

2017

Summary
report
of the
activities



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#PARTICIPATION
#EQUALITY
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5 GOOD REASONS FOR THOUSAND PROJECTS THAT CAN BE IMPLEMENTED!

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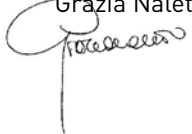
2017. Lunaria: a collective work for change

Solidarity, participation, equality, anti-racism and rights: these are the principles that have guided us for 26 years in our international voluntary activities, in the initiatives of animation, non-formal education and training aimed at young people, in the information and awareness campaigns, in the advocacy against racism and in our analysis of public policies. 2017 was not an exception. On the contrary, it pushed us to carry on with our campaigns and activities in a hostile and delicate cultural, political and social context that seems to lead Italian society in a completely different direction. Individualism, loneliness and social fragmentation, competition and

the search for a scapegoat in those below the social hierarchy, widespread aggression and normalization of the use of violence in social relations: these are features of a society deeply impoverished by the crisis and the growth of inequalities, which are struggling to find the answers needed to improve their living conditions in the forms of political representation and collective organization. The distance between young people, citizens, parties and institutions worries us a lot, because it opens the way to very dangerous shortcuts for our democracy and for the future of us all. In an unprecedented way from the second post-war period onwards, nationalisms, populisms, new forms of racism and neo-fascism cross the collective imagination and the daily social behavior. Communication 4.0, which mix up the virtual with the real, reality with representation, false news and deceptive simplifications, does not help to spread awareness and active participation aimed to change the society. In 2017, even civil society organizations that promote solidarity actions, like Lunaria, have been the subject of an unprecedented

delegitimization campaign by those subjects (institutions and media) that should protect their work. Saving lives at sea, welcoming migrants and refugees, protecting human rights, people without a home or with precarious works, rejecting the horror of war, risks becoming a "crime". In this climate, Lunaria has not looked away, continuing to carry out the dozens of activities and initiatives of which we offer a synthetic photograph in the pages that follow. The thousands of people involved encourage us and, today more than ever, confirm that our collective work continues to be precious and indispensable: a lifeblood that makes us look with hope and optimism to 2018.

Thanks and good reading.

Grazia Naletto


Lunaria

is a non-profit, laic, independent and autonomous non-profit organization with social aims founded in 1992.

It promotes peace, social and economic justice, equality and the guarantee of citizenship rights, democracy and participation from below, social inclusion and intercultural dialogue.

Lunaria carries out and fosters processes of social change at local, national and international level through advocacy, political-cultural events, communication, non-formal education, training and research, information and awareness campaigns and work in network.

International mobility and volunteering, youth policies, migration and combating against racism, analysis of public budget, economic and social policies, sustainable development and the fight against inequality are at the center of its commitment.

RIGHTS

Peace

Solidarity

#SOCIAL
EQUALITY

RIGHTS

Economic justice

PARTICIPATION



THE WORK AREAS

International volunteering

Guided by the principles of solidarity, intercultural dialogue and participation, in 1992 we began to promote **international volunteering camps**. In 26 years, more than 24,000 young Italian and foreign volunteers have been in our projects, **in an intense social activity, practical and non-profit together with peers from around the world**.

In 2017, we involved **521** international volunteers in the international volunteering camps abroad and **we hosted 297 international volunteers** in camps in Italy, in collaboration with associations and local authorities,

Mobility and active citizenship

Since 1993, we have been promoting **non-formal learning activities** on the local, national and European dimension, oriented towards people of all ages, through exchanges and training

seminars. The great educational value of such experience and the contribution it may give to the **development of participation and active citizenship** make it an opportunity suitable for all generations. Debating, the exchange of experiences and learning by doing are the key elements of our work method, because there is always something to learn and there is no single method to do it!

Migrations and the fight against racism

Since 1996 we struggle every day against racism and the guarantee of citizenship rights by promoting **research, training, reporting and awareness campaigns** with the aim of reorienting public policies on migration, asylum and against racism.

In 2017 we have organized over 20 public initiatives, from our website www.cronachediordinariorazzismo.org were downloaded almost 5,000 copies of our new **White Paper on racism in Italy** and

there are **6068 cases of discrimination, institutional racism, media and social** documented in our online database.

Sbilanciamoci!

