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The Metropolitan Cities and their Statutes. Experiences in comparison

Metropolitan Cities: where do we stand? (p. 5)

Ylenia Guerra

Metropolitan Cities have characterized the political and scientific debate in recent decades. In contrast with the previous legislative attempts, the “Delrio” act established Metropolitan Cities. The systematic analysis of law 56/2014, through a reading oriented to the principle of autonomy, highlights both the contradictions and the autonomy of these entities. Above all, the comparative reading of the Statutes until now approved, in the light of the recent decision of the Constitutional Court (no. 50/2015), enables to understand how the space left open by law 56/2014 has been coherently filled up by the Cities.

The Statute of the Metropolitan City of Bari (p. 35)

Marco Brocca

According to the 56/2014 act framework, the Statute outlines the Metropolitan City of Bari as a “territorial authority of wide area”. It fully implements functional and organizational rules provided by the mentioned act and it benefits from the given margins of statutory autonomy, concerning among others Metropolitan Council functions, quorums, designation of the deputy Mayor and relations with other local authorities. Having regard to the governance, the authority appears as a second level public body since both Metropolitan Mayor and Council members are not directly elected.

The Statute of the Metropolitan City of Bologna (p. 59)

Stefano Bianchini

The Statute of the Metropolitan City of Bologna, inspired by the federative feature of the new body, outlines a system of government in which the local bodies are integrated both from an institutional point of view, also by virtue of an electoral mechanism of second level, and from the point of view of the exercise of general planning functions, in consideration of institutions of participation analytically disciplined.

The Statute of the Metropolitan City of Florence (p. 83)*Ippolito Piazza*

The Statute of the Metropolitan City of Florence is a short document that shows the political will of establishing a new authority that merely represents the municipalities of the metropolitan area. The Statute does not provide for the direct election of the Mayor and the Metropolitan Council and, hence, does not give the Metropolitan City the identity of a new political institution.

The Statute of the Metropolitan City of Genoa (p. 101)*Simone Calzolaio*

This paper deals with analyzing the charter of the Metropolitan City of Genoa, the link between its governing bodies and the connections with the municipalities that are part of its territory. The charter of the Metropolitan City of Genoa is characterized by the role played by the metropolitan conference and for the specific discipline reserved for "homogeneous areas".

The Statute of the Metropolitan City of Milan (p. 119)*Marzia De Donno*

The Statute of the Metropolitan City of Milan is the longest among those issued so far. Its 70 articles reveal the complexity and conflicts underlying the establishment of the new body and its statutory process. Both the option of the direct election of the Metropolitan Mayor and the creation of a solid network of institutional relations with external bodies represent the confirmation of the necessity of governing the fragile equilibrium between the capital and the suburbs, between the Metropolitan City itself and the surrounding provinces.

The Statute of the Metropolitan City of Naples (p. 147)*Francesco Rota*

The Statute of the Metropolitan City of Naples pursues the idea to promote and enhance the role of this recently born institution, as it emerg-

es from the statutory provisions concerning the form of government and the structure of the administrative bodies. In line with this approach, the Statute tries to qualify the Metropolitan City as an eminent interlocutor for other social and institutional entities – such as other local, regional and national levels of government – by interpreting its role in a broad sense, especially with regard to planning activities. Some critical issues might emerge due to the limited attention of the Statute to some administrative functions that are traditionally related to the government of wide areas.

The Statute of the Metropolitan City of Rome (p. 169)

Francesca Di Lascio

The essay involves the contents of the Statute of the Metropolitan City of Rome, which is approved without criticality. It should be noted, however, that the composition of the Metropolitan Council of the City denotes a low rate of territorial representation of smaller municipalities, which are the most numerous in the metropolitan area. It is significant even the choice of elections by universal and direct suffrage of the organs, which will be defined with a future state law, and the possibility that the Metropolitan Mayor can appoint a “Coordinamento dei consiglieri delegati” to support his functions.

The Statute of the Metropolitan City of Turin (p. 189)

Elena Demichelis

The Metropolitan City of Turin connects a wide area of 315 municipalities, distant and different, sometimes closer to external entities with which, in fact, the Statute provides forms of collaboration and connection. Within the Statute, the promotion of integration and involvement of territories and citizens plays a crucial role, but it seems that the Metropolitan City remains a coordinator and does not yet conduct an integrated function.

The innovation of the local government to the test: a comparative analysis of the Statutes of the Metropolitan Cities (p. 213)

Luciano Vandelli

The cross-reading of the Statutes approved nowadays by the new Metropolitan Cities shows a different approach in the use of the statutory autonomy provided by the law: the texts show a high degree of differentiation and seem shaped on the specific needs and opinions expressed in each local context. A specific differentiation derives from the perspective, adopted in the Statutes, of a cohabitation, in our Country, between Metropolitan Cities with an indirect election system and Metropolitan Cities (specifically: Rome, Milan and Naples) with a Mayor and a Council directly elected. This choice may justify some doubts about the functionality of the system.