



Pier Luigi Zampetti



Uboldo, Varese, Italy, 29 March 1927 - 11 November 2003

Nomination 19 January 1994

Scientific discipline Public Law, Sociology and Social Philosophy,
Philosophy of Law

Academic title Professor

Most important awards, prizes and academy memberships

Professor honoris causa of the Università Cattolica di Salta (Argentina); Dean of the Faculty of Political Science at the University of Trieste; Appointed Member of the "Consiglio Superiore della Magistratura" (Senior Council of Magistrates), 1981; President of the Committee for Juridical Reform and Administration of Justice; Member of the National Academy of Law and Social Sciences of Cordoba, Argentina; Founder member of the Italian Association for State Theory (which promoted three important conferences devoted to political parties, to political institutions and to participation).

Summary of scientific research

His scientific research may be divided into two important periods. He devoted the first to the study of the general theory of law and to juridical and political problems from a philosophical point of view. In this period he studied the concept of man within the juridical and political order. The second period he devoted

to the elaboration of an alternative theory to capitalism and socialism. This theory allowed him to propose a practical application of the principles of Social Doctrine to the transformation of the social structure. This theory is supported by a scientific analysis of society developed in two volumes: *La partecipazione popolare al potere* (1976) and *La società partecipativa* (1981). In the latter, the author indicates the fall of two types of materialism, namely the communist and the capitalism systems, stating that the fall of the first is the cause of the instability of the second, which, having lost its ethical values, becomes consumer capitalism. In two other volumes, *L'uomo e il lavoro nella nuova società* (1983) and *La sfida del duemila* (1989), the author develops the theory of participation with reference to the life of society. In particular, the second volume thoroughly analyses consumer capitalism, in which the welfare state is integrated.

In his book *La sovranità della famiglia e lo stato delle autonomie. Un nuovo modello di sviluppo* ("The Sovereignty of the Family and the Autonomy State. A New Model for Development") published in 1996, the author advances a model for development which will allow the elimination of the welfare state and the creation in its place of a real and authentic social state. This new state will be based upon the family as a co-owner of the means of production and will be able to make those values which have hitherto been in a state of hibernation because of consumerism shine forth once again within society. In this way, thorough participatory democracy, the family and society will play a determining and decisive role within the framework of a new concept of the state – here defined as a state based on forms of ground-level autonomy – in a process that will institutionalise solidarity.

In the book that was just published *Partecipazione e democrazia completa. La nuova vera via* (Participation and thorough democracy. The new and real way) – Rubbettino ed. 2000 – the author demonstrates the inadequacy of representative democracy – currently still considered as the only possible form of democracy. Such democracy is considered solely as political and cannot be extended to the economy or society. A thorough democracy, which concurrently extends to the economic, social and political systems requires the integrating of representative democracy and participatory democracy. Such integration brings to an overcoming of the liberal concept of individualism as well as the socialist concept and collectivism. It gives rise to a concept based on the person where man is regarded as a unity made up of all his various facets. Such concept therefore brings

to the realization, in the historical and social context, of the principles contained in the social doctrine of the Church – it representing the only and authentic alternative to the obsolete ideologies of last century.

The above has been demonstrated in the very recently published essay *La dottrina sociale della Chiesa per la salvezza dell'uomo e del pianeta* (*The social doctrine of the Church towards the salvation of man and of the planet*) – Rome 2002.

In conclusion, a thorough democracy represents the new and real way where innovation and truth get to merge.

Main publications

Il problema della conoscenza giuridica, ed. Giuffr , Milano 1953; *Metafisica e scienza del diritto nel Kelsen*, ed. Giuffr , Milano 1955; *Il problema della giustizia nel protestantesimo tedesco contemporaneo*, ed. Giuffr , Milano 1962; *Il finalismo nel diritto. Verso una concezione personalistica dell'ordinamento giuridico*, ed. Giuffr , Milano 1969; *Dallo Stato liberale allo Stato dei partiti. La rappresentanza politica*, ed. Giuffr , Milano 1965; *Democrazia e potere dei partiti*, ed. Rizzoli, Milano 1969; *La partecipazione popolare al potere. Una nuova alternativa al capitalismo e al socialismo*, ed. Mursia, Milano 1976; *La societ  partecipativa*, ed. Dino, Roma 1981; *L'uomo e il lavoro nella nuova societ *, ed. Rusconi, Milano 1983; *La sfida del duemila. L'uomo pu  salvare il mondo dalla catastrofe*, ed. Rusconi, Milano 1988; *La sovranit  della Famiglia e lo Stato delle autonomie. Un nuovo modello di sviluppo*, ed. Rusconi, Milano 1996; *Partecipazione e democrazia completa. La nuova vera via*, ed. Rubbettino, 2002; *La Dottrina sociale della Chiesa per la salvezza dell'uomo e del pianeta*, Roma 2002; He has also published a large number of articles in Italian and foreign journals.