Since 2000, we have been carrying out, with other **48 civil society organizations**, the activities of the *Sbilanciamoci!* campaign, with whom we strive for a greater transparency and for a **different usage of public expenditure oriented towards peace, environment and solidarity**, making alternative and sustainable proposals that are available on the website www.sbilanciamoci.org and on the online in-depth analysis magazine www.sbilanciamoci.info. Through *Sbilanciamoci!*, in 2017, in addition to supporting the network's and the nationwide campaigns' initiatives we are part of, and carrying on with the publishing of our yearly report - the so called **Controfinanziaria** -, we made the first **seminar on the analysis of the Budget Law**.



Volunteering for anyone, no one excluded

What are **Voluntary Camps**? They are an experience of international solidarity and cooperation with which we can live and practice the values of **dialogue**, coexistence and **peace** in everyday life. Our international volunteering program is open to everyone. **Workcamps** are short-term collective experiences - 2-3 weeks, but we also offer **medium and long-term individual mobility** (1-12 months).

In 2017, we organized 30 international volunteering camps in Italy in collaboration with local associations, clubs, cooperatives and other organizations rooted in the territories and with the 50 associations belonging to the global *Alliance of European Voluntary Service Organizations network*: <http://www.alliance-network.eu>.

Open your mind! Choose your experience! Changing the world is possible, Lunaria shows you the way!

WORKCAMP IN ITALY: **Volunteers for a better Europe**

Volunteering, civil service and civic engagement for a united and social Europe: these are the themes at the base of the day organized in the gardens of Colle Oppio, in Rome, on the occasion of the sixtieth anniversary of the signing of the Treaties of Rome, together with friends of Legambiente, SCI, Baobab, Erasmus Student Network ESN, Link-Rete della conoscenza, Arci Servizio Civile, Arci Roma, Alliance of European Voluntary Service Organizations. 30 youngsters actively participated in the refurbishment of the playground and of the basketball court.

WORK CAMP ABROAD **Red Cross Centre:**

Volunteering camp in Belgium, organized by Java, partner of the network Alliance. The volunteers contributed to the renovation of the center and supported entertainment activities addressed to the families of refugees guested in the structures.



Nomads

Sport, sociality and inter-rail! The 3-year European project unites in a European partnership organizations from the *Alliance* network and from the sport for everyone world, with the purpose of launching a mobility program aimed at involving young athletes and volunteers in volunteering camps in support of social sport initiatives.



Youth on the move

Since 1993, we have been constantly looking for new non-formal education methodologies in order to promote **intercultural exchange and knowledge**. **Peer education** - the exchange of knowledge and experience among equals - and **learning by doing** - the acquiring of new skills through direct and concrete participation - are two key elements of our educational approach. To us **non-formal education** means promoting the sharing of experiences and principles practiced in the concreteness of **social action**. In 2017, we are involved in exchanges and training courses, both in Italy and abroad, about **350 social and youth workers**, continuing to strengthen the strategic line of the last few years focused on **issues of gender, migration and inclusion**.

Staged

On the path traced in previous years by the *Jambo* and *Pandora* projects, we have continued to work on female empowerment and gender equality. With *Staged-Struggling Against Gender-based Discrimination through Youth Work in EU and Asia*, we organized two international training sessions in South East Asia and one in Italy, involving youth workers, activists and representatives of local communities from Italy, France, Romania, Myanmar, Vietnam and Indonesia. The project was funded by Eacea (Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency) - Erasmus + Program.

The Butterfly effect

In 2017, the project *The Butterfly effect-Raising Awareness Among the European Youth on the Refugees Crisis*, which started in 2016, was closed. In these two years of intense activity we organized a training course, three job shadowing, in Italy, France and Germany, and a youth



exchange, with the primary objective of developing tools and methods to sensitize young people and adults on the spread of discrimination and of the phenomena of racism and xenophobia against migrants and refugees.

