

regular migrants: **3.764.236**

irregular migrants:

we don't have official figures – Italian Caritas, that for many years has published what is considered the reference book for the immigration phenomenon, says that irregulars could be a 10-15% of the regulars' total. That is to say about half million people.



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COMUNE DI GENOVA

Italian borders have been closed for migrants in search of work since 1991.

Many people enter every year with tourist visa or other ones.

A part of them do not leave Italy when the visa expires

and look for a job, and often they find it...



Amnesties and “decreti flussi”

7 amnesties: one for each immigration law, one every 4-5 years since 1986.

About 2,5 millions of people got a permit to stay in this way. The biggest, in 2002, by a right wing government.

Since 1998, yearly “decreti flussi” has been allowing migrants to enter Italy, for seasonal or stable work: from 38000 in 1998, to about 800,000 in 2006, 50,000 in 2013...

In Italy, everyone knows that “decreti flussi” are masked amnesties...



**Irregularity is a temporary condition,
a sort of price you have to pay to join a
“subaltern integration”.**





GENOA – 580.723 inhabitants in March 2013

140 different nationalities

57.263 non Italian residents (30.595 females - 26.668 males)

9,8% of the total

Ecuadorian group: 17.694 (10.157 females - 7.537 males)

The eighth Italian city in terms of inhabitants, the fourth Italian municipality in terms of non Italian residents...

Genoa's approach:

In the past 25 years, migration flows were composed, at the beginning, by North African and Albanian men and, afterwards, by South American women.

Men easily found jobs in construction and commerce, while South American women found jobs as domestic workers for elderly people and housekeepers.



**Immigration arrived to Genoa when the city
faced its industrial crisis;**

**the city lost many jobs in the naval, iron and
steel and manufacturing sectors;**

**Genoa realized to be one of the oldest city in
Europe in terms of population age;**

**The welfare system crisis led to the demand of
low-wage jobs in elderly care sector.**



These people developed relationships and met, in some cases, with public services, for information, advocacy, sheltering and bureaucratic help.

Often, local social services work for the regularization of irregular people, like elderly people, pregnant women, trafficked people, unaccompanied minors and so on...



When we began to handle immigration issues, as public social operators, as social services personnel, in the early '90s, we began to deal with people in need and often with irregular people.

The general framework was to consider irregular people as persons we had to regularize. Around us, there was a positive social feeling where solidarity issues were stronger than security ones.



A widespread consensus for helping irregular migrants who were (are) seen as future citizens..



Genoa is a city with an history of working class struggles and of solidarity among workers...



Genoa has been a city administrated by left-wing parties since many years and there is a huge variety of parties, unions and civil society associations that work in support to migrants, also when they are irregular ones.



In Genoa there are many NGOs, associations, charities, that advocate for irregular migrants...

Two sort of consultative bodies:

Coordinamento delle associazioni degli immigrati e delle loro famiglie. From 1986 to 1992

Forum dei migranti. During the 90s

Federazione Regionale Solidarietà e Lavoro, that gathers different kind of organizations and association (charities, unions, but also employers organization) supporting migrants integration. It has been managing, since 1992, a service for migrants (regardless their status) with Municipality's financial support.



The framework:

Social cohesion and child protection first of all... but also human right.



Two levels of intervention.

The **complexity of Italian immigration** law give us the possibility to organize and provide services for people who are in irregular conditions, but who can become regular if we intervene and realize a regularization path.

There is a group of **basic needs** that you have to satisfy



The Municipality of Genoa provides services directly, through its offices, to people such as undocumented minors, pregnant women, trafficked people, asylum seekers, irregular elderly people, undocumented Roma and so on...

The Municipality of Genoa provides services as shelter and food also to undocumented people.



**The Municipality of Genoa – in some situations
- took the decision to provide services to
irregular migrants going beyond Italian
immigration rules... ex: in 2006, the shutdown
of the city-center Bosnian Roma camp,
completed by putting in social housing regular
and irregular families, without distinction.**



In 2004, the Municipality of Genoa tried to change its Charter in order to give voting rights to regular migrants, but then the right-wing government canceled that act.



The Municipality of Genoa actively takes part in the ANCI – the national network of Italian Municipalities- that is carrying on campaigns to support migrants in different ways: changing citizenship law by giving citizenship to babies born in Italy regardless the condition of their parents; let the Municipalities handle the permits of stay instead of letting this task to the Ministry of the Interior; helping unaccompanied minors to have a stable permit of stay when they become adults...



In 2009, the last B government, the so called “security law” introduced the crime of irregularity, obliging public operators to denounce irregular migrants asking for help.

**In the health care sector, immediately, Regions –because health care is administrated at a regional and not at a national level - said that health care operators were not obliged to do
SO.**



Within the Municipality of Genoa there were many discussions about this topic, but in the end no one denounced anyone and public social workers continued to discuss, also with the Police (local Ministry of Interior's offices) about the way to give permit of stay to irregular elderly people, pregnant women, unaccompanied minors and so on...



Genoa's approach didn't change over recent years, notwithstanding law modification as

“2002 Bossi-Fini law”

“2009 Security law”



**Thanks to European directives,
Italy was obliged to introduce in its laws the
EU's more open approach to irregular people
issues, such as voluntary repatriation and so
on..**

