

Luigi Offeddu

# THE CHALLENGE OF STEEL

The Life of Agostino Rocca



**Fondazione Dalmine**

The life of Agostino Rocca, founder of the Techint Group, spanned the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

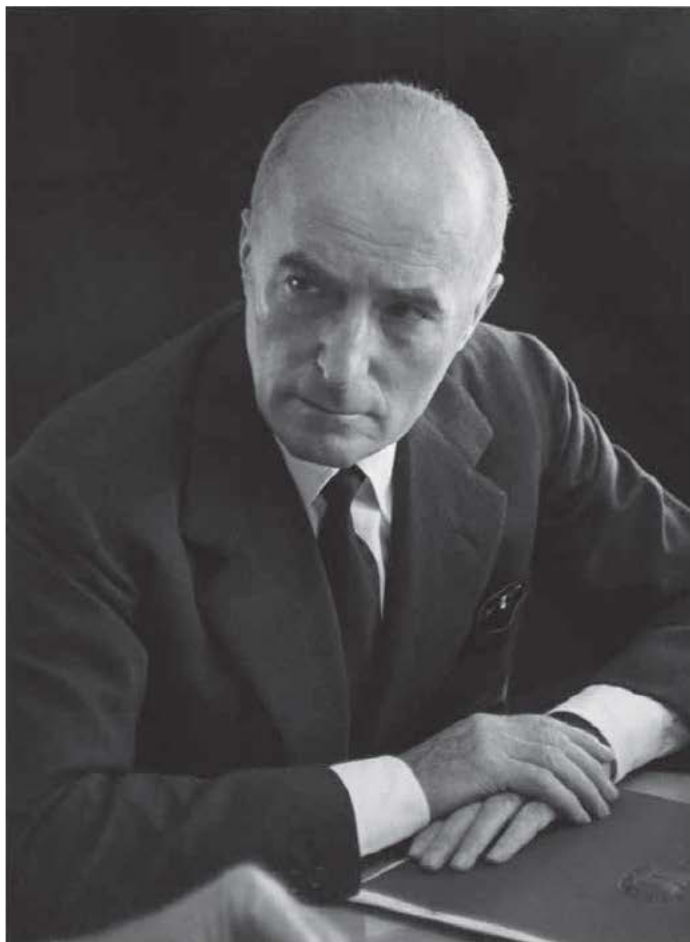
A survivor of the devastating 1908 Messina earthquake in Italy, Rocca was a key figure within Italian industry, at the forefront of reforms of the country's state steel sector in the 1930s.

In 1945 he decided to cross the Atlantic to undertake a new professional challenge in Argentina, and before long, driven on by his pioneering spirit, he founded an empire that stretched from Latin America across the entire world, from engineering at Techint to heavy industry at Tenaris and Ternium. This book documents both his fascinating, eventful and adventurous life, and an important and seldom explored chapter in the history of 20<sup>th</sup>-century Italy and South America.

Luigi Offeddu has been a professional journalist since 1982. He worked as a reporter and special correspondent from 1990 for *Il Giornale*, the newspaper founded by Indro Montanelli. From 1991 he was based in Moscow as correspondent covering the former USSR during the final stages of the Gorbachev era and the first years of the Yeltsin administration. From 1994 he was editor-in-chief for the weekly *Panorama*. Since 1997, at *Corriere della Sera*, he has worked as special envoy and then correspondent for the European Union, based in Brussels, where he continues to live and work. He has reported from the United States, Argentina, Mexico, China, Africa and throughout the Far East. In addition to *The Challenge of Steel*, he has published: *Questa America*, *Storia del bene*, *Storia del male*, *Milano da morire*.

This biography was published for the first time in Italy in 1984, and translated into Spanish in 2010. In 2013 an abridged version was published in Portuguese. This English-language edition is an abridged version of the original text. Footnotes have been added by the editor.

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Agostino Rocca. 1895-1978  
Techint Historical Archives

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The Life of Agostino Rocca



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The Challenge of Steel

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