
<i>Music</i>	58
<i>Literature</i>	59
<i>Folklore</i>	59
Sports and Recreation	61
Endnotes	62
Chapter 4 Assessment	66
Security	67
Introduction	67
U.S.-Italian Relations	68
Relations with Neighboring Countries	68
<i>France</i>	69
<i>Switzerland</i>	69
<i>Austria</i>	69
<i>Slovenia</i>	70
Police Force	70
Military	71
Issues Affecting Stability	72
Outlook	73
Endnotes	74
Chapter 5 Assessment	79
Final Assessment	80
Further Reading	83



*Tropea - Italy
Flickr / efilpera*

Chapter 1 Geography

Introduction

The Italian Peninsula has been peopled since ancient times. In the northern regions, Celts predominated until the Romans gained ascendancy when they took control of the Mediterranean area. Italy is a land of mountains. The Alps in the north separate it from the rest of Europe. The Apennines form a spine in the middle of the country that stretches from central Italy to the south. Water flowing from the mountains feeds the country's main rivers, which in turn fertilize and irrigate the plains. The rich soil of the plains nourishes the crops.

Because of Italy's ancient past, numerous archaeological sites exist throughout the country. Tourists from around the world visit these historical sites every year. They also travel to Italy for mountain sports and to enjoy the coastal villages and towns. Industry constitutes another large segment of Italy's economy. Steel, chemicals, food processing, textiles, and metallurgy are common industries. Many smaller towns and villages keep

traditional crafts alive. Paper making, furniture making, leatherwork, and coin minting are some of Italy's well-known crafts.



*Italian Alps
Flickr / will_cyclist*

Geographic Divisions and Topographical Features

Northwest

Much of this region was settled by the Celts in approximately 900 B.C.E.; around 25 B.C.E the Romans took control. The area sits at high elevations because its northeastern portion is part of the Alps. As the landscape stretches to the southwest, it features foothills and alluvial plains. Its many rivers are all tributaries of the Po River. Although Italian is the primary language, some French dialects are spoken in the northwestern region bordering France. Agriculture, centered on

wine production, olives, rice, wheat, and corn, makes up much of the local economy. Industries such as shipbuilding, iron, chemicals, textiles, food manufacturing, and tourism play significant roles in the economy.^{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9}

Northeast

This region is primarily characterized by high mountains in the north and foothill and alluvial plains along the Po River in the south. The northern expanse of the Apennines Mountain Range forms the southern border of the region. The area, also settled by the Celts before the arrival of the Romans, shares borders with Switzerland, Austria, and Slovenia. Located in the region is the independent republic of San Marino, a small country of approximately 26,000 inhabitants whose economy is based on agriculture and tourism. Agriculture plays a large role in the local economy. Hemp, corn, wheat, grapes, fruit, pigs, cattle, and poultry are cultivated. Hydroelectric dams are stationed on the Adige River, which runs from the north to the

Adriatic Sea. Chemicals, silk, furniture, and paper comprise the major industries in the area.^{10, 11, 12, 13}



*Apennine Mountains
Flickr / Javier Escribano*



*Sansone Beach, Elba Island
Flickr / Attila Magyar*

Central Italy

This region forms a long peninsula that borders the Adriatic Sea to the east and the Ligurian and Tyrrhenian seas to the west. The Apennine Mountains run north to south down the center of the peninsula. Numerous rivers flow throughout the region, providing irrigation and nutrients that contribute to the area's rich agriculture. Wheat, corn, potatoes, sugar beets, grapes, and olives are common crops in central Italy. Hydroelectric complex operations on local waterways provide energy. Steel mills, chemical plants, textiles, shipbuilding, and tourism contribute significantly to the economy of the region.^{14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21}

Southern Italy

This region, which resembles the shape of a boot, is bordered on three sides by water: the Tyrrhenian Sea to the west, the Mediterranean and Ionian seas to the south, and the Adriatic Sea to the east. Mountains make up most of the landscape, with foothills and plains characterizing the terrain closer to the seas. Although agriculture plays a large role in the economy of southern Italy, soil quality is poor, and large-scale agriculture is

not prevalent. Wheat, corn, grapes, and fruit make up local crop production. Cash crops include hemp, sugar beets, and tobacco. Livestock in the region includes sheep, goats, pigs, and cattle. In general, the economy is poor throughout the region, and emigration has reduced the population. Only two political regions—Apulia and Campania—have dense populations and adequate economies. Apulia’s agriculture sector does well because of its famous aqueduct, which helps irrigate crops. Campania has a thriving industrial sector based on canning goods, metallurgy, chemicals, tools, and textiles.^{22, 23,}

24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32



Sardinia
Flickr / Maria Rosaria Sannino

Insular Italy

The insular region of Italy consists of two islands, Sicily and Sardinia. Sicily, which is Italy’s largest island, sits near the southernmost tip of the peninsula, separated from the mainland by the Messina Strait. The island is rugged and mountainous. The coastal regions are densely populated, but the interior has fewer inhabitants because of high emigration. The island is a popular tourist destination. Agriculture makes up a large segment of the economy. Fruit, wine, oil, and vegetable cultivation are popular. Mining also plays a large role in the economy. Zinc, lead, copper, and iron are mined in quantity. Sardinia—Italy’s second-largest island—is also rugged and

mountainous. Its economy depends upon mining and the cultivation of sheep and goats. Zinc and lead are mined heavily. Tourism also plays a strong role in the economy of Sardinia. Its picturesque landscape, coastal regions, and intriguing history and folklore draw many visitors each year.^{33, 34, 35, 36}

Climate

Although Italy lies within what is known as the temperate zone, its climate varies widely from north to south because of the great length of the peninsula. In all, Italy comprises seven climatic zones. In the far north, temperatures are cooler. In the winter months, snowfall occurs mostly in the foothills, and permanent snow cover can begin as low as 2,545 m (8,350 ft). Fierce winds buffet the region in the autumn and winter, sometimes gusting up to 200 kph (125 mph).^{37, 38}

The Po Valley experiences harsh winters. Summers are usually hot, and temperatures in all seasons become warmer moving south. Coastal regions are more temperate in the winter and hot during the summer. Autumn and winter are the seasons of rain and snow. Autumn rains throughout Italy average from as low as 54 cm (21 in) to as high as 105

cm (41.5 in). In regions that experience heavy rainfall, the danger of destructive floods and landslides is high.^{39, 40, 41, 42}



Flickr / Jorge Brazil
Flickr / dolanh

Bodies of Water

Although Italy has only three major rivers, the number of tributaries feeding them from the mountains is high.

Po River

The Po River is Italy's longest river. From its source in the Cottian Alps in northwestern Italy, it flows 652 km (405 mi) eastward, draining into the Adriatic Sea. The Po River is fed by 141 tributaries that flow down from the Alps. At its mouth on the Adriatic Sea, its intricate delta contains 14 mouths. The river is navigable from the Adriatic westward for more than half the distance across Italy, to the town of Pavia. The floodplain is home to more than one-third of all Italians. Although the area is a fertile agricultural region, it has been denuded of its indigenous fauna to make way for crops. The river is a source of electricity for the region, but it is polluted with chemical and agricultural runoff. During the annual rains, the river is prone to flooding.^{43, 44, 45}

Adige River

Italy's second-longest river, the Adige rises from two alpine lakes in northeastern Italy near the borders with Switzerland and Austria. It flows south for 410 km (255 mi), entering the Adriatic Sea just north of the Po River. Along its upper course, hydroelectric stations produce electricity.

Its lower course—the final 80 km (50 mi) of which are man-made—provides irrigation. The lower course is also navigable but prone to extensive, destructive flooding.^{46, 47, 48}

Tiber River

Flowing southward for 405 km (252 mi) from the Apennines in central Italy, the Tiber River is Italy's third-longest river. Once a highly navigable river that was important for trade, extensive silting has limited the river's navigability. The Tiber flows through the city of Rome—where ferryboats operate on the river—to the Tyrrhenian Sea.

Containment walls along its banks mitigate the river's proclivity toward extensive flooding.^{49, 50, 51, 52}



Lake Garda
Flickr / Jón Ragnarsson

Lake Garda

Lake Garda is a popular tourist destination located in northern Italy. Its popularity comes from its mountainous surroundings and the Mediterranean climate, created by the barrier the Alps form to the north. It is 54 km (34 mi) long and 3–18 km (2–11 mi) wide, making it Italy's largest lake. Although violent storms can occasionally create dangerous conditions on the lake, tour boats ply the waters. Fishing is part of the local economy, with eel, trout, and carp being popular catches. The surrounding area has the proper conditions for agriculture. Locals cultivate citrus fruit, olives, and cypress trees.^{53, 54}

Lake Maggiore

Lake Maggiore is the second-largest lake in Italy, measuring 54 km (34 mi) in length and 11 km (7 mi) at its widest point. The northern portion of the lake is not in Italy; it lies across the border in Switzerland. The lake is fed by two rivers, the Ticino and the Tresa. Its waters are home to trout, pike, perch, and shad, all of which are fished to support the local economy. Attractions in and around the lake generate a thriving tourist industry. The Borromean Islands—named after the Borromeo family—are a popular destination. The four islands feature châteaux and terraced gardens, and some still maintain fishing villages.^{55, 56, 57, 58}

Lake Como

Lake Como in northern Italy consists of three slender branching sections, giving it the shape of a wishbone. The lake is fed by the Adda River and is approximately 47 km (29 mi) wide. Many other rivers contribute their waters to the lake, which can be subject to flooding in inclement weather. Numerous species of fish exist in the lake, but their numbers are small because of pollution. Vegetation around the lake is dense and includes figs, pomegranates, and olives. Recently, the lake has become a popular tourist destination. Its churches, villas, and resorts have drawn people from around the world to experience world-famous architecture and picturesque villages.^{59, 60, 61}



Rome
Flickr / Renate Flynn

Major Cities

Rome (Roma)

Italy's most famous city, Rome has been inhabited for nearly 3,000 years. A city of cultural significance, it is home to some of the world's most famous art and architecture. Vatican City, which lies within Rome's city limits, exists as a sovereign state. The smallest state in the world, Vatican City is the center of the Roman Catholic Church. Rome is the capital of Italy and its most populous city. Strategically placed along the banks of the Tiber River, the city maintained its strategic importance over the centuries because it was built far enough inland to avoid direct attack from the Tyrrhenian Sea. Today, it is one of the most visited cities in the world. Although light industry contributes to the city's economy, a larger contributor is the service industry. The athletics industry also provides a great deal of wealth to the city, and tourism is an economic boon. Traffic in the city is debilitating. Congestion creates difficulty moving about. Pollution creates health problems in people and causes deterioration to Rome's famous ancient monuments.^{62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67}



*Streets of Milan
Flickr / Chris Yunker*

Milan (Milano)

A capital during the Roman Empire, Milan is an important city in the region of Lombardy in northern Italy. The city is laid out on a circular plan with boulevards emanating from four gates at the city's original center. The economy of Milan is varied, but it relies upon its wholesale markets for much of its success. Exporting is also important to the city's economy. The city has been a major transportation hub for many years. Manufacturing in the city focuses on automobiles, electrical appliances, and airplanes. Fashion design and clothing are also staples of the economy.^{68, 69, 70}



*Cityscape of Naples
Flickr / hkpuipui99*

Naples (Napoli)

Naples lies on the southwestern side of the Italian Peninsula. Located south of Rome, Naples was founded in the 7th century B.C.E. by Greeks from a nearby colony. The economy of Naples, like that of much of southern Italy, has suffered since the beginning of the 20th century. The two world wars hit the city hard. Although manufacturing was developed in the postwar era, it never met the capabilities of the rest of Italy. Even so, oil refining, electronics, and automobile assembly make up a good portion of the city's economy. Tourism is not well developed in the city, mainly because of poor marketing and inadequate infrastructure in the south.^{71, 72, 73}

Turin (Torino)

Located in northwestern Italy, Turin is a medium-sized city situated along the Po River in the Piedmont region. Famous as an educational center, the city is home to numerous quality universities. The city is also known as an industrial center. In addition to the Fiat automobile company, numerous other industries thrive in Turin. Metallurgy, chemicals, plastics, tanning, rubber, and paper are only a few of the industries that have contributed to the city's economy in recent decades.^{74, 75, 76}



*View of Palermo
Flickr / Jorge Brazil*

Palermo

Palermo, Sicily's capital city, is located in the northwest of the island on the Bay of Palermo. The city is Sicily's principal port. As an industrial center, Palermo manufactures chemicals, glass, cement, and processed foods. The tourist industry in Palermo is favorable because the city is home to numerous ancient sites, but Palermo struggles economically. City and regional administrators have mismanaged funds for years, and in 2012 the city was on the verge of defaulting on its debt. Because traffic problems persist in the city, walking is often the best way to get around.^{77, 78, 79,}

80

Genoa (Genova)

Genoa is located along the northwestern coast of Italy in the province of Liguria, in what is known as the Italian Riviera. Once perceived as a sordid city, Genoa has begun to gain a reputation as a solid tourist destination. City investment has led to a revitalization of the area. The city's port functions as a high-volume transport hub for goods and people. Large amounts of imports enter Italy through the port. As an industrial center, Genoa is world class. Chemicals, sugar, cement, fertilizers, steel, and many other goods are manufactured in Genoa

Environmental Concerns/Issues

Pollution from Italy's industrial manufacturing sector presents serious problems for the country. Steel facilities, textile plants, and other industrial facilities have polluted rivers such as the Tiber, the Po, and the Adige. Locals living in polluted areas have suffered ill health effects, and soil and groundwater have been negatively impacted. Some sources indicate that nearly 5,000 industrial sites throughout Italy have been found to contain severely contaminated water. In 2014, Rome banned the use of a public water source for nearly a year because of its contamination.^{81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86}

Air pollution is problematic in much of Italy, especially in industrial urban areas. Particulates in the air exceed health standards in some areas. Most of the over-polluted cities in Europe are in Italy. Not only are industrial plants emitting high levels of toxins into the atmosphere, but immense traffic problems in some cities, such as Rome, have raised airborne contaminants to dangerous levels. National and ancient monuments have begun to deteriorate under the onslaught of pollution. Increases in cancer and respiratory illnesses have occurred in urban populations. In the city of



*Manufacturing pollution
Flickr / Bliak Rhau*

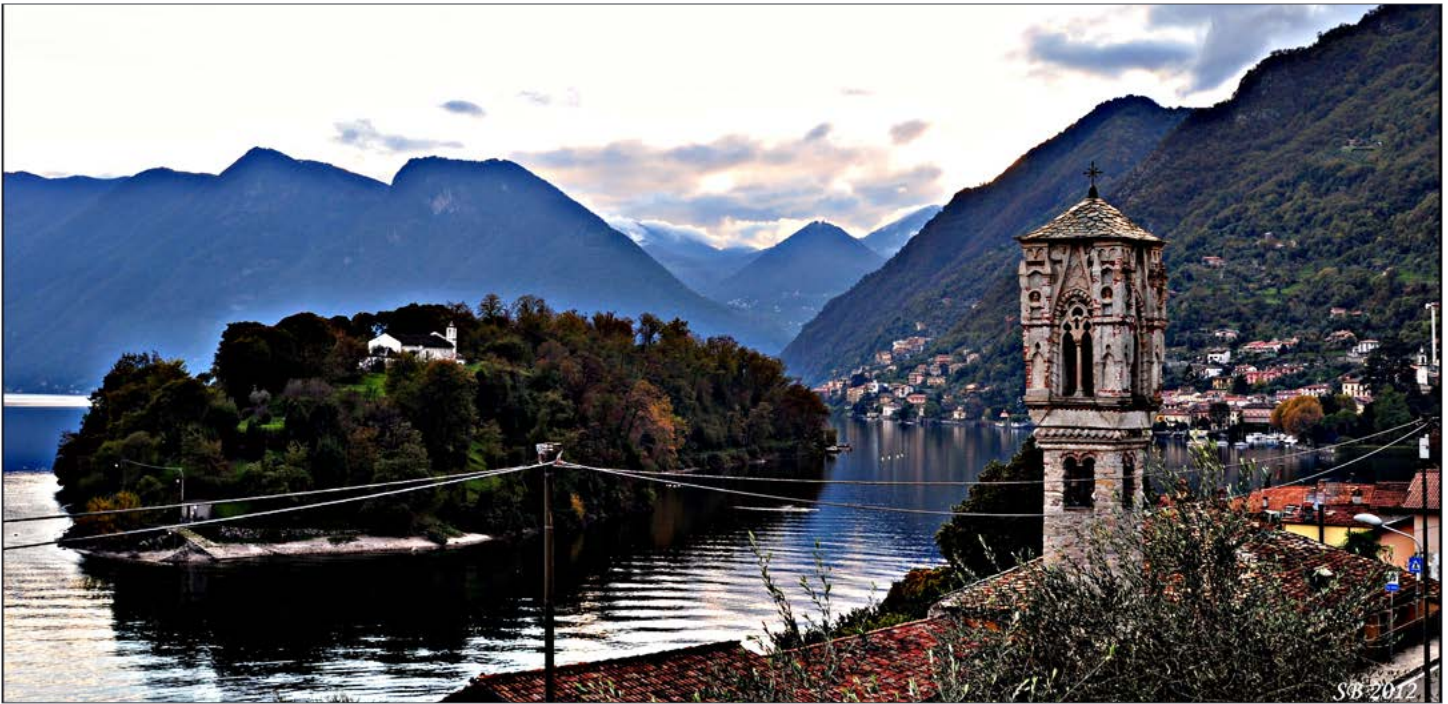
Puglia, the pollution is so heavy that laws have been passed to prohibit people from touching the soil. Pollution negatively impacts local crops, making them unconsumable. Livestock cannot graze in polluted areas because the resulting high toxin levels will prevent the animals' sale or consumption.^{87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92}

Natural Hazards

Flooding is a serious natural hazard in Italy. The three largest rivers in Italy—the Po, Adige, and Tiber—are known for severely destructive flooding. Annual rains throughout Italy too frequently result in flooding. As water descends from mountains in uncountable numbers of tributaries, the flow overwhelms the major rivers. The result is devastating. Crops are often ruined, cities damaged, and personal property destroyed. Each year, many Italians lose their lives in flash floods. Some cities, such as Venice, have been particularly hard hit, and numerous proposals have been forwarded to reduce flooding. Rome maintains embankment walls on the Tiber River to help mitigate overflow.^{93, 94, 95, 96, 97}

Earthquakes are a serious concern throughout Italy. All regions of Italy are subjected to seismic activity. Throughout the years, major earthquakes have taken lives throughout the peninsula. Seismic activity is strongest from central Italy southward to Sicily. Research shows that earthquakes in Italy are the result of fault lines that cross the peninsula. Minor earthquakes are frequent. Devastating earthquakes happen regularly and cause immense damage and loss of life.^{98, 99, 100, 101, 102}

Volcanic activity poses a great risk to the Italian populace. Although only a few major volcanoes exist on the peninsula, they are in close proximity to densely populated cities. The vicinity of Mount Vesuvius, an active volcano in southern Italy, is home to approximately 3 million people. Mount Etna is another active volcano that poses a threat to the Italian people. It is Europe's most active volcano. Its most recent eruption was in 2001.^{103, 104, 105, 106, 107}



Lake Como
Flickr / Steve Best

Endnotes

- 1 Maps of World, “Map of Italy Regions,” 30 April 2012, <http://www.mapsofworld.com/italy/regions.html>
- 2 Loren Sonkin, “Italy’s Aosta Valley (Valle d’Aosta): Regional History and the Buzz About Petite Arvine,” *Into Wine*, 2014, <http://www.intowine.com/italys-aosta-valley-valle-daosta-regional-history-buzz-about-petite-arvine>
- 3 If You Ski, “Ski the Aosta Valley,” 2015, <http://www.ifyouski.com/ski-resorts/featured-resorts/Aosta-Valley.aspx>
- 4 Italy World Club, “Valle d’Aosta Region, Italy,” 2015, <http://www.italyworldclub.com/valledaosta/>
- 5 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Lombardy,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/346728/Lombardy>
- 6 Italy World Club, “Liguria Region, Italy,” 2015, <http://www.italyworldclub.com/liguria/>
- 7 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Liguria,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/340874/Liguria>
- 8 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Piedmont,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/459732/Piedmont>
- 9 Italy World Club, “Piemonte—Piedmont Region,” 2015, <http://www.italyworldclub.com/piemonte/>
- 10 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Emilia-Romagna,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/185851/Emilia-Romagna>
- 11 Italy World Club, “Emilia Romagna Region, Italy,” 2015, <http://www.italyworldclub.com/emilia/>
- 12 BBC News, “San Marino Country Profile—Overview,” 10 February 2015, <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-17842338>
- 13 Italy World Club, “Region Trentino Alto Adige (South Tyrol),” 2015, <http://www.italyworldclub.com/trentino/>
- 14 Italy World Club, “Region Lazio (Latium), Italy,” 2015, <http://www.italyworldclub.com/lazio/>
- 15 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Lazio,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/333222/Lazio>
- 16 Italy World Club, “Marche Region, Italy,” 2015, <http://www.italyworldclub.com/marche/>
- 17 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Marche,” 2015,

- <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/364212/Marche>
- 18 Italy World Club, “Tuscany Region, Italy,” 2015, <http://www.italyworldclub.com/toscana/>
- 19 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Tuscany,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/610528/Tuscany>
- 20 Italy World Club, “Umbria Region, Italy,” 2015, <http://www.italyworldclub.com/umbria/>
- 21 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Umbria,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/613845/Umbria>
- 22 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Abruzzi,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/1652/Abruzzi>
- 23 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Puglia,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/483005/Puglia>
- 24 Italy World Club, “Region Puglia (Apulia), Italy,” 2015, <http://www.italyworldclub.com/puglia/>
- 25 Italy World Club, “Region Basilicata,” 2015, <http://www.italyworldclub.com/basilicata/>
- 26 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Basilicata,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/55152/Basilicata>
- 27 Italy World Club, “Calabria,” 2015, <http://www.italyworldclub.com/calabria/>
- 28 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Calabria,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/88693/Calabria>
- 29 Italy World Club, “Region Campania, Italy,” 2015, <http://www.italyworldclub.com/campania/>
- 30 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Campania,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/91129/Campania>
- 31 Italy World Club, “Region Molise, Italy,” 2015, <http://www.italyworldclub.com/molise/>
- 32 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Molise,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/388348/Molise>
- 33 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Sicily,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/542800/Sicily>
- 34 Italy World Club, “Region Sicily, Italy,” 2015, <http://www.italyworldclub.com/sicilia/>
- 35 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Sardinia,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/524148/Sardinia>
- 36 Italy World Club, “Sardinia Region, Italy,” 2015, <http://www.italyworldclub.com/sardegna/>
- 37 John A Marino, “Italy: Land: Climate,” *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/297474/Italy/26967/Climate>
- 38 Understanding Italy, “The Climate of Italy,” n.d., <http://www.understandingitaly.com/profile-content/climate.html>
- 39 John A Marino, “Italy: Land: Climate,” *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/297474/Italy/26967/Climate>
- 40 Understanding Italy, “The Climate of Italy,” n.d., <http://www.understandingitaly.com/profile-content/climate.html>
- 41 Weather and Climate, “Rome, Italy,” 2015, http://www.weather-and-climate.com/average-monthly-Rainfall-Temperature-Sunshine_Rome,Italy
- 42 Italian Tourism, “Climate in Italy,” 2014, <http://www.italiantourism.com/climate.html>
- 43 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Po River,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/465567/Po-River>
- 44 Understanding Italy, “The Geography of Italy: The Plains,” n.d., <http://www.understandingitaly.com/profile-content/geography.html>
- 45 Erla Zwingle, “Po: River of Pain and Plenty,” *National Geographic*, May 2002, <http://ngm.nationalgeographic.com/ngm/0205/feature6/>
- 46 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Adige River,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/5923/Adige-River>
- 47 World Water Database, “Adige River,” n.d., <http://www.waterdatabase.com/Rivers/Adige-River.html>
- 48 A. Pozzato, A. Tarantino, and F. De Polo, “Analysis of the Effects of the Partial Saturation on the Adige River Embankment Stability,” in *Unsaturated Soils: Research and Applications*, eds. Nasser Khalili, Adrian Russell, and Arman Khoshghalb, vol. 1 (London: Taylor and Francis Group, 2014), 1367–72.



