



The situation of migrants and refugees in Italy and the role of public services

Last data on asylum applications for Italy and other European countries date 2017. Europe has received 712,235 asylum applications, slightly more than half 2016, when were 1.3 million. Here are the data of European countries that have had the highest number of asylum applications compared to number of inhabitants in 2017.

Asylum request numbers in 1000 inhabitants

Greece	58 650	5.4
Cyprus	4600	5.4
Malta	1,840	4.0
Austria	24,715	2.8
Germany	222.560	2.7
Sweden	26 325	2.6
Italy	128 850	2.1
Switzerland	18 015	2.1
Belgium	18.340	1.6
France	99 330	1.5
Netherlands	18,210	1.1



Italy country of migration

According to Istat data on national demographic balance, on 31st December 2017 5.144.440 foreign citizens were regularly resident in Italy, equal to 8.5% of all resident population.

The Ismu Foundation - Initiatives and studies on multi-ethnicity- estimates the number of irregular foreigners on Italian territory a on 1st January 2014 in 300,000 units (equal to 6% in proportion to the regular foreign population).

-Between 2014 and 2017, about 623.000 people arrived in Italy by sea. Italy received about 131 thousand refugees (Unhcr data June 2016).

The Italian far right Minister of Internal Affairs, Matteo Salvini, has changed migratory policies, introducing laws that limit migrants' rights, in our view contrary to the principles of the Italian Constitution and European Legislation and contrary to the values on which Europe was built.

As it is well known, he has funded the entire European electoral campaign on anti-migrant attitudes, misleading people by giving often wrong numbers about real migrations.





Security Decree

On 4th October 2018 the Immigration and Security Decree entered into force and provoked:

The abolition of humanitarian protection, the exclusion of asylum seekers from reception in the SPRARs (Asylum seekers and Refugees Protection System) and from the possibility of being registered in Municipalities), the introduction of imprisonment in places not clearly identified only for identification purposes, the disproportionate increase of cases in which asylum applications can be judged "manifestly unfounded". In part court rulings are trying to correct a regulatory framework that seriously undermines human rights, but still in these first months the impact on reception system is dramatic.



The consequence: loss of Jobs

On November 7th 2018 the new Guidelines for Calls for Extraordinary Reception Centers were published: a mortal blow to quality services.

All integration services have been cut starting from the first level of reception, which covered about 80% of the guests; we refer to doctors, nurses, lawyers, psychologists, teachers and cultural mediators. Most of these workers are under 35 years old. By the end of the year 16 million workers in services for migrants Cara (Welcoming Center for asylum seekers), Cas (Center for Extraordinary welcoming) and Sprar, could become jobless in a sector that in 2017 employed about 36 thousand people.



Migrants and public services

As FPCGIL and CCOO FSC, we initiated a project with Epsu about public workers operating in welcoming migrants.

We did two researches about spanish and italian workers, comparing the situations and finding common difficulties and sharing projects to better working conditions.

We had two international meeting one in Melilla and the other in Palermo.

In Palermo we enlarged our vision about the working conditions and enfocused also on european solidarity and on fighting racism and xenophobia sprading all over Europe.



A European network of public service workers to welcome migrants: EUCARE

In Palermo workers met European Meps and we succeeded to enlarge the network participation with the presence of unionist coming from more countries (France, Sweden, Norway, Greece, Germany, UK and Spain) and all together we created the European network of public service workers to welcome migrants, also known as EUCARE Network and we wrote a statement (Palermo Statement) in which we claimed for better working conditions, considering workers of south borders as working for all EU Union, and we affirmed a vision of new solidarity in EU, against all racism and xenophobia, which recalls the fundamental values of Europe. We also asked to change the EU rules that place disproportionate responsibility on the countries of the southern frontier





The Palermo Statement in Europe

The Palermo statement was approved by Epsu Executive Committee and shared by all affiliates.

Last March we brought with Epsu workers from Spain and Italy to meet Meps with a view to the European Elections, asking to answer their claims in the new EU Parliament.

Unions from other countries joined the meeting in Brussels.

We want to enlarge the participation of workers from other countries and as the new Parliament will be formed we are going to ask the new meps for attention to workers claims and for more solidarity, against sovranism and racism, and change of EU rules about migration. (Dublin)



**THANK
YOU**
