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Cortina Olympics Everything is late

- 1) We hear too many words about the damages created by bureaucracy. Politicians compete to promise to cut red tape. Then Covid showed up, and many used it as the perfect alibi. Does anybody want to repeat the excellent example of the Morandi bridge? So many promises at the opening, then they forgot about it. When the emergency is over, it will be very problematic; politics didn't do anything to cut red tape, encourage entrepreneurship, recover the infrastructure gap. We are deliriously waiting for the Recovery Fund (we don't know when and how much). No one cares if procedures will transform these funds into proper development support. Or if they will end up languishing without any real project. We are going towards the post-Covid era without changing a single word in those bureaucratic chains tormenting the country.
- 2) Policymakers didn't even speed up Cortina like Genoa. The ski area is emblematically experiencing how Italy is stuck and can't move on. Cortina was chosen for the World Ski Championships (in 2015). Politicians of various colors agreed (the place goes on TV worldwide) to create road-infrastructures. In practice, some bypasses from Longarone to Cortina, where there are endless and dangerous traffic jams. Unbearable barriers during an event like a World Cup.
- 3) Well, the races will take place without any of these infrastructures. Organizers accuse Anas that had to stay careful, and politics that wasn't interested. One of the essential construction sites, the San Vito bypass (five kilometers long), was supposed to open in one month. The construction sites aren't open yet. There are 35 authorizations to be requested between ministries and the Region. The exam of the files doesn't take place together but through procedures that sometimes take months. Conclusion: six years later, the construction site was supposed to close before the 2021 World Cup. Those five kilometers won't probably be ready even for the 2024 Cortina Olympics. The same goes for the bypasses of Longarone, Tai di Cadore and Cortina itself. How is it possible for a country to grow again in such circumstances?

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Bonus 110%: a good idea that is sinking

- 4) The 110% superbonus for energy-saving and seismic zones is an extraordinary opportunity. The number of questions ItaliaOggi receives every day proves it as well. Who wouldn't like to renovate a house, improving its energy efficiency, or its earthquake-proof structure, at zero cost? Except it's not working. At the end of 2020, Enea received only 200 applications. Two hundred out of a building stock of tens of millions of units potentially affected. How come? The main reason is the complexity of the requirements and bureaucratic obstacles.
- 5) According to an empirical estimate circulating among insiders, less than 20% of inspections result in initiating the complicated procedure for the construction work and getting the superbonus.

Something isn't working. It seems that in front of the unprecedented generosity of the lawmaker, the bureaucratic apparatus is making continuous attempts to put a spanner in the works.

They see it as a reckless operation by irresponsible politicians that could destroy public accounts. Nonetheless, Brussels supports the measure because it's part of the environmentalist ideology of energy saving, reducing polluting emissions and anti-seismic upgrading of the building stock.

- 6) The massive use of the tax credit would cost enormous revenue loss over the next five years. And theoretically, the superbonus could be dangerously used to cover reckless renovations or amnesties of previous illegal works. Moreover, it is not sure that the need to invoice everything will produce lasting results in the fight against evasion. Jobs registered in the books for two or three years could get out over time. At the same time, the black economy could increase in other types of work without the bonus.

In the ongoing game between environmental politicians and zealous bureaucrats, the latter is currently winning.

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