Tiber River
Flickr / grevillea.

- 49 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Tiber River,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/594854/Tiber-River>
- 50 Samuel Ball Platner, “Tiberis,” University of Chicago, 23 December 2008, http://penelope.uchicago.edu/Thayer/E/Gazetteer/Places/Europe/Italy/Lazio/Roma/Rome/_Texts/PLATOP*/Tiberis.html
- 51 Maps of World, “Italy River Map,” 18 December 2012, <http://www.mapsofworld.com/italy/italy-river-map.html>
- 52 Life in Italy, “The Tiber Il Tevere,” 1 June 2012, <http://www.lifeinitaly.com/tourism/lazio/the-tiber>
- 53 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Lake Garda,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/225712/Lake-Garda>
- 54 Garda Lake, “Welcome to Lake Garda,” 2015, <http://www.gardalake.com/>
- 55 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Lake Maggiore,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/356584/Lake-Maggiore>
- 56 Telegraph, “Lake Maggiore, Italy: Readers’ Tips, Recommendations and Travel Advice,” 15 March 2012, <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/travel/destinations/europe/italy/9146210/Lake-Maggiore-Italy-readers-tips-recommendations-and-travel-advice.html>
- 57 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Borromean Islands,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/74461/Borromean-Islands>
- 58 Nicola Ferlei-Brown, “Discovering Lake Maggiore and Its Borromean Islands,” *Italy Magazine*, 21 May 2014, <http://www.italymagazine.com/featured-story/discovering-lake-maggiore-and-its-borromean-islands>
- 59 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Lake Como,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/129453/Lake-Como>
- 60 In Italy, “Lake Como,” 2014, <http://www.initaly.com/regions/lombardy/como.htm>
- 61 Ingrid K. Williams, “36 Hours: Lake Como, Italy,” *New York Times*, 7 August 2014, http://www.nytimes.com/2014/08/10/travel/36-hours-lake-como-italy.html?_r=0
- 62 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Rome,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/508807/Rome>
- 63 *National Geographic*, “Rome, Italy,” 2015, <http://travel.nationalgeographic.com/travel/city-guides/rome-italy/>
- 64 Rome Info, “Rome, Italy Travel Guide,” 2015, <http://www.rome.info/>
- 65 Rome Info, “The Vatican City,” 2015, <http://www.rome.info/vatican/>
- 66 Understanding Italy, “City of Rome,” n.d., <http://www.understandingitaly.com/lazio-content/rome.html>
- 67 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Vatican City,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/623972/Vatican-City>
- 68 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Milan,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/382069/Milan>
- 69 Ciao Milano, “Milano: History,” 6 May 2015, <http://ciaomilano.it/e/sights/storia.asp>
- 70 Milan City, “Milan City Info,” 2015, <http://www.milancity.com/v/economy/>
- 71 Naples Napoli, “History of Naples,” 2015, http://www.naples-napoli.com/history_naples.htm
- 72 Beppe Severgnini, “Why No One Goes to Naples,” *New York Times*, 11 April 2014, <http://www.nytimes.com/2014/04/12/opinion/severgnini-why-no-one-goes-to-naples.html>
- 73 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Naples,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/402883/Naples>

- 74 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Turin,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/609705/Turin>
- 75 Times, “Turin,” 2015, <http://bcg.thetimes.co.uk/Europe/Italy/Turin>
- 76 New Economy Initiative, “What Turin, Italy, Has that Detroit Needs,” n.d., <http://neweconomyinitiative.org/what-turin-italy-has-that-detroit-needs/>
- 77 Life in Italy, “Palermo, Italy,” 1 June 2012, <http://www.lifeinitaly.com/tourism/sicily/palermo>
- 78 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Palermo,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/439625/Palermo>
- 79 Phil Vinter, “Naples and Palermo Among 10 Italian Cities Going Broke as Pressure Grows on Europe’s Third-Largest Economy,” *Daily Mail*, 24 July 2012, <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2177675/Naples-Palermo-10-Italian-cities-going-broke-pressure-grows-Europes-largest-economy.html>
- 80 Times, “Palermo,” 2015, <http://bcg.thetimes.co.uk/Europe/Italy/Palermo>
- 81 European Commission, “Environment: European Commission Urges Italy to Address Severe Pollution Issues at Europe’s Biggest Steel Plant,” 16 October 2014, http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-14-1151_en.htm
- 82 Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, “Environmental Performance Review of Italy,” n.d., <http://www.oecd.org/environment/country-reviews/2709780.pdf>
- 83 Views, “Top 5 Environment [sic]: All You Need to Know for the Italian EU Presidency,” 2 July 2014, <http://www.vIEWS.eu/environment/top-5-environment-all-you-need-to-know-for-the-italian-eu-presidency/>
- 84 KG and Xinhua, “Italy Strives to Contain Water Pollution: Experts,” *New Europe*, 17 April 2014, <http://www.neweurope.eu/article/italy-strives-contain-water-pollution-experts>
- 85 The Local, “Rome Water Pollution Sparks Public Ban,” 3 March 2014, <http://www.thelocal.it/20140303/rome-water-pollution-sparks-public-ban>
- 86 Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, “Environmental Performance Review of Italy,” n.d., <http://www.oecd.org/environment/country-reviews/2709780.pdf>
- 87 European Commission, “Environment: European Commission Urges Italy to Address Severe Pollution Issues at Europe’s Biggest Steel Plant,” 16 October 2014, http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-14-1151_en.htm
- 88 Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, “Environmental Performance Review of Italy,” n.d., <http://www.oecd.org/environment/country-reviews/2709780.pdf>
- 89 Views, “Top 5 Environment [sic]: All You Need to Know for the Italian EU Presidency,” 2 July 2014, <http://www.vIEWS.eu/environment/top-5-environment-all-you-need-to-know-for-the-italian-eu-presidency/>
- 90 Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, “Environmental Performance Reviews: Italy 2013,” 2013, <http://www.oecd.org/env/country-reviews/EPR%20Highlights%20ITALY%202013.pdf>
- 91 Air Quality in Europe, “Rome,” 2007, http://www.airqualitynow.eu/city_info/rome/page1.php
- 92 Tom Kington, “Italian Town Fighting for Its Life over Polluting Ilva Steelworks,” *Guardian*, 17 August 2012, <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2012/aug/17/italy-ilva-steelworks-cancer-pollution>
- 93 Angela Fritz, “Torrential Rain Causes Deadly Flash Flooding in Genoa, Italy,” *Washington Post*, 10 October 2014, <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/capital-weather-gang/wp/2014/10/10/torrential-rain-causes-deadly-flash-flooding-in-genoa-italy-video/>
- 94 Tours Italy, “Saving Venice,” n.d., <http://tours-italy.com/venice-tours/venice-travel-guide/saving-venice/>
- 95 Elisabetta Povoledo, “Amid Bugs, Hail, Floods, and Bacteria, Italian Olives Take a Beating,” *New York Times*, 3 December 2014, <http://www.nytimes.com/2014/12/04/world/europe/amid-bugs-hail-floods-and-bacteria-italian-olives-take-a-beating.html>
- 96 ABC News, “Storms in Northern Italy Unleash Chaos on the Region, Leaving Five Dead,” 13 November 2014, <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2014-11-14/storms-wreak-havoc-on-italy->

[leaving-five-dead/5890264](#)

97 Euronews, “Italy Swamped by Flash Floods,” 11 June 2014, <http://www.euronews.com/2014/11/06/italy-swamped-by-flash-floods/>

98 Understanding Italy, “Seismic Activity,” n.d., <http://www.understandingitaly.com/profile-content/earthquakes.html>

99 Hannah Roberts, “Scientists Jailed for Manslaughter Because They Did Not Predict Deadly Earthquake in Italy Which Killed 309 People Have Been Cleared,” *Daily Mail*, 11 November 2014, <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2829107/Scientists-jailed-manslaughter-did-not-predict-deadly-earthquake-Italy-killed-309-people-cleared.html>

100 BBC News, “Italy at the Mercy of Fault Lines,” 31 October 2002, <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/2383225.stm>

101 USGS, “M4.6–1 KM East of Spezzano Piccolo, Italy,” n.d. http://earthquake.usgs.gov/earthquakes/eventpage/usc000tage#general_summary

102 MCEER, “Major Italian Earthquakes of the 20th Century,” n.d., <http://mceer.buffalo.edu/infoservice/reference/services/major-italy-earthquake.asp>

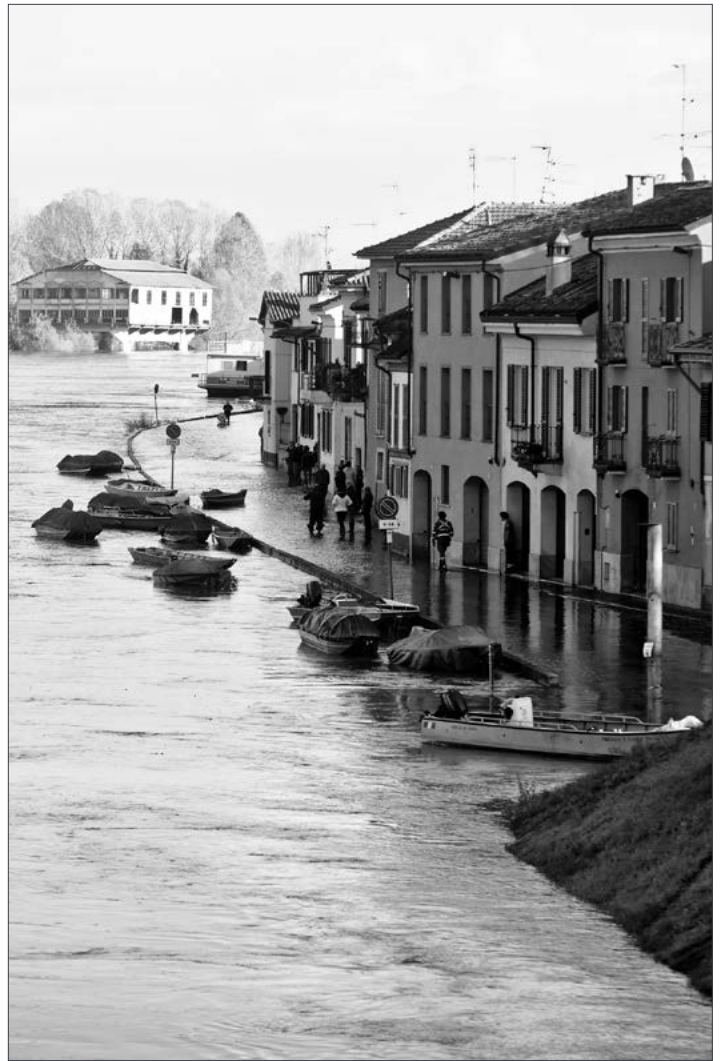
103 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Vesuvius,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/627039/Vesuvius>

104 Jessica Ball, “Mount Vesuvius–Italy,” geology.com, 2015, <http://geology.com/volcanoes/vesuvius/>

105 *Encyclopædia Britannica*, “Mount Etna,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/194532/Mount-Etna>

106 Italy’s Volcanoes, “Explore Italy’s Volcanoes,” 21 November 2012, <http://www.italysvolcanoes.com/>

107 Volcano Discovery, “Volcanoes of Italy (13 volcanoes),” n.d., <http://www.volcanodiscovery.com/italy.html>



*Ticino river flooding
Flickr / Giancarlo Scola*

Chapter 1 Assessment

1. Italy's northern region is a flat plain.

FALSE

Part of northern Italy lies in the Alps Mountain Range. The land slopes southward into foothills and alluvial plains.

2. Italy's longest river flows through northern Italy.

TRUE

The Po River, Italy's longest river, flows 652 km (405 mi) from its source in the Alps in northwestern Italy. It runs eastward to the Adriatic Sea.

3. Rome manages its pollution well because it is a large tourist center.

FALSE

Traffic in the city is debilitating. Pollution creates human health problems and deteriorates the ancient monuments that make the city famous.

4. Italy has active volcanoes.

TRUE

Mount Vesuvius, the only active volcano on the European mainland, is located close to large populations and has devastated the landscape in the past. Mount Etna in Sicily is another active volcano.

5. Flooding is a serious concern in Italy.

TRUE

As water descends from the mountains in numberless tributaries, it overwhelms the major rivers, devastating crops and property and even taking lives.



*Ruins at Pompei
Flickr / Trey Ratcliff*

Chapter 2 History

Introduction

Throughout its long history, Italy has been a land of controversy, intrigue, and perpetual development. Its people, representing a blend of populations and cultures, have contributed on the world stage since ancient times. Today, Italy continues to play a crucial role in the development of the European continent. Despite its many recent controversies and political scandals, Italy drives innovation in industry and culture.



Depiction of combat between Mirmillo Samnite
Wikipedia / Yonge, Charlotte Mary

Origins

The origins of Italy stretch back to before the 6th century B.C.E. Numerous Indo-European tribes, such as the Gauls, occupied various territories on the Italian Peninsula. Greek colonists settled some areas, including the entire island of Sicily and the heel of the peninsula northward up the Adriatic coast. The Etruscans were by far the largest group of people to settle the Italian Peninsula. For centuries their origins were mysterious and subject to much debate and speculation. Today, they are believed to have migrated from present-day Turkey. By 500 B.C.E. they had taken control of most of central Italy.^{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8}



Altar from Ostia showing the discovery of Romulus and Remus
Wikipedia / Marie-Lan Nguyen

Roman Empire

According to legend, Rome was founded in 753 B.C.E. by twin brothers, Romulus and Remus. The sons of the Roman god of war, Mars, they were cast adrift on the Tiber River and rescued by a female wolf that suckled them. Adopted by a shepherd, they decided to found a great city when they learned of their origins. The legend aside, the area that is now Rome was most likely settled around 1000 B.C.E by a group called the Latins. Their rural settlement was taken over by the Etruscans around 650 B.C.E. The Etruscans consolidated landholdings and began building what today is the city of Rome.^{9, 10, 11, 12}

In the 6th century B.C.E. the Etruscans begin to lose their hold over the peninsula. Roman provinces begin to emerge as local and regional powers. A series of kings ruled Rome, but in 509 B.C.E, King Tarquinius was overthrown and Rome became a republic. By the middle of the 1st century B.C.E., Rome controlled the entire peninsula from the Alps south to the Mediterranean. Rome expanded its empire to include much of Europe, North Africa, and the Near East.^{13, 14, 15}

Constant strife and civil war led to the division of the Roman Empire into the Western Empire (Western Europe and North Africa) and the Eastern Empire (also known as the Byzantine Empire) located in the eastern Mediterranean region. Struggling to maintain

control of its empire, the leadership in Rome had to contend with Visigoths, Huns, and Vandals who breached the defenses of the Romans. These German mercenaries ushered in the downfall of the Western Empire; Germanic King Odoacer deposed Emperor Romulus Augustus in 476, effectively ending the empire. The Byzantines tried to regain control over the Western Empire, but the Germanic Lombards had too strong a hold over northern Italy. Although the Byzantines continued to maintain holdings on the peninsula, they weakened over time, and the Lombards continued to expand their control over the peninsula. By the 8th century, Italy ceased to be part of the Roman Empire.^{16, 17, 18, 19, 20}



*Pope Stephen
Courtesy of Wikipedia*

Medieval Italy

In response to Lombard expansion, Pope Stephen sought the help of the Frankish king, whom he hoped would prevent the Lombards from conquering Rome. Frankish armies pushed out the Lombards and ceded the land—the Papal States—to the Pope. Popes continued to rule over the Papal States until they were incorporated into the Kingdom of Italy in 1870. By 774, the Frankish king Charlemagne had annexed all of northern Italy as part of France and Germany.^{21, 22, 23, 24}

By the 9th century, Italy was fragmented. Different kingdoms controlled separate parts of the peninsula, and invaders continued to strike

Italy, looking to expand their empires. Cities were forced to defend themselves. Their independence helped them survive, but they also became disenfranchised from one another. These oligarchical cities came to be known as communes. They began to hire mercenary armies to protect themselves and to conduct war with each other. Northern Italy experienced frequent turmoil for centuries. The constant fighting between communes resulted in endlessly shifting power struggles and borders. Southern Italy, on the other hand, fell under the control of a succession of foreign powers.^{25, 26, 27, 28}

As Italy entered the 15th century, 5 communes emerged as the most powerful: Venice, Milan, Florence, Naples, and the Papal States. They began to develop treaties with one another, and in 1455 the 5 powers formed the Italian League, pledging nonaggression. In the 15th century, the treaties began to fail and the cities pursued aggressive policies once again. Rome was sacked in 1527. Spain also got involved on the peninsula and took control of Naples and Milan, dominating the peninsula until 1738, when Austria annexed northern Italy as a result of the Peace of Vienna. Spain continued to hold southern Italy.^{29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36}



*Portrait of Napoleon
Courtesy of Wikipedia*

18th and 19th Centuries

During the 18th century, Italy attempted to mitigate the effects of constant warfare. Guilds that had been established to keep power and wealth in the hands of a few families were systematically abolished. Still, the gap between rich and poor continued, and many people resented the inequality of the classes. The power of the church was curtailed. The economy began to shift, highlighting the rift between northern and southern Italy. Agriculture became the mainstay of southern Italy, while the north continued to develop its manufacturing potential.^{37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42}

In 1796, Napoleon joined the Italian campaign to fight against the Austrians for control of northern Italy. After rapid, successive victories, Napoleon gained control of Sardinia, and the Austrian emperor ceded northern Italy to him. In 1799, Napoleon lost his control of Italy to the Second Coalition of Austrian and Russian militaries. Returning from his campaign in Syria, Napoleon began a campaign in 1800 to recover his control of the peninsula, and by 1810 he controlled Italy. In 1813 Napoleon was defeated at Leipzig. Later he was defeated at Waterloo, but not before the Congress of Vienna granted control of northern Italy to Austria. Rome regained the Papal States.^{43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54}

The Italian people, tired of almost constant warfare and the control of their land by foreign powers, began to foment revolutionary ideas.

