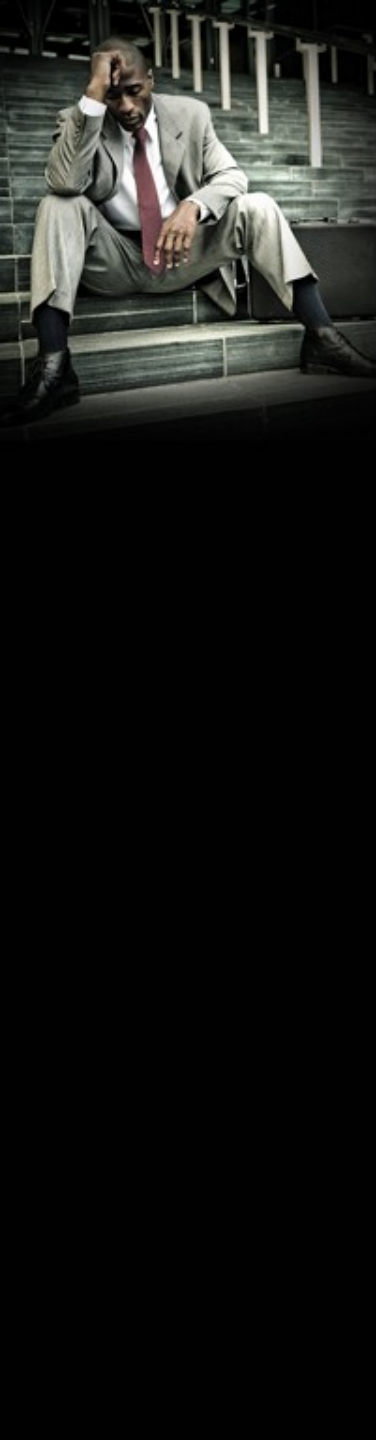


Lecture 9: Recent developments

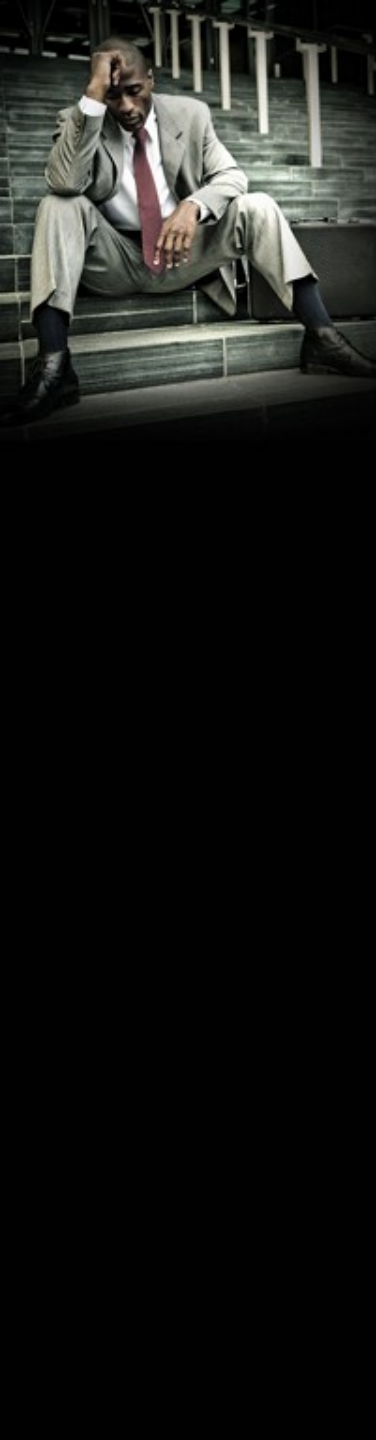
Developments in Italy - EU Relations





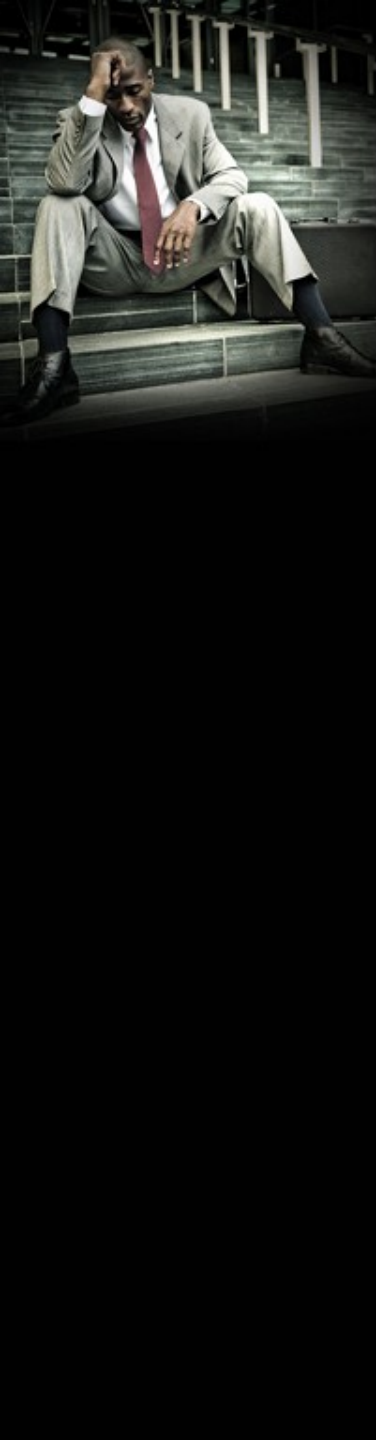
The Conte I Government (2018-2019)

- Coalition between M5S and Lega
- Confrontational approach to EU institutions
