

Comments made by Rodolfo De Benedetti at the round table “The role of businesses in overcoming the crisis” organized by the Young Entrepreneurs (Giovani Imprenditori) (Santa Margherita Ligure, June 11 2010)

Abstract

“The concept of merit is very important in a society. In Italy there is too little of it, there is very little meritocracy. In politics, business, in all areas. I don’t think it’s right to create a clash between the generations based on one’s identity card. Selection should be based on merit.

On the subject of reforms, there are things which don’t cost much and which could be done. Why is it that nobody talks about privatization and liberalization in this country any more? Italy has had an enormous public debt for a long time. Fortunately, as well as household savings we also have the patrimony of the state which is managed inefficiently because the state is not a good manager anywhere, not just in Italy.

If there were the courage to privatize and liberalize there would be far more resources to liberalize and it would also be possible to eliminate the conflict of interest arising because the state makes the rules and then competes in the market with the rules that it itself has made, which is something that happens in many spheres in this country. It isn’t true that the season of privatization and liberalization is over”.

Video (in Italian): “The role of businesses in overcoming the crisis”
(http://www.giovanimpreditori.org/dett_video.asp?id_a=181#)