The push for a united Italy became attractive to many, and revolutionaries began to work throughout the peninsula. In 1848, a revolutionary period began in Italy with the Sicilian Uprising. The resulting warfare ended in a short-lived Roman Republic. The fragmented rule of Italy returned, but many still kept the goal of a united Italy alive. Infighting resulted and small wars were fought between different regions in the country. Revolutionary members took advantage of the turmoil and consolidated a number of regions. In 1861, Italy became the Kingdom of Italy, lacking only Venetia and the city of Rome, which became part of Italy in 1870.^{55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61}



Benito Mussolini
Courtesy of Wikipedia

20th Century

After unification, Italy devoted itself to developing ways to strengthen its agricultural, industrial, and social components. As a result, the country expended great resources on colonial expansion and militarization. Italy set its sights on Africa. It developed coastal Eritrea and attempted to colonize Ethiopia. Italy gained a major portion of Libya from Turkey in 1912, the same year it renewed its alliance with Austria and Germany, and 2 years before the outbreak of World War I. Despite its alliance with Germany and Austria, Italy joined the Allied forces. Austria had designs on northern Italy, and had made treaties with France and England for South Tyrol and Trieste. By the time the war ended in 1918, Italy had suffered extraordinarily high losses and its economy was in shambles. The Italians did not feel well represented in the Treaty of Versailles and harbored resentment against the Allied powers as a result.^{62, 63, 64, 65, 66}

Following World War I, Italy suffered from political disunity. Benito Mussolini, a political figure who had been involved in Italy's prewar socialist movement, gained influence and began a fascist political party. He used the paramilitary

branch of his party, which came to be known as Black Shirts, to promote his policies through violence and intimidation. In 1922 Mussolini ordered his Black Shirts to march on Rome. The Italian king made Mussolini prime minister, and in 1925 he declared himself dictator of Italy. Mussolini became increasingly authoritarian, instituting indoctrination programs, severely censoring the media, and developing propaganda programs.^{67, 68, 69, 70, 71}

Mussolini developed a relationship in 1934 with another dictator—Adolf Hitler. They became allies and signed an Axis agreement in 1936. As Hitler moved into World War II, Italy was slow to respond and fulfill its part of the agreement, but it eventually became an active albeit ineffectual ally. Italy under Mussolini performed poorly in the war. After losing its North African colonies and Sicily, Mussolini was ousted in 1943 and Italy joined the Allied forces. At the close of World War II in 1945, Italy entered the era of the Italian Republic.^{72, 73, 74, 75, 76}



Giorgio Napolitano
Courtesy of Wikipedia

Italy After World War II

Immediately following the war, Italy experienced a great deal of turmoil. The Italian people, tired of the hardships they had endured, purged the ranks of the fascists, whom they blamed for their country's troubles. The royal family, which resumed power after the war, was driven into exile. In 1947, a new constitution was drafted that took effect on 1 January 1948. The new constitution established Italy as a republic under a parliamentary system.^{77, 78, 79, 80}

Politically, Italy had numerous reforms to institute to rebuild itself. The country entered the Cold War era by aligning itself with the United States. In elections, the Christian Democratic Party took the majority of the votes and gained the political power it would hold for the next several decades. The new government took a pro-Western stance. The Italian Communists ranked second after the Christian Democrats. They held a high percentage of votes and were popular among the laboring classes. Their strength was centered in local and regional levels of government. They held influence with the trade unions, which were growing at the time. Factionalism at all levels

of government resulted in instability, a fact of political life that marred Italian politics throughout the 20th century. Coalitions became the order of the day as political parties strove to maintain their influence and control.^{81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86}

The economy of Italy changed dramatically after the war. In the postwar years, Italy experienced an industrial boom. Steel production was high, and many of the industries that Italy has become famous for— fashion and clothing, scooters, cars, electrical equipment—entered the market. Agriculture also improved after the war. Many peasant farmers emigrated to the cities and abroad. Although this left a dearth of people to farm, mechanization improved small farming productivity. Rural farm communities increased their productivity because of mechanization. As a result, small rural communities increased in size and wealth. Southern Italy, however, lagged behind in development. Despite investment in industry, infrastructure, and job training, much of southern Italy remained unproductive. Unemployment rates remained high and incomes remained low.^{87, 88, 89}

Italy continued its economic, industrial, and agricultural growth throughout the Cold War era, eventually reaching Western-power status. Beginning in the 1990s, Italy emerged from the Cold War years poised to reform its economic and political systems. By this point in Italian history, many Italians believed that corruption had damaged their society and impeded its growth. Electoral reforms were instituted. Although reforms made it possible for Italians to elect representatives by popular vote, this did not produce long-term stability. When the global recession hit, Italy suffered an economic crisis. The government instituted austerity measures, which helped Italy reach European Union standards by the close of the century. Still, the 1990s were characterized by government instability.^{90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98}

Italy entered the 21st century amid political and economic tensions. The position of prime minister was hotly contested and teetered between candidates. In 2008, President Giorgio Napolitano was forced to dissolve parliament after failing to institute an interim government—the direct result of Prime Minister Romano Prodi resigning his office after failing a vote of confidence in the senate. The economy also suffered. Huge debt plagued the country, and political scandal and its resulting turmoil did not help matters. Unemployment remained high, and the Italian people sought relief from new austerity measures designed to reduce the nation’s USD 2.6 trillion debt.^{99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104}

Endnotes

- 1 History World, "History of Italy: The Mediterranean Peninsula," n.d., <http://www.historyworld.net/wrldhis/PlainTextHistories.asp?historyid=ac52>
- 2 Life in Italy, "A History of Italy in Brief," 1 June 2012, <http://www.lifeinitaly.com/culture/history>
- 3 John Hooper, "The Enigma of Italy's Ancient Etruscans Is Finally Unraveled," *Guardian*, 18 June 2007, <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2007/jun/18/italy.johnhooper>
- 4 Mysterious Etruscans, "Etruscan Territory," 8 January 2006, <http://www.mysteriousetruscans.com/>
- 5 Thayer Watkins, "The Origins of the Etruscans," San Jose State University, n.d., <http://www.sjsu.edu/faculty/watkins/etruscans.htm>
- 6 Jays Roman History, "Magna Graecia: Greek Colonies in Italy," n.d., <http://www.jaysromanhistorical.com/romeweb/glossary/timeln/t05.htm>
- 7 Mark Cartwright, "Greek Colonization," *Ancient History Encyclopedia*, 28 October 2014, http://www.ancient.eu/Greek_Colonization/
- 8 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, "Gaul," 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/227066/Gaul>
- 9 Life in Italy, "A History of Italy in Brief," 1 June 2012, <http://www.lifeinitaly.com/culture/history>
- 10 Piero Scaruffi, "A Time-Line of the Roman Empire," 1999, <http://www.scaruffi.com/politics/romans.html>
- 11 F. Cavazzi, "The Founding of Rome," 6 April 2012, <http://www.roman-empire.net/founding/found-index.html>
- 12 The Romans, "The Origin of Rome," n.d., <http://www.the-romans.co.uk/legends.htm>
- 13 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, "Tarquin," 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/583670/Tarquin>
- 14 Life in Italy, "A History of Italy in Brief," 1 June 2012, <http://www.lifeinitaly.com/culture/history>
- 15 History World, "History of Italy: Italy and Empire," n.d., <http://www.historyworld.net/wrldhis/PlainTextHistories.asp?historyid=ac52>
- 16 History World, "History of Italy: The Mediterranean Peninsula," n.d., <http://www.historyworld.net/wrldhis/PlainTextHistories.asp?groupid=2691&HistoryID=ac52>rack=pthc#2692>
- 17 Life in Italy, "A History of Italy in Brief," 1 June 2012, <http://www.lifeinitaly.com/culture/history>
- 18 Time Maps, "Italy: 200 A.D.–500A.D.," 2015, <http://www.timemaps.com/history/italy-500bc>
- 19 Roman Empire, "Illustrated History of the Roman Empire," 24 May 2012, <http://www.roman-empire.net/>
- 20 Joshua J. Mark, "Roman Empire," *Ancient History Encyclopedia*, 28 April 2011, http://www.ancient.eu/Roman_Empire/
- 21 History World, "History of Italy: Medieval Italy," n.d., <http://www.historyworld.net/wrldhis/PlainTextHistories.asp?groupid=2693&HistoryID=ac52>rack=pthc>
- 22 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, "Italy: History: Popes and Exarchs, 590–800," 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/297474/Italy/27625/Popes-and-exarchs-590-800>
- 23 Richard the Lionheart, "8th Century," 2015, <http://www.richardthelionheart.ca/8th-century.asp>
- 24 Brian Thornton, "Chapter 63: Charlemagne: Literal Bastard, Figurative Bastard (A.D. 742–814)," in *The Book of Ancient Bastards: 101 of the Worst Miscreants and Misdeeds from Ancient Sumer to the Enlightenment* (Avon, MA: Adams Media, 2011), 146–47.
- 25 History World, "History of Italy: Medieval Italy," n.d., <http://www.historyworld.net/wrldhis/PlainTextHistories.asp?groupid=2693&HistoryID=ac52>rack=pthc>
- 26 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, "Italy: History: Italy, 962–1300," 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/297474/Italy/27640/Socioeconomic-developments-in-the-city#toc27641>
- 27 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, "Italy: History: Italy in the 14th and 15th Centuries," 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/297474/Italy/27640/Socioeconomic-developments-in-the-city#toc27641>

- 28 P.J. Jones, "Chapter 1: Communes and Despots: The City State in Late-Medieval Italy," in *Communes and Despots in Medieval and Renaissance Italy*, eds. Bernadette Paton and John E. Law (Burlington, VT: Ashgate Publishing Company, 2010), 3–26
- 29 History World, "History of Italy: Medieval Italy," n.d., <http://www.historyworld.net/wrldhis/PlainTextHistories.asp?groupid=2693&HistoryID=ac52>rack=pthc>
- 30 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, "Italy: History: Political Development, 1380–1454," 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/297474/Italy#ref318544> <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/297474/Italy/27675/Famine-war-and-plague-1340-80>
- 31 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, "Peace of Lodi," 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/345981/Peace-of-Lodi>
- 32 Michael Komorowski, "The Diplomatic Genre Before the Italian League: Civic Panegyrics of Bruni, Poggio, and Decembrio," in *New Worlds and the Italian Renaissance: Contribution to the History of European Intellectual Culture*, eds. Andrea Moudarres and Christiana Purdy Moudarres (Leiden, The Netherlands: Koninklijke Brill NV, 2012), 47–74.
- 33 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, "Italy: History: Early Modern Italy (16th to 18th Centuries): The Age of Charles V," 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/297474/Italy/27694/The-age-of-Charles-V>
- 34 History of Information, "Troops Loyal to Charles V Sack Rome, Marking the End of the High Renaissance (May 6, 1527–February 1528)," 2015, <http://www.historyofinformation.com/expanded.php?id=3958>
- 35 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, "Italian Wars," 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/297370/Italian-Wars>
- 36 European University Institute, "Chapter 4: The Invasions of Italy 1494–1527: Machiavelli and Guicciardini," 10 May 2006, http://vlib.iue.it/carrie/texts/carrie_books/gilbert/04.html
- 37 Tim Lambert, "A Brief History of Italy: Italy in the 18th Century," 2014, <http://www.localhistories.org/italy.html>
- 38 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, "Italy: History: Early Modern Italy (16th to 18th Centuries): Society and Economy," 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/297474/Italy/27712/Society-and-economy>
- 39 Life in Italy, "Life in Italy from Baroque to Napoleon," 1 June 2012, <http://www.lifeinitaly.com/history/italy-1600-ad-to-1800-ad>
- 40 History World, "History of Italy: Shifting Alliances," n.d., <http://www.historyworld.net/wrldhis/PlainTextHistories.asp?ParagraphID=hlh>
- 41 Stella Ghervas, "The Congress of Vienna: A Peace for the Strong," *History Today*, 9 September 2014, <http://www.historytoday.com/stella-ghervas/congress-vienna-peace-strong>
- 42 Pine Crest School, "A Brief History of the Congress of Vienna," 24 October 2010, <http://teacherweb.ftl.pinecrest.edu/snyderd/MWH/Projects/cov/History.htm>
- 43 History World, "History of Italy: Napoleon," n.d., <http://www.historyworld.net/wrldhis/PlainTextHistories.asp?groupid=2699&HistoryID=ac52>rack=pthc>
- 44 Latin Library, "Timeline of Napoleon's Empire (1798–1821)," n.d., <http://www.thelatinlibrary.com/imperialism/notes/napoleonchron.html>
- 45 Dugdale-Pointon, "Napoleonic Wars (1799–1815)," *History of War*, 16 November 2000, http://www.historyofwar.org/articles/wars_napoleonic.html
- 46 Marjorie Bloy, "A Web of English History: The Age of George III," *History Home*, 26 October 2013, <http://www.historyhome.co.uk/c-eight/france/coalit2.htm>
- 47 Robinson Library, "The Napoleonic Wars, 1799–1815," n.d., <http://www.robinsonlibrary.com/history/france/france/1789/wars.htm>
- 48 Richard Moore, "The Second Coalition," *Napoleonic Guide*, 1999, http://www.napoleonguide.com/campaign_2coalit.htm
- 49 Brown University Library Center for Digital Scholarship, "Napoleonic Satires: Timeline: Napoleon's Vast Empire (1809–1811)," n.d., <http://library.brown.edu/cds/>

[napoleon/time5.html](#)

50 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Battle of Leipzig,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/335470/Battle-of-Leipzig>

51 Dugdale-Pointon, “Battle of Leipzig (‘The Battle of Nations’), 16–18 October 1813,” *History of War*, 23 March 2001, http://www.historyofwar.org/articles/battles_leipzig.html

52 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Battle of Waterloo,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/637470/Battle-of-Waterloo>

53 BBC, “The Battle of Waterloo: The Day that Decided Europe’s Fate,” 2015, http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/empire_seapower/battle_waterloo_01.shtml

54 History.com, “Battle of Waterloo,” 2015, <http://www.history.com/topics/british-history/battle-of-waterloo>

55 Mike Rapport, “Chapter 1: The Forest of Bayonets,” in *1848: Year of Revolution* (New York: Basic Books, 2008), 1–41.

56 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Revolutions of 1848,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/181144/Revolutions-of-1848>

57 Age of the Sage, “Italy Revolution 1848,” n.d., http://www.age-of-the-sage.org/history/1848/italy_revolution.html

58 Ian Fitzgerald, “A Year of European Revolutions,” *History Today*, 2014, <http://www.historytoday.com/ian-fitzgerald/year-european-revolutions>

59 Bernard Cook, “Two Sicilies, Kingdom of, 1848–49,” in *Encyclopedia of 1848 Revolutions*, Ohio University, 12 September 2004, <http://www.ohio.edu/chastain/rz/twosicil.htm>

60 History World, “History of Italy: Towards the Nation State,” n.d., <http://www.historyworld.net/wrldhis/PlainTextHistories.asp?groupid=2701&HistoryID=ac52>rack=pthc>

61 Life in Italy, “A History of Italy in Brief,” 1 June 2012, <http://www.lifeinitaly.com/culture/history>

62 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Italy: History: Italy from 1870 to 1945,” 2015, [http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/297474/Italy/27741/Condition-of-the-Italian-](http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/297474/Italy/27741/Condition-of-the-Italian-kingdom#toc27743)

[kingdom#toc27743](#)

63 History World, “Italy: Kingdom of Italy,” n.d., <http://www.historyworld.net/wrldhis/PlainTextHistories.asp?groupid=2706&HistoryID=ac52>rack=pthc>

64 Zainoo, “Italy in the 20th Century: Great Power Politics and World War I,” n.d., <http://www.zainoo.com/en/italy/fascism>

65 History.com, “This Day in History: 1915: Italy Declares War on Austria-Hungary,” 2015, <http://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/italy-declares-war-on-austria-hungary>

66 History Learning Site, “Italy and World War One,” 2014, http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/italy_and_world_war_one.htm

67 History World, “History of Italy: Rise of Mussolini,” n.d., <http://www.historyworld.net/wrldhis/PlainTextHistories.asp?groupid=3432&HistoryID=ac52>rack=pthc>

68 History.com, “Benito Mussolini,” 2015, <http://www.history.com/topics/world-war-ii/benito-mussolini>

69 BBC, “History: Benito Mussolini (1883–1945),” 2014, http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/historic_figures/mussolini_benito.shtml

70 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Italy: History: Italy from 1870 to 1945: The Fascist Era: The Rise of Mussolini,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/297474/Italy/27761/The-Fascist-era>

71 Toby Heinemann, “Domestic Policies Under Benito Mussolini,” *Silva Pages*, 18 January 2010, <http://ibatpv.org/projects/italy/mussolini.domestic.policy.htm>

72 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Axis Powers,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/46315/Axis-Powers>

73 United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, “Axis Alliance in World War II,” 20 June 2014, <http://www.ushmm.org/wlc/en/article.php?ModuleId=10005177>

74 Global Security, “1936—Rome-Berlin Axis, 1936—Anti-Comintern Pact, 1939—Pact of Steel, 1940—Tripartite Pact,” 7 September 2011, <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/int/axis.htm>

75 BBC, “This Day in History: 1943: Mussolini Falls

- from Power,” n.d., <http://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/mussolini-falls-from-power>
- 76 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Italy: History: Italy from 1870–1945: End of the Regime,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/297474/Italy/258861/End-of-the-regime>
- 77 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Italy: History: Italy Since 1945,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/297474/Italy/27769/The-partisans-and-the-Resistance>
- 78 History World, “History of Italy: Republic of Italy,” n.d., <http://www.historyworld.net/wrldhis/PlainTextHistories.asp?groupid=3437&HistoryID=ac52>rack=pthc>
- 79 Constitutionnet, “The Constitution of the Italian Republic, 1948,” n.d., <http://www.constitutionnet.org/files/Italy-Constitution.pdf>
- 80 Nicola Canestrini, “The Constitution of *[sic]* Italian Republic,” Studio Legale Canestrini, 11 June 2013, <http://www.canestrinilex.com/resources/constitution/>
- 81 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Italy: History: Italy Since 1945,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/297474/Italy/27769/The-partisans-and-the-Resistance>
- 82 History World, “History of Italy: Republic of Italy,” n.d., <http://www.historyworld.net/wrldhis/PlainTextHistories.asp?groupid=3437&HistoryID=ac52>rack=pthc>
- 83 Global Security, “Christian Democrat Party (DC) Democrazia Cristiana,” 7 November 2011, <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/europe/it-political-parties-dc.htm>
- 84 Carolyn M. Warner, “Christian Democracy in Italy: An Alternative Path to Religious Party Moderation,” *Party Politics* 19, no. 2 (March 2013): 256–76, <http://ppq.sagepub.com/content/19/2.toc>
- 85 Palash Ghosh, “Green, White, and Lots of Red: How Italy Got the West’s Biggest Communist Party,” *International Business Times*, 26 July 2013, <http://www.ibtimes.com/green-white-lots-red-how-italy-got-west-s-biggest-communist-party-1360089>
- 86 William Blum, “Italy, 1947–1948: Free Elections, Hollywood-Style,” *williamblum.org*, n.d., <http://williamblum.org/chapters/killing-hope/italy>
- 87 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Italy: History: Italy Since 1945,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/297474/Italy/27769/The-partisans-and-the-Resistance>
- 88 History World, “History of Italy: Republic of Italy,” n.d., <http://www.historyworld.net/wrldhis/PlainTextHistories.asp?groupid=3437&HistoryID=ac52>rack=pthc>
- 89 Thayer Watkins, “The Economic History of Italy: Post-World War II Italy,” San Jose State University, n.d., <http://www.sjsu.edu/faculty/watkins/italy1.htm>
- 90 Global Security, “Italy: Clean Hands (Mani Pulite),” 17 February 2014, <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/europe/it-clean-hands.htm>
- 91 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Italy: History: Italy Since 1945,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/297474/Italy/27769/The-partisans-and-the-Resistance>
- 92 History World, “History of Italy: Republic of Italy,” n.d., <http://www.historyworld.net/wrldhis/PlainTextHistories.asp?groupid=3437&HistoryID=ac52>rack=pthc>
- 93 Manuel Álvarez-Rivera, “Elections to the Italian Parliament,” Election Resources, 25 May 2014, <http://electionresources.org/it/>
- 94 Italy Heritage, “The Italian Electoral System,” 3 January 2015, <http://www.italyheritage.com/traditions/2013/italian-electoral-law.htm>
- 95 Economics Help, “Italian Debt Crisis,” 2015, <http://www.economicshelp.org/blog/5437/economics/italian-debt-crisis/>
- 96 Elisa Cencig, “Italy’s Economy in the Euro Zone Crisis and Monti’s Reform Agenda” (working paper, Research Division, EU Integration Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik, German Institute for International and Security Affairs, September 2012), http://www.swp-berlin.org/fileadmin/contents/products/arbeitspapiere/Italy_Economy.pdf
- 97 Jordan Weissmann, “4 Reasons Why Italy’s Economy Is Such a Disaster,” *Atlantic*, 10 November 2011, <http://www.theatlantic.com/business/archive/2011/11/4-reasons-why-italys-economy-is-such-a-disaster/248238/>

- 98 Paolo Borioni, "Italy: From Recession to a New Socio-Economic Identity," *Social Europe*, 4 December 2012, <http://www.socialeurope.eu/2012/12/italy-from-recession-to-a-new-socio-economic-identity/>
- 99 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, "Italy: History: Italy Since 1945," 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/297474/Italy/27769/The-partisans-and-the-Resistance>
- 100 History World, "History of Italy: Republic of Italy," n.d., <http://www.historyworld.net/wrldhis/PlainTextHistories.asp?groupid=3437&HistoryID=ac52>rack=pthc>
- 101 Claudio Lavanga, "Italy Rocked by Corruption, Drug Scandals," NBC News, 26 September 2012, http://worldnews.nbcnews.com/_news/2012/09/26/14113589-italy-rocked-by-corruption-drug-scandals?lite
- 102 Laurence Kotlikoff, "Italy's Economic Salvation: Rename Its Debt," *Forbes*, 16 January 2015, <http://www.forbes.com/sites/kotlikoff/2015/01/16/italys-economic-salvation-rename-its-debt/>
- 103 Roger Bootle, "The Solution to Italy's Woes Is Quite Simple: Leave the Euro," *Telegraph*, 21 September 2014, <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/finance/comment/11112293/The-solution-to-Italys-woes-is-quite-simple-leave-the-euro.html>
- 104 Christopher Alessi and James McBride, "CFR Backgrounders: The Eurozone in Crisis," Council on Foreign Relations, 11 February 2015, <http://www.cfr.org/eu/eurozone-crisis/p22055>

Chapter 2 Assessment

1. Italy was founded in the 15th century.

FALSE

The origins of Italy stretch back to before the 6th century B.C.E. Numerous Indo-European tribes occupied territories on the Italian Peninsula, and Greek colonists settled some areas. The Etruscans were the largest group of early settlers.

