



**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL
COOPERATION**

Inter-ministerial Committee for Human Rights

*Italy's contribution in relation to the request of the Office of the
High Commissioner for the Human Rights of the United Nations
pursuant to UNGA Resolution A/RES/69/167 entitled
"Protection of migrants"*

June 2015

**ITALY'S CONTRIBUTION IN RELATION TO THE REQUEST OF THE OFFICE OF THE HIGH
COMMISSIONER FOR THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE UNITED NATIONS PURSUANT TO UNGA
RESOLUTION A/RES/69/167 ENTITLED "PROTECTION OF MIGRANTS"**

Following the request about the implementation of UNGA Resolution A/RES/69/167, Italian Authorities are in a position to provide the following information.

Ratification of international legal instruments

Within the 2nd UPR cycle of Italy, concluded last March 2015, our Country did not accept Recommendations No. 145.1-145.6 concerning the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. In effect the Italian legal framework already guarantees the rights of regular and irregular migrants. Following the ratification of ILO Conventions C 143 (concerning migrations in Abusive Conditions and the Promotion of Equality of Opportunity and Treatment of Migrant Workers) and C189 (concerning domestic workers) Italy has accepted to be periodically reviewed on the implementation of both Conventions at the domestic level. With regard to the latter a first report has already been submitted illustrating the protection of domestic workers on the national territory. Additionally, Italy is committed to promoting a debate at the European level on this topic, aimed at countering trafficking in human beings, as requested both in the UN and Council of Europe systems with reference to the present legislative and operational framework.

Addressing international migration through international, regional or bilateral cooperation and dialogue

Italy is taking full part in the European efforts together with other European Union Member States and Schengen Associated countries, and will continue to do her share to prevent further loss of lives in the Mediterranean by the translation of EU Directives aimed at adopting common procedures for international protection and ad hoc measures on the reception and assistance of vulnerable categories of migrants. In the acknowledgment of the complex nature of the migratory phenomenon, the EU –under the impulse of the Italian Presidency in the second semester of 2014 –took steps to ensure better coordination between the internal and external dimension of the EU action so as to make migratory policies an integral component of the external action of the European Union. Against this backdrop, the Italian Presidency supported dialogues with third countries of origin and transit of migratory flows in the belief that regional processes with Africa falling within the framework of the EU Global Approach to Migration and Mobility (GAMM) are essential. Indeed, one of the Presidency's major accomplishments has been the organization of the fourth Euro-African

Ministerial Conference on Migration and Development within the “Rabat Process”(which includes countries from Western and Northern Africa) that was hosted in Rome on November 27. At the core of the discussions were the fight against illegal migration and the link between migration and development. On November 28 Italy launched, through a Ministerial Conference, the “EU-Horn of Africa Migration Route Initiative”, informally called the “Khartoum Process”, which is aimed at creating a new partnership between the EU and the Horn of Africa and Mediterranean transit countries, namely Egypt, Libya and Tunisia. On that occasion, a Political Declaration was adopted, which is focused on a very urgent topic such as the trafficking of human beings and the smuggling of migrants. The follow-up of the Conference will focus on concrete projects to be financed by EU and bilateral funds. At a later stage, the “Khartoum Process” will potentially expand to other areas, so as to tackle all aspects of migration policies, including the root causes of migration and regional development. Moreover, the Italian Presidency of the European Council together with the European Union Fundamental Rights Agency organised the Conference “Fundamental Rights and Migration to the EU”(Rome, 10-11 November) which highlighted the opportunity to take into consideration resettlement and new legal ways to access the European labour market, also in view of curbing irregular migration and smuggling and of reinforcing the access, already granted, for migrants and their families to professional training to enter into the labour market.

Search and Rescue activity connected with migration flows through the Mediterranean Sea

The main migration flows by sea directed to the Italy originate from Greece, Turkey, Libya, Tunisia, and Egypt.

