



Archivio Biografico
Movimento Operaio

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ABMO: who we are

- The Biographical Archive of the Working-Class Movement has for some time been engaged in realising a series of volumes on the history of the Italian working-class movement in the 19th and 20th centuries. To date we have published the first 5 volumes, which cover the period 1848 to 1892, and a list of biographical profiles, included in each volume, are now also available on our internet site www.abmo.it along with their supporting documentary, literary and photographic material.



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2017: anniversary of Russian Revolution ***2019: anniversary of Communist International***

- We have decided to also start work on a new series on the international working-class movement, focusing on significant moments in its history. Currently in preparation is the Russian volume, with around 700 individual biographies, which will be ready for next year's centenary of the Russian Revolution.
- As well as this piece of work, our Institute is also presently engaged in an even more ambitious project, linked to another imminent centenary: the foundation of the Communist International of 1919.
- The layout, to be realised in a number of volumes, will be similar to previous works: a brief historical study, a wide-ranging prosopographical description, and a full biographical table. Edited by Emilio Gianni, ABMO's director, this volume will be published by Pantarei of Milan - an editorial house which, as you will know, is primarily dedicated to producing works of a solidly scientific nature.



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The thousand men who gave life to the Komintern (1919-1924):

1.600 figures from 60 countries

- This project will include all those exponents who took part in the first 4 Komintern congresses (hence, prior to its drift towards Stalinism), the three Plenum of its executive committee, and its collateral organisations such as the Profintern, Krestintern, etc, within the same time period.
- At present we have selected a list of approximately 1600 figures, from around 60 countries throughout the world



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The importance of a project achieved internationally

- The importance of the deadlines, the wide-ranging nature of the sample and its supranational nature, has induced us to ask for the collaboration of historians and academics from a variety of countries. The intent would be to realise a work of international collectivity, with contributors taking on the biographies of the figures of their respective nations.
- On a first assessment of this work, we can safely say that we have been honoured and comforted by the fact that already dozens of colleagues, beginning with our IALHI friends, some of whom are present here today, have given warm, voluntary, and completely disinterested support to this project.



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Already remarkable contributions from many colleagues and scholars in likewise countries

- And we can add that as of today hundreds (more than 500) of excellent biographical profiles have arrived from friends and colleagues in many countries - from Turkey to Scandinavia, from France to Hungary - but also outwith Europe: from America to Brazil, from Russia to South Korea.



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A web version of a multilingual project

- The interest thus far aroused has induced us to also consider the possibility of an English-language edition. But time is an ambush, and 2019 is just around the corner. However, each biography will certainly be included in our internet site not only in Italian, but in English as well as in its language of origin.
- An enormous amount of work remains to be done, and the energies at our disposal are never enough. This is why we take this occasion to renew a call, to all of you and to other colleagues not present here today, to all those who have an interest or knowledge in this area, to participate in our project.

Thank you for your time and attention.