2. The Roman Empire was divided into two empires.

TRUE

Constant strife and civil war led to the division of the Roman Empire into the Western Empire and the Eastern Empire.

3. At one point, Italy was not part of the Roman Empire.

TRUE

The Germanic Lombards conquered much of the Italian Peninsula, and by the 8th century, Italy was no longer a part of the Roman Empire.

4. In medieval Italy, cities were allies with one another because they were independent.

FALSE

Independence nurtured survival, causing cities to become disenfranchised from one another. Cities hired mercenary armies to protect themselves and to conduct war with each other.

5. In the 18th century, Italy failed to enact reforms to alleviate constant warfare.

FALSE

In the 18th century, Italy attempted to mitigate the effects of constant warfare. Guilds that had been established to keep power in the hands of a few families were abolished.



*New & old economic means
Flickr / Riccardo Palazzani*

Chapter 3 Economy

Introduction

In recent years, Italy's economy has declined rapidly. It has amassed a huge public debt that has caused the government to fall in arrears in many cases and forced the country into austerity measures that had little mitigating effect on the economy. Many large industries, such as steel, have been beset by problems of pollution. Unemployment has risen to alarmingly high numbers overall, and youth unemployment numbers are even higher. The economic outlook is worse in the south than in the north. Many southern Italians have begun migrating north to look for work; other Italians have begun emigrating abroad, contributing to a serious drain of talent and intellect that the country needs. Italians continue to work and to seek out avenues to revive their economy, even



Sheep

Flickr / Riccardo Palazzani

as many businesses fold and economic hardships persist.

Agriculture

Italy's agricultural sector went through a serious reform in 1950 when the Land Reform Act removed control of the land from the aristocratic classes and put it in the hands of the local peasantry. Currently, a quarter of Italy's agriculture occurs in the plains regions. Northern Italy is the most fertile region, where the Po Valley constitutes a massive agricultural area fed by annual rains and the Po River.^{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7}

Wheat, rice, corn, and tomatoes make up some of Italy's most important crops. Wheat

production is divided into two sectors. In the north, yields of soft wheat (used for making biscuits, bread, etc.) exceed those of hard or durum wheat (used for making pasta) in the south. High annual rainfall in the north as well as greater fertility and mechanized farming combine to create an agricultural climate conducive to greater production. Rice is grown in the northern plains where water is bountiful. Although Italians seldom eat rice, Italy is the largest producer of rice in Europe. Although corn is grown throughout the country, corn production is mainly concentrated in the northern region. In recent years, pest infestation and drought have led to severely damaged crops and low production levels. Italian corn farmers are currently fighting to be able to use genetically modified seeds, which would help combat pest infestation and disease in their crops. Tomatoes, one of Italy's most important field crops, play a large role in the domestic and export economy. Italy has increased the amount of land it dedicates to tomato agriculture. Italy exports tomato paste and other processed tomato products to countries such as Ghana. It also produces tomato juice, juice concentrate, and powder.^{8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20}

Products such as olives and grapes figure largely in Italy's agricultural economy. Olives are a major export crop. The climate of southern Italy is ideal for olive cultivation, which has increased over the years. Although small-scale farming has been decreasing, industrial olive growing operations are on the rise to meet the demand for Italian olive oil. Italy is the world's largest exporter of olive oil. Poor weather and blight in 2014 caused severe damage to Italy's olive crops that will be felt in upcoming years. Grapes, the majority of which are grown for wine production, are cultivated in all regions of Italy. Northern Italy, however, is more important to wine production than the south because of the popularity of wines from the north. Fruit production in Italy is also important to the economy. Citrus fruit is grown mostly in Sicily, where three-fifths of

Italy's citrus crops are grown. The remaining two-fifths are grown in southern Italy. Italy produces lemons, a variety of oranges, grapefruit, and limes. Italy is the second-largest producer of citrus in Europe. One of the top fruit producers in Europe, Italy also grows a large number of deciduous fruits. Apples and pears are among the major crops.^{21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27}

Italy's pastureland, which totals around one-sixth of the country's land in use, is economically productive. Pastureland in the north is the center of animal husbandry. Cattle, hog, and bird husbandry is a mainstay in the north, and sheep ranching is a southern staple, especially for the production of milk. In recent years, competition from other European countries has hindered Italy's cattle industry, but the nation has made up for it by increasing its hog farming operations. Still, cattle byproducts—such as milk, cheese, and butter—are solidly entrenched in the national economy.^{28, 29, 30, 31, 32}

Forestry constitutes another important sector of Italy's agricultural economy. Consisting of a wide variety of coniferous and deciduous trees, Italy's forested areas have been exploited to provide wood-based panels, pulp for paper, and lumber. Less than two-fifths of Italy's landmass is forested, and 60% of that is devoted to the production of wood products. The remaining 40% is reserved for conservation.^{33, 34, 35}



*Factory at Sunset
Flickr / efilpera*

Industry

The two main industries in Italy are automobiles and textiles. Although they perform well, a shortage of domestic raw materials for these industries forces Italy to import raw materials. In 2013, Italy's car industry suffered its lowest car sales in the past 30 years. Low car sales can have a profound effect on the Italian economy; the car industry makes up more than 11% of the national GDP (gross domestic product). To help mitigate the negative impact the sluggish economy had on the automobile industry, Italy began partnering with countries such as Germany and Japan. The market took an upward turn in 2014; Italy's auto market—the fourth largest in Europe—rose

4.21% for the year, and analysts and experts predict further increases into 2015. Italy's textile industry is world famous. Although large textile companies exist, Italy's small textile firms produce the superior materials that have made the industry synonymous with quality. But the high cost of quality Italian textiles, along with the time-consuming processes used to manufacture them, has led to a decline in the industry. The global economic downturn sent many of the world's textile producers, including those in Italy,

to Eastern Europe and China to cut costs. Many exclusive manufacturers have found themselves in debt, and demand for their products has decreased as fashion designers and home textile companies have begun using less expensive materials. Despite financial problems in the industry, Italy continues to hold its place as the second-largest producer of textile machinery manufacturers.^{36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43}

Steel is important to the Italian economy; the industry contributes approximately 4% to the country's GDP. In recent years, Italy's steel industry has been beset by numerous problems. Plant closures have threatened the economy by reducing the amount of steel it produces by nearly one-third. Closures led to 20,000–35,000 job losses. Industry experts fear that production costs may increase by several billion dollars each year if shutdowns continue. Although Italy is the second-largest producer of steel in the EU (European Union), all but raw steel is becoming too costly to produce. Surviving steel plants have had to contend with government regulations because of the severe pollution they have caused in local environments.^{44, 45, 46, 47}

Italy is the fourth-largest producer of chemicals in the European Union. Chemicals constitute a strong portion of Italy's industrial GDP, which averages approximately 23% of total GDP. The chemical industry produces rubber, plastic, fertilizers, and industrial chemicals. Pharmaceutical sales alone account for nearly USD 70.5 billion. The industry maintains approximately 3,000 companies with a total employment number of approximately 320,000 people. Research and development in the industry is growing. The industry continues to branch out into the international market, and exports have continued to grow in recent years.^{48, 49, 50}

Food processing constitutes a strong portion of the Italian economy. Numerous smaller companies have been consolidated in recent years, so only a few companies represent a large percentage of sales. As of 2014, 10 food-processing companies recorded nearly 40% of domestic sales in the industry.^{51, 52}

Energy

Italy's energy system relies heavily on imports of oil and natural gas. Domestic reserves in Italy are mediocre: The country contains the fifth-largest reserves in Europe. In 2013 Italy was importing as much as 1.1 million barrels per day (bbl/d) from countries such as Libya, Saudi Arabia, and Russia. The crude oil it imports from these countries is refined domestically. Italy has the second-largest oil refining capabilities in the European Union, and it exports refined oil to other countries. But competition from Asian countries has negatively impacted the viability of the oil refining business in Italy. As a result, some refineries are threatened with closure. Offshore drilling has been banned near coastal areas, but Italy has resumed offshore drilling for oil in some instances. In recent years, crude oil extraction has been made feasible with the discovery of proven oil reserves in southern Italy.^{53, 54, 55, 56, 57}



Oil drilling
Flickr / cowboybeeboop

Italy is the second-largest natural gas importer in the European Union and has the sixth-largest reserves of natural gas in Europe. It pipes most of its gas from Algeria and Libya. Italy also imports liquefied natural gas from Qatar. Nearly one-third of Italy's imported natural gas is used to generate power. More than 50% of power production in Italy is fired through gas. Residential and commercial demand for gas has been growing in recent years. The gas distribution infrastructure is modern and provides gas to nearly 90% of Italian residences.^{58, 59, 60, 61}

Italy has vacillated on its use of nuclear energy.

On the one hand, it decommissioned its remaining two (of its original four) nuclear power plants after the 1986 Chernobyl incident. On the other hand, Italy has proposed rebuilding its nuclear sector in the hope that it will provide up to 25% of electricity production. This plan was rejected in 2011, yet the country still imports nuclear energy, which supplies 10% of its electricity. Italy is now trying to partner with France to increase its nuclear capacity, a continuation of a deal the two nations struck in 2005. Italy has also partnered with Slovak Electric, which runs a number of reactors.^{62, 63, 64, 65}

The Italian government wants to successfully meet its national energy strategy, which seeks to use renewable energy sources to meet 23% of its primary consumption by the year 2020. At the same time, it is cutting back on subsidies for renewable resources. Italy's electric grid is required to give precedence to electricity generated from renewable sources. Italy believes that renewable energy sources will lower the cost of power for users and help pave the way for a much-needed economic recovery.^{66, 67, 68, 69, 70}

Natural Resources

Natural resources in Italy are scarce, and those that exist are of poor quality. Coal is used to help fire a small portion of Italy's energy facilities, but coal production in the country came to a halt in 2001. Since then, Italy has relied on coal imports from Poland, the United States, South Africa, China, and other nations. Thermal coal imports from the United States, Indonesia, and South Africa account for 80% of Italy's total coal imports.^{71, 72, 73, 74}

Until the mid-to-late 20th century, Italy was self-sufficient in many mineral resources, such as aluminum, sulfur, and zinc. It also had strong reserves of minerals such as pyrites, asbestos, and fluorite. These resources were severely depleted during the 20th century, and Italy is no longer able to rely on them as a significant contribution to its GDP. But Italy still possesses large reserves of mercury and fluorine minerals, which



*Abandoned coal mine
Flickr / Katrina*

have multiple uses, one of which is as an additive to metals in the smelting process. In addition, Italy is a world leader in silicates, producing one-quarter of the world's output. Silicates are important ingredients in numerous applications, such as bleaching paper pulp, adhesives, drilling fluids, water treatment, grouting, and foundry binders.^{75, 76, 77, 78}

Italy is also famous for its marble. The most famous is the white marble cut from quarries in Tuscany, which has an international reputation. Despite declines in other mineral sources throughout Italy, marble continues to generate brisk international demand. Other regions produce marble as well. Valpolicella, Rovere, and Lessinia,

in the district of Verona, produce marble in shades of black, yellow, and pink. Marble production also occurs in the Ausoni Mountains south of Rome and in the Sardinian regions of Gallura and Orosei.^{79, 80, 81}

Trade (Exports and Imports)

Trade has long been a major component of Italy's economy. Geographically, Italy is well situated to conduct trade with Western and Eastern Europe, as well as North Africa and eastern Mediterranean countries. Italy trades with OPEC (Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries) nations, China, Russia, the United States, and EU member states. From 2013 through 2015, Italy has reported consistent trade surpluses. Its exports during these years rose while imports declined.^{82, 83}

Italy exports numerous products. Originally built upon textiles and manufactured goods, Italy's export market now focuses on automobiles and textiles. Metals and engineering are growing, and the country regularly exports clothing and leather goods. Minor exports for Italy are transport equipment, beverages, and tobacco. Italy is a world leader in exports stemming from its mineral resources. Germany, France, the United States, Switzerland, Spain, and the United Kingdom are Italy's main export countries.^{84, 85, 86}

Italy's imports total approximately USD 448.3 billion. Because of the sparsity of domestic natural resources, Italy is forced to import many products, especially for its energy needs. Some of Italy's main import partners are Germany, France, China, the Netherlands, Spain, and Belgium. Italy imports chemicals and minerals as well as raw materials to produce many of its goods. North Africa and Middle Eastern countries supply much of Italy's oil.^{87, 88}



*Souvenir stand in Milan
Flickr / Lorenzoclick*

Tourism

Tourism is a massive industry in Italy. The services industry in Italy makes up approximately 74% of the country's GDP. But despite the nation's well-developed tourism sector, Italy has begun to lag behind other European destinations, such as France and Spain. The decline in tourism is due in part to demographics and employment conditions in the country that make tourism as a career path unattractive to many Italians. To expand the industry, Italy has begun development of subsectors to traditional tourism. These include sports and activity-based tourism destinations for activities such as cycling, skiing, diving, and walking. The "blue tourism" sector focuses on water-related activities, such as cruising, yachting, and coastal visits. Blue tourism is considered key to developing the economically depressed southern regions of Italy.^{89, 90, 91}

Annually, tourism brings in nearly 140 billion euros. As the Chinese economy continues to grow, tourism from China to Italy grows in tandem, and Italy is eager to capitalize on this new demographic. Additionally, domestic tourism has been on the rise since 2012. Italians are choosing to remain in Italy and take their holidays domestically. The tourist industry handles nearly 40 million arrivals annually and employs more than 1.5 million individuals.⁹²



Euros
Flickr / Nils Geylen

Banking and Finance

The Bank of Italy is responsible for ensuring the stability of the nation's banking system. Part of the Eurosystem (which includes the European Central Bank), the Bank of Italy was given its authority in 2013 through directives and regulations that have been recognized by the European Parliament and the European Council. Italy introduced the euro as its official form of currency in 2002, and since that time the Bank of Italy has managed its circulation. Still, Italy ranks low on the Global Competitiveness Index for 2014–2015. Among its failings are corruption, lack of financial sector development, and a poorly functioning labor market. Although the Italian

government is working to correct its banking system, substantive changes have not yet occurred.^{93, 94, 95, 96, 97}

Italy's banking system consists of three kinds of banks: commercial banks, savings banks, and investment banks. Commercial and savings banks operate only at the provincial and regional levels. Commercial banks are not cost effective, although they do turn profits. Savings banks went through a series of reforms beginning in the 1990s, moving them from small independent holdings into larger banking groups with greater competitiveness in the market. But on the whole, these banks perform poorly. The two major banks in the country eclipse their efficacy, and the European Central Bank has resorted to management of much of Italy's banking sector, hoping to eliminate the corruption and outdated practices that have left them poor performers. A mild recovery in 2014 resulted in a minor upgrade of Italy's overall ranking, but true reform of the sector has yet to occur.^{98, 99, 100, 101, 102}

Standard of Living

The standard of living for average Italians remains high, despite high unemployment, a large public debt, and a great deal of documented social discord. The standard of living in the north is much higher than in the economically depressed regions of the south, where unemployment rates are higher.^{103, 104, 105, 106}

On the whole, Italians earn more than average households in other OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) countries. Although disposable incomes in Italy dropped in 2012, they have seen a small yet steady rise since then. Education is problematic. Only 56% of adult Italians have earned the equivalent of a high school diploma, and literacy, math, and science scores for Italians fall below OECD averages.



*Homeless woman
Flickr / Armando Moreschi*

Still, literacy remains high. Italians have a good healthcare system, and their life expectancy at birth is nearly 83 years. Atmospheric conditions are decent, and water quality is generally good. The exceptions are large cities and industrial centers where air and water pollution have damaged the health of some people. Italy's public health system is the National Health Service (Servizio Sanitario Nazionale, or SSN). It provides free and subsidized medicine, treatment, surgeries, and general treatment and services. Funding for the National Health Service comes from the central government; therefore, personal income tax in Italy stays in the 40 percentile

range.^{107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113}

Employment Trends (Unemployment Rates)

Overall, unemployment hovers around 12.5%; however, unemployment for workers under the age of 24 is nearly 37%. A further employment disparity exists between southern and northern Italy. Unemployment is much higher in southern Italy than in northern Italy. In part, this is because northern Italy is much more developed while southern Italy retains much of its traditional economy. Women and youth suffer the effects of unemployment more acutely than others in Italy, and roughly 70% of children in poverty live in southern Italy. This economic divide has resulted in the migration of large numbers of youth from southern to northern Italy, a minor stopgap measure that has failed to mitigate the real effects of long-term unemployment throughout the country.^{114, 115, 116, 117}

Another contributor to endemic unemployment in Italy is the phenomenon of overprotected workers. Overprotected workers are those individuals who have been in their jobs for many years and have open-ended contracts. Regardless of performance or the viability of their jobs, these workers are kept on the payroll. In effect, employers are unable to remove older employees from their ranks, which hinders growth and keeps younger workers from entering the workforce. Prime Minister Matteo Renzi pushed through a Jobs Act to help eliminate overprotected workers, but the move is too recent to see tangible results. Instead, younger workers are trying to start their own businesses or are leaving to work abroad. Those who cannot do so are forced into a cycle of internships and apprenticeships with little hope of gaining a job once their training is over. Struggling companies are using low and unpaid young people for a period of time and replacing them once their term of service is up rather than hiring them.^{118, 119, 120, 121,}

¹²²



*Automotive Industry
Flickr / Alessandro*

Public vs. Private Sector

Italy's public sector accounts for a healthy portion of Italy's GDP. Until the 1990s, the public sector made up a large portion of the Italian economy. During that time, however, many industries invited private investment or privatized completely. At the time of the move to greater privatization, the Italian government acted as a holding company with numerous companies underneath acting as financial holding companies. The system had its difficulties; many public sector enterprises began losing money and filing for bankruptcy protection. The definition of the public sector itself comes under much scrutiny. In Italy,

any business funded by public money or facilitated by personnel from any government body—no matter how small or tangential—can be defined as public sector. Despite efforts to reduce the size of the public sector, many Italians bristle at what they perceive as misconduct in public sector enterprises. For example, they cite endemic absenteeism as part of the problem. Public sector managers also make many times more than their counterparts in the private sector, giving the impression that the government misuses public funds. Moreover, public sector businesses have the highest rate of late payments for goods and services. The result is that private sector businesses have an enormous reduction in their liquidity, which harms their profitability. Overall, less than 30% of Italians view their government with confidence.^{123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128}

Once comprised of numerous small business, the private sector in Italy has grown and now accounts for approximately 85% of GDP. This does not mean that private businesses are exclusively huge companies. Many continue to operate as small, family-run businesses that employ fewer than 50 people. They service a set of niche industries that are characterized by highly specialized skills and products of exceptional quality. Companies that have expanded include those related to the steel, automotive, and appliances industries. The success of the private sector is unquestionable. The Italian government itself has begun to rely on the private sector as a source of much-needed income during its recession. To date, the Italian government owes more than USD 100 billion to private suppliers and is behind in payments of approximately USD 46 billion to private interests. The Italian government has even begun bringing private sector businesses into the public sector to help make them profitable.^{129, 130, 131, 132, 133}



*Bank
Flickr / DaveLevy*

Future Outlook

Although the future of Italy's economy may look grim to some, the government continues to strive toward eliminating culturally entrenched practices and massive government inefficiencies that have kept the economy from emerging from its current recession. The OECD predicts growth throughout 2015 and "acceleration" in 2016. The European Central Bank has taken the reins and implemented a monetary policy aimed at boosting the economy through increased investment and bank lending. Exports are also predicted to rise as a result of the ECB monetary policy. Although Italy predicts a steady decline in unemployment over the next few decades, its prediction is conservative. It sees

unemployment dropping from more than 12% to 8.25% by 2030.^{134, 135, 136, 137}

Despite confidence in some economic forums, the International Monetary Fund has downgraded Italy's future economic outlook. It cites Italy's shrinking economy for 3 consecutive years (as of 2014). Public debt has also been cited as an obstacle to economic recovery. Italy's public debt is second only to Greece's in the eurozone. Because of these limitations, Italy's growth rate hovers around zero. If it tries to grow too quickly, spikes in inflation may damage the economy further. As a large player in the eurozone, Italy may not be able to remedy its economic crisis as other top economies in the eurozone begin to experience declines in growth.^{138, 139, 140}

