

Abstract

The thesis *Analysis of the transformation of the Italian Communist Party considering its organization change* deals with the transformation of the Italian Communist Party (*Partito Comunista Italiano*, PCI) into the post-communist Democratic Party of the Left (*Partito Democratico della Sinistra*, PDS) with the emphasis on its organizational change. It will be also analysed the role which the intraparty opinion currents played in this process. It will be evaluated their influence on the very own process of the party organization change. To understand this process during the period of the party transformation will be necessary to focus on the role of Achille Occhetto's leadership and on the response of the membership base to the transformation process. Subject of this work is defined by the open outbreak of the intraparty crisis during the succession of Achille Occhetto to the post of the secretary general in 1988 and by the parliamentary elections in 1994 in which the party entered fully prepared after the complete conversion and nevertheless was unable to win them. Large space will be dedicated to the theories of party organization and their suitability to the analysis of the transformation of the PCI. Thus the main aim of this thesis is to analyze in detail one of these models (Panbianco's organizational scheme) and show it as the most appropriate theoretical framework for the valuation of the transformation of the Italian Communist Party. It will be also reasoned why the author of this thesis prefers this model over other theories, especially over the Cartel Party criterias.

Keywords: PCI, transformation, intraparty opinion currents, party organization, professional-electoral party