

ON-THE-MOVE – "The reality of free movement for young European citizens migrating in times of crisis"

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National Report

ITALY



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SUMMARY

INTRODUCTIONp. 4
PART A. SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE AND MIGRATION PATTERNS. THE
CASE OF ITALYp. 7
PART B. THE RELEVANT LEGISLATION AND POLICIESp. 15
PART C. EXPERIENCES OF YOUNG PEOPLE ON FREE MOVEMENTp. 24
PART D. ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATIONp. 33

INTRODUCTION

Freedom of mobility and migrations in Italy are complex phenomenon characterized, in 2015, by **two seemingly opposite traits**.

On the one hand, there were 154,000 **new arrivals** consisting of both asylum seekers fleeing from wars and persecution, and economic migrants trying to advance their economic and professional prospects. These arrivals, although less numerous compared to the more than 1 million people arrived in Europe from Asia and Africa, required a significant financial investment (3,3 billion euros, according to government sources) and a hurried research for their accommodation: about 120,000 places, including both ordinary (20,000) and extraordinary ones (100,000) – a number which is constantly increasing.

On the other hand, **permanent migration remained stable**. Out of the 244 million migrants in the world, Italy's share is 4% (10 millions), half of which consisting of Italians who settled abroad. The other half are the 5,026,153 foreign citizens residing in Italy. In the last year, they have increased only by 12,000 units, whereas the number of Italians who settled abroad (more than 5 millions) increased by about 200,000, half of whom following other expatriates. 53% of migrants in Europe are from neighbouring countries, or at least from other European countries. As we will see in the report, also in Italy (the 11th country in the world for number of foreign immigrants) the percentage of EU citizens is very high, in particular from Romania.

The globalization level of Italy is rising, due not only to Italian migrants living abroad but also to the impact that foreign citizens currently residing in Italy have on their countries of origin, thanks to their network of contacts with family members, relatives and friends – and even more so in the case of those who come back to their homeland after a period spent in Italy. In this regard, students who came to Italy to enroll in one of Italian universities in 2015 (70,339 total enrollments of which 12,439 new enrollments) or for other study reasons (in particular the study of the Italian language (10,000 visas granted in 2015) as well as those who arrived for religious reasons (28,000) are not worth noting. Some of them will return to their countries of origin and will share their experience in Italy, thus allowing a widespread cultural globalization which improves the knowledge of Italy in the world. In turn, this is positive at both the commercial and tourist level, tank to the Italian communities in the word as well as to the relatives and friends of immigrants in Italy (this is clearly highlighted also in the yearly survey published by the Bank of Italy).

Remittances are significant sign of globalization, with a total of 431,6 billion dollars sent to

the so-called developing countries in 2015 (29,3 billion euros from EU Member States and 5.3 from Italy alone – that is, 2 billion less than the maximum value recorder some years ago).

2015 has been also characterized by increased mobility, **with 250,000 new foreign citizens registered** in Italy and 72,000 children born of foreign parents (almost one-sixth of the total births in the country). Despite these numbers, the total foreign population has not increased because the number of naturalized immigrants was exceptionally high compared to previous years (178,000 in 2015), bringing the **Italian foreign-born population** to 1.150 million units. In addition, although at a lesser extent, 64,000 non-EU citizens had to return to their countries because their permits were not renewed (155,000 cases in 2014).

Residing immigrants, which account for 10,5% of the total workforce, represents a **positive contribution to the society** (even during this period of economic downturn which brought their unemployment rate at 16,2%). Despite their education level, which is about the same as their Italian counterparts, immigrants are willing to perform any kind of job: only 6,8% of them are qualified workers and almost half of immigrant women are employed in households as caregivers - a job which countries to be snubbed by Italian women.

The long economic crisis seems not to have affected the immigrant **entrepreneurial spirit**, as their enterprises account for 9.1% of the total active businesses in Italy. They are also performing well in the **real estate** and **mortgage sectors** (with an incidence of 8,7% and 13,6% respectively in 2015). As previous years, in 2015 **social security contributions** paid by immigrants were high (10,9 billion euros), whereas the percentage of pensioners was very low (only 0,3% of all pensioners in Italy), the balance between contributions paid by immigrants and **the amount of state expenditure is positive by 2,2 billion euros**.

Immigrant also play a **very important role for the demographic balance of Italy**, which is currently negative (162,000 more death than births in 2015) as will worsen in the period 2011-2065. According to the mid-variant case scenario projected by Istat, the deficit will be no less than 11,5 million people (28,5 million births vs 40 million deaths), which will be partially compensated by new migration flows, with a positive balance of 12 million people (17,9 million entries vs 5.9 exits).

Immigration is destined to play a key role in Italy's future, as the immigrant population is expected to double by 2050, an addition to strong increase of naturalizations. Such inflows will cause obvious problems, but they are necessary for the demographic balance of our country. So far, Italy's economy has remained weak, but if (and when) it starts to grow again (currently the biggest problem for Italy), immigration will represent an indispensable

force and the reasons for cohabitation will be better understood.¹

In this report we will analyze the state-of-the-art of free movement in and from Italy, with a specific focus on young people (25-40 age) from EU Member States who have enjoyed the right of free movement in recent years. In the first part we will go through an in-depth analysis of recent data of free movement, whereas in the second part we will focus on legislative aspect of it; in the third part we will present a qualitative analysis based on relevant interviews carried out in 2016 to young people and representatives of institutions, trying to identify challenges and / or barriers about free movement towards and from Italy².

¹ Centro Studi e Ricerche Idos, *Dossier Statistico Immigrazione*, 2016, pp. 11-12.

² In the Report, we adopted the definitions used in Eurostat statistics (<http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents>): Resident population refers to persons who have lived at their place of residence for at least 12 months or have the intention of staying there for at least 12 months.

Citizenship denotes the particular legal bond between an individual and his or her State, acquired by birth or naturalization, whether by declaration, choice, marriage or other means according to national legislation.

Nationals means citizens of the reporting country.

Citizens of another EU Member State refers to persons having the citizenship of one of the 27 other EU Member States (but not the citizenship of the reporting country).

Non-EU citizens refers to persons not having the citizenship of any EU Member State and who has established links to the reporting country which include some but not all rights and obligations of full citizenship.

The terms foreigners, foreign population and foreign citizens, for the sake of simplicity, refer to all persons not having the citizenship of the reporting country and thus includes persons with the citizenship of another country (including another EU Member State), stateless persons, recognised non-citizens and persons whose citizenship is unknown. Persons with two or more citizenships are allocated to only one country of citizenship.

PART A: SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE AND MIGRATION PATTERNS. THE CASE OF ITALY

1. Free movement in Italy: a general national scenario according to the latest data on demography, gender, age and job.

Free movements within EU boundaries is one of the basic rights of EU citizens and represents a very important aspect of the EU migration's system, as well as, the ones towards extra-EU countries. On one hand, according to the latest data from Eurostat, the total number of citizens moved to one of EU Member State were about 3.7 million in 2014, representing an increase of 380.000 units (+ 11.4%) compared to 2013. Bigger countries, from both geographic and demographic points of view, attract the majority of arrivals: Italy is the fifth country, with 277.631 units, after Germany (884.893), UK (632.000), France (339.000) and Spain (305.000). On the other hand, in the last two years (2014 and 2015) almost 2.8 million of people have moved from one of EU Member States: 268.000 from Poland, 294.000 from France, 324.000 from Germany and 400.000 from Spain.