Endnotes

- 1 Mark Gilbert and Robert K. Nilsson, "Land Reform," in *Historical Dictionary of Modern Italy*, 2nd ed. (New York: Scarecrow Press, 2007), 228–29.
- 2 Lorraine Murray, ed., "Chapter 2: The Italian Economy: Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing," in *The Britannica Guide to Countries of the European Union: Italy* (New York: Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc., 2014), 26–27.
- 3 Felicita Scapini and Gabriele Ciampi, eds., "Chapter 5.2: The Grosseto Plain: A Recent Landscape with an Age-Old History," in *Coastal Water Bodies: Nature and Culture Conflicts in the Mediterranean* (New York: Springer Science and Business Media, 2010), 82–83.
- 4 Roy Domenico, "Calabria: History," in *The Regions of Italy: A Reference Guide to History and Culture* (Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 2002), 42–44
- 5 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, "Italy: Economy: Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing," 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/297474/Italy/26990/Agriculture-forestry-and-fishing>
- 6 Understanding Italy, "The Geography of Italy: The Plains," n.d., <http://www.understandingitaly.com/profile-content/geography.html>
- 7 Erla Zwingle, "Po: River of Pain and Plenty," *National Geographic*, May 2002, <http://ngm.nationalgeographic.com/ngm/0205/feature6/>
- 8 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, "Italy: Economy: Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing," 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/297474/Italy/26990/Agriculture-forestry-and-fishing>
- 9 Stefano Baldi, "Italy: Italian Grain and Feed Report 2012" (Global Agricultural Information Network, USDA Foreign Agricultural Service, 15 May 2012), http://gain.fas.usda.gov/Recent%20GAIN%20Publications/Italian%20Grain%20and%20Feed%20%20Report%202012_Rome_Italy_5-9-2012.pdf
- 10 Delallo, "Wheat and Water," 2015, <http://www.delallo.com/articles/wheat-and-water>
- 11 Spectrum Commodities, "Wheat: World Supply and Demand Summary: Italy," n.d., <http://www.spectrumcommodities.com/education/commodity/statistics/wheat.html>
- 12 Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, "International Year of Rice 2004: Italy," 30 December 2004, <http://www.fao.org/rice2004/en/p7.htm>
- 13 Rice and Wine, "History of Rice in Italy," n.d., <http://www.riceandwine.com/rice/history.php>
- 14 Henry Hoffman, "Po Valley Rice Production," Henry Hoffman, 9 June 2007, <https://hhoffman.wordpress.com/2007/06/09/po-valley-rice-production/>
- 15 Life in Italy, "Riso and Rosotto," 26 December 2014, <http://www.lifeinitaly.com/food/risotto.asp>
- 16 Spectrum Commodities, "Corn: World Supply and Demand: Italy," n.d., <http://www.spectrumcommodities.com/education/commodity/statistics/corn.html>
- 17 Angelica Marin, "This Italian Farmer Is Fighting for the Right to Grow Genetically Modified Corn on His Land," Public Radio International, 3 June 2014, <http://www.pri.org/stories/2014-06-03/italian-farmer-fighting-right-grow-genetically-modified-corn-his-land>
- 18 Mischa Popoff, "The Latest Italian Job," Heartland, 26 September 2013, <http://news.heartland.org/editorial/2013/09/26/latest-italian-job>
- 19 Mathilde Auvillain and Stefano Liberti, "The Dark Side of the Italian Tomato," Al Jazeera, 3 July 2014, <http://webapps.aljazeera.net/aje/custom/2014/italiantomato/index.html>
- 20 Steinhauser Group, "Italy: Tomato," n.d., <http://www.steinhausergroup.de/english/resources/ittomato.htm>
- 21 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, "Italy: Economy: Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing," 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/297474/Italy/26990/Agriculture-forestry-and-fishing>
- 22 Made in South Italy Today, "Italian Olive Oil Production," 2014, <http://www.madeinsouthitalytoday.com/made-in-italy-olive-oil.php>
- 23 Philip Ross, "Europe Olive Oil Crisis: 2014 Harvest 'Worst Year in Memory,' Drives Up Cost," *International Business*

- Times*, 18 November 2014, <http://www.ibtimes.com/europe-olive-oil-crisis-2014-harvest-worst-year-memory-drives-costs-1725512>
- 24 Understanding Italy, “Italian Wine,” n.d., <http://www.understandingitaly.com/wine.html>
- 25 Monica Lerner, “Master Italian Wine Facts and Terms,” *Wine Enthusiast*, 2015, <http://www.winemag.com/italy/>
- 26 Fruitbook, “Citrus,” 2011, <http://www.fruit-book.com/citrus>
- 27 Ornella Bettini, “Italy: Fresh Deciduous Fruit Annual 2014,” (Global Agricultural Information Network, USDA Foreign Agricultural Service, 21 October 2014), http://gain.fas.usda.gov/Recent%20GAIN%20Publications/Fresh%20Deciduous%20Fruit%20Annual%202014_Rome_Italy_10-28-2014.pdf
- 28 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Italy: Economy: Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/297474/Italy/26990/Agriculture-forestry-and-fishing>
- 29 Stefano Baldi, “Italy: Italian Livestock and Products Outlook 2012” (Global Agricultural Information Network, USDA Foreign Agricultural Service, 24 January 2012), http://gain.fas.usda.gov/Recent%20GAIN%20Publications/Italian%20Livestock%20and%20Products%20Outlook%202012_Rome_Italy_1-24-2012.pdf
- 30 Agraria, “Italian Breeds of Sheep,” n.d., <http://eng.agraria.org/sheep.htm>
- 31 Federica Web Learning, “Sheep,” n.d., <http://www.federica.unina.it/agraria/animal-production/sheep/>
- 32 EBLEX, “Italian Sheep Sector Struggling,” 24 March 2015, <http://www.eblex.org.uk/market-intelligence-news/italian-sheep-sector-struggling/>
- 33 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Italy: Economy: Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/297474/Italy/26990/Agriculture-forestry-and-fishing>
- 34 State of South Carolina, “Italy Market Profile,” 28 October 2004, <http://www.state.sc.us/forest/fprodita.pdf>
- 35 Anders Baudin, Matti Flinkman, and Hans-Olof Nordvall, “3.1.2: Wood Provision from Domestic Sources” (Pre-Project Report, Review of the Italian Timber Market—with Focus on Tropical Timber, International Tropical Timber Organization, July 2005,) 36–41,
- 36 Economy Watch, “Italy Industry Sectors, Italy Industries,” 24 March 2010, http://www.economywatch.com/world_economy/italy/industry-sector-industries.html
- 37 Reuters, “Italian Government Meets with Car Industry to Tackle Sales Crisis,” 24 October 2013, <http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/10/24/italy-autos-idUSL5N0IE3UM20131024>
- 38 Tommaso Ebhardt, “Fiat Turns to Germany as Italy Sales Seen Worst Since ’66,” *Bloomberg*, 3 April 2013, <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2013-04-03/fiat-turns-to-germany-as-italy-sales-seen-worst-since-66>
- 39 Reuters, “Car Sales Slump in France, but Rise in Spain and Italy,” 2 January 2015, <http://uk.reuters.com/article/2015/01/02/uk-europe-vehicleregistrations-france-idUKKBN0KB16K20150102>
- 40 Christina Binkley, “In Italy’s Mills, a New Spin Emerges,” *Wall Street Journal*, 5 March 2010, <http://www.wsj.com/articles/SB10001424052748704240004575085502462249586>
- 41 David Segal, “Is Italy Too Italian?,” *New York Times*, 31 July 2010, http://www.nytimes.com/2010/08/01/business/global/01italy.html?_r=0
- 42 Jürg Rupp, “Italy: The Eternal Way to Survive,” *Textile World*, April 2013, http://www.textileworld.com/Articles/2013/April/Features/Italy-The_Eternal_Way_To_Survive
- 43 John Foot, “Chapter 3: Economy and Society: Industrial Italy: The Textile Industry,” in *Modern Italy* (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2014), 153–54.
- 44 Reuters, “Italy’s Steel Sector Decline Signals Bad Omen for Europe,” 6 December 2012, <http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/12/06/italy-steel-crisis-idUSL5E8N57V220121206>
- 45 Stahleisen, “Perspectives for Italian Steel Companies,” 19 August 2013, http://www.stahleisen.de/Portals/stahleisen/Leseprobe_EE-2-2013.pdf
- 46 BBC News, “Italian Government Steps In to Save Ilva Steel Plant,” 24 December 2014, <http://www.bbc.com/news/>

47 Kambiz Foroohar and Chiara Remondini, “Italy’s Riva Steel Billionaires May Close Largest Factory,” *Bloomberg*, 18 January 2015, <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2013-01-17/italy-s-riva-steel-billionaires-may-close-largest-factory>

48 Alison Behnke, “The Economy: Manufacturing and Industry,” in *Italy in Pictures* (Minneapolis, MN: Lerner Publishing Group, 2003), 59–60.

49 Chemanager International, “Chemical Industry in Italy,” 13 December 2012, <http://www.chemanager-online.com/en/topics/industrial-sites/chemical-industry-italy>

50 Simone Colombo, “Innovation and Italy’s Chemicals Industries,” American Institute of Chemical Engineers, April 2014, http://www.aiche.org/sites/default/files/cep/20140454_2.pdf

51 Dana Biasetti, “Italy: Food Processing Ingredients: 2014 Italian Food Processing Ingredients Sector” (Global Agricultural Information Network, USDA Foreign Agricultural Service, 5 December 2014), http://gain.fas.usda.gov/Recent%20GAIN%20Publications/Food%20Processing%20Ingredients_Rome_Italy_12-5-2014.pdf

52 M. Bonetti et al., “The Food Industry in Italy,” AUA, n.d., http://www.ip.aula.gr/studies/italian%20team_final.pdf

53 U.S. Energy Information Administration, “Italy: Country Analysis Note,” n.d., <http://www.eia.gov/countries/country-data.cfm?fips=it>

54 International Energy Agency, “Energy Policies of IEA Countries: Italy: 2009 Review,” 2009, <http://www.iea.org/publications/freepublications/publication/italy2009.pdf>

55 International Energy Agency, “Chapter 4: Emergency Response Systems of Individual IEA Countries,” in *Energy Supply Security 2014*, 2014, 257–71, https://www.iea.org/media/freepublications/security/EnergySupplySecurity2014_Italy.pdf

56 Alessandra Migliaccio, “Oil Fields Under Olive Groves Offer Italy Economic Boost,” *Bloomberg*, 30 May 2013, <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2013-05-29/oil-fields-under-olive-groves-offer-italy-economic-boost>

57 Eric Reguly, “Energy Giants Eye Italy as South Embarks on New Oil Boom,” *Globe and Mail*, 20 January 2014, <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/international-business/european-business/energy-giants-eye-italy-as-south-embarks-on-new-oil-boom/article16404351/>

58 U.S. Energy Information Administration, “Italy: Country Analysis Note,” n.d., <http://www.eia.gov/countries/country-data.cfm?fips=it>

59 International Energy Agency, “Energy Policies of IEA Countries: Italy: 2009 Review,” 2009, <http://www.iea.org/publications/freepublications/publication/italy2009.pdf>

60 Anouk Honoré, “The Italian Gas Market: Challenges and Opportunities” (paper, Oxford Institute for Energy Studies, June 2013), <http://www.cne.es/cgi-bin/BRSCGI.exe?CMD=VEROBJ&MLKOB=739773501515>

61 International Energy Agency, “Chapter 4: Emergency Response Systems of Individual IEA Countries,” in *Energy Supply Security 2014*, 2014, 257–71, https://www.iea.org/media/freepublications/security/EnergySupplySecurity2014_Italy.pdf

62 International Energy Agency, “Energy Policies of IEA Countries: Italy: 2009 Review,” 2009, <http://www.iea.org/publications/freepublications/publication/italy2009.pdf>

63 World Nuclear Association, “Nuclear Power in Italy,” November 2014, <http://www.world-nuclear.org/info/Country-Profiles/Countries-G-N/Italy/>

64 Jorge Morales Pedraza, “Chapter 8: The Current Situation and Perspectives on the Use of Nuclear Energy for Electricity Generation,” in *Electrical Energy Generation in Europe: The Current Situation and Perspectives in the Use of Renewable Energy Sources and Nuclear Power for Regional Electricity Generation* (New York: Springer, 2015), 455.

65 International Business Publications, USA, “Economic and Political Development: Italian Economy—Important Developments: Energy and Natural Resources,” in *Italy: Country Study Guide, vol. 1: Strategic Information and Developments* (Washington DC: International Business Publications, USA, 2013), 159.

66 U.S. Energy Information Administration, “Italy: Country Analysis Note,” n.d., <http://www.eia.gov/countries/>

[country-data.cfm?fips=it](#)

67 International Energy Agency, “Energy Policies of IEA Countries: Italy: 2009 Review,” 2009, <http://www.iea.org/publications/freepublications/publication/italy2009.pdf>

68 World Nuclear Association, “Nuclear Power in Italy,” November 2014, <http://www.world-nuclear.org/info/Country-Profiles/Countries-G-N/Italy/>

69 Edoardo Binda Zane, “Legal Sources on Renewable Energy: Italy: Summary,” RES Legal, 24 November 2014, <http://www.res-legal.eu/search-by-country/italy/summary/c/italy/s/res-e/sum/152/lpid/151/>

70 Energy Charter, “Italy’s National Energy Strategy: For a More Competitive and Sustainable Energy,” March 2013, http://www.encharter.org/fileadmin/user_upload/Energy_policies_and_legislation/Italy_2013_National_Energy_Strategy_ENG.pdf

71 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Italy: Economy: Resources and Power: Iron and Coal,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/297474/Italy/26994/Forestry#toc26986>

72 MBendi, “Coal Mining in Italy: Overview,” 2015, <http://www.mbendi.com/indy/ming/coal/eu/it/p0005.htm>

73 Platts, “Italy’s 2013 Thermal Coal Imports to Be Stable On-Year at 19 Million MT: Assocarboni,” 13 November 2013, <http://www.platts.com/latest-news/coal/london/italys-2013-thermal-coal-imports-to-be-stable-21815604>

74 Russell King, ed., “Resources, Natural and Human: The Changing Pattern of Power Sources,” in *The Industrial Geography of Italy* (New York: Routledge, 2015).

75 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Italy: Economy: Resources and Power: Mineral Production,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/297474/Italy/26994/Forestry#toc26986>

76 Eniscuola, “Deposits and Mines in Italy,” n.d., <http://www.eniscuola.net/en/argomento/subsoil/mineral-deposits/deposits-and-mines-in-italy/>

77 Alberto Alexander Perez, “The Mineral Industry of Italy,” in *2010 Minerals Yearbook*, U.S. Geological Survey, U.S. Department of the Interior, October 2012, <http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals/pubs/country/2010/myb3-2010-it.pdf>

[gov/minerals/pubs/country/2010/myb3-2010-it.pdf](#)

78 PQ Europe, “Sodium and Potassium Silicates: Versatile Compounds for Your Applications,” October 2004, <http://pqcorp.com/Portals/1/docs/Sodium%20and%20Potassium%20silicates%20brochure%20ENG%20oct%202004.pdf>

79 Stone World, “Positive Trend for Italian Marble Exports Continues Despite Domestic Demand Down,” 22 March 2013, <http://www.stoneworld.com/articles/87475-positive-trend-for-italian-marble-exports-continues-despite-domestic-demand-down>

80 ItalTrade, “Italian Marble: History Makes the Difference,” n.d., <http://www.italtrade.com/focus/5603.htm>

81 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Italy: Economy: Resources and Power: Mineral Production,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/297474/Italy/26994/Forestry#toc26986>

82 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Italy: Economy: Trade,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/297474/Italy/27003/Trade>

83 Trading Economics, “Italy Balance of Trade,” 2015, <http://www.tradingeconomics.com/italy/balance-of-trade>

84 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Italy: Economy: Trade,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/297474/Italy/27003/Trade>

85 Economy Watch, “Italy Trade: Exports and Imports,” 24 March 2010, http://www.economywatch.com/world_economy/italy/export-import.html

86 Central Intelligence Agency, “Italy: Economy,” in *The World Factbook*, 24 April 2015, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/it.html>

87 Central Intelligence Agency, “Italy: Economy,” in *The World Factbook*, 24 April 2015, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/it.html>

88 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Italy: Economy: Trade,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/297474/Italy/27003/Trade>

89 Central Intelligence Agency, “Italy: Economy,” in *The World Factbook*, 24 April 2015, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/it.html>

- 90 European Commission, “Tourism Industry Sub-Sectors: Country Report: Italy,” March 2014, http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/sectors/tourism/tourism-business-portal/documents/business/internationalisation/italy_country_report.pdf
- 91 World Travel and Tourism Council, “Travel and Tourism: Economic Impact 2014: Italy” (report, London, 2014), <http://www.wttc.org/-/media/files/reports/economic%20impact%20research/country%20reports/italy2014.pdf>
- 92 Incorporate in Italy, “Successful Tourism Sector in Italy,” 30 April 2013, <https://incorporateinitaly.wordpress.com/2013/04/30/successful-tourism-sector-in-italy/>
- 93 Banca D’Italia, “Financial Stability,” n.d., <https://www.bancaditalia.it/compiti/stabilita-finanziaria/index.html?com.dotmarketing.htmlpage.language=1>
- 94 World Economic Forum, “The Global Competitiveness Report 2014–2015,” n.d., <http://reports.weforum.org/global-competitiveness-report-2014-2015/>
- 95 Attilio Di Battista, “How Can Italy’s Financial System Be Reformed?,” World Economic Forum, 12 May 2015, <https://agenda.weforum.org/2015/03/how-can-italys-financial-system-be-reformed/>
- 96 Bank of Italy, “The Italian Financial System: Trends and Perspectives” (paper, G-20 Project, Rome, 8 August 2003),
- 97 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Italy: Economy: Finance,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/297474/Italy/26999/Construction#ref318101>
- 98 Giovanni Legorano, “Italy’s Two Biggest Banks Post Strong Profit Growth,” *Wall Street Journal*, 11 November 2014, <http://www.wsj.com/articles/italys-two-biggest-banks-post-strong-profit-growth-1415738357>
- 99 *Economist*, “Looking Sickly: The European Central Bank’s Stress Tests Have Hit Italy’s Banks Hard,” 27 October 2014, <http://www.economist.com/news/business-and-finance/21628705-european-central-banks-stress-tests-could-shake-up-italys-fragmented-banking-system>
- 100 Banca IMI, “Italian Banking Sector: Slowly Moving Towards Normalisation in 2014” (Credit Sector Report, Intesa Sanpaolo Research Department, 23 December 2013),
- 101 Riccardo Ferretti, Marzia Torresetti, and Paola Vezzani, “Chapter 5: Performance and Efficiency of the Italian Banking System,” in *The Italian Banking System: Impact of the Crisis and Future Perspectives*, eds. Stefano Cosma and Elisabetta Gualandri (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2012), 67–96.
- 102 Armin Polster, “Italy’s Savings Banks: First Reforms Create Big Universal Banks with Untapped Potential,” in *EU Monitor* (no. 17, Deutsche Bank Research, Germany, 25 November 2004), http://www.dbresearch.com/PROD/DBR_INTERNET_EN-PROD/PROD000000000181854/EU+Monitor+No_+17%3A+Italy%27s+savings+banks%3A+first+re.pdf
- 103 OECD, “OECD Better Life Index: Italy,” n.d., <http://www.oecdbetterlifeindex.org/countries/italy/>
- 104 Barbie Latza Nadeau, “Italy’s Statistics Make It Look Like a Third World,” *Daily Beast*, 6 January 2013, <http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2013/01/06/italy-s-statistics-make-it-look-like-a-third-world.html>
- 105 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Italy,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/297474/Italy>
- 106 Expat Info Desk, “Living in Italy,” n.d., <http://www.expatinfodesk.com/expat-guide/deciding-on-the-right-country/top-expatriate-destinations/italy/>
- 107 OECD Better Life Index, “Italy,” n.d., <http://www.oecdbetterlifeindex.org/countries/italy/>
- 108 Elena Ralli, “Household Disposable Income in Italy Drops by 1.9%: Liguria, in Northern Italy, Was the Region Mostly Affected by the Crisis,” *New Europe*, 4 February 2014, <http://www.neurope.eu/article/household-disposable-income-italy-drops-19/>
- 109 European Central Bank, “Economic and Monetary Developments: Output, Demand and the Labour Market” (monthly bulletin, ECB, June 2014), https://www.ecb.europa.eu/pub/pdf/other/mb201406_focus06.en.pdf
- 110 UNICEF, “At a Glance: Italy: Statistics: Education,” 27 December 2013, http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/italy_statistics.html
- 111 David Maris, “US Healthcare: Welcome to Italy,” *Forbes*, 7 November 2012, <http://www.forbes.com/sites/davidmaris/2012/11/07/us-healthcare-welcome-to-italy/>
- 112 Just Landed, “The National Health Service: The Public

