

Migrimage presents: Massive Open Online Courses.

Capsule number 5: **INDUSTRY: IRREGULARITY PROVIDES CHEAP LABOUR**

AGRICULTURE, TRANSPORT, CONSTRUCTION, LOGISTICS AND CARE SERVICES

Podcast created by Luca Brindisino for the University of Salento

Talking about irregular hiring, some episodes were particularly significant for the purpose of issuing specific regulations, bringing the living and working conditions of exploited foreign workers back to the attention of public opinion.

Among these, the revolt of Rosarno (near Reggio Calabria) and the strike of Nardò (near Lecce).

Each year in Rosarno between 1500 and 3000 migrants are employed in the harvest of citrus fruits and olives. They work up to ten hours every day for a few euros and have no accommodation or essential services. They live mainly in tent cities and abandoned factories and often suffer abuse and violence. On January 7, 2010, someone injured two African workers and this unleashed the anger of their fellows, who give rise to a long revolt.

As has been denounced for years, equally dramatic are the living and working conditions of the watermelon pickers in Nardò (Salento) and the tomato pickers in the province of Foggia (Puglia).

In August 2011 in Nardò, a foreign laborer suffering from pneumonia was found dead on a makeshift bed after a long and hot day of work. The tent city where he lived had no water or adequate shelter. Following his death, a few hundred North African workers employed in the harvest of watermelons put in place a long strike, led by a student of the Polytechnic of Turin originates from Cameroon, Yvan Sagnet. The protest was intended to denounce the serious living and working conditions of the harvesters and the dark dynamics of the production and harvesting of watermelons.

Yvan Sagnet then gave life to the NO CAP association, with the aim of tackle illegal hiring in agriculture and to promote the respect for human, social and environmental rights.

Following the issuance of specific ministerial funding lines, in recent years the realities of the third sector that deal with the fight against illegal hiring, illegal work and enslavement in agriculture have been growing strongly.

Although these episodes have come up with the need for legislative interventions, nowadays the working and living conditions of too many migrants have not changed.

MUSICAL CREDITS

- SENSHO – GOOD TIMES; Music from Uppbeat: <https://uppbeat.io/t/sensho/good-times>;

License code: VVIVIXGQJOA0RKYL

- ZAYNER – FALLING; Music from Uppbeat: <https://uppbeat.io/t/zayner/falling>;

License code: Q4NX0BLBFEM5DIOH