At the end of 2015, while migrants worldwide were at least 237 million according to the latest projection (and their number is constantly growing especially in Europe and North America), Italy remains one of the main European countries of immigration, with 5.026.153 foreign resident people (with a little increase of 11.716 units (+0.2%) from the beginning of the same year), out of which 1.517.023 were born in an EU Member State. The impact of free movers on the total population in Italy was approximately 8.3%, remaining the same as the ones registered in 2014 (+8.2%) and in 2013 (+ 8.1%).³

³ Centro Studi e Ricerche Idos, *Dossier Statistico Immigrazione*, 2016, pp. 17-24

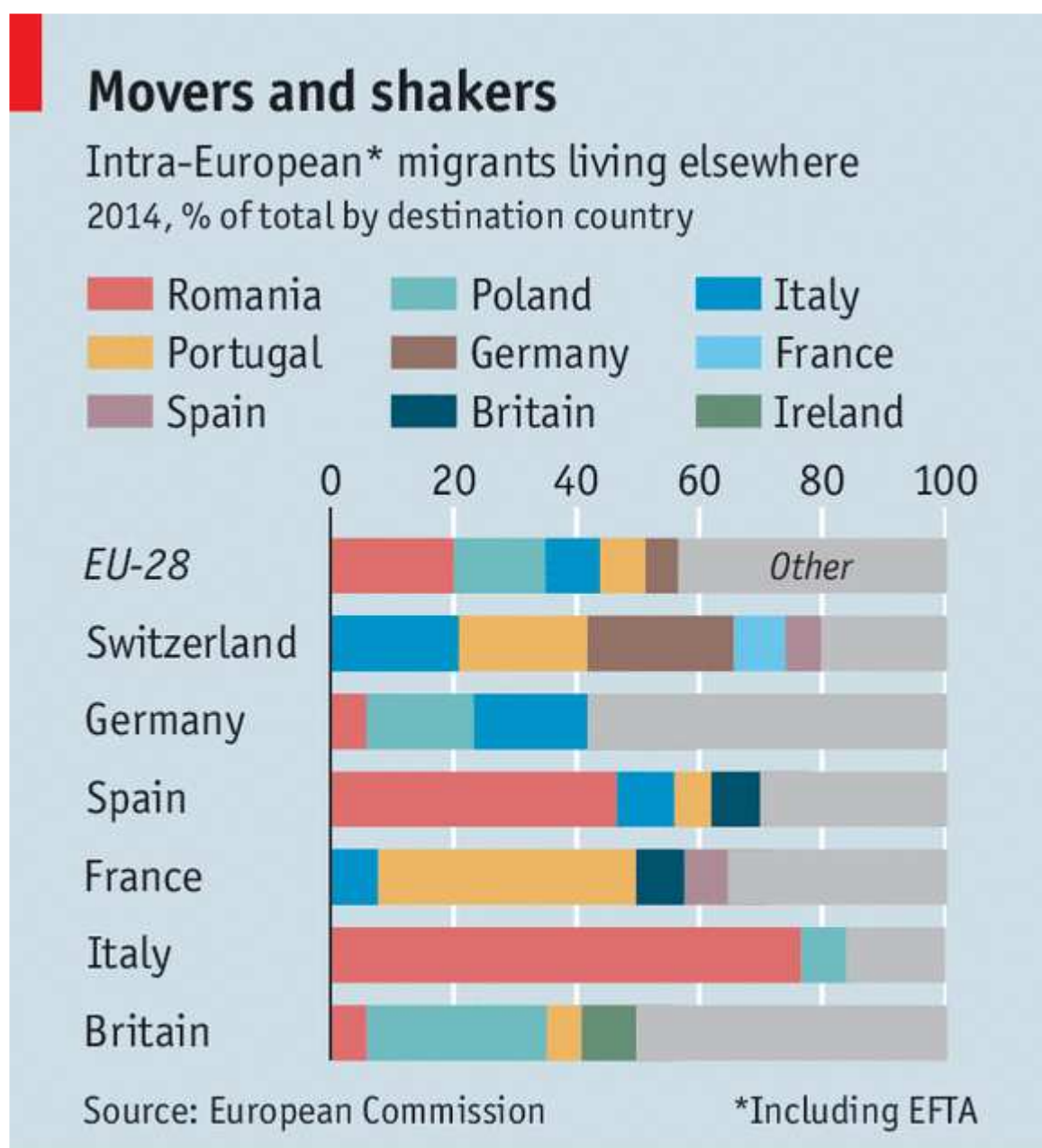
Tab1. Immigration by country of birth, 2014

	Total immigrants (thousands)	Native-born		Foreign-born					
		(thousands)	(%)	Total		Born in another EU Member State		Born in a non-member country	
				(thousands)	(%)	(thousands)	(%)	(thousands)	(%)
Belgium	124.8	14.8	11.9	102.4	82.0	52.1	41.8	50.3	40.3
Bulgaria	26.6	9.7	36.4	16.9	63.6	1.7	6.5	15.2	57.1
Czech Republic	29.9	7.6	25.5	22.3	74.5	12.1	40.5	10.2	34.0
Denmark	68.4	15.1	22.0	52.0	76.1	23.3	34.1	28.7	42.0
Germany	884.9	61.7	7.0	819.2	92.6	403.1	45.5	416.2	47.0
Estonia	3.9	1.9	48.2	2.0	51.3	0.4	10.3	1.6	41.0
Ireland	67.4	9.9	14.7	57.5	85.3	22.8	33.8	34.7	51.5
Greece	59.0	25.7	43.6	33.3	56.4	18.6	31.5	14.7	24.9
Spain	305.5	25.7	8.4	279.8	91.6	93.5	30.6	186.2	61.0
France	339.9	84.2	24.8	255.7	75.2	87.2	25.7	168.5	49.6
Croatia	10.6	1.3	12.5	9.3	87.5	2.4	22.5	6.9	64.9
Italy	277.6	24.1	8.7	253.5	91.3	62.6	22.6	190.9	68.8
Cyprus	9.2	1.5	16.6	7.6	83.3	3.5	38.3	4.1	45.0
Latvia	10.4	5.1	49.6	5.2	50.0	1.7	16.4	3.5	33.6
Lithuania	24.3	17.4	71.6	6.9	28.3	1.8	7.5	5.1	20.8
Luxembourg	22.3	1.3	6.0	20.5	91.7	14.5	64.8	6.0	26.9
Hungary	54.6	11.9	21.9	42.6	78.1	16.2	29.6	26.5	48.5
Malta	8.9	1.9	21.6	7.0	78.4	4.2	46.8	2.8	31.6
Netherlands	145.3	25.3	17.4	120.1	82.6	56.3	38.7	63.8	43.9
Austria	116.3	7.6	6.6	107.8	92.7	63.4	54.5	44.4	38.2
Poland	222.3	111.1	50.0	110.8	49.9	42.0	18.9	68.9	31.0
Portugal	19.5	7.9	40.3	11.6	59.7	5.0	25.8	6.6	33.9
Romania	136.0	92.3	67.9	42.5	31.2	5.9	4.3	36.6	26.9
Slovenia	13.8	1.8	12.9	12.1	87.1	3.0	21.5	9.1	65.6
Slovakia	5.4	0.8	14.8	4.6	85.2	3.6	66.4	1.0	18.8
Finland	31.5	6.4	20.2	24.0	76.2	9.0	28.6	15.0	47.6
Sweden	127.0	15.2	12.0	111.6	87.9	27.6	21.7	84.0	66.2
United Kingdom	632.0	67.9	10.7	564.1	89.3	256.1	40.5	308.0	48.7
Iceland	5.4	1.5	27.8	3.8	71.4	3.0	55.6	0.8	15.8
Liechtenstein	0.6	0.0	7.2	0.6	92.8	0.2	39.7	0.3	53.2
Norway	66.9	4.5	6.7	62.4	93.3	33.6	50.2	28.8	43.1
Switzerland	156.3	19.4	12.4	136.2	87.1	86.5	55.4	49.6	31.8

(*) The values for the different categories of country of birth may not sum to the total due to rounding.