- Health System in Italy,” 2015, <https://www.justlanded.com/english/Italy/Italy-Guide/Health/The-National-Health-Service>
- 113 Trading Economics, “Italy Personal Income Tax Rate,” 2015, <http://www.tradingeconomics.com/italy/personal-income-tax-rate>
- 114 Central Intelligence Agency, “Italy: Economy: Unemployment Rate,” in *The World Factbook*, 24 April 2015, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/it.html>
- 115 Trading Economics, “Italy Unemployment Rates,” 2015, <http://www.tradingeconomics.com/italy/unemployment-rate>
- 116 Lizzy Davies, “The Six Things Wrong with Italy—and How to Solve Them,” *Guardian*, 20 February 2013, <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2013/feb/20/six-things-wrong-with-italy>
- 117 Kees van Heeringen et al., eds., “Chapter 2.2: Description of the Sample,” in *Living on the Edge: An Empirical Analysis on Long-Term Youth Unemployment and Social Exclusion in Europe* (Wiesbaden, Germany: Springer Fachmedien, 2013), 34–36.
- 118 Lorenzo Totaro, “Italy Unemployment Rises to New High, Showing Europe Divergence,” *Bloomberg*, 7 January 2015, <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2015-01-07/italy-jobless-rate-reaches-record-amid-growth-outlook-concerns>
- 119 YCharts, “Italy Youth Unemployment Rate,” n.d., https://ycharts.com/indicators/italy_youth_unemployment_rate_lfs
- 120 Barbie Latza Nadeau, “Italy’s Lost Generation: Youth Unemployment Hits Nearly 50 Percent,” *Daily Beast*, 7 June 2014, <http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2014/06/07/italy-s-lost-generation-youth-unemployment-hits-nearly-50-percent.html>
- 121 *Economist*, “Italy’s Labour Market: Marching to a Different Tune,” 26 February 2015, <http://www.economist.com/news/europe/21645256-bold-move-free-up-employment-marching-different-tune>
- 122 Fiona Ehlers, “Italy’s Lost Generation: Crisis Forces Young Italians to Move Abroad,” *Der Spiegel*, 6 August 2012, <http://www.spiegel.de/international/europe/euro-crisis-forces-many-italian-young-people-to-leave-a-848509.html>
- 123 Eurostat, “National Accounts and GDP,” May 2014, http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/National_accounts_and_GDP
- 124 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Italy: Economy: An Overview: Public and Private Sectors,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/297474/Italy/26983/Public-and-private-sectors>
- 125 Diego Coletto, “Industrial Relations in the Public Sector: Italy,” Eurofound, 10 December 2008, <http://www.eurofound.europa.eu/observatories/eurwork/comparative-information/national-contributions/italy/industrial-relations-in-the-public-sector-italy>
- 126 *Guardian*, “Italy: Public Sector Managers Highest Paid of OECD Countries,” 16 November 2013, <http://www.theguardian.com/public-leaders-network/2013/nov/16/italy-public-managers-highest-paid-oecd>
- 127 *Economist*, “The Italian Public Sector: Idlers Under Attack,” 28 August 2008, <http://www.economist.com/node/12009720>
- 128 Russell Bedford, “Public-Sector Organisations Worst Offenders for Late Payments in Italy,” 3 June 2014, http://www.russellbedford.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1033:public-sector-organisations-worst-offenders-for-late-payments-in-italy&catid=34:news&Itemid=1
- 129 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Italy: Economy: An Overview: Public and Private Sectors,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/297474/Italy/26983/Public-and-private-sectors>
- 130 Encyclopedia.com, “Private Sector,” 2008, http://www.encyclopedia.com/topic/Private_sector.aspx
- 131 Guy Dinmore, “Italy’s Private Sector to Get Cash Boost,” *Financial Times*, 8 August 2013, <http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/7d037f8a-a05f-11e2-88b6-00144feabdc0.html#axzz3aDp8kOPy>
- 132 Tyler Durden, “The Italian Government Owes over \$100 Billion to Private Suppliers,” *Zero Hedge*, 27 July 2014, <http://www.zerohedge.com/news/2014-07-27/italian-government-owes-over-100-billion-private-suppliers>
- 133 Stephanie Kirchgassner, “Italy to Bring Private

Sector into Its Museums in Effort to Make a Profit,” *Guardian*, 21 December 2014, <http://www.theguardian.com/culture/2014/dec/21/italy-aims-to-make-museums-profitable>

134 OECD, “Italy: Economic Forecast Summary (June 2015),” n.d., <http://www.oecd.org/eco/outlook/italy-economic-forecast-summary.htm>

135 Trading Economics, “Italy: Economic Forecasts: 2014–2050 Outlook,” 2015, <http://www.tradingeconomics.com/italy/forecast>

136 Focus Economics, “Italy Economic Outlook,” 2015, <http://www.focus-economics.com/countries/italy>

137 Reuters, “IMP Cuts Italy Growth Outlook, Hikes Deficit, Debt,” 18 September 2014, <http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/09/18/italy-economy-imf-idUSR1N0QW00320140918>

138 Reuters, “IMP Cuts Italy Growth Outlook, Hikes Deficit, Debt,” 18 September 2014, <http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/09/18/italy-economy-imf-idUSR1N0QW00320140918>

139 ISTAT, “Italy’s Economic Outlook,” n.d., <http://www.istat.it/en/archive/137385>

140 Riccardo Bellofiore, “Why Italy’s Stagnation Could Be the Future for the Entire Eurozone,” *Guardian*, 30 August 2014, <http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2014/aug/30/italy-stagnation-eurozone-economy>

Chapter 3 Assessment

1. Southern Italy is the most productive agricultural region.

FALSE

Northern Italy is the most fertile region. The Po Valley, located in the north, is an extensive agricultural area fed by annual rains and the Po River.

2. Citrus fruit is grown mostly in Sicily and southern Italy.

TRUE

Three-fifths of Italy's citrus crops are grown in Sicily; the remaining two-fifths are grown in southern Italy.

3. The automobile and textile industries are important to Italy's economy.

TRUE

Automobiles and textiles are Italy's main industries, although a shortage of domestic raw materials for these industries forces Italy to import raw materials.

4. Large-scale textile mills are the norm in Italy.

FALSE

Italy's small textile companies produce the high-quality materials that have made the industry synonymous with quality.

5. Italy is self sufficient in oil and natural gas.

FALSE

Italy's energy system is heavily dependent on imports of oil and natural gas. Italy's domestic reserves, the fifth largest in Europe, are mediocre.



*Italian soccer players
Flickr / AC ChievoVerona*

Chapter 4 Society

Introduction

Italy's vibrant culture is fairly homogeneous despite the different languages and dialects that are spoken in the country. Italian is by far the most widely spoken language. Small pockets of Francoprovençal and German speakers live in the northwest and northeast, respectively. Regional variations and dialects also exist. In other cultural aspects, Italy is a regionalized nation. Because the country was unified so late in its history, many areas developed in isolation from, or in direct conflict with, other regions. Many Italians are fiercely loyal to their district, and wide regional variations exist in traditional food, dress, customs, and rituals. Still, many aspects of the culture unify all Italians. The seat of the Catholic Church is in Rome, and the vast majority of Italians are Catholic. Sports help to unify the country as well. Italians closely follow their national sport, soccer, and proudly support the national team.



*Italian women
Flickr / Ed Yourdon*

Ethnic Groups and Languages

In the northern regions Italy has small groups of Germans, Slovene-Italians, and people of French descent; in the southern regions there are small communities of Greek-Italians and Albanian-Italians. The region of Trentino-Alto Adige/Sudtirol lies in the Italian Alps. Once part of the Austrian Empire, the area is home to a large number of German-speaking people. The people of Trentino-Alto Adige/Sudtirol, which is officially bilingual, have long sought independence from Italy. Although they are Italian citizens, they believe that their language and culture set them apart from the rest of Italy.^{1, 2, 3}

Members of the French ethnic group live in the region of Valle d'Aosta and in parts of Piedmont, which are located in the northwestern area bordering France and Switzerland. The region is autonomous because of its French culture and language. French is used in the local government and as the language of regional law; however, the common tongue in the area is Francoprovençal. Both French and Italian have equal footing in the local school districts.^{4, 5, 6}

Small groups of Greeks and Albanians live in southern Italy. The largest Greek communities are in Calabria, located on the southwestern tip of the peninsula. Greeks also live in the region of Puglia on the southeastern tip of the peninsula. Greeks have lived in southern Italy for centuries. Some speculate that they arrived as early as the 8th century B.C.E., while others place the migration of current Greek-Italians between the 6th and 7th centuries C.E. The Greeks of southern Italy are primarily herders who continue to speak Greek and to preserve their cultural heritage. The exact number of Greek speakers in the region is unknown, but *Griko*, as the language is known, bears little resemblance to Modern Greek and is written using the Roman alphabet. Albanians have been a minority group in Italy for approximately 500 years. Numbering around 250,000, they live in small pockets across seven regions that extend from central eastern to southwestern Italy and Sicily. Because they have been cut off from Albania for five centuries, the dialect they speak, *Arbëresh*, barely resembles standard Albanian.^{7, 8, 9, 10, 11}



*Vatican City, Rome
Flickr / Justin Brown*

Religion

Christianity is the dominant religion in Italy. Although some Jehovah's Witnesses and Protestants actively practice in the country, Roman Catholicism dominates the religious landscape: 80–87% of the population is Roman Catholic. Catholicism influences the daily lives of most Italians, but only one-third of Catholics consider themselves active Christians. Formerly the official state religion, Roman Catholicism no longer holds that status. Italy is officially a secular state. As a result, religious instruction is no longer compulsory in public schools, and the government

contributes less money to the Church. Catholic churches are ubiquitous in the country. The most famous Catholic institution in the nation is the Vatican. It is housed inside Vatican City, an independent state located in Rome. It is the center of the Roman Catholic government and has its own peacekeeping force, post office, newspaper, and radio and television stations.^{12, 13, 14, 15, 16}

Protestants in Italy number around 450,000. Made up mostly of Lutherans, Methodists, and Baptists, they belong to the Federation of Evangelical Churches in Italy. Like their Catholic counterparts, they are eligible for financial support from the Italian government, provided they establish an accord with the government and properly file the appropriate paperwork. Although they are allowed by law to practice their religion freely, Protestants have a history of discrimination in Italy. It wasn't until 1957 that Protestants were allowed to engage in public activities. Before that time, they were subjected to harassment by police and denied government rights. More recently, in 2007, Catholic Pope Benedict XVI declared that Protestant churches should not be recognized because they do not conform to traditional Catholic beliefs and practices. Yet Protestants constitute a strong Christian presence in the country, and many Protestants have begun to view Italy as a destination for religious tourism.^{17, 18, 19, 20, 21}

Although Muslims do not make up a significant portion of the population, they are becoming part of Italy's religious landscape. (Statistics show that as of 2015 only about 1 million Muslims live in Italy.) As more and more immigrants enter Italy from North Africa and other traditionally Muslim regions, Islam is on the rise. Although officially the Italian government provides property for religious groups to build places of worship, Muslims have had difficulties getting permits to build. No restrictions exist against Muslim women wearing the hijab, but antiterrorism laws prohibit covering one's face in public, as is done with the niqab or burqa. Some cases have been documented of women being harassed or beaten for choosing not to wear a head covering. Instances

of Islamophobia have been witnessed in recent years throughout Italy, especially after rumors and warnings that militants are making their way into Europe via Italy.^{22, 23, 24, 25}



*Pasta and wine
Flickr / imnewtryme*

Cuisine

Italian cuisine, with its recognizable pasta dishes and wines, is world famous. But Italian cuisine goes beyond the dishes that have come to exemplify the country. Each region of Italy has variations on traditional dishes, typically involving grains, such as pasta or polenta, combined with ingredients such as fresh fruit and vegetables, fish, poultry, or meat. Italian cuisine is characterized by simplicity and speed. Italian dishes rarely entail complicated cooking techniques and are quick to prepare. This method capitalizes on the quality and freshness of local ingredients, allowing them to feature prominently. Most dishes are plant based.

Tomatoes, eggplants, zucchinis, beans, peppers, and other vegetables are prominent. Meat, eggs, and dairy products are not consumed in large quantities, although all are eaten on a regular basis. The variety of food throughout Italy's 20 regions is extensive.^{26, 27, 28, 29, 30}

Regional differences in farming influence eating habits. In the grain-rich regions of the north, Italians eat more grain-based foods. In the south, where olive production is higher, olive oil and olives feature in the cuisine. Coastal regions rely on fish products, and herding regions use local animals to supply meat. For many Italians, the rich culinary variety of their particular region contributes to their fierce identification with their home district. More than 40 varieties of *formaggio* cheese are made in Italy. Salamis are more than just beef or pork. Each region spices its salami differently or adds different kinds of meat and nuts. Sicily is famous for desserts made from marzipan and ricotta, while baked desserts are characteristic of Tuscany. Other regions are famous for their particular type of desserts.^{31, 32, 33, 34}



*Fashionable women
Flickr / Francesca Guadagnini*

Traditional Dress

Italy does not have a national traditional costume or dress. The country was not unified until 1861. Until unification, the Italian regions functioned autonomously for the most part. So, like Italian cuisine, traditional dress in Italy is defined by region. What might be considered Italian clothing, however, is thought to have evolved during the Renaissance. Dresses for women and the concept of fashion for men became part of Italy's heritage. The rise of the textile industry helped to further develop fashion and clothing as part of Italy's economic foundation. Over time, Italy became the center of the fashion industry. Wool

became a dominant material, especially in the central regions. The highest quality wools continue to be produced in Italy today. Linen is another quality fabric that has featured prominently in Italian clothing for many centuries.^{35, 36, 37, 38}

Women's traditional dress often included full-sleeved blouses and adornments, such as floral brocades, on hems and aprons. Shawls, worn over velvet dresses with low-cut bodices, also became part of female attire. Headdresses became popular. Women wrapped fabric around their heads and held the headdresses in place with beautiful, eye-catching hairpins. Southern Italian women became famous for their embroidered clothing. Pleated skirts, high-waisted jackets, and decorated aprons were also popular in the south. Italian men wore colorful breeches made of velvet or wool. Shirts and waistcoats of the same fabric were part of the attire. Felt hats, stockings, and slippers rounded out the outfit. Contemporary Italians, who wear Western-style clothing like many people in the eurozone, are still known for their distinctive style and fashion sense.^{39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44}

Gender Issues

Even though women are in positions of authority in all sectors of the economy, Italy is one of the lowest-ranking countries in the European Union in terms of gender parity. Women face higher unemployment than men in the marketplace, which leaves them underrepresented in many industries and in politics. In southern Italy, the effects are more devastating for women because of the overall low employment rate. Resources for family care are scarce in Italy, so working women have great difficulties managing their jobs with their traditional role of homemaker. Women also face pay discrepancies. Men make more money than women for similar work, yet the Italian government has done little to introduce pay equality into the system. In some instances, the Italian government has introduced quotas to ensure equal representation of the sexes in



*Women walking in a market
Flickr / Ed Yourdon*

therefore limited.^{51, 52, 53}

Arts and Letters

Italy has long been a center of the arts, with artists such as Michelangelo typifying the impressive artistic achievements of the Italian culture. Today this legacy continues, and the modern Italian culture is still considered creative.



*Italian Opera
Flickr / Sami Uskela*

and rock music from other countries. Today, Italy continues to celebrate music. It is the host of the Sanremo Music Festival, an annual music event that is highly popular

publicly traded companies, and some quotas exist in local governments as well. This has helped introduce some balance, but much work needs to be done.^{45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50}

Sexual violence against women is another issue of concern in Italy. The country has only recently recognized stalking, for example, as a crime. Previously, women held the burden of proof to win restraining orders against abusive spouses and exes. And it was not until 2013 that the Italian Parliament ratified the Istanbul Convention, which dealt with violence against women and domestic violence. Services that aid victims of domestic abuse, however, lack funds and are

Music

Italy is known for the creation of opera, which originated in the country in the 16th century. Italy is also known for its numerous world-famous composers, including Monteverdi, Vivaldi, Paganini, and Verdi. Italian classical music has influenced music throughout Europe and the Western world, and many instruments, such as the violin and piano, originated in Italy. Italian folk music is as varied as the nation's cuisine and dress. Each region celebrates its unique qualities through music that honors local customs and is sung in the regional dialect. Italy continued its musical innovations in the 20th century. In the 1950s Italians developed a form of modern pop music. Beginning as protest music, the genre developed over the decades until it became a fusion of pop



*Statue of Dante Alighieri
Flickr / Courtesy of Wikipedia*

throughout the country.^{54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59}

Literature

Literature in Italy can trace its roots back to the ancient world, but literature in the Italian language began in the 13th century. Authors of the time mimicked stories and songs derived from the French, superimposing their own dialects on the texts. These Francoprovençal forms eventually gave way to distinctly Italian texts that captured the dialects of the regions of Italy. Italian literature began its maturation process in the 14th century through the works of authors such as Dante Alighieri, expanding its forms and subject matter from love poetry to works dealing with religious themes, politics, and morality. During the 15th century, Humanist writers eschewed the Italian vernacular. They returned to using Latin and explored classical forms. Short-lived, this literary movement gave way to the literature of the 17th and 18th centuries, in which the use of the Italian language once again played a major role. In the 19th century, Italian literature explored the theme of Italian unification. Literature was imbued with political themes. The 20th century ushered in impressionist themes in Italian literature, and literary theorists such as Italo Calvino became important figures in the world of literary studies. Umberto Eco, who focused on semiotics (the study of signs and symbols), became popular in the late 20th century for his novels.^{60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67}

Folklore

Italy is steeped in a rich folkloric tradition. Numerous stories and customs have become part of the culture and play a role in the traditions that many Italians practice today. Some ancient tales describe the founding of Italy's most revered locations. One such story is about the founding of Rome. Romulus and Remus, twin sons of the goddess Vespa and Mars, the god of war, are sent by their uncle to die in the wilderness.



*Women doing Tarantella
Flickr / Lieven SOETE*

The servant tasked with killing the boys takes pity on them and sends them down the Tiber River in a basket. The boys are rescued by a female wolf that suckles them. Found by a farmer and his wife, they are raised in the country until they grow to adulthood, when they kill their uncle and found the city of Rome.^{68, 69, 70, 71}

Other stories have affected traditions and rituals of Italian life. At Italian weddings, the Tarantella is a popular dance. It is characterized by rhythmic music and spinning movement. According to legend, an epidemic of hysterical behavior occurred in southern Italy because of the bite of the tarantula. The victims, almost always female, fell into a trance that could only be broken by groups of dancing people. Multiple versions of the story exist, and all have culminated in a tradition of music and dancing at folk festivals and weddings. Italians consider it bad luck to dance the Tarantella alone.^{72, 73, 74,}

75

Still other folk legends, such as the belief in the *malocchio* (evil eye), affect the daily lives of many Italians. According to this belief, a person's malicious thoughts and jealousies can cause harm to another person. The evil eye can be malevolent if someone intentionally tries to cause harm, but this is rarely thought to be the case. Instead, most Italians believe that an unintentional or unconscious jealousy inflicts the evil eye upon another. Small, red, horn-shaped talismans called *cornetti* are sold throughout Italy; they are believed to protect one from the evil eye. Some Italians wear them as a charm, while others keep them in their houses to protect the home. Some people also wear red clothing or undergarments as a way of protecting themselves from the evil eye. It is said that many Italian women pin a piece of red fabric to an undergarment to protect themselves.^{76, 77, 78, 79}



Cyclists
Flickr / will_cyclist

Sports and Recreation

The most popular sport in Italy is by far soccer, which may have originated in Italy as far back as the 1500s. The Italian fervor for soccer is described in terms of being fanatical or religious. Most of Italy's 20 regions have their own league. Competition between regions can be intense, but Italy's national team unites the country when it plays in international matches. Italy's national team has won the World Cup four times. Italy's soccer clubs are very successful, and each of the four divisions of the Italian league has a

widespread fan base.^{80, 81, 82, 83, 84}

Cycling is another important sport in Italy. Some of the world's finest professional cyclists are Italians, such as Fausto Coppi, who dominated the sport before World War II. Other Italian greats are the mythic Marco Pantani, considered one of the greatest climbers in the history of professional cycling, who died in 2004, and the world-famous sprinter Alessandro Petacchi. Italy is host to the Giro d'Italia (Tour of Italy), a high-stakes cycling race that only the most elite riders can enter. Other popular sports include auto racing, tennis, basketball, and a variety of winter sports such as skiing.^{85, 86, 87, 88, 89}

Endnotes

- 1 Central Intelligence Agency, "Italy: People and Society," in *The World Factbook*, 13 May 2015, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/it.html>
- 2 Italy World Club, "Region Trentino Alto Adige (South Tyrol)," 2015, <http://www.italyworldclub.com/trentino/>
- 3 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Trentino-Alto Adige," 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/604300/Trentino-Alto-Adige>
- 4 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Valle d'Aosta," 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/622255/Valle-dAosta>
- 5 Italy World Club, "Valle d'Aosta Region, Italy," 2015, <http://www.italyworldclub.com/valledaosta/>
- 6 From Italy, "Valle d'Aosta," n.d., <http://www.fromitaly.it/english/region/aosta/intro/index.htm>
- 7 Made in South Italy Today, "Calabria: Ethnic Minorities," 2013, <http://www.madeinsouthitalytoday.com/ethnic-minorities.php>
- 8 Minority Rights, "Greek-Speakers," 2005, <http://www.minorityrights.org/1618/italy/greekspeakers.html>
- 9 Minority Rights, "Albanians," 2005, <http://www.minorityrights.org/1617/italy/albanians.html>
- 10 Jeff Matthews, "Albanians in Southern Italy," *Naples: Life, Death, and Miracles*, June 2013, <http://www.naplesldm.com/albania.html>
- 11 Vincenzo Salerno, "Sicilian Peoples: The Albanians," *Best of Sicily*, 2005, <http://www.bestofsicily.com/mag/art183.htm>
- 12 Central Intelligence Agency, "Italy: People and Society," in *The World Factbook*, 13 May 2015, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/it.html>
- 13 Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, U.S. Department of State, "Italy," in *International Religious Freedom Report 2013*, n.d., www.state.gov/documents/organization/222441.pdf
- 14 Just Landed, "Religion in Italy: A Christian Country," 2015, <https://www.justlanded.com/english/Italy/Articles/Culture/Religion-in-Italy>
- 15 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Italy: The People: Religion," 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/297474/Italy/26976/Languages#toc26977>
- 16 Vatican City State, "Vatican City State," 2014, <http://www.vaticanstate.va/content/vaticanstate/en.html>
- 17 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Italy: The People: Religion," 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/297474/Italy/26976/Languages#toc26977>
- 18 Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, U.S. Department of State, "Italy," in *International Religious Freedom Report 2013*, n.d., www.state.gov/documents/organization/222441.pdf
- 19 Time, "Religion: Protestants in Italy," 22 April 1957, <http://content.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,824822,00.html>
- 20 John Hooper and Stephen Bates, "Dismay and Anger as Pope Declares Protestants Cannot Have Churches," *Guardian*, 11 July 2007, <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2007/jul/11/catholicism.religion>
- 21 Debbie Rodriguez, "Protestants Discover Italy Provides Connection to Faith," *Church Executive*, 2 December 2012, <http://churchexecutive.com/archives/protestants-discover-italy-provides-connection-to-faith>
- 22 Central Intelligence Agency, "Italy: People and Society," in *The World Factbook*, 13 May 2015, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/it.html>
- 23 Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, U.S. Department of State, "Italy," in *International Religious Freedom Report 2013*, n.d., www.state.gov/documents/organization/222441.pdf
- 24 Euro-Islam, "Islam in Italy," 2015, <http://www.euro-islam.info/country-profiles/italy/>