Gem

GEM - Gender Equality and Migration is a project that was born with the aim of analyzing the phenomenon of xenophobic hatespeech towards migrant women. More than 30 youth workers, from 10 different European countries - Italy, Germany, Romania, Poland, Spain, Finland, Greece, Hungary, France and Denmark - shared their experiences, developed new tools and participated in the different workshops proposed during a training week



Active citizenship has no age

Active citizenship and participation have no age and we want to break down generational barriers: for this reason, since 2002 we have been working on promoting **international volunteering for 50+ citizens**. In the course of several European projects, we have involved over **600 senior citizens** in a continuous process of building interculturality and European citizenship, favoring **intergenerational exchanges**. Besides being a resource in terms of skills and acquired experience, adults are real educators, and, like all educators, they need training tools to consciously face the great changes that we are all experiencing. **Research, practical experiences, workshops, intergenerational exchanges, work camps** are only some of the activities that we put in place for adults and in collaboration with them.



Mobility Scouts

Mobility is one of the greatest limits to the active participation of adult citizens in their communities. With *Mobility Scout* we are engaging older people in creating a society for all ages! The organization of meetings between senior citizens and local authorities aims to contribute to the creation of public spaces and services that are accessible also to later-life groups.



Homecare in Europe

The *Improving the quality of homecare in Europe* project, supported by the EU Erasmus + program, aims to teach the volunteers who are involved in the care and assistance of the elderly how to foster their active citizenship, through training modules that can be replicated in other countries. Lunaria is a partner of the Turkish Gsm association, together with the Austrian Red Cross and the Institut für soziale Infrastruktur in Frankfurt.



Solidarity is not a crime

Solidarity activities with migrants, asylum seekers and refugees, at borders as well as within our cities, are under attack as never before. The spread of fake news, the distorted representation of the rescue operations of migrants at sea, the aggressive repression of any form of protest marked the news in 2017. With the aid of institutional choices that have led back (once again!) migrations in the “security problem”, a press that is too benevolent towards those seeking consensus through the instigation of intolerance, xenophobia and racism, and some members of the judiciary who did not hesitate to arbitrarily charge non-governmental organizations. The migrants are suffering the criminalization of solidarity aimed. For this reason, in 2017 we fought to stop the approval of the Minniti-Orlando decrees, in order to claim different and fairer European and national policies, a better reception system that respects the people it hosts, and for an information system capable of describing migrations correctly.



Propaganda and protests of rejection

In large cities and small towns, protests against the presence or opening of new reception centers for asylum seekers and refugees have crossed our country throughout 2017. It would be a mistake to underestimate the problems and the risks that these episodes show. For this reason, we reconstructed in a dossier, available online, 210 episodes of “rejection” of welcome in its various forms: verbal statements of public relevance, propaganda (posters, banners, flyers), public initiatives (petitions, open letters, events).

Chart of Rome (Carta di Roma)

Together with the Chart of Rome (Carta di Roma) association, we have carried out information and training activities in Florence and Taranto for civil society activists and journalists aimed at analyzing, on the basis of specific and concrete cases, narrative and lexical strategies that produce a distorted representation of the facts concerning migrants, asylum seekers and refugees.



Rights have no borders

Inequalities divide and fragment us, they make compete us against one another and they destroy our future. We know well that the legal recognition of a right does not remove automatically the risk of suffering discrimination and racist violence. **But if there is a right, there is more protection. Italian society has been culturally mixed since a long time. But the legislation hardly manage to recognize it, while racism is ever faster in communicating on social networks, contaminating politics and everyday behavior.**

For this reason, also in 2017, together with a wide network of European, national and local associations we asked to change direction. Before the end of the Legislature, we participated in dozens of **hearings, sit-ins** and meetings aimed at demanding the final approval of the **citizenship reform**, asking the adoption of a **national strategy against the spread of racism on line** and disseminating social practices based on the principles of equality and solidarity.

Citizenship. Still guests, but they are citizens

Along with the numerous initiatives organized together with the campaign *L'Italia sono anche io* (Italy is me too) and the *Italianisenzacittadinanza* movement, we have reconstructed in a dossier, available online, the long process of the - unfortunately missed - reform of citizenship, with some paradigmatic cases of discrimination suffered by the young children of the migrants, citizens de facto but not by law.

Participation in the Cox Commission

On July 20, 2017, was presented the final report of the *Jo Cox Commission on intolerance, xenophobia, racism and hate phenomena*, set up in the Chamber in May 2016. The work of the Commission, chaired by the President of the Chamber Laura Boldrini, involved one deputy for each parliamentary group, representatives of the Council of Europe,

the United Nations, Istat, anti-racist and human rights associations and among these, Lunaria.