Source: Eurostat

Tab.2. EU population residing in Italy and in other EU countries



Economist.com

Detailed data by age are not available, and the foreign population is characterized by different features according demographic, social and territorial presence's point of views. According to the data registered on 31st December 2015, the above mentioned 5.026.153 foreign citizens resided in 8.047 Italian municipalities, of which around the 22,6% were born in another EU member State (see tab.1) and 1.517.023 (around the 30% of the total) are citizens of an EU Member State other than Italy (see tab. 3).

The largest foreign community in Italy are the Romanians (1.151.395 persons – more than

90% of which born in Romania), who represent the 22.9% of the total foreign population. The presence of the Romanian community within Italian national boundaries has sensitively increased in 2008, 2009 and 2010: in particular, the number of Romanian citizens inscribed in Italian civil registries of Italian municipalities changed from 625.000 to 796.000 among the 1st January and 31st December 2008, registering an increase of + 27.4%. Similar increases have also been registered in the following years: + 11.5% in 2009 and + 9.1% in 2010. Such phenomenon was determined by the fact that Romanian became a EU Member State in 2007 and by the entry into force of the Italian Legislative Decree 30/2007 (which was adopted in order to act the Directive 2004/38/CE of European Parliament and the European Council, regarding the rights of the citizens of the European Union and their relatives to freely move and stay within the territories of EU Member States), thanks to which EU citizens can enjoy specific facilitations in case they stay in a EU member State for a long period.

It is relevant to notice that among citizens of EU-28 Member States who acquired in 2014 the citizenship of another EU Member State (in total 95.700 persons) the main group was Romanians becoming citizens of Italy, with 6.400 persons. (At the fifth highest rate were the Italians becoming citizens of Germany - 3.200 persons and of Belgium - 1.200 persons).⁴

The second and third EU presence in Italy at the end of 2015 were Polish (98.694 persons) and Bulgarian (56.576 persons), in line with the past years. Worthy of mention are German, French and English communities, who are composed mostly by old people who have decided to spend their retirement in Italian countryside, in Tuscany Region.⁵

Each foreign community shows its own peculiarity according to gender composition, dimension of family nucleus, jobs and territorial residence. EU communities living in Italy are young: the average of the age at 31st December 2015 is set at 33 years-old. There are some exceptions, such as the majority of the Romanian community is younger than 33-years-old. Gender composition among EU citizens living in Italy, for instance, is sensitively in favor of women. The 73.3% of the Polish community living in Italy is represented by 98.000 women: (similar cases of not-EU communities residing in Italy are Ukrainians', Russian's, Brasilian's): about the 80% of them are adult "breadwinners", family-mothers who had moved to Italy for job-seeking purpose, for contributing to the sustainment of their family in the country of origin.⁶

⁴ http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Migration_and_migrant_population_statistics#Acquisitions_of_citizenship (consultation: December 2016)

⁵ Centro Studi e Ricerche Idos, *Dossier Statistico Immigrazione*, 2016, pp. 87-92

⁶ Ibidem.

Tab.3. EU Member States foreign citizens residing in Italy in 2015, according to nationality and gender

CITIZENSHIP	N.	% ON TOT. RESIDENT	% WOMEN	VARIATION % 2014-2015
Austria	6.134	0.1	70.2	- 0.1
Belgium	5.509	0.1	59.2	1.6
Bulgaria	58.001	1.2	62.7	2.5
Cyprus	179	0.0	58.1	- 3.2
Croatia	18.052	0.4	50.3	- 1.1
Czech Republic	5.805	0.1	83.5	0.5
Denmark	2.046	0.0	63.1	4.8
Estonia	1.174	0.0	84.9	4.4
Finland	1.609	0.0	79.2	1.5
France	28.634	0.6	61.6	3.4
Germany	36.661	0.7	62.5	- 0.2
Greece	7.015	0.1	47.2	6.5
Hungary	8.034	0.2	72.4	4.2
Ireland	2.724	0.1	54.6	4.8
Latvia	2.793	0.1	82.3	3.9
Lithuania	5.070	0.1	80.5	4
Luxemburg	244	0.0	55.7	1.7
Malta	699	0.0	68	5.3
Netherland	8.106	0.2	56	3.3
Poland	97.986	1.9	73.3	- 0.7
Portugal	5.815	0.1	56.9	3.6
Romania	1.151.395	22.9	57.2	1.7
Slovakia	8.505	0.2	72.6	1.8
Slovenia	2.564	0.1	52.9	- 0.4
Spain	22.593	0.4	69.1	6.1
Sweden	3.042	0.1	68.5	2.5
United Kingdom	26.634	0.5	55.3	3.0
TOTAL	1.517.023	30.2	60.1	4.4

Source. Report "Migrantes", IDOS 201

The presence of EU citizens in the Italian job market remains relevant, although through recent years they have suffered from the effects of the global economic crisis, losing their jobs in some cases or witnessing a worsening of their job's conditions or quality, rights, income etc. At the end of 2015, INAIL (*National Institute for the Insurance against Injuries at Work*) archives registered 3.561.126 foreign workers in the Italian job market, representing the 16.8% on the total amount of employees. Europe is the continent the majority of them come from: 56.2% of foreign workers come from there, consisting in 33.8% coming from EU member States and in 19.7% coming from Centre-East Europe (not-EU States). The most numerous represented nationality is the Romanian, with about 767.000 workers in the Italian job market. Women represent the 45.9% on the total of the foreign workers: the percentage is minor to the one of the Italian women in the Italian job market, even we can observe some relevant exceptions, such as the ones of the Polish women (67.7%), Bulgarian (60.5%), Hungarian (59.9%) and Romanian (54.5%).⁷

If we take into consideration the main sector they work in, we can underline that, for example, the 13.1% of Romanian are employed in the second sector (mainly in building companies), while the 42.4% of Slovakian, the 20.6% of Polish and 19.5% of Bulgarian work in agriculture sector. Considering the regional context, we can see that the majority of them are employed in the North and Centre Region of Italy (according to the first and second sector), while the South of Italy hosts the majority of agricultural workers, due to the fact that the territory there is mainly devoted to agriculture.

One of the main challenges of foreign workers in Italy, including EU comers, is represented by contractual aspects: they are more exposed to short-term contracts than autochthone people, so they can undersign more frequent job's contracts within a year, determining a big challenge in order to renew their permit of stay. Such a phenomenon is more frequent in the South of Italy, where the agricultural sector is the main one and people are seasonal workers.⁸

2 The Italian young people in EU Member States

In October 2016, 4.169.000 young persons (under 25) were unemployed in the EU28 (18,4 %); the third highest rate was recorded in Italy: 36,4%. So, Italy is not able to attract highly-

⁷ Ibidem, pp. 253-260.

⁸ Ibidem.

qualified personnel from abroad and the number of young Italian leaving Italy for going to high-industrialized countries is increasing year by year (around 1/4 of them are graduated)⁹.

On the basis of the data of the AIRE, the Civil Registry of the Italian people abroad of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs¹⁰, in 2016, 5.202.821 Italian people are living abroad¹¹, registering in that year 6.000 departure more than the ones in 2015.

On the basis of the Eurostat data (see also Tab. 2), in the year 2014 the Italian citizens were among the top 5 citizenships of foreigners living in EU in many of other EU28 Member States:

1st : in Belgium - 155.584 persons (12 % of the foreigners)

3rd : in Germany - 506.507 (7 %), Luxembourg - 18.059 (8 %), Malta - 947 (5 %)

4th : in Romania - 5.554 (8 %)

5th : in Spain - 180.822 (4 %), France - 173.440 (5 %), Croatia - 1.420 (6 %)¹²

From 2006 to 2016 Italian free movers have increased by 174.516 units (+ 3.7%) compared to 2015. The 69.2% out of the total have moved towards European continent: Europe remains the area where the majority of Italian people decide to move. The European hosting countries are mainly the ones who have traditionally hosted the largest Italian communities, such as Germany. However, the more relevant variations within EU member States in the last decade can be found in UK (+ 18.706), in Germany (+ 18.674), in France (+ 11.358) and in Spain (+ 6.520).

