



Consulla dei Senatori del Regno

IL PRESIDENTE

TO THE OPERATORS OF PUBLIC INFORMATION
COMMUNICATION

The presidency of the Council of Senators of the Kingdom, after hearing H.R.H. Prince Amedeo, Duke of Savoy, in addition to the Declaration and Edicts of H.R.H. Prince Amedeo, Duke of Savoy, in Villa Italia (San Rocco, Castiglion Fibocchi, Arezzo) wishes to communicate:

that in order to make thoroughly and transparently clear the following information concerning the House of Savoy, the House of Savoy and H.R.H. in these past months have resolved to make public the present Declaration without further delay.

They have resolved to circulate it to all those who are present now and in the future, well aware of their obligation to clarify the past, normally not widely known, and with the intention of truncating at the outset any eventual abuse of names, titles and positions on the part of whoever, according to places and circumstances – as in the case of Vittorio Emanuele and his son Emanuele Filiberto – now denies the truth and dignity of the history of the House of Savoy and even the Monarchy itself, and who are now laying claim to bear titles which consist in nothing but flights of the imagination. It must be stated, and we can only repeat, that Vittorio Emanuele and his son Emanuele Filiberto of Savoy are entirely excluded from any kind of dynastic role.

We are obliged to clarify that the norms that regulate the life of the House (including Royal Princes, i.e. legitimate successors to the Throne, and Princes of the Blood, i.e. both men and women who form part of the Royal family) were and remain established by the Royal Patents issued by Vittorio Amedeo III of Savoy, King of Sardinia (1780 and 1782) which have never been modified and which in fact are essentially referred to in the Civil Code of the Kingdom of Italy (1865, 1890, 1942). These norms:

- a- confer exclusively upon the King the prerogative to authorize the marriages of members of the House. Now King Umberto II had never recognized dynastic legitimacy in the marriage of his son, Vittorio Emanuele, with Marina Doria Ricolfi. The Sovereign never, at any time or any way, modified his stand on de-recognition and its consequences; Vittorio Emanuele was well aware of his father's prohibition, but went his own way, and in so doing removed himself from the Royal Family;
- b- exclude from the Royal Family all members who violate the Royal Patents;
- c- meant and continue to mean *ipso iure* the "automatic" exclusion of Vittorio Emanuele and his descendants, beginning with his son, Emanuele Filiberto. Such exclusion abolishes all rank and titles and position, since Vittorio Emanuele contracted marriage without the Royal consent, in violation of the norms – as his father had vainly reminded him, and also by letter – that it did not depend upon the will of the Sovereign, but upon laws from which the King himself could not be exempt. Like any father King Umberto displayed family affection towards his son and grandson, which is a entirely different thing from recognizing the rank of a Prince as Heir to the Throne;
- d- transmit the title of successor to the Throne to the Prince nearest in kin to the Sovereign: specifically Prince Amedeo of Savoy, the former Duke of Aosta;
- e- are so severe that the founder of the line of the Dukes of Aosta, Amedeo of Savoy, second son of Vittorio Emanuele II, and King of Spain between 1870 and 1872, upon his re-entry into Italy, had to wait many years before his claim and title to succeed to the Crown of Italy was restored, having laid it aside when he assumed the Crown of Spain (on request of the Cortes and with previous approval of the "Father of His Country"); all of which confirm that these norms are also binding for the King.

Since the House of Savoy and the Kingdom of Italy were united by history, through the proclamation of the Kingdom of Italy of 17 March 1861 with Vittorio Emanuele II as statutory sovereign, we have felt the moral obligation to clear the field of the heedless initiatives to which news stories have accustomed us, much to the bitter concern of ourselves and all Italians who love their history. It behoves us to correct information that fails to correspond to the norms, to history, to the truth, and to the moral and civil interests of the House and the Italy of today; especially by means of numerous and prestigious public and private initiatives (exhibitions, conventions, restorations...) which shed an authentic light upon the connections between the House of Savoy and the history of Italy and Europe: a precious heritage which cannot be renounced.

We are grateful to the Operators of Information for all they are to do to confirm the truth of history.

Rome, 7-VII-2006

Aldo Alessandro Mola
President of the Council of the Senators of the Kingdom