- Budget dispute with European Commission
- Tensions over immigration policy



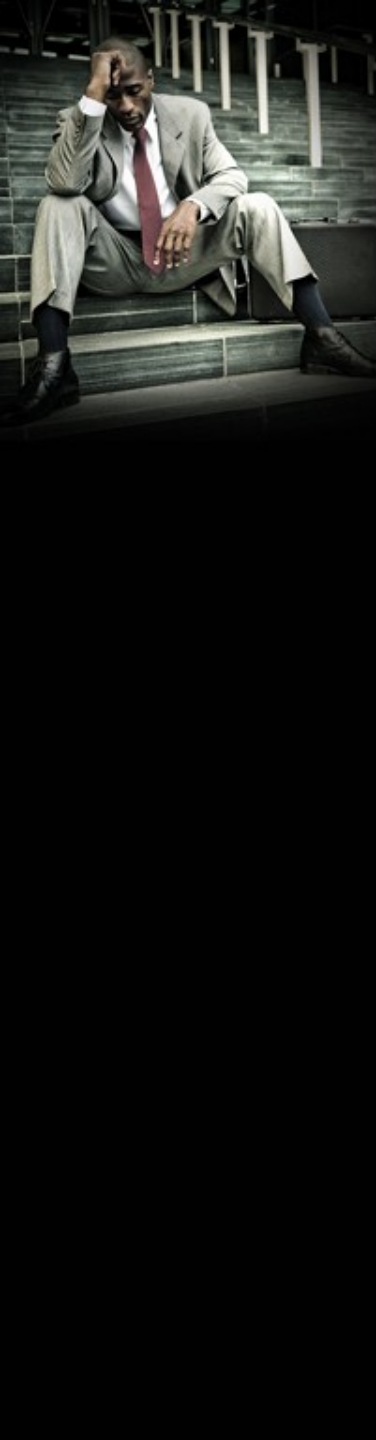
Key Policies of Conte I Government

- "Citizens' Income" welfare program
- "Quota 100" pension reform
- Attempts to increase deficit spending
- "Security Decree" on immigration