The 50.8% Italian citizens, registered in AIRE (see tab. 4), come from the south of Italy (south: 1.602.196; Islands: 842.850), while the 33.8% come from the north (north- west: 817.412; north-east: 806.613) and the 15.4% from the centre (742.092). At the regional level, an increase is registered in Lombardia (+ 6.5%), in Valle d'Aosta (+ 6.3%) and Veneto (+ 5.7%).⁶

⁹ Istituto di Studi Politici 'S. Pio V', *Le migrazioni qualificate in Italia. Ricerche, statistiche, prospettive*, (a cura di Benedetto Coccia e Franco Pittau), IDOS ed., Roma 2016, P. 12.

¹⁰ The Registry of Italian Resident Abroad (A.I.R.E.) was established by Law no. 470/1988 and contains all the personal data of Italians resident abroad for a period of more than 12 months. It is administered by Italian municipalities on the basis of the data and information supplied by the foreign missions. A.I.R.E. enrolment is a citizen's right/duty (art. 6 Law no. 470/1988) and provides access to a series of services from foreign missions, as well as the exercise of some important rights.

¹¹ Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation - Statistics Office, *Statistical Yearbook 2016*, SISTAN, p. 341.

¹² EUROSTAT data in <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/> (consulted in July 2016)

At provincial level, the areas the Italian people move from are in the south of Italy (such as the provinces of Cosenza, Agrigento, Salerno, Napoli, Catania and Palermo). In Germany the Italian people coming from the south of Italy are 79.6 %, while in Belgium the 67.3 %: in both cases the more represented group are Sicilians with around 215.000 people. In France the Italian people coming from the south are 51.6 % (the largest group is the Sicilian, with 60.000 units), in UK the 56.1 % (the largest group comes from Campania Region, with 37.000 units), in The Netherlands the 53.6% (the largest group comes from Sardinia, with 7.000 units).¹³

Tab.4. Italian people abroad according to Regions (*The Aire data and those of cancellations from Italian Registry Office do not match, because many people who migrate do not provide the necessary bureaucratic practices.*)

Italian Regions	2015	
	v.a.	%
Piemonte	258.034	5.4
Valle d'Aosta	5.554	0.1
Liguria	131.268	2.7
Lombardia	422.556	8.8
Tot. North West area	817.412	17.0
Trentino Alto Adige	89.068	1.9
Veneto	371.348	7.7
Friuli Venezia Giulia	172.426	3.6
Emilia Romagna	173.771	3.6
Tot. North East	806.613	16.8
Tuscany	155.388	3.2
Umbria	34.670	0.7
Marche	128.091	2.7
Lazio	423.943	8.8
Tot. Centre	742.092	15.4
Abruzzo	179.715	3.7
Molise	84.704	1.8
Campania	475.629	9.9
Puglia	344.816	7.2
Basilicata	124.214	2.6
Calabria	393.118	8.2
Tot. South	1.602.196	33.3
Sicily	730.189	15.2
Sardinia	112.661	2.3
Tot. Islands	842.850	17.5
TOTAL	4.811.163	100.00

Source. Report "Migrantes", IDOS 2016

¹³ Ibidem, pp. 77-84

PART B. THE RELEVANT LEGISLATION AND POLICIES

1. Regulation (EU) No 492/2011, free movement of workers. The case of Italy¹⁴

The possibility of European citizens to move easily and work in another European Union (EU) country is one of the four fundamental free movement principles enshrined in the EU Treaties. This regulation updates earlier legislation and ensures the principle is honored in practice. The Implementing Regulation in Italy is as described below.

Right of entry of non-EU family members

Art. 5 of the Directive has been quite satisfactorily transposed by art. 5 of Law Decree n. 30 of 6 of February 2007¹⁵ as far as the right of entry of non-EU family members of European citizens.

Nevertheless, several obstacles are still on the ground to the real attainment of the rights contained in art. 5, namely concerning the attitude of Italian Embassies in the countries of origin of these citizens.

These obstacles are put in front of family members indicated in art. 3 of the Directive (“other family members”) as well as those in art.2.

The most frequent critical situations are the following:

- Visas are often delivered with long delays, very often after the 4-week time period prefigured by the Communication from the Commission to the EU Parliament and the Council on 2/7/2009.
- Non-EU family members are asked to submit the request for a long-term entry visa or family reunification entry visa. The consequence is that EU citizens must submit a request of family reunification and need to wait for authorizations. This violates art. 5 of the Directive and applies the Immigration Act¹⁶ to EU citizens which is actually relevant to non-EU citizens.

Art. 27 of the Directive concerning restrictions on the right of entry has been correctly transposed in art. 20 of of Law Decree n. 30 of 6 of February 2007.

¹⁴ “Citizens Without Borders” project on the application of freedom of movement and residence rights contained in the 2004/38/EC Directive in five European, www.meltingpot.org/citizenswithoutborders.

¹⁵ The Italian Act transposing Directive 30/2004.

¹⁶ Law Decree n. 286/1998.

Nonetheless, its provisions are wrongly applied in everyday reality when referring to non-EU family members:

- SIS¹⁷ notifications are considered by many Italian Embassies (ie. In Paraguay and Nigeria) as a reason to deny an entry visa. This ignores the fact that the Ministry of Interior has stipulated the cancellation of an SIS notification in the case of family reunification according to art. 29 of the Immigration Act. In this way, EU citizens are suffering from less favourable treatment compared to non-EU citizens, violating EU citizenship rights.

Right of residence

As stated in the Report by the Commission to the European Parliament and Council (10.12.2008), articles 7 and 8 of the Directive were a matter of controversy until 2011.

Law Decree n. 89 of 2011 intervened to modify those provisions in contrast with Directive's provisions, as reported by the Commission in 2008.

Like other Member States, Italy has dealt with the notion of 'sufficient resources' by setting a minimum amount of money possessed or salary regarded as sufficient and failed to take decisions on the basis of personal circumstances.

Changes introduced by Law Decree n. 89 of 2011 and the Ministry of the Interior's Directives clarified that:

- EU citizens have to be given registration certificates when they do not become an unreasonable burden on the social assistance system.
- It is prohibited to fix an amount to be regarded as "sufficient resources", either directly or indirectly, below which the right of residence can be automatically refused. As stated by Commission head handbook/guidelines in 2009, "the authorities of the Member States must take into account the personal situation of the individual concerned. Resources from a third person just
- be accepted,"¹⁵ as well as money in bank accounts and other property, considered as "stocked wealth".¹⁸

¹⁷ Schengen Information System. A governmental database of individuals accessing the territory of the European Union. SIS notifications signal that an individual has illegally entered the territory of a Member State

¹⁸ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council on guidance for better transposition and application of Directive 2004/38/CE on the right of EU citizens and their family members to move and reside freely within the territory of Member States. Brussels, 2.7.2009 [COM (2009) 313 final].

Family members

Despite changes introduced, there are still problems for:

- *Obtaining registration certificates for dependent family members.*

After introduction of Law Decree n. 89/2011, the condition of dependent family members, as well as the condition of family members with serious health problems, must be declared in documents issued by authorities of the country of origin. This documentation is not available in many countries, as far as Italy is not clear on which kind of documentation can give evidence of this condition. As a result, administrations do not recognise the quality of a dependent family member.¹⁹

- *Other family members, such as unmarried couples, as defined in letter b point 2 art. 3 of the Directive: “the partner with whom the EU citizen has a lasting relationship, duly attested”.*

The transposition into Italian law is not accurate or loyal to the text of the Directive, since art. 3 para. 2 letter b refers to “the partner with whom the EU citizen has a lasting relationship, duly attested by the State of the EU citizen” thus saying that only relationships attested by a Member State can be considered.

