



m.i.r.



movimento internazionale della riconciliazione

branca italiana dell'I.F.O.R. International Fellowship Of Reconciliation

PRESS RELEASE

[Allarme del MIR Italia per le dichiarazioni del Ministro della difesa Crosetto – MIR Italia](#)

DISMAY OF M.I.R. ITALY OVER MINISTER OF DEFENSE'S STATEMENTS

The interview given by Minister of Defense Guido Crosetto (LA STAMPA of 01/29/2024) is causing dismay among activists for peace and nonviolence because of the openly militaristic and belligerent tones of a speech that the minister himself acknowledges as “difficult to accept.” Pressed by Di F. Olive's questions, in fact, Crosetto defined the sending of Italian military ships to the Red Sea as a “priority” because “there is a trade war going on that wants to alter global rules,” for which the intervention of our Navy would be justified and urgent.

“With a few but worrying lines,” Ermete Ferraro, president of the historic Movimento Internazionale dalla Riconciliazione, comments, “the Defense titular has informed Italians that mobilizing to fight ‘trade wars’ is legitimate and rightful, stressing that the defensive nature of the presence of Italian naval ships in the Red Sea could be explicated not only by responding to possible attacks, but even by ‘anticipating them.’ Which, on the other hand, is in stark contrast to both Article 51 of the U.N. Charter (“natural right of individual or collective self-protection, in case an armed attack takes place...”) and Article 11 of our own Constitution, but unfortunately in line with the deviant U.S. doctrine of so-called ‘preventive self-defense’.”

According to Crosetto, the worst-case scenario would be “having to defend ourselves on our own territory” (without, however, excluding “intervening in distant countries to defend Italian interests”) and therefore he would like to see a change in the role of the armed forces, also forming a ‘military reserve’ made up of volunteers to flank regular forces if necessary. When asked whether this is ‘a militarist turn,’ Minister Crosetto said that war is not wanted and that reservists would only be a defense support, based on a “non-ideological but pragmatic vision.”

“M.I.R. Italy believes, however, that we are facing an undeniable turning point, marked by a blatant clearance of militarist and bellicist ideology, motivated by NATO pressure and the interests of the military-industrial lobby. Therefore, our pacifist and disarmist movement is sounding the alarm and calling on Italians-particularly young people-to express their opposition, declaring in advance their objection to hypotheses of further military spending and new recruitment of military personnel, while also denouncing the insidious infiltration of the armed forces into our school and university system,” Ferraro concludes.

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