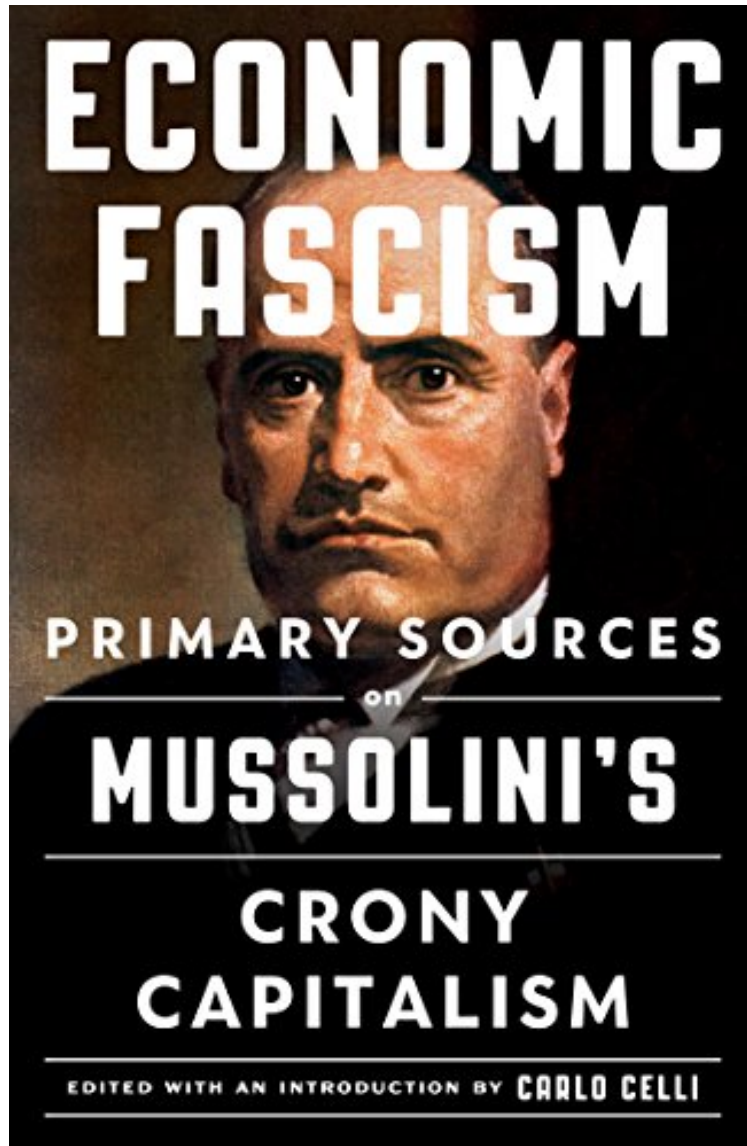


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Economic Fascism: Primary Sources on Mussolini's Crony Capitalism

Carlo Celli

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2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Useful Insights that apply to current American political trends By M. A. Taylor Carlo Celli has provided an outstanding compilation of historical documents which illustrate Mussolini's

political philosophy . They provide lessons of history which are timely and relevant to the current "too big to fail" alliance between the U.S government/politicians and big business, particularly in the wake of the recent financial crisis in the U.S. If you are concerned about the policies implemented in the U.S. over the past decade and their impact on the future success of the American political system, you should read this book. 0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Fascism's roots By Andreuccio This is the definitive compilation of Mussolini's economic philosophy. Required reading for anyone desiring to better understand Mussolini, Fascism, and the groundwork laid by Mussolini for many of today's economic and political policies.

It may be argued that Mussolini (1883–1945, dictator of Italy 1922–1943) invented modern crony capitalism. Although he described himself as a socialist, he rejected the Marxist version. As he saw it, the state would not own the economy. Ownership would nominally remain in private hands, although the state would exercise total control. Government control without direct ownership had the advantage that when the economy did well, the state could take credit. When the economy did poorly, private parties could be blamed. Prior to the debacle of World War II, many of Mussolini's policies were admired by democrats such as economist John Maynard Keynes and President Franklin Roosevelt. Today nobody supports what came to be called fascism, but nevertheless many of the economic policies central to it survive and even dominate in countries all over the world. This unique collection of Mussolini's statements about economics is important, all the more so since many of them have not been previously available in English. Professor Carlo Celli has reviewed all the available material and created a masterful compilation of the most important primary documents. He also provides an introduction to set the scene and an appendix of economic data to clarify what was happening at the time. If you are interested in the origins of today's crony capitalism and in better understanding it, you will want this book. Now with linking endnotes and index.

About the Author Carlo Celli holds degrees from the University of Virginia (B.A., Bachelor of Arts, Economics) and UCLA (Ph.D., Doctor of Philosophy), and studied at the universities of Florence and Bologna. He is a professor at Bowling Green State University in Ohio, and author of books on the historical, economic, and social factors influencing culture. He lives in Bowling Green, OH.