Moreover, art. 10 of Law Decree 30/2007 has not been transposed as far as the partner’s right to get a residence card. According to Italian Law, family members specified in letter b point 2 art. 3 of the Directive are not entitled to a residence card. Only family members specified by article 2 of the Directive can apply for a residence card.

In addition, relevant problems arise in attempting to demonstrate that the relationship is “duly attested”. Recommendations contained in the document “Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council” on 2.7.2009 are not observed.

- *Same sex spouses: Marriage of same sex couples is not recognised in Italy.*

The Ministry of the Interior considers art. 10 of the Directive (transposed by art. 10 of Decree 30/2007) not applicable to people of the same sex who have contracted and registered marriage in another Member State, but quotes the sentence of Court of Reggio Emilia (13/2/2012) which affirms that Law Decree 30/2007 is applicable in these cases. As a consequence, immigration offices do not provide the residence card prescribed by art. 10 of the Directive but offer a permit of stay for 2 years.

¹⁹ Italian Ministry of Interior, *Note to the Public Administration*, n. 18, 21/7/2009.

Beyond this, associations representing staff of Registry Offices report serious problems concerning the right of the citizen to attest requested conditions through self-declarations, as prescribed in art. 46 D.p.r. 445/2000.

The European citizen that moves has the right to bring along their families, and this is one aspect on which there has been much debated given the disparities on the concept of **family** we are from one country to another. In most countries Europe, as we know, homosexual couples are considered family, with various modes that vary from country to country. Italy, even today, it does not allow two gay people in any way they can formalize their relationship and this puts gays and lesbians on a strict inferiority footing with other citizens. Staying in Europe is important to emphasize that the implementation of the Directives is a duty. In fact, even Ireland and Austria (among the few remaining that still do not have a law on civil unions) have already transposed

Directive 38 and thus release permit and residence permit for the partner, although of the same sex, in accordance with "the prohibition of discrimination contained in the Charter Member States and not operate between the beneficiaries of any discrimination on grounds such as sex (...) or sexual orientation."

The original text of the Directive published in the European Journal (art. 27, par. 2) continued stating that" the personal conduct must represent a genuine, present and sufficiently serious threat to one fundamental interests of society. Justifications that the case or that rely on considerations of general prevention shall not be taken into consideration. "This paragraph has 'disappeared' from the Italian version. What happens with this implementation is that, since April 11 onwards, the day of entry into force of the law, it will be possible in a non-EU partners to join an EU citizen. But it will continue to be prevented to an Italian being joined in his own country by his partner. A great case of blatant discrimination this time implemented by a State to its own citizens, when homosexual unable to marry, as in Spain or the Netherlands, and unable to be able to contract civil union, as in Britain.²⁰

Other problems with registration certificates arise when residence cards for non-EU family members are issued by the Ministry of the Interior at the local offices of Immigration Police. This is called "EU residence card for family member of an EU citizen" and lasts 5 years. It has been observed that Immigration Police seldom provide residence cards in the

²⁰ Lenford Association Network.

first instance, but instead tend to provide the Permit of stay for family members provided by art. 30 of the Immigration Act²¹, with a maximum validity of 2 years. Only upon specific request do Immigration Police consider issuing the registration certificate, but even when the requester is assisted by a lawyer or another official, Immigration Police offices can resist to issuing the certificate.

Reasons given for denials by Immigration Police are:

- The non-EU family member does not possess an entry visa; the non-EU family members possesses an expired pass- port (but possesses a registration certificate).
- The EU citizen is not able to demonstrate the economic resources necessary to support his/her non-EU family member.

Right of permanent residence

Even in cases of continuous and registered residence for 5 years, the right of permanent residence is often not recognised in Italy. When asked for a certificate of permanent residence, Registry Offices make this right incorrectly conditional upon factors related to the right of residence. What is most alarming is that Registry Offices also verify that conditions for the right of residence during the previous 5 years have been fulfilled, if conditions are not deemed as properly met, the offices take away residence certificates too.

It must be remarked that European citizens usually are not informed about the right of permanent residence.

Related rights

Healthcare and access to medical treatment

The EU citizen and his non-EU family member (exact Directive wording) have the right to access the National Healthcare System with the same conditions of the Italian citizen when in possession of a permanent job contract or when in possession of a one-year- long job contract (or for the duration of the job contract if it is inferior to one year).

In other cases, namely in the case of an EU citizen without the status of worker, not holding a EHIC card²², access to medical treatment is uncertain and not fully granted: national law provides emergency and urgent medical treatment (including child care, maternity care,

²¹ Law Decree n. 286/1998 for non-EU citizens.

²² European Health Insurance Card (EHIC). In Italy it is translated into the TEAM card (Tessera Europea di Assicurazione Malattie).

preventive care, etc.) which are granted under the condition of possession of an ENI code.²³

Very frequently, and specifically for Romanian citizens, access to medical treatment is uncertain and not granted. Obstacles arise since:

- The ENI code is not delivered directly by hospitals and emergency services, but must be requested by a doctor, namely by doctors operating in non-profit associations for the medical care of undocumented migrants. The patient must then go to enroll for the ENI code in National Health System offices.
- The ENI code does not allow to access to a single doctor, so EU citizens must always refer to non profit associations.
- As the Healthcare System is managed by Region's Administrations, some regions such as Lombardia do not offer an ENI code.

In general the practice is not consistent, and information given to EU citizens and medical staff is insufficient.

2. Public institutions that deal with the right to free movement in Italy

The competence to deal with the right of free movement in Italy is entitled to several public institutions, at national, regional and local level. What follows is a description of them, trying to highlight their specific competences in dealing with such an issue.

a) Ministry of the Interior²⁴

The Ministry of Interior of Italy is the major public institution entitled to deal with right of free movement, according to its fulfillment and respect at national level. It is the government's department which is responsible for internal security and the protection of the constitutional order, for civil protection against disasters and terrorism, for displaced persons and administrative questions.

It is divided into offices of direct collaboration with the minister (Presidential Decree no. 98/2002) and five departments (Presidential Decree no. 398/2001 and subsequent amendments); in particular, the Department for Civil Liberties and Immigration has entered in the Ministry of Interior skills. It performs the task of protecting the rights with particular attention to immigration, asylum foreign persons, the Italian citizenship and religious confessions.

²³ An administrative registration for the "unregistered European citizens", translating into "Europeo Non Iscritto"

²⁴ <http://www.interno.gov.it/it/temi/cittadinanza-e-altri-diritti-civili>

The joints of the Interior Ministry in the territory are the prefectures (Territorial Offices of the Government), police headquarters and command of the Fire Department. Carry out the duties of social mediation, consultation and cooperation to the local authorities, law enforcement and security, timely intervention in the rescue and civil protection.

At national level the Ministry of Interior act through the following institutions:

- prefectures, that play propulsive actions, social mediation and intervention, counseling and collaboration in all fields of the administration;
- the police stations, which are the State Police offices with provincial jurisdiction. They exercise all security and administrative police activities with a wide range of documents; they are in charge of the prevention and suppression of crime, the guarantee of democracy, the protection of children's rights, the aid in case of public or private injury.

b) Other Italian Ministers

Other Italian ministers' websites can be consulted in order to collect other information regarding people who freely move from Italy to abroad or viceversa. They are:

- Minister of Foreign Affairs²⁵;
- Minister of Labour and Social Politics²⁶;
- Minister of Education, University and Research²⁷;
- Minister of Infrastructure and Transport²⁸.

c) ANCI (National association of Italian municipalities)²⁹.

ANCI is a non-profit association, based in Rome, which protects and represents the general interests of Italian Municipalities, their Unions, and Metropolitan Cities. It is a fundamental source of information regarding the population in each municipalities, according to nationality, gender, age etc.