- 25 Lamiat Sabin, "Islam in Italy: Muslim with Traditional Clothes and Koran Insulted and Shouted at in Milan," Independent, 19 February 2015, <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/islam-in-italy-muslim-with-traditional-clothes-and-koran-insulted-and-shouted-at-in-milan-10056246.html>
- 26 Life in Italy, "Italian Food," 2015, <http://www.lifeinitaly.com/italian-food-0>
- 27 Mediterrasian, "Italian Cuisine," 2015, http://www.mediterrasian.com/cuisine_of_month_italian.htm
- 28 Rustico Cooking, "Regional Italian Cuisine," n.d., <http://www.rusticocooking.com/regions.htm>
- 29 Italylogue, "Italian Food," 2015, <http://www.italylogue.com/food>
- 30 Made in Italy, "Italian Regional Cooking: Diversity in Local Gastronomy," n.d., <http://www.made-in-italy.com/italian-food/regions>
- 31 Rustico Cooking, "Regional Italian Cuisine," n.d., <http://www.rusticocooking.com/regions.htm>
- 32 Donald Strachan, "Italy's 20 Regions, Dish by Delicious Dish," CNN, 27 January 2014, <http://www.cnn.com/2014/01/27/travel/italian-regional-food/>
- 33 Italylogue, "Italian Food," n.d., <http://www.italylogue.com/food>
- 34 Made in Italy, "Italian Regional Cooking: Diversity in Local Gastronomy," n.d., <http://www.made-in-italy.com/italian-food/regions>
- 35 Italy Revisited, "Traditional Clothing," n.d., http://www.italyrevisited.org/photo/Traditional_Clothing
- 36 Office of the Historian, U.S. Department of State, "Issues Relevant to U.S. Foreign Diplomacy: Unification of Italian States: Major Events: Proclamation of the Kingdom of Italy, 1861," n.d., <https://history.state.gov/countries/issues/italian-unification>
- 37 Jahanzeb Nazir, "Traditional Dress of Italy: A Garnished Garment with Beauty and Style," Lovely Planet, 1 November 2014, <http://www.thelovelyplanet.net/traditional-dress-of-italy-a-garnished-garment-with-beauty-and-style/>
- 38 Jill Condra, ed., "Italy," in *Encyclopedia of National Dress: Traditional Clothing Around the World* (Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2013), 375–84.
- 39 Jahanzeb Nazir, "Traditional Dress of Italy: A Garnished Garment with Beauty and Style," Lovely Planet, 1 November 2014, <http://www.thelovelyplanet.net/traditional-dress-of-italy-a-garnished-garment-with-beauty-and-style/>
- 40 Italy Revisited, "Traditional Clothing," n.d., http://www.italyrevisited.org/photo/Traditional_Clothing
- 41 Made in South Italy Today, "The Costumes," 2014, <http://www.madeinsouthitalytoday.com/the-costumes.php>
- 42 Folk Costume Blogspot, "Folk Costume and Embroidery: Overview of Sardinian Costume," 6 August 2011, <http://folkcostume.blogspot.com/2011/08/overview-of-sardinian-costume.html>
- 43 Jill Condra, ed., "Italy," in *Encyclopedia of National Dress: Traditional Clothing around the World* (Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2013), 375–84.
- 44 Just Landed, "Social Customs in Italy: Traditions and Habits: Dress Code in Italy," 2015, <https://www.justlanded.com/english/Italy/Articles/Culture/Social-customs-in-Italy>
- 45 Annalisa Rosselli, "The Policy on Gender Equality in Italy" (analysis, Directorate-General for Internal Policies, Policy Department C: Citizens' Rights and Constitutional Affairs, Gender Equality, European Parliament, March 2014), http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/note/join/2014/493052/IPOL-FEMM_NT%282014%29493052_EN.pdf
- 46 Emma Bonino, "Italy Has a Long Way to Go in Gender Equality," Inter Press Service, 2015, <http://www.ips.org/mdg3/italy-has-a-long-way-to-go-in-gender-equality/>
- 47 Jrank, "Italy: Education and Gender Roles," 2015, <http://family.jrank.org/pages/979/Italy-Education-Gender-Roles.html>
- 48 GB Times, "Italy: Study Reveals Shocking

- Gender Inequality,” 24 February 2014, <http://gbtimes.com/world/italy-study-reveals-shocking-gender-inequality>
- 49 Catherine Hornby, “Italian Women Hope for Workplace Changes Post-Berlusconi,” Reuters, 14 February 2012, <http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/02/14/us-italy-women-idUSTRE81D0W420120214>
- 50 OECD, “Highlights Italy: Babies and Bosses—Policies Towards Reconciling Work and Family Life,” n.d., <http://www.oecd.org/italy/39696356.pdf>
- 51 Annalisa Rosselli, “The Policy on Gender Equality in Italy” (analysis, Directorate-General for Internal Policies, Policy Department C: Citizens’ Rights and Constitutional Affairs, Gender Equality, European Parliament, March 2014), http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/note/join/2014/493052/IPOL-FEMM_NT%282014%29493052_EN.pdf
- 52 Barbie Latza Nadeau, “Italy Passes New Anti-Domestic Violence Measures,” Daily Beast, 9 August 2013, <http://www.thedailybeast.com/witw/articles/2013/08/09/italy-passes-new-anti-domestic-violence-laws-to-combat-femicide-epidemic.html>
- 53 Anushay Hossain, “Femicide in Italy: Domestic Violence Persists Despite New Laws,” Forbes, 26 August 2013, <http://www.forbes.com/sites/worldviews/2013/08/26/femicide-in-italy-domestic-violence-persists-despite-new-laws/>
- 54 Your Guide to Italy, “Italian Music,” 2013, <http://www.yourguidetoitaly.com/italian-music.html>
- 55 Italamia, “The Music of Italy, from Folk to Pop and All That Jazz,” n.d., <http://www.italamia.com/music.php>
- 56 Folk World, “Music of Italy,” July 2013, <http://www.folkworld.eu/51/e/italy.html>
- 57 Italy World Club, “Sanremo Music Festival,” 2015, <http://www.italyworldclub.com/italian-songs/sanremo-festival/>
- 58 Music Folk, “Folk Music: Italian Folk Music,” 2011, <http://www.music-folk.com/italian-folk-music/>
- 59 Life in Italy, “The Festival of Sanremo,” 2 February 2014, <http://www.lifeinitaly.com/music/festival-sanremo>
- 60 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Italian Literature,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/297281/Italian-literature>
- 61 Italian Language Guide, “Italian Literature,” 2015, <http://www.italianlanguageguide.com/culture/literature/>
- 62 Alison Flood, “Umberto Eco to Publish New Novel, Numero Zero,” Guardian, 10 March 2015, <http://www.theguardian.com/books/2015/mar/10/umberto-eco-new-novel-numero-zero>
- 63 William Weaver and Damien Pettigrew, “Italo Calvino: The Art of Fiction No. 130,” Paris Review, 1992, <http://www.theparisreview.org/interviews/2027/the-art-of-fiction-no-130-italo-calvino>
- 64 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Italo Calvino,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/90346/Italo-Calvino>
- 65 Virtual Library, History Central Catalogue, “Chapter 6: Italian Vernacular Literature,” European University Institute, Florence, Italy, 10 May 2006, http://vlib.iue.it/carrie/texts/carrie_books/gilbert/06.html
- 66 Virtual Library, History Central Catalogue, “Chapter 5: Italian Humanism,” European University Institute, Florence, Italy, 10 May 2006, http://vlib.iue.it/carrie/texts/carrie_books/gilbert/05.html
- 67 Richard K. Hines, Washington State University, “Humanism,” University of Massachusetts, Lowell, 1996, http://faculty.uml.edu/CulturalStudies/Italian_Renaissance/8_9.htm
- 68 Pimsleur Approach, “Italian Myths and Legends,” 2015, <http://www.pimsleurapproach.com/blog/italian/italian-myths-and-legends>
- 69 Brittany Garcia, “Romulus and Remus,” Ancient History Encyclopedia, 4 October 2013, http://www.ancient.eu/Romulus_and_Remus/
- 70 History Learning Site, “Romulus and Remus,” 2015, http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/romulus_and_remus

htm

- 71 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Romulus and Remus,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/509038/Romulus-and-Remus>
- 72 Anthony Parente, “The Legend of the Tarantella,” *Italiansrus*, 2015, <http://www.italiansrus.com/articles/tarantella.htm>
- 73 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Tarantella,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/583343/tarantella>
- 74 Fiona Story, “Tarantella: An Italian Folk Dance,” *Ottawa Italians*, n.d., <http://www.ottawaitalians.com/Heritage/tarantella.htm>
- 75 Jeff Matthews, “The Tarantella,” *Naples: Life, Death, and Miracles*, December 2012, <http://www.naplesldm.com/tarantella.html>
- 76 Francesca Di Meglio, “Fear the Evil Eye,” *Italiansrus*, 2015, <http://www.italiansrus.com/articles/ourpaesani/malocchio.htm>
- 77 La Bella Vita Cosmetico, “Italian Folklore—The Spooky and Dark Side of Italy’s Boot,” 8 April 2013, <https://labellavitacosmetico.wordpress.com/2013/04/08/italys-dark-side/>
- 78 Girosolo, “Malocchio: Ever-Present, All-Seeing Evil Eye,” 2008, <http://www.girosolo.com/italy-travel-info/art-malocchio-evil-eye.html>
- 79 Ciao Pittsburgh, “Italian Superstition—The Evil Eye (Malocchio),” 28 December 2012, <http://www.ciaopittsburgh.com/italian-superstitions-the-evil-eye-malocchio/>
- 80 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Italy: Cultural Life: Sports and Recreation,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/297474/Italy/27037/Sports-and-recreation>
- 81 Italamia, “Sports in Italy: Soccer,” n.d., <http://www.italiamia.com/sports.php>
- 82 James Madison University, “Italian Sports,” 18 April 2015, <http://www.jmu.edu/italiano/sports.shtml>
- 83 Just Landed, “Football in Italy,” 2015, <https://www.justlanded.com/english/Italy/Articles/Travel-Leisure/Football-in-Italy>
- 84 Stanford University, “Sports in Italy,” n.d., <http://stanford.edu/group/resed/row/italiana/culture/sport.htm>
- 85 Steve Friedman, “The Tragedy,” *Bicycling*, 13 February 2014, <http://www.bicycling.com/culture/people/tragedy>
- 86 Ian O’Riordan, “Tarnished Giro d’Italia History Not One We Should Forget,” *Irish Times*, 10 May 2014, <http://www.irishtimes.com/sport/other-sports/tarnished-giro-d-italia-history-not-one-we-should-forget-1.1790125>
- 87 Velo News, “Petacchi Retires from Pro Cycling at Age 39,” 23 April 2013, http://velonews.competitor.com/2013/04/news/petacchi-retires-from-pro-cycling-at-age-39_283427
- 88 Italamia, “Sports in Italy,” n.d., <http://www.italiamia.com/sports.php>
- 89 James Madison University, “Italian Sports,” 18 April 2015, <http://www.jmu.edu/italiano/sports.shtml>

Chapter 4 Assessment

1. Greek- and Albanian-Italians live in southern Italy.

TRUE

Small pockets of Greeks and Albanians live in southern Italy. The largest Greek communities are in Calabria on the southwestern tip of the Italian Peninsula.

2. German-speaking Italians live in the northeast corner of Italy.

TRUE

In the Italian Alps lies the region of Trentino-Alto Adige/Sudtirolo. The area was formerly part of the Austrian Empire and is home to a large number of German-speaking people.

3. The majority of Italians are practicing Protestants.

FALSE

Although some Jehovah's Witnesses and Protestants actively practice their faith in the country, Roman Catholicism is the dominant religion; 80–87% of Italians are Roman Catholics.

4. Islam is nonexistent in Italy.

FALSE

As more and more immigrants enter Italy from North Africa and other traditionally Muslim regions, Islam is on the rise.

5. Regional variation exemplifies Italian cuisine.

TRUE

Each region of the country has its variations on traditional dishes, typically a combination grains, fresh fruit and vegetables, fish, poultry, or meat.



*US and Italian Military
Flickr / Chiara Mattiolo*

Security

Introduction

Italy is a medium-sized power with stable military and public security forces. It has solid relations with its neighbors and with the United States. It works closely with other countries in the eurozone to ensure that stability is maintained within its borders and throughout the region. Italy does have security concerns, however, most of which stem from terrorist-related activities both in and outside the country. Italy has played a role in the global war on terror, and it has deployed troops to help fight ISIS. Another security concern involves the growing number of asylum seekers from North Africa. Thousands arrive each year from unstable regions, and their free flow into Italy and other European nations poses security threats.



*US and Italian Military
Flickr / Chiara Mattiolo*

U.S.-Italian Relations

The United States has had diplomatic relations with Italy since unification in 1861, with the exception of the years 1941–1944, when the two countries were at war. Currently, relations between the two nations are productive. Italy and the United States work together to fight against human and drug trafficking as well as terrorism. Accused by the United Nations of not combating the exploitation of girls and foreign women, Italy has ramped up its efforts to combat human trafficking. It has begun to implement programs to protect and assist victims of trafficking. Because Italy is a transit and destination country for sex trafficking,

it takes policing seriously.^{1, 2, 3, 4}

Italy has also partnered with the United States to combat terrorism. In recent years, Italy has helped in the fight against ISIS. In 2015 Italy, the United States, and Saudi Arabia convened in Rome for the first meeting of the Counter-ISIS Finance Group (CIFG), which includes 26 other countries and aims to disable ISIS's ability to sustain itself financially. Italy has also supplied millions of dollars' worth of weaponry to help fight terrorism and to refuel planes used in airstrikes against ISIS.^{5, 6, 7, 8}

The United States and Italy have close economic ties. As one of Italy's most important trade partners, the United States works closely with Italy to maintain productive economic relations. Bilateral and international economic issues such as trade, development assistance, energy, export control, and finance and banking are under the purview of the U.S. diplomatic mission to Italy. In addition, the two countries partner together in many international organizations, such as NATO, G-20, G-8, the UN, and the IMF (International Monetary Fund).^{9, 10, 11, 12}

Relations with Neighboring Countries

Italy has productive and generally friendly relations with its neighbors, despite having border issues with France and Austria.



*Summit of Mt. Blanc
Flickr / JeSuis Charlie*

France

France and Italy are each other's second-largest trading partner, primarily trading food products, automobiles, and metal products. France is also the leader of foreign lending in Italy, dealing in more than USD 334 billion in 2012. Italy invests heavily in France, second only to Germany. Italian investment in France has helped maintain employment opportunities and numbers in recent years. France and Italy, both overwhelmed by refugees, have each accused the other of helping refugees transit to the other's country. France is a transit country for drugs such as cannabis, which arrives through Spain and is transported to Italy and other countries. France and Italy each claim

ownership of the summit of Mont Blanc, Europe's highest mountain.^{13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19}

Switzerland

Switzerland is Italy's eighth-largest investor, and Italy is Switzerland's third-largest trading partner after Germany and the United States. Italy and Switzerland are both in the Schengen Area, which comprises 26 European countries that no longer require passports or border controls at their common borders. In 2015 Swiss and Italian art dealers were implicated in a massive antiquities-smuggling ring stemming from illegal excavations in Italy. Italy receives the largest amount of money remitted from migrant workers in Switzerland.^{20, 21, 22, 23, 24}



*Castle in South Tyrol
Flickr / Fabian Mohr*

Austria

Italy accounts for 6.6% of total trade, making it Austria's second-largest trading partner. In northern Italy near the Austrian border, native German speakers form the majority population in Alto-Adige, or South Tyrol; they have founded a separatist party, South Tyrol Freedom, to fight for independence. Numerous pipelines for natural gas and petroleum, such as the Transalpine Pipeline and the Trans Austria Gasleitung, cross the Italian-Austrian border.^{25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30}

Slovenia

Italy is a major trading partner of Slovenia, second only to Germany, and is eager to increase investment in Slovenia's ports and banking industry. 2015 marks the 40th anniversary of the Treaty of Osimo, which established the Italian-Slovenian border and determined the treatment of the Slovenian minority in Italy. Because Slovenia is in the Schengen Area, the border between the two countries is unrestricted and uncontrolled. An unfortunate consequence is that people are frequently trafficked through Slovenia into Italy for sexual exploitation and forced labor. Trafficking in human organs is also prevalent from Slovenia to Italy.^{31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39}



*Italian Police
Flickr / Helene Maria Miller*

Police Force

Italy's public security system comprises five branches: Carabinieri Corps, State Police, Finance Corps, Penitentiary Police Corps, and Corps of National Foresters.^{40, 41}

The Carabinieri became independent in 2000, after being part of the army since Italian unification in 1861. They are responsible for public security and perform both military and police tasks. They assist not only with national defense, but they also help provide public security and security for Italian diplomats. The Carabinieri have nearly 5,000 stations nationwide and can be called upon to work independently or with state police. As of 2006, they have approximately 112,200

members.^{42, 43, 44, 45, 46}

The Italian State Police is a multibranch police force that is in charge of general security. Members provide road, airport, and railway security. They also deal with postal and internet security and help the Carabinieri and the Finance Corps with border security. The state police has offices in major towns and cities and is administered through the Department of Public Security.^{47, 48, 49}

The Finance Corps helps combat financial crimes throughout Italy. Working in conjunction with the Carabinieri, members of the corps investigate fraud, smuggling, tax evasion, and counterfeiting. They make use of boats, helicopters, and other aircraft to monitor and prevent illegal immigration and human smuggling at the borders. The Finance Corps is part of the Italian Armed Forces and falls under the authority of the Minister of Economy and Finance. As of 2006, it has approximately 68,000 members.^{50,}

^{51, 52, 53}

The Penitentiary Police Corps operates under the Ministry of Justice. Its main responsibility involves the security and control of the Italian prison system. Members of the corps maintain order in prisons, protect and transport prisoners, and manage prison programs, such as education and work programs. The Penitentiary Police Corps is a recent addition to Italy's system of public safety; it was established in 1990. As of 2006, it has approximately 42,000 members.^{54, 55, 56, 57, 58}

The Corps of National Foresters was established in 1822. It helps secure and protect Italy's natural environment and agricultural enterprises. Members help safeguard national parks, wildlife sanctuaries, and fish and game; they also combat poaching and illegal dumping. The Corps of National Foresters operates out of approximately 1,000 stations located throughout Italy. Among its other duties is to implement European Union environmental regulations and monitor international trade of endangered species. It also provides search-and-rescue services in the mountains.^{59, 60, 61, 62}



*Italian Air Show
Flickr / mc czoper*

Military

Italy maintains a modern Western military and conducts military operations in locations such as Lebanon, Afghanistan, and North Africa. In addition to protecting the nation, the army provides peacekeeping missions abroad and aids in disaster services domestically. The Italian Army has total forces numbering approximately 104,000, with 3 operational commands, 3 regional headquarters, 11 operational brigades, and

5 support brigades. The army hosts the Rapidly Deployable Corps of NATO. It is well sourced with major equipment, such as tanks, armored fighting vehicles and personnel carriers, tanks, and weaponry. It is keen to develop and acquire new technologies and weaponry to put into service. Italy formerly helped fill its military ranks through compulsory military service. It transitioned to a professional military status on 1 January 2005.^{63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68}

Italy's small naval force has approximately 34,000 members. It possesses 6 submarines, 2 aircraft carriers, 16 destroyers and frigates, and 14 patrol vessels. Its main duties are to protect the nation in national and international waters. It also helps protect Europe in the Atlantic and works with NATO in responding to emergencies and natural disasters. Italian naval equipment and missions serve dual-use (military and civilian) functions.^{69, 70, 71, 72, 73}

The Italian Air Force consists of 44,000–48,000 members. It has 5 fighter squadrons, 2 fighter ground attack squadrons, 2 transport squadrons, 1 maritime reconnaissance squadron, and 4 training squadrons. Domestically, the air force aids in search and rescue, assists aircraft in distress, and provides humanitarian transportation. Air force personnel conduct operations on the peninsula as well as in Italy's national waters. Internationally, Italy's air force provides aid in times of war and natural disaster. It also provides relief in crises in underdeveloped countries.^{74, 75, 76, 77, 78}



*Sailors assisting migrants
Flickr / Carl Osmond*

Issues Affecting Stability

Although Italy is a relatively safe European country, it has security concerns. Terrorism is a major concern. The Italian military has aided the United States in missions in the Middle East and North Africa and against ISIS. Consequently, Americans in Italy are vulnerable as targets of terrorists. In 2015, because of Italy's aid in the fight against ISIS, terrorist attacks in Italy have been planned by ISIS. Authorities recently discovered a terrorist cell associated with al-Qaeda operating in Rome. Investigators arrested nine people and discovered plots to stage attacks in Pakistan and the Vatican. Other terrorist plots have been discovered by Italian authorities in recent years. Terrorist cells have been using Italy as a staging

ground to plan attacks on Italian sites and in locations across Europe. Cells with explosives and logistical maps of targets have been foiled recently outside Venice and Milan.^{79, 80, 81, 82}

