

Editorial
by
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The fate of Rome, a secular capital, a large modern city, seems to have come out from the attention of the central government *for some decades*, but it was conceived for its establishment. The civic conscience of the Italian populations seems to have already expelled the image from every possible design of a better future. It is therefore time to openly discuss the role of Rome in the coming decades, or in the next century if we have the temerity. A bit of “academic” coldness will overcome the veils of political and cultural involvement. Perhaps now the problem is not that of the destiny of Rome, the capital of the state, but of the unitary state as we know it. It almost seems that Cavour’s two projects – first the Kingdom of Northern Italy, and then the unitary one, North and South together – are again an alternative to each other. Today the Northern project seems to be moving towards some realization and the South seems to reveal a separate political identity more than has long been hoped for. North and South will be forced, in their own interest, to talk to each other – as they already do – to find an agreement, to measure the possible distance between them, to calculate their costs and benefits. And in the gap between the two Italys the isolation of Rome will be accentuated. Indeed, his helpless solitude.