²⁵ www.esteri.it

²⁶ www.lavoro.gov.it

²⁷ www.istruzione.it

²⁸ www.mit.gov.it

²⁹ www.anci.it

d) *UNAR*³⁰

UNAR is the office for the promotion of the equal treatment and the elimination of discriminations based on race or ethnic origin. Founded in 2003, it operates within the framework of the Department of Equal Opportunity of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers. It is committed to guarantee, autonomously and impartially, the effectiveness of the principle of the equal treatment among people, to monitor the efficiency of the legal instruments of protection against discrimination and to contribute to eliminate those based on race and ethnic origin, analyzing the links such discriminations have with other forms of racism, both cultural and religious.

Other than contributing to raise awareness on the instruments of protection through communication campaigns and promoting studies, researches and training on antidiscrimination issues, UNAR is the competent authorities to receive any claim or complaints from people residing in Italy who have been suffered from discrimination: therefore, those who claim that their right to free movement has been denied due to discrimination can apply to UNAR.

e) *ISTAT*³¹

ISTAT is the national institute of statistics, founded in 1926. It is the major public institution to publish official statistics at National level, thanks to which we can get, among all, all the updated numbers of immigrant / free movers from EU countries to Italy in a specific period of time (according to age, sex, nationalities etc.), whether they work (in which sector, under which contract etc.) or they do not.

f) *INPS (National Institute for Social Service)*²⁹³²

INPS was founded at the end of XIX century in Italy in order to guarantee workers from invalidities and death. Nowadays the main sectors of its work are:

- retirement;
- social assistance;
- public employ.

It is a source of information regarding immigrant workers' data on job issues.

³⁰ www.unar.it

³¹ www.istat.it

³² www.inps.it

g) *INAIL (National Institute for the Insurance against Injuries at Work)*³³

INAIL manages the obligatory insurances against injuries at work and diseases. Its objectives are:

- to reduce the phenomenon of injuries at work;
- to guarantee insurances to all the people who do jobs at risks;
- to guarantee the re-integration at work of those people who had suffered from injuries at work;
- to carry out research's activities and to develop methodologies of control on prevention and safeguard matters.

h) *NIHMP (National Institute for Health, Migration and Poverty)*³⁴

The National Institute for Health, Migration and Poverty (NIHMP) is a public structure, under the Ministry of Health control, which provides social and health care services to all citizens, Italians and foreigners. The staff is composed of professionals in different disciplines and from several countries and integrated work between doctors, nurses, psychologists, anthropologists and cultural mediators, allows a holistic and multicultural approach to the persons. The mission is to perform scientific research on the subjects concerning health, human mobile population and travel medicine, to facilitate access to health services for disadvantaged groups of population, and to counter old and emerging poverty-related diseases.

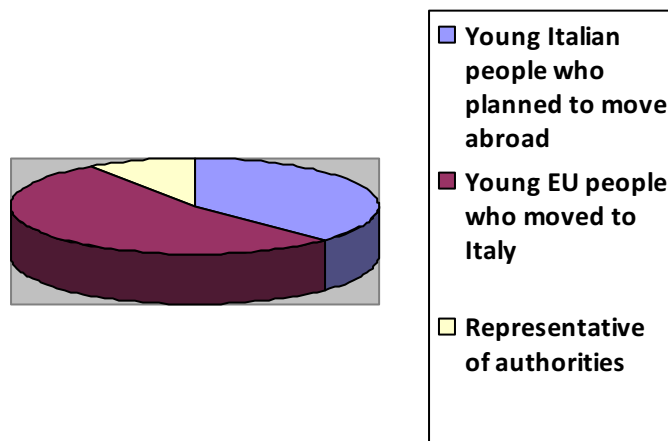
³³ www.inail.it

³⁴ www.inmp.it

PART C. EXPERIENCES OF YOUNG PEOPLE ON FREE MOVEMENT

During 2016 we carried out 32 interviews, involving both young people who come from other EU Member States but live in Italy (12 people involved) and young Italian people who live in Italy but have already planned to move abroad, within EU borders (17 people involved). Interviews have been also carried out involving representatives of public institutions (3 people interviewed), who had been asked of their point of view on how free movement is experienced by young people.

Interviews aimed at understanding and deepening how free movement had been experienced by them, trying to highlight any drivers and/or barriers that challenged it and to identify any ideas or suggestions that can improve its fulfillment as a fundamental human right.



Interviews have been carried out according to the interviews guidelines shared by the partners of “On the move project”; they have been carried out both by face-to-face method (22 interviews) and by telephone (10 interviews). The 17 Italian young people were interviewed according to a focus-group method: we organize a focus group where they all met the researchers. At first they all discuss in plenary about the contents of the interviews, then they were asked to fill the interviews’ form one-by-one.

The main method through which young people have been recruited was as follows: we started our qualitative analysis by sending the communication regarding the project by email to a specific mailing list, composed by contacts of people belonging to immigrants’ associations, single persons, public authorities etc. The interviewed people who had moved

from an EU member states to Italy were recruited due to their previous participation at an event organized by Cospe in Tuscany Region, with the exception for 1 person who answered our email and contacted us by telephone. The Italian young people who had already planned to move abroad were recruited thanks to personal contacts by researchers. The public authorities were recruited due to previous contacts the researchers had had thanks to Cospe's activities on the national territory on this issues.

The main challenge regarded the recruitment of young Italian people who wished to move abroad: this type of difficulty was determined by the fact that Cospe have always dedicated its effort and strategy in analyzing the in-flow immigration, both from European countries (including EU Member States but also other countries, such as Albania, from which come one of the most numerous immigrant communities) and from other part of the world (for example, the people who come from Morocco or China, who represent the two most numerous immigrant communities in Italy), and not an out-flow immigration. Such a challenge has been overcome recurring to personal contacts from the researchers.

What follows is a description of what has emerged during the interviews, according to the main points of the interviews guidelines. The first part will deal with the experiences of young Italian people who have already planned to move abroad within the European Union; the second part will focus on the experiences of young people who come from EU countries and who have already moved to Italy; finally, the third part will analyse the points of view on free movement of the representatives of national authorities who have been involved during the interviews.

1. The experiences of young Italian people who planned to move abroad

a. Information about free movement

They know they can move to another EU countries and what type of documentation need to be possessed in order to live abroad, even though they have never read any legislation on it.

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b. Experience of free movement

All the interviewed Italian people who wishes or are willing to move to another EU country reported that they had experienced a study abroad in an EU country while they were students at University, thanks to the Erasmus Programme. They moved to Spain (8 out of 10), to Germany (2 of them) and to UK (7) when they were attending the second or

the third year of University (so they were around 22-23 years old). This section aims to record the individual experience of free movement (past of present) and their overall assessment of this experience. They all are very satisfied about having experienced a study period abroad, since they have learnt how to live alone (without any practical help by their family); during their staying abroad they had the chance to learn about ordinary life of the people who came from other countries. They came back to Italy after a six or nine months of living abroad, due to the fact that the Erasmus scholarships ended and they had to finish the exams and discuss the thesis at University. Thanks to such positive experiences abroad, they are now willing to move in another EU countries in order to get a job there. All of them have already started to search for a job and are willing to get it in the EU countries they have studied with Erasmus programme.

c. Drivers for free movement

EU citizens who left their countries for Italy took such a decision when they were younger than now, aiming at escaping from regimes or from a country where there were no future for them. They chose to move to Italy both because they knew some of their nationals living here and because of linguistic aspect: the latter case is the one of Romanian people, who decide to move to Italy also because they felt they would be advantaged by the fact that Italian language is quite similar to Romanian one, being them two neo-latin languages. Their expectations before moving was to find a job, settle down and build their own new “home” where their families and children could grow up. Some people, belonging to minority groups, reported that they took the decision to move from their country because they could not afford discriminations no more. This is the case, for example, of Romani people who moved from Romania because they have suffered from multiple discrimination there.

