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The New Italian Government



The New Italian Government Photo Credit: Francesco Ammendola

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On September 25th, 2022, Italy held snap parliamentary elections to form a new government in response to Prime Minister Mario Draghi's resignation. The center-right coalition was favored in pre-election polls and eventually ended up winning, taking more than 40% of the votes. However, voter engagement was at an all-time low with only 63.9%. The party led by Giorgia Meloni, Fratelli d'Italia, won the majority of the center-right votes (26%) making her the first woman to ever be elected Prime Minister in Italy. Head of State President Sergio Mattarella declared her fit for the role, officially authorizing her to work on forming her new government. The following is an overview of the newly elected Ministers who make up the government of Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni.

The Prime Minister – Giorgia Meloni

Her first big role in politics came in 2006, at the age of 29, becoming Vice President of the Chamber of Deputies. In 2008, she became Minister of Youth in the Berlusconi Government. In 2012 she co-founded the Fratelli d'Italia Party. In the 2019 elections the party took 6.5% of the votes, still in the shadow of the two largest center right parties: Lega and Forza Italia. In 2020, she was elected president of the Party of Conservatives and European Reformists. In 2022, she won a plurality of votes, 26%, which gave her the opportunity to be elected as the first woman Prime Minister and form the new Government of Italy.

The Minister of Economy - Giancarlo Giorgetti

He was National Secretary for the Lombardy League from 2002 to 2012 and leader of the North League from 2013 to 2014. He was president of the Balance Chamber Commission from 2001 and 2006 and from 2008 to 2013. He was Minister of Economic Development in the previous government.

Infrastructure and Sustainable Mobility Minister – Matteo Salvini

Vice President in the previous government he is now serving as a Senator and Secretary for his party ‘Lega’. He has a large following on social media and is known for his harsh stance on immigration as he is in favor of closing all seaports to prevent any illegal immigration in the country. He also favors the implementation of a flat tax and is an avid Eurosceptic and criticizes the EU for the sanctions on Russia.

Minister of Foreign Affairs and Vice President – Antonio Tajani

Co-founder of the Italian coalition party ‘Forza Italia’ in 1994. In the same year he was elected to represent the party in the European Parliament. In 2017 he became President of the European Parliament as well. He resigned that position a year later to become Vice President and coordinator of the party he co-founded.

Minister of Defense – Guido Crosetto

Known to be a good mediator and very straightforward, he began his career in the Christian Democratic Party. He is co-founder of the current ruling party Fratelli d’Italia, he is a close counselor of President Meloni. He is also president of AIAD, the Association of Defense and Aerospace.

Minister of Justice – Carlo Nordio

As a former judge, he is known for dealing with cases of infrastructure corruption. He has also been a consultant for the Parliamentary Commission for Terrorism and Disasters as well as President of the Reform of the Criminal Code Commission. In past elections he was elected to the Deputy Chamber for the leading party Fratelli d’Italia.

Minister of the Environment and Energy Security – Gilberto Pichetto Fratin

He was appointed Vice President of the Piedmont region and has taught economics in technical institutions. In 1995 he became assessor of the Industry, Artisanry and Commerce. In 2008, he was elected Senator for the People of Liberty. In 2021 he sat as under-Secretary of State in the Minister of Economic Development in the previous government. He has been re-elected in the Chamber in the last elections.

Minister of Labor and Social Policies – Marina Calderone

She was elected president of the National Council of the Order of Job Consultants in 2005. She specializes in dealing with great companies' crises. She has also been twice a counselor for Leonardo, a tech company known for aerospace, security, and defense.

Minister of European Affairs and Cohesion Policies - Raffaele Fitto

He is the co-founder of the Christian Democratic Movement for Liberty in 1998, which was eventually absorbed into the party 'Forza Italia'. He was elected president of the Apulia region in the year 2000. In 2015, he decided to depart Forza Italia and found his own political party which was named 'Direction Italy' and eventually got absorbed by 'Fratelli d'Italia.'

Minister of Education and Merit – Giuseppe Valditara

He was a university professor in Piedmont and Rome where he taught history of Roman rights. He also served as Dean of the Law School in the European University of Rome until 2011. He is now closely associated with Matteo Salvini.

Minister of University and Research – Anna Maria Bernini

She became Minister of European Policies in 2011 with Berlusconi's government. In 2021 she was promoted by Berlusconi to National Vice-Coordinator of Forza Italia alongside Antonio Tajani, with the task of coordinating the activities of the party with the Senate, Chamber of Deputies and European Parliament.

Minister of Health – Orazio Schillaci

Former president of Tor Vergata University and Doctor, he has also been Director of the operative unit of nuclear medicine since 2008 and has over 120 specialized publications. In his own words, his program consists of "generating and sharing knowledge and culture in the social and economic sphere of the country to promote the role of universities as the pole of progress and sustainable development".

Minister of Family, Birth, and Equal Opportunity – Eugenia Roccella

She served as Undersecretary of Health when Silvio Berlusconi was Prime Minister. In her youth she was a prominent feminist activist, however in recent years she has moderated some of her previously radical positions. She now advocates for the traditional family in the Catholic sense formed by man and woman.

Minister of Sports and Youth - Andrea Abodi

Specializing in the sports industry and the development of sports marketing, he has served as President of the National Professional League of the Soccer B Series. He is currently President of the Institute of Sports Credit and Committee of Special Funds and counselor of the Italian Bank Association.

Minister of Agriculture and Nutrition – Francesco Lollobrigida

Since 2018 he has been parliamentary leader of Fratelli d'Italia in the Chamber of Deputies. He is the brother-in-law of the current President with whom he co-founded the party. He will remain parliamentary leader in the Chamber with the new government in place.

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