



Join Egencia for a webinar on the future of work

EGENCIA AN EXPEDIA, INC. COMPANY Register Now



i-Italy

Wish your TV spoke Italian?

Now it can with Mediaset Italia & Rai Italia!



EVENTS NEWS

In collaboration with the Consulate General of Italy



Bordighera Press will Present the First Volumes in a New Series Entitled Saggistica



Remembrance Ceremony – Giorno della Memoria



Adventures in Italian Opera with Fred Plotkin: A Conversation with David Daniels

FACTS & STORIES

The Grow-Italy Decree Became Law

FRANCESCA GIULIANI (January 25, 2012)



i-Italy analyzes Monti's all-encompassing proposal to level the economic playing-field and start Italian economy anew

IN THIS SECTION

The Grow-Italy Decree Became Law

FRANCESCA GIULIANI



The MRket of Style Suffers No Crisis. Inside MRKET New York

FRANCESCA GIULIANI



Claudio Bisogniero, the New Italian Ambassador to the United States

F. G.



Sicily: When Farmers Hold Their Pitchforks

FRANCESCA GIULIANI



Captain Schettino Becomes an Internet Meme

FRANCESCA GIULIANI



View all >>

AffordableTours.com Save UP TO 50% on TOURS Click Here for Savings

MULTIMEDIA

150 Years of Italian Genius



(NYU) Saviano and Roubini. Mafia, Banks & Economic Crises (Translated)



Exploring the Wines of the "Cantina Sociale di Canelli"



Like Send 0 Email Print Permalink

Following an eight-hour long cabinet meeting and after the signing by President of the Republic Giorgio Napolitano, yesterday the so-called "Grow-Italy" decree devised by Mario Monti's government of technocrats became law.

RELATED

Articles 1/1



Sicily: When Farmers Hold Their Pitchforks

The measures in the decree are aimed at liberalizing Italy's hyper-regulated services sector, encouraging competition and overcoming the underlying familism that characterizes the Italian way of doing business today...

The Grow-Italy decree functions as a counterweight to the Save-Italy austerity measures approved in December, a \$40 billion stimulus package based on tax increases, pensions reforms and spending cuts...

Italy's economic appeal and international reputation at the same time.

The decree's range of action is extremely wide, as it encompasses a variety of economic activities that it reforms with different paces. A quick review of the devised measures sheds a light on Italy's enduring structural problems, caused by a system of interlocking tiers and strings stifling the entrepreneurial impulses of the country's inhabitants.

The first measures to be implemented are the liberalization of pharmacy licenses, currently limited to one every 4,000 inhabitants, and often passed from parents to sons or purchased at extremely high costs by pharmacy owners dismissing their activity. A number of prescription drugs will also be made available in para-pharmacies, something like the American drugstores, that before the Grow-Italy law weren't allowed to sell any prescription pharmaceuticals. Pharmacies will also be able to establish their work hours independently and to apply discounts on any item. New pharmacy openings are being encouraged in shopping malls, train stations and airports.

Car insurance companies will be obliged to present three alternative prices to their prospective customers, in order to increase the competition in the insurance products' market. Also, prices should be discounted if the customer agrees on installing a black box on his vehicle. Banks will have to adopt similar competitiveness increasing measures when selling mortgages and life insurance plans.

In the area of legal professions, 500 slots for new notaries will be opened each year until 2014. Young entrepreneurs will be allowed to open their own LLC with a minimum budget of €1 and without the assistance of a notary.

There will be no more minimum and maximum fees for professionals, and they will all be obliged to provide their customers with an estimate for their final compensation.

Gas stations will be allowed to sell food, newspapers and tobacco. The gas station operators that don't own the plant will have the chance to take over it and they will be then entitled to choose their gas providers.

Class actions will be simplified and made more accessible.

The government will be in charge of creating an Antitrust department, monitoring the activities of the Regions and local powers.

In six months, a new Authority of Networks will be opened. It will be in charge of regulating the liberalization of taxi licenses, the division of the railway holding FS, the regulation of the new highway concessions and fees that will be price-capped.

Always in six month, a decree will regulate the separation of **Snam Rete Gas** (the company that owns the network of gas pipes) and **Eni** (the company that manages the network), in order to increase the competitiveness of the utilities' market. **La Repubblica** estimates that the separation will become effective in two years.

Within September 2012, banks will have to have revised the system of commissions and fees the shop-owners bear to accept debit and credit card payments. Encouraging electronic transactions will help the traceability of money, and will disincentive the use of cash in order to reduce the impact of fiscal evasion on the economy.

In the long run, after 2012, the Grow-Italy package will encourage 18-month long internships for students to start in their last semester of classes.

Among other provisions, the law establishes that TV frequencies should be tendered instead of being freely assigned to preexisting networks, as they are a valuable public good that could generate consistent revenues to help alleviate the severe sacrifices the government has imposed to Italians.

The vast number of interests that the Grow-Italy measure touches somehow saves it from partiality accusations, although it doesn't shield it from a mounting wave of discontent. The members of the



Eni's Headquarters in Italy



The Italian Parliament



The Taxi Drivers Protests

[View all >>](#)

ITALY.IT



Vicenda della Concordia. Soap opera o cronaca?

MARIA RITA LATTO

In visita al Vittoriano per ricordare quando gli altri eravamo noi...

FRANCESCA DI FOLCO

Il Signore è grande

PEPPE VOLTARELLI

Ripensare la politica di promozione della lingua italiana

ANTHONY J. TAMBURRI

[View all >>](#)

professional guilds and the workers of those sectors that will be affected by the measure are extremely dissatisfied with the government's decision, and a rising tide of strikes has been paralyzing Italy since the discussion on the Grow-Italy maneuver started.

Another enemy of the maneuver could be internal for Monti: **Reuters** estimates that almost a third of the Italian 945 members of the **Parliament** are also members of a professional guild. 130 of them are in fact lawyers, 90 are journalists, 23 are accountants, 13 are architects and 4 are notaries.

 TAGS
Authority of Networks car insurance Eni Francesca Giuliani Giorgio Napolitano Grow-Italy La Repubblica liberalizations Monti President of Republic Snam Rete Gas

 [Add a comment](#)

Developed and Powered by Digitalians Corporation, NY