All the people interviewed reported that the main reason that led them to leave their country of origin and move towards another EU member State was for finding new hope in the future, thanks to better life conditions and to economic one. In particular, the Italian young people interviewed wish to move to find a job in another EU Member State because the market labour in Italy have suffered a lot from the global economic crisis: therefore, once the University is completed they are willing to go and search for a job abroad because they feel there is no future for them in Italy (nor one that can fulfil their expectations).

Economic and better life-expectations are the main drivers that led young people around

European Union move from their country of birth to another.

d. Obstacles and barriers experienced when moving

The 10 Italian young people who participated at the interviews think that the moving-process will not be as difficult as it may seem. The main difficulties occur now, after having moved, due to the difficult phase of finding a job there. Once the job is found, they think everything will be very easy. They all are willing to move to the EU country where they studied thanks to Erasmus Programme (Germany, UK and Spain), and this choice is influenced mainly by the fact that they are fluent and confident with the national languages and they know the place better: that is to say that they already know some places where they can find a job, because they have known some people there when they studied abroad. Some of them reported that the main factors which can affect them are the registration requirements and process, because they are quite aware that this will be a different process than the one they have experienced when they were students there, and social security, especially in this actual context where several terrorist attacks occur. This section aims to detect the specific obstacles and barriers that occur/may occur during free movement whether real, perceived or of any nature (legal, social, administrative etc) and understand their underlying causes and impact.

e: Practices that promoted or hindered the right to move freely

The main practice that promote the right to free movement is represented by the presence in that country of people we know that have come through the same process before. This emerged by all the Italian young people interviewed who stated that they were helped by friends of them or even members of their families who had moved before to Italy or to the EU Member States where Italian young people wish to move.

Ideas and suggestion

During the focus group the young people participated at for the interviews, they said such an activity help them deepen for the first time the issue of “being European citizens”, what it means, which are the possible obstacles that can interfere with its enjoyment and fulfillment. The main suggestion was to continue to promote activities like “on the move” analysis, even involving younger people, for example those aged 15-25.

2. The experiences of young people who moved from a EU countries to Italy

a. Information about free movement

The majority of the interviewed young people coming from EU countries and living in Italy have reported that they do not feel “well informed” about their own rights to move freely in Europe. Theoretically, they know they can, however they do not know exactly the relevant legislation about it. They learnt it by doing it. For example, as A.S. (female, Romanian, 28 years old) said, she had never been told about the free movement within the European Union’s borders: the first time she heard about it was when she participated at Cospe’s workshop in 2016 regarding the participation of EU people to the social and political life of the country they resided in.

Each information regarding free movement in EU Member states has been collected through other people’s experiences, or by internet. However, the majority of the interviewed blame a lack of information on official EU websites, translated into national languages. For example, as I.P. (RO1, male, 41 years old) said, the EU website regarding “Movement and residence” (http://ec.europa.eu/justice/citizen/move-live/index_en.htm) cannot be easily accessible by every EU citizen who wishes to move to another EU countries, due to a lack knowledge of English/French/German languages. “*If each EU national language has equal value, why do all the relevant information are only translated into English, or French? It sounds like anachronistic*”, he said. They would like each section of EU official website to be translated into each national languages so that they can be easily understood by everyone. “*If we are talking about human rights, it means that they belong to every human beings: so why can not make them accessible by everyone, starting from a linguistic level?*”, said F.C. I. (female, Romanian, 45 years old)

b. Experience of free movement

Many of the EU citizens interviewed have experienced the right to free movement in the last past years. Many of them come from Romania and they moved to Italy once the Ceausescu’s regime ended (1989): At that time they were young and the only thing that mattered to them was escaping from their country of origin to find a better and freer place to live with their families. Most of them left their countries alone, then some of their relatives followed them. They settled in Italy and they come back to their country of birth sometimes during the years, in order to pay a visit to their parents or the relatives who had

remained there.

c. Drivers for free movement

The drivers that led the young EU people move were several: familiar reconjunction (1 out of 12), better life opportunities (11 out of 12). The majority of them had not lived in another EU country before moving to Italy: the only exception was 1 interviewed (RO2, male, 41 years old) who moved to other EU countries (Croatia and France) and then to Italy where he decided to settle down with his family.

When they were asked which EU countries they would wish to live in, instead of Italy, if they had the opportunity, the majority of them answered that there is no other country they would like to live in. 1 person answered she would like to live in Scandinavian part of European Union (Sweden, for example) where she thinks the life-conditions of women there is better than in any other place (regarding the fight to gender stereotypes, welfare etc.): this is the case of F.F., female, Bulgarian, 28 years old. 1 person answered she would like to move to Germany where one of her brothers lives (RO1, female, 45 years old).

d. Obstacles and barriers experienced when moving

Obstacles and barriers made moving difficult for all the EU citizens interviewed. First of all, the first obstacle was personal one: moving abroad and leaving your family has never been an easy life-moment. This was mentioned by 10 people out of 12. 1 person said that she expected the life in Italy would be as easy as the one she carried out in her country of origin; however, this was not her case. When she moved to Italy to live with her boyfriend, she felt like she was excluded by her neighbors. She has good skill in English languages and she thought it could be an asset to better get in touch with local people; when she started her life in Italy, she discovered that a very large number of Italian people could not speak English so they excluded her. Then, after having started learning and speaking Italian languages, she started to communicate to her neighbors and to feel more included within the social life of the city (RO3, Female, 28 years old).

Second of all, administrative issues made it more difficult: such a process was difficult for the people, who move abroad before their country of origin entered European Union (for example, the case of Romanians) and who had to possess specific documentation to live in another countries. One of them reported that he escaped from Romania once the regime

ended at the end of 1980s, although he did not possess any documents, nor his wife. Before arriving in Italy, he had to go through Balkans where he and his wife were arrested by local police officers because they were caught without documents and then taken back to Romania. Such a “come-and-go” lasted years and ended once Romania became an EU Member States.

Another obstacle blamed was of economic nature: moving always implies a travel and travels always imply having money to pay it. Most of the people interviewed reported they had to make a lot of sacrifices to get enough money to support the travel.

The three most quoted factors that had affected them was: finding work, finding a place to leave and survive from the cost of life, which was too high for them since they did not get a job at the beginning. At the beginning, in fact, they suffered a lot for discrimination in the cities in Italy they live in, due to their nationality, which was considered the main factor that prevent them to find a job; then things changed, so they were able to find a job. Now they do not feel discriminated at personal level; however, they are well aware by the fact that their nationals are discriminated, especially in media where not-Italian people are often call “thieves” or “rapists”.

e. Practices that promoted or hindered the right to move freely

f.: Ideas and suggestions

Ideas and suggestions emerged at the end of the interviews were:

- to foresee specific sectors in EU official website dedicated to free movement in European Union, translated into each languages of the EU Member States;
- to foresee specific sectors in official website at national level (for example, the ones of the Ministries) dedicated to free movement within EU borders;
- to create in Italy a national office, with branches in the main Italian cities, which will be in charge of giving all the relevant information to the people who are willing to move towards a EU member states, regarding administrative, legal, social issues.
- to join our single efforts in our ordinary lives so we can win over discriminations that affect life conditions of not-Italian citizens, who are and have to be considered as European citizens as we all are.