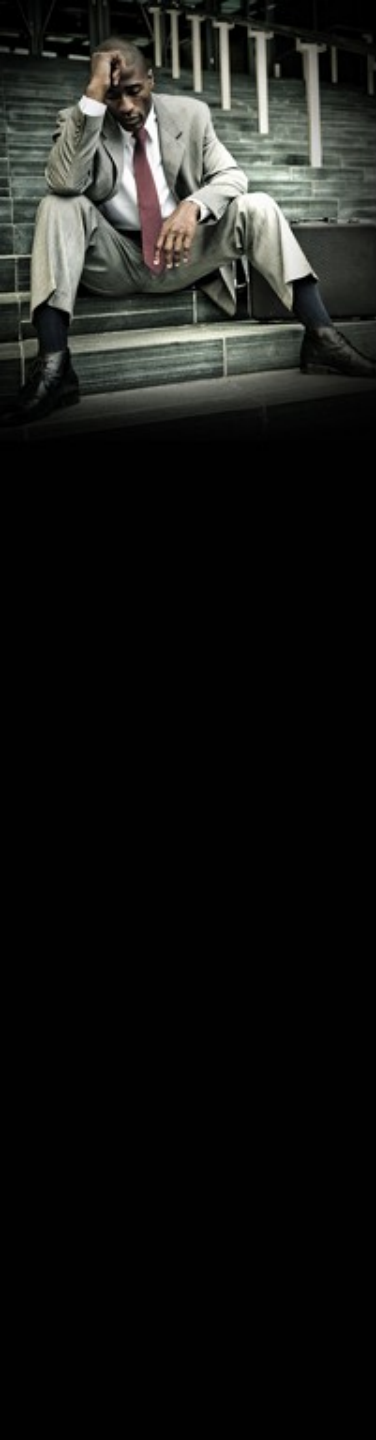
Impact on Italy-EU Relations

- Deterioration of diplomatic ties
- Increased market volatility
- Isolation in EU decision-making processes
- Debates on EU reform and fiscal flexibility



The Fall of Conte I and Formation of Conte II Government

- Lega's withdrawal from coalition
- New alliance between M5S and Democratic Party
- Shift towards more pro-EU stance
- Improved relations with EU institutions



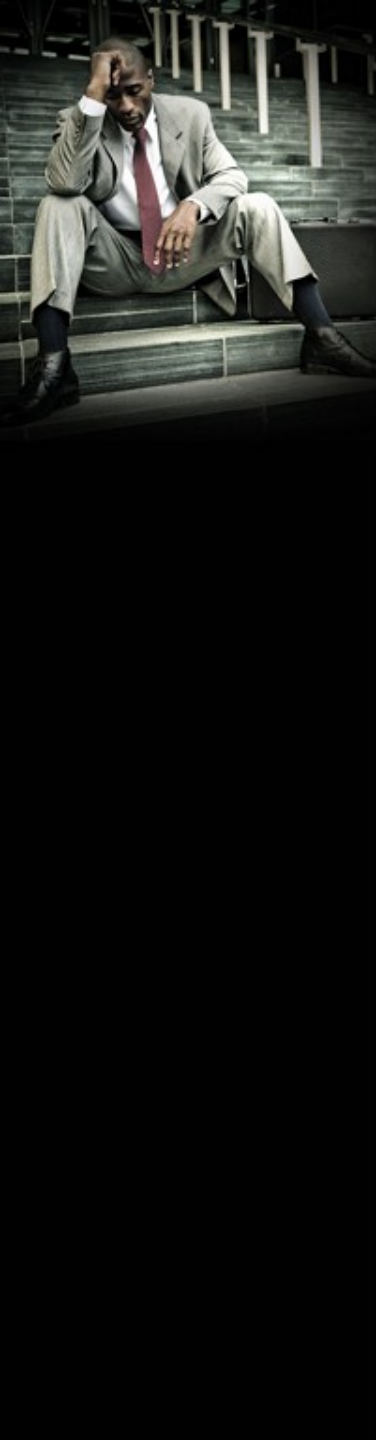
The COVID-19 Pandemic: Initial Impact

- Severe health crisis in Northern Italy
- Nationwide lockdown measures
- Sharp economic contraction
- Calls for EU solidarity and support