RE-YOU-REU

It is a project supported by the Erasmus + program that aims to develop a structured dialogue between young people and local institutions in Rome, Barcelona and Thessaloniki in order to prevent and better fight racism at local, national and European level. In view of the European elections of 2019, the project, which started in September, includes the organization of 2 meetings and the promotion of a campaign aimed at raising awareness on human rights and fighting racism.





“Race” does not exist

For 26 years, with our daily commitment, we have been opposing discrimination, racism and xenophobia, making proposals for alternative, equal and sustainable public policies. With our work of **denunciation**, **deepening** and **research**, we monitor many forms that racism assumes in the various areas of social, institutional and political life of our country.

We believe in direct active participation, in collective work and in network coordination. For this reason, we promote **sit-ins**, **demonstrations**, **petitions**, **press campaigns**, **mail bombing**, **cultural initiatives** and **training**: we are always active in the common fight against racism and discrimination, paying particular attention to those made by the institutions. We produce and disseminate **research reports**, **articles**, **publications** with the aim of supporting specific information and analysis, thanks to the network of organizations, associations, movements, researchers, social workers, migrants and journalists with whom we are in contact.

Cronachediordinariorazzismo.org

Cronachediordinariorazzismo.org has been our site of information, analysis and communication specifically dedicated to the phenomenon of racism, with which we provide daily updates on the most relevant facts concerning migrations and asylum, discrimination and racist violence. In 2017, the site had a monthly average of 20,000 different visitors. The weekly newsletter reached an average of 5,606 readers. The Twitter profile has 3,300 Followers and the Facebook page is followed by 8089 people. In 2017, thanks to a new graphic layout, we were able to give greater visibility to the most serious racist violence and civil society protest initiatives.

The fourth white paper on racism

In October, we published *Chronicles of ordinary racism. Fourth white paper on racism in Italy*. 1453 cases of discrimination and racist violence documented in our online database between the 1st of January 2015 and

the 31st of May 2017 are the basis of the contributions analyzing migration policies, the media representation of migrations, the stigmatizing public rhetoric and the forms of discrimination and daily racism that take place on an institutional, media, political and social level.

Racist speeches and crimes, discriminatory behaviors

A useful working tool, available online, for all those involved in the legal protection of victims who suffer discrimination and racist violence. The dossier collects a selected review of judicial pronouncements related to discourses, racist violence and discrimination, offering a framework of the most recent jurisprudence guidelines.





Sbilanciamoci!

Every year, we propose and organise information and awareness-raising activities, institutional lobby and advocacy, political and cultural animation so that politics and the economy may be more and more based on principles of solidarity, equality, sustainability and peace.

The *Sbilanciamoci!* campaign, coordinated by Lunaria, deems necessary to radically change the perspective of public policies and budget management, resetting social and economic priorities around solidarity, people's rights and environmental safeguard, away from neo-liberal market economy founded on privileges, waste and inequality. In its 18 years of activity, the campaign has elaborated a wide range of research tools, critical analysis and proposals and it has carried out tens of public initiatives all around of Italy.

How to use public spending on rights, peace and the environment

2017 is the year of the nineteenth *Report of Sbilanciamoci! How to use public spending on rights, peace and the environment*. A counter-proposal of € 44.2 billion, articulated in 111 proposals that responds to the policy of a government unable of imagining the future, accompanied by a precise analysis of the State Annual Budget Law. Furthermore, there is an online platform dedicated to the Report (controfinanziaria.sbilanciamoci.org) that hosts data, graphics and interactive infographics. Another economy is possible, and easy ... all you have to do is want it!

Open Budget Survey

Since 2010, we have been responsible for monitoring and analyzing Italy's *Open Budget Survey*, the most important independent world report on the quantity



and quality of information made available by the governments of 115 countries on public accounts and state budgets. On January 2017 the last edition was published at www.internationalbudget.org.



At school with Sbilanciamoci!

Opening channels and spaces of control and participation, fostering awareness of the importance of fiscal data and the familiarity with their use, triggering **mobilization capacity** with the aim of affecting economic and financial decisions: these are, in a nutshell, the reasons why we decided to **focus on training**. The seminars are aimed at individual citizens, members of associations, movements, parties, trade unions, as well as journalists, media workers, institutional representatives, officials, civil servants and students.



