



**PIERO FASSINO**

**Former Mayor of Turin**

Piero Fassino was born in Avigliana, in the Susa Valley, on the 7th of October 1949.

He has served as State Secretary for Foreign Affairs during the Prodi Government, Minister of Foreign Trade during the D'Alema Government and Minister of Justice during the Amato Government. In 2009 he was appointed European Union Special Envoy for Burma/Myanmar.

In 2011 he was elected Mayor of Torino.

Graduated in Political Science, he started taking active part in politics in 1968 and in 1975 he was elected Councillor at the City Council of Torino and Provincial Councillor in 1980.

In 1987 he was asked to guide the organization of PCI (Partito Comunista Italiano- Italian Communist Party) during the crucial phase of foundation of PDS (Partito Democratico della Sinistra- Democratic Left Party), a task continued in 1991 when he became international Secretary by leading the entry of PDS in the Socialist International.

Elected for the first time at the Chamber of Deputies in 1994, he was then re-elected in 1996, 2001, 2006 and in 2008.

In 1996 he started his first experiences in the National Government: State Secretary for Foreign Affairs during the Prodi Government, Minister of Foreign Trade during the D'Alema Government and Minister of Justice during the Amato Government.

He is a convinced defender of the fact that the strength of a political idea starts from cities, from territories; for this reason in 2001, during a particularly critical period for the coalition between centre and left-wings parties, he became the leader of Democratici di Sinistra (Left Democrats) by reconstructing the "Ulivo" and leading it to victory on the occasion of all administrative, regional, European and political elections during the five years period 2002 – 2006 becoming, in 2007, cofounder of the Democratic Party.

He is assiduously engaged in bringing out the international image of Torino: capital of Italy in 1861 first, manufacturing centre during large part of the XX century and nowadays multi-vocational city: besides industry and finance, Torino is a city of culture and of high education as well as of university specialization. From last October he is President of ANCI Piemonte, the regional branch of the association gathering Italian municipalities. In addition to his political passion he has always cultivated the one for cinema and music, with special fondness for Mozart, Ravel, Bizet and the Broadway musicals.

He loves reading; Calvino, Cassola, Bassani, Pavese, Fenoglio, Vittorini were his favourite writers in youth. And now, in the years of maturity, he prefers Eco, Magris, Camilleri, Mazzantini, Ammanniti. Mr. Fassino also appreciates American literature: Faulkner, Fitzgerald and Steinbeck, as well as writers like David Grossman, Amos Oz, Abraham Yehshoua, Meir Shalev who represent the Jewish world with which he established very solid relations.

He is interested in sport, notably football. He is supporter of Juventus Football Club and, as a boy, he has also played in its relevant juniores team.