

# JOHN HOOPER

Rome Correspondent -- *The Economist*  
Award-winning Author of  
*The Italians* and *The New Spaniards*

One of Europe's veteran commentators on  
Italy and Southern Europe

# JOHN HOOPER

## his background

**A highly respected journalist, author and broadcaster who is an authority on the political, economic and social developments of Italy, Spain and the Southern Europe region.**

John Hooper is currently the Italy correspondent of *The Economist* and was also formerly the Southern Europe Editor for the *Guardian*. He is a veteran journalist who has spent more than four decades reporting for leading media organizations: *The Economist*, the *Guardian*, the *Observer*, the BBC, and NBC. In 2021, he was made an Honorary Fellow of St. Catherine's College, Cambridge

At the age of only eighteen, he travelled to Biafra during the Nigerian civil war to make a television documentary, and that set the tone for his distinguished journalistic career. He has since reported from more than 50 countries, including various war zones - most recently Kosovo and Afghanistan.

He has been writing about Italy since 1994 when he covered general election that first brought Silvio Berlusconi to office.

Today, Hooper is a highly respected member of the international media industry, covering events and developments in Italy, the Vatican and throughout southern Europe.



# JOHN HOOPER

## his books

John Hooper's focus is on the people of today. But, he argues, the Italians can only be understood by listening out for the many complex "echoes and reverberations" of their past. He employs the skills of a good reporter, vividly portraying his own experiences of Italian society, an eye for the telling anecdote, the ability to source and showcase a fascinating array of facts and statistics, the tenaciousness to peel apart our clichés or easy definitions of a country beloved of many.

"Hooper's book, both sweeping in scope and generous with detail, makes persuasive arguments for how geography, history and tradition have shaped Italy and its citizens, for better and sometimes for worse.... 'The Italians' offers a wealth of information seasoned Italophiles will appreciate, but it also deals with some of the inscrutabilities that baffle casual visitors."—**Elisabetta Povoled, *New York Times Book Review***

"Hooper's range is vast and varied...in this highly readable and sparkling account of Italy and its people.... Essential reading for all those who want to know more about Italy—and it shows once again that we need foreign correspondents who can interpret and report on the world for us."—***Times Literary Supplement***





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## his books

Modern-day Spain is a country changing at bewildering speed. In less than half a century, a predominantly rural society has been transformed into a mainly urban one. A dictatorship has become a democracy. A once-repressed society is being spoken of as a future 'Sweden of the Mediterranean.' John Hooper's outstanding portrayal of the new Spanish society explores the causes behind these changes, from crime to education, gambling to changing sexual mores. This new, up-to-date edition is the essential guide to understanding twenty-first-century Spain: a land of paradox, progress, and social change.

"Thanks to his great curiosity, his splendid comparative and analytical perspective, and a fine eye for telling details, John Hooper gets under the skin of a fascinating people in a remarkable and compelling way."— **Bill Emmott**, former Editor-in-Chief, The Economist, and co-author of the documentary about Italy "Girlfriend in a Coma"

*Hooper not only knows where Spain has been in recent decades and centuries, but he also*  
**The Washington Post**



# JOHN HOOPER

## key facts

Currently ...

- **Italy Correspondent**, *The Economist*
- Public **speaker** and **moderator** of business conferences

Formerly ...

- Southern Europe Editor - the **Guardian**
- Southern Europe Correspondent – **The Observer**
- Formerly based in Spain, Portugal, Cyprus, UK, a veteran correspondent from all corners of the world
- He graduated in History from **Cambridge** University
- He speaks fluent **Spanish** and **Italian**.

Flies from **Rome**

*Hooper's judgments are sound and informed; his comments on national idiosyncrasies sharp.'*

Sir Raymond Carr – British Historian

*It was a terrific success and the audience loved John's sense of humour ... his Italian is close to perfect. I would recommend him to anyone who values professionalism as well as wit.*

Mattia B. Bagnoli – Author and Journalist



### Sample speaking topics:

**Italy**; what we can expect under new leadership.

**Spain / Italy**: An economic and political outlook for Spain, Italy & Southern Europe.

**My thirty years**: as a foreign correspondent

### Useful links for John Andrews:

- TIB Speaker Web Page >> [Go to Webpage](#)
- Video >> [Watch](#)



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