The flow that originate from Libya concerns mainly Somalis and Eritreans and other sub Saharan nationalities. Points of departure are more frequently the area of Tripoli, the border with Tunisia, Misurata and in some cases there have been departures from Benghazi . The boats used from Libya are often rubber boats of about 10 meters length with about 100 people on board, or wooden boats 12-25 meters length with 250 up to 800 people on board. The methods that characterize migration flows from Tunisia are heterogeneous, there are cases where small units are used with not more than 20 people on board, but there is also the use of fishing boats with about 100 people on board. From Egypt are used fishing vessels, between 20 and 25 meters length, with a number of people between 50 and 300, the nationality of the migrants are different, mainly are Egyptians or citizens from countries such as Bangladesh, Syria and Pakistan.

During 2014 170,011 migrants reached Italy departing by sea and 119,666 of them were from African countries.

In the first 5 months of 2015 the total number of migrants that reached Italy by sea was 41,400 with an increase of about 5% compared to the same period of 2014.

The Italian maritime SAR organization is entrusted to the Corps of the Coast Guard which refers to the Minister of Infrastructure and Transport as national authority responsible for implementing the Hamburg Convention on search and rescue at sea.

The Italian Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre, operated by the Italian Coast Guard is almost always the first MRCC to be contacted by migrants in distress at sea, also when they are very close to the African coasts and, in absence of a responsible rescue coordination centre in the Libyan area, MRCC Rome assumes the responsibility to coordinate the rescue operations as first MRCC that receive the information, according the international rules, for this reason Italy is called to provide rescue in an area of about 1,130,000 square kilometers that is the sum of the 500.000 Km² national search and rescue region and the 630,00 km² area close the Libyan coasts.

In 2014 982 rescue operations has been coordinated by the Italian Coast Guard, that manages its operational activity through its Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre in Rome.

During the current year military assets of other countries and assets under Frontex Agency are providing an important contribution to the rescue of migrants, acting in cooperation with the Italian Coast Guard.

Considering the continuous increase in the number of migrants that try to reach Europe through the Mediterranean Sea it is paramount that the international community provides all possible support to the search and rescue at sea to reduce as much as possible the casualties connected with the migration by sea.

In the figure below are reported data concerning the search and rescue operations coordinated by the Italian Coast Guard connected with immigration by sea, performed with the cooperation of Italian military assets and merchant vessels transiting the area during 2014.

Fight against trafficking and smuggling

The Italian anti-trafficking model was built on the principle that an effective anti-trafficking strategy should be based on a victim's rights-centred approach. The main legal provisions regulating the national response to trafficking in persons were drafted in accordance with this principle and are:

1. Article 18 of the National Law on Migration (Legislative Decree No. 286 of 1998);
2. Article 13 of the National Law against Trafficking in Human Beings (Law No. 228 of 2003);

A complex structure for the assistance to trafficked persons was then developed on the basis of the abovementioned laws and is now in place at the national level, working through two main tools:

- **The single programme of emergence, assistance and social integration** (implemented in compliance with art. 18 of Legislative Decree No 286/1998);
- **The National Anti-Trafficking Toll-Free Helpline** (a "system action" laid down in art. 2 of Ministerial Decree of 23 November 1999 regulating the implementation of art. 18 of Legislative Decree No. 286/1998).

The Department for Equal Opportunities of the Italian Presidency of the Council of Ministers is the national authority in charge of coordinating and promoting action for the protection of trafficked persons. The

appointment of the Department as the institution responsible for trafficking indicates the national approach on the issue adopted by the Italian Government, which considers the protection of human rights and a gender-based approach as the key priorities of the national system of intervention.

The main objective of the assistance action provided for by the Italian Government is to allow the trafficked or exploited persons to escape from the conditioning of criminal organizations or individual exploiters they are subjected to and give them the opportunity to start a new life in Italy or in their country of origin. To this end, victims of trafficking or exploitation can benefit from the assisted voluntary return to their home country or a **special residence permit for social protection**, envisaged by article 18 of the National Law on Migration (Legislative Decree No. 286 of 1998). The granting of this residence permit is independent from reporting the traffickers/exploiters to law enforcement agencies by the victim. The only necessary conditions to obtain the permit are to meet the requirements provided for by the law and participate in the “article 18” assistance programme.