The issue of illegal migration in Italy is related to terrorism threats. In 2015, instances of people migrating from Africa have increased, taxing Italy's ability to process the growing number of migrants. Italy has long been an entry point and destination for migrants seeking to enter Europe. Until 2011 Italy had a policy of returning illegal immigrants—mainly from Africa, and Libya in particular—to their country of origin. But because of the dangerous conditions in many countries, Italy has been allowing migrants to enter. It is believed that many of these migrants may be associated with anti-Western extremist and terrorist groups and therefore pose a security threat. The possibility that they may become radicalized in Italy also poses a threat to the nation's security. By July of 2014, Italy had already processed more than 65,000 asylum seekers. The cost of naval operations to help asylum seekers at sea is approximately USD 10.5 million per month.^{83,}

84, 85, 86, 87, 88



*Italian couple
Flickr / Ed Yourdon*

Outlook

Italy's security outlook is stable. Working as part of a European coalition of countries and forces, Italy aims to address security issues in areas that are of particular security concern for itself and the eurozone. Italy also wants to help promote security within its scope of interests by attempting to move Russia toward European collaboration and by helping create stability in the Balkans. To continue to meet its security needs, Italy is moving toward greater modernization of its forces. As it moves farther afield, sustainability is also an issue that needs to be resolved.^{89, 90, 91}

Endnotes

- 1 Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs, U.S. Department of State, “U.S. Relations with Italy,” 15 April 2015, <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/4033.htm>
- 2 Organization for Security and Co-Operation in Europe, “Human Trafficking in Italy: Latest Report by OSCE,” 14 July 2014, <http://www.osce.org/secretariat/121250>
- 3 UN News Centre, “Italy Must Do More to Combat Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation—UN Expert,” 20 September 2013, <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=45904#.VVyQ75MYEsI>
- 4 Council of Europe, “Report Concerning the Implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on Action Against Trafficking in Human Beings by Italy” (first evaluation round, Group of Experts on Action Against Trafficking in Human Beings, 22 September 2014), http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/monitoring/trafficking/Docs/Reports/GRETA_2014_18_FGR_ITA_w_cmnts_en.pdf
- 5 Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs, U.S. Department of State, “U.S. Relations with Italy,” 15 April 2015, <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/4033.htm>
- 6 Office of the Spokesperson, U.S. Department of State, “Establishment of the Counter-ISIL Finance Group in Rome, Italy,” 20 March 2015, <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2015/03/239592.htm>
- 7 Sebastian Payne, “What the 60-Plus Members of the Anti-Islamic State Coalition Are Doing,” *Washington Post*, 25 September 2014, <http://www.washingtonpost.com/news/checkpoint/wp/2014/09/25/what-the-60-members-of-the-anti-islamic-state-coalition-are-doing/>
- 8 World Bulletin, “U.S., Italian and Saudi Officials Discuss Countering ISIL,” 20 March 2015, <http://www.worldbulletin.net/news/156812/us-italian-and-saudi-officials-discuss-countering-isil>
- 9 Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs, U.S. Department of State, “U.S. Relations with Italy,” 15 April 2015, <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/4033.htm>
- 10 United States Diplomatic Mission to Italy, “Economic Section,” n.d., <http://italy.usembassy.gov/economic.html>
- 11 Michael Callingaert, “Interaction Between the United States and Italy in a Changing World,” Council for Research in Values and Philosophy, n.d., http://www.crvp.org/book/Series04/IV-2/chapter_ii.htm
- 12 International Business Publications, USA, “U.S.-Italy Economic Relations,” in *Italy Country Study Guide: Strategic Information and Developments* (Washington, DC: International Business Publications, USA, 2013), 29–30.
- 13 Edoardo Secchi, “Italy-France: Balancing Economic Relations in 2013,” LinkedIn, 1 July 2014, <https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/20140701152201-5635717-italy-france-balancing-economic-relations-in-2013>
- 14 France Diplomatie, “Economic Relations,” 10 January 2012, <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/italy/france-and-italy/economic-relations-6993/>
- 15 Bruno Waterfield, “France and Italy to Propose European Border Reform,” *Telegraph*, 25 April 2011, <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/8472417/France-and-Italy-to-propose-European-border-reform.html>
- 16 Emmanuel Marshall, “The Roof of Europe—Monte Bianco, Italy,” Raw Safari, 17 September 2013, <http://rawsafari.com/blog/the-roof-of-europe-mont-blanc-france-italy/>
- 17 European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction, “Country Overview: France,” n.d., <http://www.emcdda.europa.eu/publications/country-overviews/fr>
- 18 UN Office on Drugs and Crime, “The Illicit Drug Trade Through South-Eastern Europe” (report, Afghan Opium Trade Project, Statistics and Surveys Section, March 2014), http://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/Studies/Illicit_DT_through_SEE_REPORT_2014_web.pdf
- 19 European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and

- Drug Addiction, “Country Overview: Italy,” n.d., <http://www.emcdda.europa.eu/publications/country-overviews/it>
- 20 Swedish Confederation, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, “Bilateral Relations: Switzerland-Italy,” n.d., <https://www.eda.admin.ch/eda/en/dfa/representations-and-travel-advice/italy/switzerland-italy.html>
- 21 Farnesina, “Italy-Switzerland: Frattini in Berne (13 January),” 12 January 2011, http://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/approfondimenti/2011/01/20110112_italiasvizzer.html/
- 22 Europa, “The Schengen Area and Cooperation,” 3 August 2009, http://europa.eu/legislation_summaries/justice_freedom_security/free_movement_of_persons_asylum_immigration/133020_en.htm
- 23 Avaneesh Pandey, “Italian Antiquities Worth \$58M Recovered After Crackdown on Smuggling Network,” *International Business Times*, 22 January 2015, <http://www.ibtimes.com/italian-antiquities-worth-58m-recovered-after-crackdown-smuggling-network-1791096>
- 24 Denise Efonyi, Josef Martin Niederberger, and Philippe Wanner, “Switzerland Faces Common European Challenges,” Migration Policy Institute, 1 February 2005, <http://www.migrationpolicy.org/article/switzerland-faces-common-european-challenges>
- 25 Economy Watch, “Austria Trade, Exports, and Imports,” 9 March 2010, http://www.economywatch.com/world_economy/austria/export-import.html
- 26 Central Intelligence Agency, “Austria: Economy: Exports—Partners,” in *The World Factbook*, 24 April 2015, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/au.html>
- 27 Silvia Marchetti, “The South Tyrol Identity Crisis: To Live in Italy, but Feel Austrian,” *Guardian*, 30 May 2014, <http://www.theguardian.com/education/2014/may/30/south-tyrol-live-in-italy-feel-austrian>
- 28 Sonja Steinbrech, “South Tyrol: Conflicting Ethnicity” (case study, School of International Service, International Communication, American University, May 2004), <http://www1.american.edu/ted/ice/tyrol.htm>
- 29 Transalpine Pipeline, “Transalpine Pipeline: From the Adriatic to the Centre of Europe Through the Alps,” n.d., <http://www.tal-oil.com/en/installations/transalpine-oelleitung.html>
- 30 Gas Connect Austria, “At a Glance: Pipeline System,” 2011, <http://www.gasconnect.at/en/Unser-Netz/Leitungssystem/TAG>
- 31 Europa, “The Schengen Area and Cooperation,” 3 August 2009, http://europa.eu/legislation_summaries/justice_freedom_security/free_movement_of_persons_asylum_immigration/133020_en.htm
- 32 European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction, “Country Overview: Slovenia,” n.d., <http://www.emcdda.europa.eu/publications/country-overviews/si>
- 33 Central Intelligence Agency, “Slovenia: Economy: Export—Partners,” in *The World Factbook*, 7 May 2015, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/si.html>
- 34 Slovenia Partner, “Trade in Slovenia,” n.d., <http://www.sloveniapartner.eu/business-environment/trade/>
- 35 Zlatko Šabič, “Chapter 4: Slovenia and the European Union: A Different Kind of Two-Level Game,” in *Norms and Nannies: The Impact of International Organizations on the Central and Eastern European States*, ed. Ronald Haly Linden (Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield Publishers, Inc., 2002), 104–8.
- 36 Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Slovenia, “35th Anniversary of the Signing of the Osimo Treaty,” 10 November 2010, <http://www.mzz.gov.si/nc/en/newsroom/news/article/141/27784/>
- 37 Protection Project, “Slovenia,” n.d., <http://www.protectionproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/09/Slovenia.pdf>
- 38 Council of Europe, “Report Concerning the Implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on Action Against Trafficking in Human Beings by Slovenia” (first evaluation round, Group of Experts on Action Against Trafficking in Human Beings, 17 January 2014), <http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/monitoring/>

[trafficking/Docs/Reports/GRETA_2013_20_FGR_SVN_public_en.pdf](#)

39 Voice of America, “Large Scale Illegal Organ Trafficking Reported on Italian-Slovenian Border—2002-01-19,” 29 October 2009, <http://www.voanews.com/content/a-13-a-2002-01-19-12-large-67406592/383189.html>

40 Polizia di Stato, “The Public Security System in Italy,” 19 February 2014, http://www.poliziadistato.it/articolo/964-The_Public_Security_System_in_Italy/

41 Just Landed, “The Italian Police,” 2015, <https://www.justlanded.com/english/Italy/Articles/Culture/The-Italian-Police>

42 *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, “Carabiniere,” 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/94439/Carabiniere>

43 Europol, “Italy,” 2015, <https://www.europol.europa.eu/content/memberspage/italy-183>

44 Dany Mitzman, “It’s 200 Years Old, but What Is Italy’s Carabinieri?,” BBC News, 13 July 2014, <http://www.bbc.com/news/magazine-28254297>

45 Ministero Della Difesa, “Carabinieri,” 2015, <http://www.carabinieri.it/multilingua/en/welcome>

46 OSCE Polis, “Italia: The Carabinieri,” 22 May 2007, http://polis.osce.org/countries/details?item_id=23&lang=es

47 Just Landed, “The Italian Police,” 2015, <https://www.justlanded.com/english/Italy/Articles/Culture/The-Italian-Police>

48 Understanding Italy, “The Italian Police,” n.d., <http://www.understandingitaly.com/profile-content/italian-police.html>

49 Europol, “Italy,” 2015, <https://www.europol.europa.eu/content/memberspage/italy-183>

50 Just Landed, “The Italian Police,” 2015, <https://www.justlanded.com/english/Italy/Articles/Culture/The-Italian-Police>

51 Understanding Italy, “The Italian Police,” n.d., <http://www.understandingitaly.com/profile-content/italian-police.html>

52 Europol, “Italy,” 2015, <https://www.europol.europa.eu/content/memberspage/italy-183>

53 OSCE Polis, “Italia: Financial Crime Investigation Unit,” 22 May 2007, http://polis.osce.org/countries/details?item_id=23&lang=es

54 OSCE Polis, “Italia: The Penitentiary Police Corps,” 22 May 2007, http://polis.osce.org/countries/details?item_id=23&lang=es

55 Understanding Italy, “The Italian Police,” n.d., <http://www.understandingitaly.com/profile-content/italian-police.html>

56 Europol, “Italy,” 2015, <https://www.europol.europa.eu/content/memberspage/italy-183>

57 Polizia Penitenziaria, “The Department of Penitentiary,” n.d., <http://translate.google.com/translate?hl=en&sl=it&u=http://www.polizia-penitenziaria.it/&prev=search>

58 Interpol, “Italy: Department of Public Security,” 2015, <http://www.interpol.int/Member-countries/Europe/Italy>

59 Europol, “Italy,” 2015, <https://www.europol.europa.eu/content/memberspage/italy-183>

60 Understanding Italy, “The Italian Police,” n.d., <http://www.understandingitaly.com/profile-content/italian-police.html>

61 International Business Publications, USA, “Law Enforcement in Italy: Police Forces: Corpo Forestale Dello Stato,” in *Italy Justice System and National Police Handbook* (Washington, DC: International Business Publications, USA, 2011), 193.

62 *Memim Encyclopedia*, “State Forestry Corps (Italy),” 2015, <http://memim.com/state-forestry-corps-italy.html>

63 European Defence Information, “Italy,” Armed Forces, n.d., <http://www.armedforces.co.uk/Europeandefence/edcountries/countryitaly.htm>

- 64 Global Security, "Italy: Military Personnel," 17 January 2015, <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/europe/it-personnel.htm>
- 65 Global Fire Power, "Italy Military Strength," 1 April 2015, http://www.globalfirepower.com/country-military-strength-detail.asp?country_id=italy
- 66 Tom Kington, "Italian Military, Industry Eye Tilt-Rotors," Defense News, 30 March 2015, <http://www.defensenews.com/story/defense/air-space/air-force/2015/03/29/italy-tiltrotor-agustawestland-navy-army/25044839/>
- 67 Jordan Schachtel, "Italy Mobilizes 5,000-Strong Military Force to Fight ISIS in Libya," Breitbart, 17 February 2015, <http://www.breitbart.com/national-security/2015/02/17/italy-prepares-5000-strong-military-force-to-fight-isis-in-libya/>
- 68 Ministero Della Difesa, Esercito Italiano, "Operazioni Nazionali," 2015, http://www.esercito.difesa.it/operazioni/operazioni_nazionali
- 69 European Defence Information, "Italy," Armed Forces, n.d., <http://www.armedforces.co.uk/Europeandefence/edcountries/countryitaly.htm>
- 70 Ministero Della Difesa, Marina Militare, "About the Italian Navy," n.d., <http://www.marina.difesa.it/EN/history/aboutIN/Pagine/default.aspx>
- 71 Ministero Della Difesa, Marina Militare, "Dual Use (Nonmilitary Activities Performed by the Italian Navy)," n.d., http://www.marina.difesa.it/EN/facts/dual_use/Pagine/default.aspx
- 72 Global Fire Power, "Italy Military Strength," 1 April 2015, http://www.globalfirepower.com/country-military-strength-detail.asp?country_id=italy
- 73 Global Security, "Italy: Military Personnel," 17 January 2015, <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/europe/it-personnel.htm>
- 74 Ministero Della Difesa, Aeronautica Militare, "National Operations," n.d., <http://www.aeronautica.difesa.it/Operazioni/Nazionali/Pagine/NationalOperations.aspx>
- 75 Ministero Della Difesa, Aeronautica Militare, "International Operations," n.d., <http://www.aeronautica.difesa.it/Operazioni/Internazionali/Pagine/InternationalOperations.aspx>
- 76 European Defence Information, "Italy," Armed Forces, n.d., <http://www.armedforces.co.uk/Europeandefence/edcountries/countryitaly.htm>
- 77 Global Fire Power, "Italy Military Strength," 1 April 2015, http://www.globalfirepower.com/country-military-strength-detail.asp?country_id=italy
- 78 Global Security, "Italy: Military Personnel," 17 January 2015, <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/europe/it-personnel.htm>
- 79 Jordan Schachtel, "Italy Mobilizes 5000-Strong Military Force to Fight ISIS in Libya," Breitbart, 17 February 2015, <http://www.breitbart.com/national-security/2015/02/17/italy-prepares-5000-strong-military-force-to-fight-isis-in-libya/>
- 80 Elisabetta Povoledo, "Terrorist Cell May Have Sought to Attack the Vatican, Italian Officials Say," *New York Times*, 24 April 2015, <http://www.nytimes.com/2015/04/25/world/europe/vatican-italy-plot.html>
- 81 Daily Mail, "Five Men Quizzed in Italy over Britain Terror Plot," n.d., <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-156462/Five-men-quizzed-Italy-Britain-terror-plot.html>
- 82 EIN News Desk, "Italy Terrorist Threat News Feed," 2015, <http://eupolitics.einnews.com/news/italy-terrorist-threat>
- 83 *Economist*, "Italy's Illegal Immigrants: Tidal Wave," 3 July 2014, <http://www.economist.com/news/europe/21606301-more-horrific-deaths-mediterranean-tidal-wave>
- 84 EurActiv, "Italian Ambassador: 'Illegal Immigration Poses Security Threat to Europe,'" 9 February 2015, <http://www.euractiv.com/sections/eu-priorities-2020/italian-ambassador-illegal-immigration-poses-security-threat-europe>
- 85 Lora Moftah, "Illegal Immigration Poses Security Threat to Europe, Says Italian Ambassador," *International Business Times*, 9 February 2015, <http://>

www.ibtimes.com/illegal-immigration-poses-security-threat-europe-says-italian-ambassador-1810038

86 West Info, “Illegal Immigrants in Italy,” n.d., <http://www.west-info.eu/west-news/illegal-immigration/?t=635>

87 Thomas D. Williams, “ISIS in Libya: Overrun Europe with Immigrants and ‘Turn It into Hell,’” Breitbart, 17 February 2015, <http://www.breitbart.com/national-security/2015/02/17/isis-in-libya-overrun-europe-with-immigrants-and-turn-it-into-hell/>

88 Thomas D. Williams, “Africa Disgorges 6,000 Illegal Immigrants into Italy in a Single Weekend,” Breitbart, 4 May 2015, <http://www.breitbart.com/national-security/2015/05/04/africa-disgorges-6000-illegal-immigrants-into-italy-in-a-single-weekend/>

89 Global Security, “Republic of Italy,” 17 January 2015, <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/europe/it.htm>

90 Federation of American Scientists, “Italy,” n.d., <http://fas.org/irp/nic/battilega/italy.pdf>

91 Derek Chollet, “The United States, Italy, and European Security,” (speech), United States Diplomatic Mission to Italy, 6 June 2014, <http://italy.usembassy.gov/news-events/european-security-derek-chollet.html>

Chapter 5 Assessment

1. Italy and the United States have poor relations.

FALSE

Current relations between the two countries are productive. Italy and the United States work together to combat human and drug trafficking and terrorism.

2. Italy is an important partner in the U.S.-led fight against terrorism.

TRUE

Italy has supplied millions of dollars' worth of weaponry to help fight terrorism and to refuel planes used in airstrikes against ISIS.

3. Italy has a poorly developed police force.

FALSE

Italy has a five-branch public security system that consists of the Carabinieri Corps, the State Police, the Finance Corps, the Penitentiary Police Corps, and the Corps of National Foresters.

4. The Carabinieri were part of the Italian Army for about 40 years.

TRUE

The Carabinieri were part of the army from 1861, the year of Italian unification, until they became independent in 2000.

5. Italy has no state police force.

FALSE

The Italian State Police is a multibranch police force that is tasked with general security. It provides protection related to roads, airports, railways, postal services, and the internet and assists other branches with border security.

Final Assessment

1. Italy has two independent states within its borders.
TRUE or FALSE?
2. Earthquakes do not present a natural hazard in Italy.
TRUE or FALSE?
3. Agriculture is important to the Italian economy.
TRUE or FALSE?
4. No mining operations exist in Italy.
TRUE or FALSE?
5. Italy's climate is generally uniform throughout the peninsula.
TRUE or FALSE?
6. Napoleon fought for control of Italy beginning in the late 18th century.
TRUE or FALSE?
7. Napoleon retained control of Italy until his death.
TRUE or FALSE?
8. In the 19th century, Italians started a revolution to gain control over their land.
TRUE or FALSE?
9. During World War II, Italy fought on the side of both the Allied and the Axis powers.
TRUE or FALSE?

10. Contemporary Italy is financially well run and free of significant debt.
TRUE or FALSE?
11. Italy is currently interested in developing its capacity for nuclear energy.
TRUE or FALSE?
12. Italy has large reserves of natural resources.
TRUE or FALSE?
13. Trade plays a significant role in Italy's economy.
TRUE or FALSE?
14. France and Spain are becoming more popular as tourist destinations than Italy.
TRUE or FALSE?
15. Unemployment is low in Italy.
TRUE or FALSE?
16. Gender equality is the norm in Italy.
TRUE or FALSE?
17. Services to women who suffer domestic abuse are well funded in Italy.
TRUE or FALSE?
18. Italy has made numerous contributions in the field of music.
TRUE or FALSE?
19. Italy has a rich tradition of folklore.
TRUE or FALSE?
20. Soccer is moderately popular in Italy.
TRUE or FALSE?

21. Italy has a Finance Corps to combat financial crimes.
TRUE or FALSE?
22. Italy has a functional military service.
TRUE or FALSE?
23. Italy no longer has compulsory military service.
TRUE or FALSE?
24. Terrorism is of little concern in terms of Italy's domestic security.
TRUE or FALSE?
25. Illegal immigration is a major security issue in Italy.
TRUE or FALSE?

Further Reading

- Bindi, Federiga, *Italy and the European Union*, Washington D.C.: Brookings Institution Press, 2011.
- Duggan, Christopher, *A Concise History of Italy*, New York: Cambridge University Press, 2014.
- Dunford, Michael and Lidia Greco, *After the Three Talies: Wealth, Inequality, and Industrial Change*, Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishing, 2006.
- Gilmour, David, *The Pursuit of Italy: A History of a Land, Its Regions, and Their Peoples*,
- Ginsborg, Paul, *A History of Contemporary Italy: Society and Politics 1843-1988*, New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2003.
- Ignazi, Piero, Giampiero Fiacomello, and Fabrizio Coticchia, *Italian Military Operations: Just Don't Call it War*, New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2012.
- King, Russell, *The Industrial Geography of Italy*, New York: Routledge, 2015.
- Kirchner, Emil J. and James Sperling, eds., *National Security Cultures: Patterns of Global Governance*, New York: Routledge, 2010.
- Mammone, Andrea, Ecol Giap Parini, and Giuseppe A. Veltri, eds., *The Routledge Handbook of Contemporary Italy: History, Politics, Society*, New York: Routledge, 2015.
- Marinelli, Maurizio and Giovanni Andornino, eds., *Italy's Encounters with Modern China*, New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2014.
- Paoletti, Ciro, *A Military History of Italy*, Westport, CT: Greenwood Publishing Group, Inc., 2008.
- Sassoon, Donald, *Contemporary Italy: Economy, Society, and Politics since 1945*, New York: Routledge, 2013..
- Viroli, Maurizio, *As if God Existed: Religion and Liberty in the History of Italy*, Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2012.