

1953's CIA-led Ajax Operation has overthrown former PM Mohammed Mossadeq after his decision to nationalize Iranian oil with the support of former ENI president Enrico Mattei. At that time the so called ENI-model represented a revolutionary way in international cooperation, based on a concrete idea of mutual respect and win-win strategy



significantly weaker. Western observers welcomed the electoral victory of reformist wings with satisfaction, believing that Rouhani could keep a softer attitude towards US and EU. However most of them considered this softer attitude as a yielding and not as a mutual opening. On the contrary Iranian government held its positions on nuclear issue steady, obtaining a clear victory.

Geneva agreements represent not only the approval of the Iranian atomic program but also a legitimacy of Iranian Islamic Republic in front of international community. After Geneva, Iran is no more the "rogue state" or the "ferocious dictatorship" which US and EU talked about for almost ten years, exploiting inner affairs to create international hostile propaganda campaigns or supporting extremist movements aimed to destabilize the country. Now Western nations must recognize the sovereignty of Iran after several years of unequal sanctions and military threats. Without that political distortion, also in front of

European public opinion Iran is now a legitimate regional power, a country which claims for dialogue, peace and unity in Muslim world, one of the most important oil world producers, with a rising ability in terms of economic diversification which distinguishes it from the other obsolete Gulf economies. In a few words, Iran is at full scale an essential pivot between Inner Asia and the Middle East and so a key-actor along the new re-emerging Silkroad.

### Perspectives in EU-Iran cooperation

At the same time, European countries become potential partners for Iran in terms of economy and technology abandoning their traditional compliant attitude towards Israel. In 2006 Italy has been the first European economic partner of Iran while in 2008 trade volume between the two countries reached € 6 billions, mainly concerning raw materials and car industry sectors. After oil embargo against Iran in 2012, ENI and other Italian state-owned and private companies were forced to abandon the country

and stop their activities with huge negative consequences on Italian economy. After Foreign Affairs Minister Emma Bonino visited Tehran, these essential commercial channels have been finally reopened starting from oil and gas market as recently wished by ENI Managing Director Paolo Scaroni and Iranian Minister of Petroleum Bijan Namdar Zangeneh during a meeting in Wien.

Italy was urgently needing for new import sources after the annulment of Bengasi Treaty (signed by former PM Silvio Berlusconi and former Libyan president Muammar Gaddafi in summer of 2008), due to the devastating NATO military operations which made Libya collapse in a geopolitical chaos where foreign invaders and Salafi-Wahhabi terrorist fighters established a new law of the jungle.

Libyan example represents a hard precedent which any other non-Western state should look at. In fact EU has not a common foreign policy yet: firstable, because every nation seems to be still anchored to its own