



Ambasciata d'Italia  
Kampala

# *Festa della Repubblica*

**2020**

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My Dear Fellow-Nationals, Dear friends,  
74 years have passed since the historic referendum of June 2, 1946 that sanctioned the beginning of the Republic.

Unfortunately, this anniversary will not be a celebration like all the others. I would have loved, as is the tradition, to meet you all in Kampala, in Kigali, in Bujumbura, to renew once again the collective belonging to our Country - that common feeling that unites us everywhere in the world.

The pandemic will not allow us to celebrate physically together the National Day, but the democratic principles and the social values on which it is based will continue to inspire us. This would have been my first National Day celebration with you. I am now encouraged by the thought that we shall celebrate it together next year when social distance and all that has so far kept us apart, allow me to hope, will be just a memory.

Italy has paid a very high toll in terms of loss of human lives. Our first thought must go to them and their families. Looking back over the last three months, we cannot but thank those women and men who served the Country as doctors, nurses, health workers and all those who enforced public order and safety during the difficult moments of the pandemic.

Physical distance must not, however, prevent us from ideally honouring the roots of our democracy today. It is for this reason that I have asked some of my dear friends, to whom I am most grateful, to join me in wishing you a Happy National Day. I am glad that they have accepted and I am sure you will recognize and appreciate them: these wishes are entirely dedicated to you, my dear Fellow-Nationals in Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi.

I join them in wishing you all, once again, a Happy National Day. Long live Italy.

**Massimiliano Mazzanti**

Ambasciatore d'Italia in Uganda, Ruanda e Burundi  
*and Burundi*

*Ambassador of Italy in Uganda, Rwanda*



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Dear Fellow Citizens,  
I am Astronaut Luca Parmitano, International Space Station Commander of the Mission "Beyond".

Today, second of June is our National Day. It is an opportunity for all of us who live abroad to remember our Country, to think and admire our beautiful Country. I saw it from the space and, together with my Astronaut colleagues, I was able to appreciate all its beauty.

It is a Day of unity and a Day when we can all embrace the "Tricolore" (the Italian flag) and be proud to be Italian.

Happy second of June to All!!!

**Luca Parmitano**

Astronauta dell' Agenzia Spaziale Europea

*Astronaut of the European Space Agency*



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**Buona Festa della Repubblica agli italiani che vivono in  
Uganda, Ruanda e Burundi - State al sicuro!**

**Colin Firth**

Attore

Actor



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Dear Massimiliano, My Dear Italians who live so far from your Country,  
I indeed accepted with great pleasure His Excellency's invitation to send to all of you a heartfelt and affectionate wish for the 2nd of June, a very important date for our Country - the date that marked the take-off of our Republic. I think it is important to send to you a hug though from someone who is a little closer to Italy. A hug that I send you not only personally but also on behalf of the COMITES that I chair here in Munich.  
This year the anniversary of the 2nd of June is going to be a bit different because also here in Munich there won't be any celebration. Our Ambassador will give a speech that we shall post on various social media and websites.  
I, on the other hand, wanted absolutely to accept Massimiliano's invitation to reach you with these few but heartfelt words of mine. Therefore, I embrace you one by one.  
I hope, soon, to have the opportunity to visit our Ambassador Massimiliano Mazzanti and to meet you personally, who knows... maybe it will happen too soon! A big hug to everyone. Happy June 2nd. Thank you, Massimiliano... long live Italy!!!!

**Ezio Greggio**

Attore e Regista *Actor and Film Director*



Hello! My name is Paolo Fallesi. I am a guitarist and coordinator of "Ladri di Carrozzelle" (The Wheelchair Thieves).

On the occasion of the Italian National Day, I greet all the Italian Communities in Uganda, a very beautiful Country which we have had the opportunity to visit last November when the Embassy of Italy invited us to perform a concert.

We extend our greetings also to the Italian Communities in Rwanda and Burundi. On the second of June the dreams of the Italians, who chose Republic in the belief that this would lead many people to realise their dreams regardless of their social and physical conditions, came true. So many dreams are yet to be realised.

We are an extraordinary Country but many people still do not understand it. I hope that this complicated period will open the eyes of all the Italians so that we are able to bring out all the beauty that is in our Country and within us.

There is an African Proverb which says: "When you dream alone, it's just a dream but when you dream together, it is the beginning of a reality".

Let us begin to dream! We are Italians, we should be proud of it!

Rock and Roll!!! Long live Italy.

**Ladri di Carrozzelle**

Gruppo musicale

***The Wheelchair Thieves***

Music band



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I join them in wishing you all, once again, a Happy National Day. Long live Italy!

**Massimiliano Mazzanti**

Ambasciatore d'Italia in Uganda, Ruanda e Burundi  
*and Burundi*

*Ambassador of Italy in Uganda, Rwanda*



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**#WeAreItaly**



**#VivereALLItaliana**

**Grazie a/ Thanks to**

**Luca Parmitano**

**Colin Firth**

**Ezio Greggio**

**Ladri di Carrozzelle**

Video editor: Film school of Action For Fundamental Change And Development (Bwaise- Kampala)