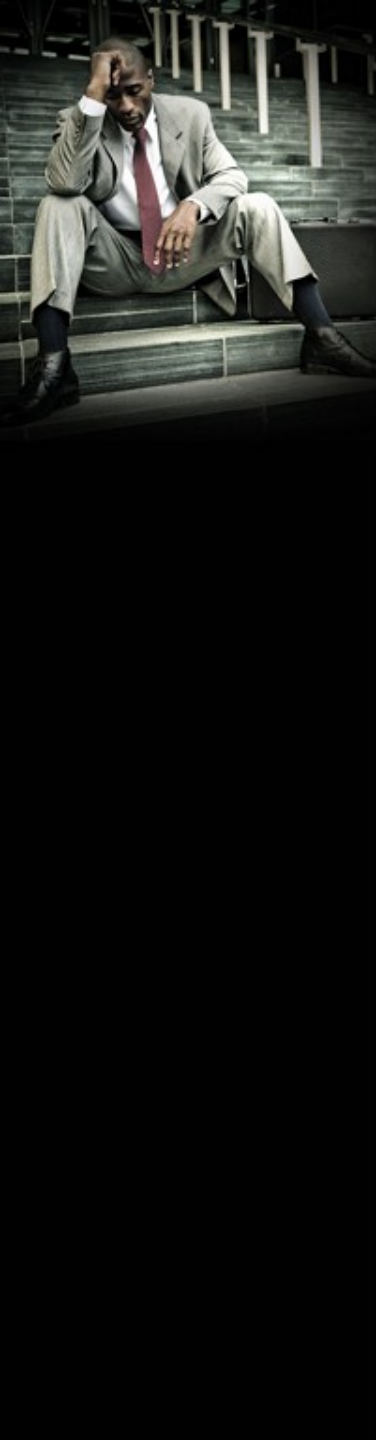
EU Response to the Pandemic

- Initial criticism of EU's slow reaction
- European Central Bank's pandemic emergency purchase programme (PEPP)
- Suspension of Stability and Growth Pact rules
- Negotiations for Recovery Fund / Next Generation EU



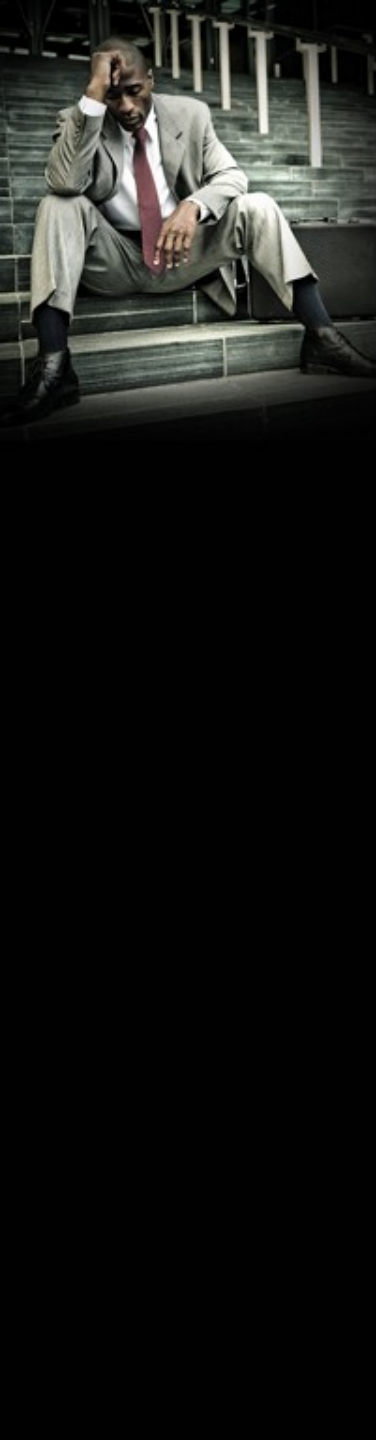
Italy's Economic Challenges During the Pandemic

- GDP contraction and rising unemployment
- Strain on healthcare system
- Impact on tourism and service sectors
- Widening regional disparities