Let's unbalance the public accounts

With the seminar *Let's unbalance the public accounts. Understanding and changing the state budget*, we proposed for the first time a training opportunity aimed to understand the budgetary processes and choices, the maneuvers and the constraints of public finance. Two days of training, held in Rome in November 2017, involved 32 civil society activists offering a general approach for those wishing to enter the "maze" of the state budget.

Let's get Bologna unbalanced

Following the wake of the two editions of *Let's get the cities unbalance. Understanding and changing local budgets*, which took place in 2016, in 2017, together with friends of the Openpolis association, we presented a seminar in Bologna on how to read the local budgets. Two days of work, thirty participants, seven speakers, three sessions, a workshop and a final round table with the Councilor for the Budget of the City of Bologna Davide Conte.





Let's get the economy unbalanced

Counter-information, reporting and in depth analysis are the cornerstones of the website sbilanciamoci.info with which we want to rebalance the dissemination of information in the economic, social and environmental field, opening the debate to different points of view. Rethinking the agenda of the objectives of economic policy and politics tout court in order to face the challenges posed by climate change and by the imbalances of the global distribution of wealth and income; describing and analyzing practical experiments on new economic and social models; deal with dozens of realities and people in the academic, associative and political world who are interested in changing our development model. In 2017, we did it by producing information and analysis and by participating in research activities.

Sbilanciamoci.info

From the activity of *Sbilanciamoci!*, in 2008 was born the website www.sbilanciamoci.info: a communication tool on economic alternatives promoted by a group of economists, researchers, journalists, students, social workers, trade unionists and linked to the network of associations, organizations and movements which are linked to the campaign. From 2008 to 2017, more than 3,000 articles were published, drawn up by around 500 contributors. In 2017, the newsletter was sent to an average of 15,000 subscribers, the Twitter profile reached the number of 5,300 followers and the Facebook page exceeded 4,800 contacts.

Our united, social and democratic Europe

On the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Treaties of Rome and within the framework of national mobilization *Our united, social and democratic Europe*,



we organized in Rome in March the event *Austerity, inequality, populism. What future for Europe?*. During the meeting we presented the annual report of *Euromemorandum* and the articles published on the site dedicated to the political crisis of the European Union.



Enter Lunaria's world!

- Take part in our international **volunteering camps!**

- Participate in our **training courses** and **youth exchanges!**

- Build up with us a **learning process on your territory:** seminars, rounds of meetings, conferences, ad hoc courses on economics, public policies, migrations and anti-racism, volunteering, non-formal education, the third sector and social cooperation.

- Get active and **support the campaigns** we promote and those we support: we are open to proposals for new initiatives!

- **Read and make it read**, downloading and disseminating our research, studies and dossiers!

- Make the most of the 30% discount on publications, **handbooks and research reports** issued in collaboration with external publishing houses.

- Help us to let your friends **know about Lunaria**, ask us for publicity materials!

- **Denounce the cases of discrimination** and racism you have been a victim of or that you witnessed to!

- Come to our initiatives and **share them with your contacts**, help us give them visibility!

Enroll yourself!

As a member of Lunaria you can:

- receive Lunarianews, our newsletter
- receive on request the publications made by the association
- participate in projects and training activities
- participate in the initiatives and campaigns promoted by the association
- participate in annual assemblies

Becoming a member is easy and fast:

Request the Lunaria card by paying the 30 euro subscription fee with your current bank account or your bank account, specifying "Lunar Adhesion + your name and surname".

- with Paypal
- through the postal service, on the postal current account no. **33066002**
- by bank transfer, to the current account **IBAN IT 49 E 0501 8032 000 000 100 17382**, Banca Popolare Etica, Via Parigi 17, 00187 Rome

WE ARE WAITING FOR YOU!

Lunaria

Social Promotion Association

Via Buonarroti 39, 00185 Roma

Phone number: **+39 06 8841880**

Website: **www.lunaria.org**

Email: **comunicazione@lunaria.org**

Website: **www.cronachediordinariorazzismo.org** – Email: **info@cronachediordinariorazzismo.org**

Website: **www.sbilanciamoci.org** – Email: **info@sbilanciamoci.org**

Website: **www.sbilanciamoci.info** – Email: **redazione@sbilanciamoci.info**