

Enrico Berlinguer shakes hands with Pietro

Ingrao, the President of the Italian Chamber of Deputies

Date

1976-1979

Medium

gelatin silver print

Description

Pietro Ingrao was an Italian politician and journalist. For many years he was a senior figure in the Italian Communist Party (PCI). He was the first Communist to become President of the Italian Chamber of Deputies, a position he held from 1976 to 1979. Enrico Berlinguer was national secretary of the Italian Communist Party (Partito Comunista Italiano or PCI) from 1972 until his death. In 1973, having been hospitalised after a car accident during a visit to Bulgaria (now widely considered an attempt on his life on orders from Moscow), Berlinguer wrote three famous articles ("Reflections on Italy", "After the facts of Chile" and "After the Coup [in Chile]") for the intellectual weekly magazine of the party, Rinascita. In these he presented the strategy of the so-called Historic Compromise, a proposed coalition between the Italian Communist Party and the Christian Democrats to grant Italy a period of political stability, at a time of severe economic crisis and in a context in which some forces were allegedly manoeuvring for a coup d'état in Italy.

Dimensions

Overall: 20.3 x 30.7 cm (8 x 12 1/8 in.)