Every year, the Department for Equal Opportunities launches a call for proposals aimed at providing funds for the assistance programmes. Both local authorities and certified NGOs can apply for funding. All programmes need to be co-funded by Regions or local authorities, with a view to ensuring the local government’s leadership of actions to be implemented in a specific region.

Data and results

Data and statistics can be provided by the DEO with regard to the victims or presumed victims of trafficking who are beneficiaries of the projects of assistance and social protection promoted and co-funded by the DEO. These persons, both adults and children, can be subjected to both forced labour and forced prostitution, or to other forms of exploitation (forced begging, illegal activities, etc.).

As already indicated during the previous meetings of the Informal Network of NREMs, the structure for the assistance of trafficked people has been based on the so-called “Art. 13” and “Art. 18” projects (respectively for temporary and long-term assistance of victims) until the entry into force of Legislative Decree No 24/2014 this year (see below).

From 2000 to 2013, **665 projects** were co-funded within the framework of art. 18 of Legislative Decree No. 286/1998 (“Art. 18 projects”) and, from 2006 to 2013, **166 projects** were co-funded under art. 13 of Law No. 228/2003 (“Art. 13 projects”).

The national database on trafficking in human beings collecting data on victims who have been assisted through the implementation of projects is fully in place and enables the Italian Department for Equal Opportunities to monitor the number of assisted victims at the national level, as well as the protection services provided to victims and the new human trafficking flows. The analysis of data presented during the last meeting and concerning the nationalities of trafficked women and men, the related percentages, and the types of exploitation are confirmed also for 2013-2014.

On 28 March 2014, **Legislative Decree No. 24 of 4 March 2014** establishing the “Implementation of Directive 2011/36/EU on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims,

and replacing Council Framework Decision 2002/629/JHA” entered into force. It had been published in the Official Journal No. 60 of 13 March 2014.

In line with the holistic approach adopted by the European Union including the aspects of prevention, protection and punishment, the Italian legislator amended articles 600 (Placing or holding a person in conditions of slavery or servitude) and 601 (Trafficking in persons) of the Italian Penal Code with the aim of **strengthening the punishment of perpetrators** by ensuring that all forms of trafficking in human beings are punished under the Criminal Code, and with a view to providing a comprehensive definition of such crimes in compliance with the European directive. As far as minors are concerned, the conduct is punished as trafficking in persons even if the crime is not committed by fraud, deceit, threat or by promising or giving money.

As for the **protection of victims of human trafficking**, in accordance with the European directive, the Legislative Decree also amended the Italian Code of Criminal Procedure in order to extend the existing protection already envisaged for child victims or mentally ill adult victims concerned with the hearing of evidence to all adult victims in particularly vulnerable conditions. More specifically, art. 1 of the Decree specifies the subjects that can be considered as vulnerable persons, namely minors, unaccompanied minors, elderly persons, disabled persons, women, especially if pregnant, single parents with underage children, persons with mental disorders, as well as persons who suffered rape or other serious forms of physical, psychological, sexual or gender-based violence. With the aim of further strengthening the protection of victims, the Legislative Decree provides for the obligation to **adequately inform them**, especially unaccompanied minors who are victims of human trafficking, of their rights and establishes that a further decree will be adopted to define specific mechanisms for the **determination of their age and their identification**. In addition, Legislative Decree No. 24/2014 lays down that the training pathways provided by the competent Administrations shall include, for the concerned public officials, **specific training modules on issues concerning trafficking in human beings**.

One of the main innovations introduced by the Decree in compliance with Directive 2011/36/EU is the **recognition of the victims’ right to compensation**. Such a compensation, which amounts to 1,500 Euros for each victim, shall be paid in accordance with the terms established by the Decree under the Annual Fund for Anti-Trafficking Measures. The fund already exists and, according to the relevant law, it should be fed with the proceeds derived from the confiscation of assets following a judgment of conviction.