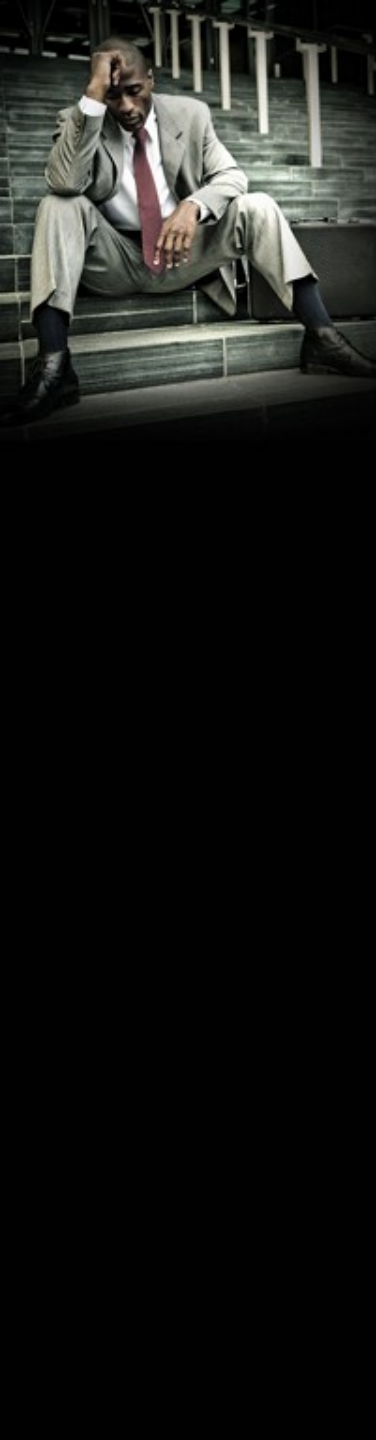
Changes in Public Perception of the EU

- Initial disappointment with EU response
- Growing support for EU actions
- Shift in narrative from "EU as constraint" to "EU as opportunity"
- Debates on the future of European integration



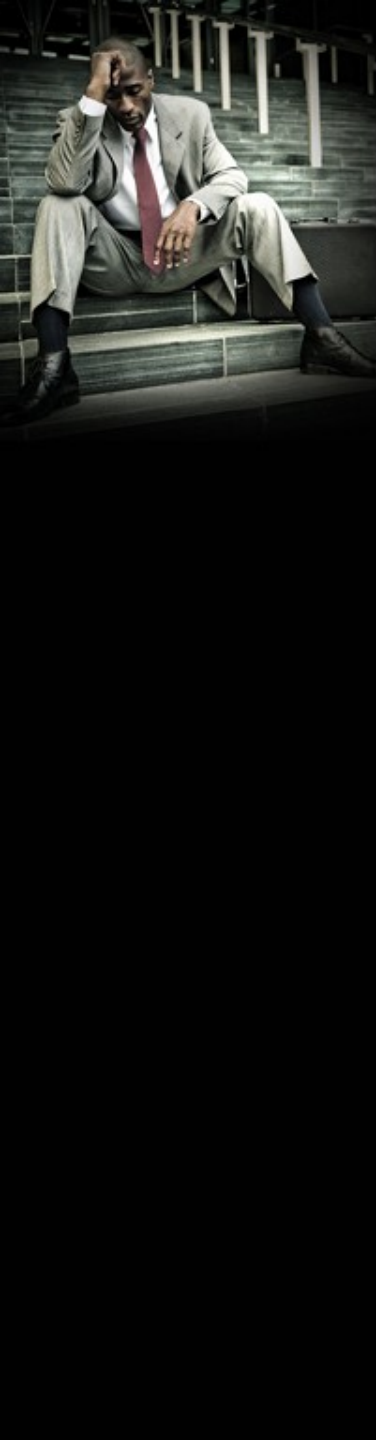
Political Developments During the Pandemic

- Decline in support for Eurosceptic parties
- Rise in popularity of pro-EU figures
- Renewed focus on Italy's role in the EU
- Debates on use of European recovery funds



The Draghi Government and PNRR

- Appointment of Mario Draghi as Prime Minister
- Broad coalition government
- Drafting and approval of National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR)
- Focus on reforms and investment using EU funds



Future Prospects for Italy-EU Relations

- Implementation challenges for PNRR
- Potential for structural reforms
- Evolving public attitudes towards the EU
- Italy's role in shaping future EU policies