3. The point of views of the representatives of authorities

a. Information about free movement

A different perception emerged by the interviews to representatives of public institutions (at Regional and local level): the people interviewed think the young EU movers are well aware about their right to freely move within EU boundaries. This happens, as they stated, because the majority of them have experienced Erasmus Programme during the time when they were students, and during that period those young people could get information regarding not only how to study in an EU country, but also how to get a job there once they got the University decree. They considered young EU people to possess good communication skills in other European languages, such as English, French or German (thanks to a high level of education achieved), so they can easily access the relevant information regarding human rights and fundamental freedom, including the right to free movement.

b. Experience of free movement

The representatives of public institutions believed that nowadays, thanks to the accessibility of the internet sources, young people can easily get all the relevant information on free movement in European Union, regarding administrative, legal, social and economic issues.

c. Drivers for free movement

Drivers for free movement can be so different one to another, depending from the interests and willing of the young people who decide to enjoy the right to free movement within EU borders. The main drivers mentioned were:

- job seeking to improve personal life-conditions;
- challenging themselves, through experiencing a life in another countries alone;
- improving their own professional skills (in terms of languages, working in team etc), through making a professional experience abroad

d. Obstacles and barriers experienced when moving

The interviewed representatives of public institutions reported that, according to their opinion, obstacles and barriers to the right of free movement do not so often occur, in our times where every person can easily access internet and find support by national public authorities, especially the municipalities' ones.

e. Practices that promoted or hindered the right to move freely

The right to move freely within EU borders is facilitated by the cooperation of local institutions in charge of assisting new arrivers in finding jobs (job centres), or a house (the office within each municipality in charge of home-issues) or in charge of providing them with relevant information regarding, for example, the permit of stay, the family-reconjunction etc.

f: Ideas and suggestions

What they suggested was:

- to enhance the cooperation among local public institutions, third-sector associations and civil society, so that the information regarding the right to free movement can easily circulate and get to young audience, who is the present and the future of our society;
- to foster the promotion of such a project which can help us in identifying the point of views and the perceptions of young people, in order to strengthen the positive aspects and re-assess what does not work as expected;
- to promote the exchanges of good practice at EU level, so even the local authorities can improve their “system” regarding free movement by learning from other better experiences.

PART D. ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATION

In Italy there are two imaginary that intersect each other: a rhetoric view of those who left Italy in search of work or of better living conditions, often described as "brain drain", and a rhetoric idea on those arriving in Italy in search of work or better living conditions, who must afford heavy prejudices. The negative stigma about immigrants affects mainly citizens coming from non-EU countries and from the most recently entered countries in the EU, such as the Romanians, who are the largest group among immigrants in Italy (are Romanian 1,151,395 persons of 1,517,023 EU citizens and of the total of 5,026,153 of foreign citizens residents in Italy).

On the basis of AIRE (the Civil Registry of the Italian people abroad of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs) data, in the year 2016, 5.202.821 Italian people are living abroad.

The OECD (Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development) in its 2016 *International Migration Outlook Report*, shows Italy among the countries with the most marked increase in emigration in recent years. The *Report* states that Italy's migration outflow grew from 125.730 persons in 2013 to 136.330 in 2014, and in just four years – from 2010 to 2014 – emigration of Italian citizens more than doubled. The main destination countries of the emigrants were the United Kingdom, Germany, Switzerland and France. From 2006 to 2016, the 69% of the new Italian free movers have moved toward European Continent, mainly to the countries who have traditionally hosted the largest Italian communities (Germany is the Country with the higher number of Italian citizens: 506.507 persons in 2016).

Italian Institutions have contradictory attitudes toward the migration's phenomenon: in the month of December 2016, the Italian Minister of Labour, Giuliano Poletti said: 'I know people who went away from Italy and it is good that they are where they went, because surely the country will not suffer from no longer having them around the foots'. This provocative statement has raised great controversy that the Minister has attempted to repair, saying that what he had expressed was it is not fair to say that to leave Italy are the best persons.

Conversely, other Italian institutions point out that it is a duty of the State to design initiatives to create new job opportunities for young Italians living abroad, and to make Italy an attractive country for professionals from other countries. The Italians abroad, as well as the young citizens of other EU countries are becoming, or can become, an important, qualified and not expensive alternative to the networks of fairs, dedicated international

organizations and public institutions who promote their countries of origin in business, tourism, research abroad. Expatriates young from each EU country can become more influential beyond borders, in a perspective of intercultural dialogue and of transnational work.³⁵

This perspective is very important for schools, universities and for who works in associations. As evidenced by Alessandro Rosina, a researcher from the Catholic University of Milan and organizer of 'MeeTalents', a big initiative which call the Italian national and Governments and Italian companies to listening to expatriates talents, the "international mobility has a positive value, which should be encouraged, and which is more and more in the strings of the new generations. Rather worrying is the fact that the increasing mobility among younger interest more and more graduates and people with high qualifications. (...) the more advanced economies are at war each other in order to attract talents. (...) In Italy, youth are forced to revise downward their expectations and potential, or are pushed to leaving (...). To the flow of who leave Italy do not correspond an equally significant flow of inbound human capital."

In addition to the Professor Rosina's observations, it is necessary to underline that it is extremely rare for immigrants in Italy to have the possibility to use their qualifications and skills, both for the stigma that affects them, and for the Italian bureaucracy and national laws that protect professionals who have Italian citizenship. Therefore the professional opportunities for young people of foreign origin remain very limited. Often, only who acquires the Italian citizenship, may manage to get into more skilled areas of work (i.e. a positive trend of increased job insertion of foreign origin's young – until now limited but very important for its multiplier effects – is the media field).³⁶

On the other hand, the organizations of Italian citizens in the world (such as the Association of Belluno people in the World) follow the evolution of times, getting support tools for the young people who went abroad to seek their fortunes: these social networks allow Italian companies to meet Italian young abroad so that they become instruments for the promotion and development of Italian companies. Some young people interviewed by the Italian media, eg. Federico, who is living in Berlin from more than five years, shows that last year the German capital, has tripled the arrival of Italian immigrants and suggest the need to create a citizenship at the European level.

³⁵ <http://www.italiannetwork.it/news.aspx?id=26894> (Consultation in December 2016)

³⁶ Centro Studi e Ricerche Idos, *Dossier Statistico Immigrazione*, 2016

This ambitious goal, however, is impossible to be obtained, if at local and national levels the Italian Institutions are not able to deconstruct both the rhetorical and stereotyped narratives, not based on objective data, which we underlined at the beginning of this paragraph. For doing this, it is necessary to implement inclusive policies, in educational and academic institutions and in the entire society. Also the 32 interviews carried out in the frame of the project "On the Move", confirm the importance of overcome the gap between research and information from a part and the a priori socio-cultural closures of the hosting society from the other part. Almost all of the interviewed young underlined that in order to combat the discrimination, it is fundamental to promote the knowledge of each other and educate young people to anti-racism principles.

The interviews, carried out during the project research, were fundamental means to analyze how complex is the issue of the freedom of movement, studied here as a fundamental human rights to be applied within EU Member States' borders. The complexity is determined not only by different point of view and personal perceptions about it, but also by the challenges this matter is facing nowadays at European level due to the on-going international migration crisis.

Although the experience of free movement remains personal, with its own peculiarities, there are some common features which emerged from the qualitative analysis, by comparing all the interviews carried out. First of all, free movement is such an experience that is driven by the willing (or sometimes the necessity) to find a place which is supposed to provide you with economic and better life conditions' guarantees, more than the ones the single person has in his or her country of birth. What emerged during the interviews that the decision of moving from one country to another is driven by what happens in the context that surround us from an economic and social point of view.

Secondly, due to the above mention reason why the majority of the interviewed people freely move, free movement is not felt as a "light" experience; sometimes it is a difficult moment of separation of your "previous" life.

Thirdly, free movement from a country to another can make you more subjective to discriminations (this issue emerged by analyzing the answers given by the incoming people from other EU Member States to Italy), which represent a complex phenomenon getting more and more power nowadays across Europe. Once arrived in Italy, people mentioned the fact that they were exposed to discrimination based on their nationality, their language or they belonging to a minority group. Such an exposition challenge their access to basic

human rights, such as housing, decent life, work.

Recommendation can be elaborated in terms of strengthening the network between civil society (where young people play a key-role) and public authorities for the promotion of the right to free movement in a non-discriminatory perspective.