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Capsule number 7: **NEW COMMONS & COMMUNITIES OF SOLIDARITY**

CIVIL SOCIETY INITIATIVES: THE *CALCIO SENZA CONFINI* AND *NO RACISM CUP* EXPERIENCES

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The story of *Calcio Senza Confini*, *No Racism Cup* and Spartak Lecce tells of over a decade of active resistance against the security and xenophobic policies generated by the “Fortress Europe” in relation to the migratory flows involving the Salento area. A story built from below that tells of a social melting pot linked to the values of popular sport, anti-fascism, self-management and the fight against discrimination.

Calcio Senza Confini and *No Racism Cup* are spaces where experiences and ideas can be shared and spread, where interpersonal relationships can be weaved, where political practices can be developed, raising awareness, mobilizing and involving as many individuals as possible.

A typical day in the *No Racism Cup* campsite goes like this: in the morning it is often free from events so everyone can go to the beach or visit the beauties of the area. In the afternoon, around 5 pm, football matches begin. Dozens and dozens of teams embrace the cause of a non-competitive tournament open to all, with a heterogeneous human composition, in which winning is not as important as promoting values through sport, using football as a true political tool.

Then the space opens up to debates in a horizontal confrontation and with a rich cultural and political program: assemblies on popular sport, book presentations, projects, documentaries, reports on local and international struggles.

Afterwards, the dinner begins with low cost and zero miles food guaranteed by the organizers themselves. Finally, that's party time with live concerts and DJ-sets of various musical genres.

Anti-racism has always been the central theme of the whole project. Although the Salento area has always been a crossroads of flows and migrations, it cannot be said that it has remained immune to the diffusion of xenophobic and discriminatory rhetoric that today makes a strong comeback in the institutional political landscape.

Rejecting this kind of storytelling, aimed exclusively at fueling "battles of the have-nots" and instrumental divisions between the most fragile social groups, *No Racism Cup* has promoted a collective reflection on the working conditions of migrants, through a dialogue with the workers of the countryside of Nardò and debating on detention and repatriation centers.

Year after year, *No Racism Cup* has continued to bet on contamination, creating mixed and resistant spaces and always accelerating towards direct participation capable of triggering mechanisms of authentic social inclusion.

MUSICAL CREDITS

- SENSHO – GOOD TIMES; Music from Uppbeat (free for Creators!): <https://uppbeat.io/t/sensho/good-times>; License code: VVIVIXGQJOA0RKYL
- SONDA – WE'RE IN IT TOGETHER; Music from Uppbeat (free for Creators!): <https://uppbeat.io/t/sonda/were-in-it-together>; License code: Q74AQDG9Z628QRAG