The **Department for Equal Opportunities of the Italian Presidency of the Council of Ministers** is the authority responsible for guidance, coordination and monitoring of interventions related to trafficking in human beings. Besides these tasks, the Legislative Decree officially recognizes the role of the Department as the **equivalent mechanism** and national contact point for the EU Anti-Trafficking Coordinator. It also aims at making **the prevention and fight against this phenomenon**, as well as the assistance and social integration of victims, more effective and coordinated. To this end and with a view to avoiding duplication of effort and thus improving the protection of victims, it provides for the **unification of short-term and long-**

term assistance programmes (the so-called “art.13” and “art. 18” projects), which have been in place until the entry into force of the Legislative Decree, into one single programme of emergence, assistance and social integration guaranteeing victims adequate board, lodging and health care on a transitional basis and, subsequently, the continuation of assistance and social integration.

A further novelty introduced by Legislative Decree No. 24/2014 is the obligation to adopt, within three months from the date of its entry into force, the first **National Action Plan against Trafficking in and Serious Exploitation of Human Beings**, with a view to identifying multiannual intervention strategies for the prevention and fight against these phenomena, as well as measures aimed at increasing public awareness, social prevention, emergence and social integration of victims. The National Action Plan is currently being finalized and will be adopted by the end of 2015.

Legislative Decree No. 24/2014 finally introduces further innovative measures, the so-called **rules of reference**, according to which the Administrations dealing with the protection and assistance of the victims of trafficking and those competent for asylum shall identify coordinating measures among the institutional activities for which they are respectively competent, also for the purpose of establishing mechanisms of reference between the two systems of protection.

Assistance and integration of migrants in Italy

In Italy **legal migrants at work** are fully protected and benefit – by working contract - from equal rights as Italian workers. According to our legislation, the national collective contract of employment signed with organizations representing workers and associations of employers, aims at jointly pre-regulate the minimum economic and regulatory issues applicable to all workers.

Within the Italian legislation recent measures have been adopted to grant the access to the labour market (in public administrations) for foreigners (holders of a residence permit, refugees and subsidiary protection holders, family members of European citizens as holders of the right of residence, even on a permanent basis) and for the allocation of social cards for families with at least three children (eligibility comprises Italian and EU citizens, and long-term resident third-country nationals).

Special attention has been devoted by our Country to manage criticalities concerning the **regularization of labour contracts**. In 2012 the EU Directive on sanctions for employers who employ non EU illegal nationals has been enacted into the Italian legislation, contributing to the disclosure of moonlighting. 134.576 declarations were produced on October 2012 (86.17% relating to domestic work). 82.681 applicants (61%) were granted residence contracts and work permits on 21 February 2014 (77.934 for domestic work). Special permits are issued if the declaration of disclosure is rejected for reasons solely attributable to the employer, or in the case of the termination of an employment relationship which is the object of a declaration of disclosure not yet defined.

Websites play an important role in order to facilitate, on the basis of non-discrimination, the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights of people through the dissemination of information about services available, legislation in force, projects and best practices in those areas.

Migrants' Integration Portal (www.integrazionemigranti.gov.it) is a website established with the purpose of fostering foreign nationals' integration in the Italian society, with a particular reference to five areas: Language, Work, Housing, Minors and second generations, Health. Intercultural mediation is added as a cross-section service. In each single area, the Portal allows users to find useful information on the services provided to foreign nationals in each single territory.

The Portal has been on-line since 17th January 2012, and was developed through a project co-financed by the European Fund for the Integration of Third Country Nationals, under the coordination of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, and with the involvement of the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Education, University and Research. The network of subjects involved in the implementation of the Portal was subsequently extended, both through the collaboration of other institutional subjects, including the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Cultural Heritage, the Regions and Municipalities mostly involved in integration-related and immigration policies, and through the involvement of international organisations (UNHCR) as well as third-sector operators promoting and implementing integration policies, including social institutions (patronati), with over 4,200 immigration desks, whose services are mapped in the Portal.

Since the beginning of 2014, four new thematic areas have been developed, each one implemented in relation to a specific subject or target.

a) Migrants Associations Area

Migrants Associations is a new area of the Portal especially devoted to the associations of migrant citizens present in Italy. The aim of the area is to deepen the knowledge of the associations of migrants, enhance their activities and build a community owing to a communication and exchange channel among associations and between the latter and the Migrants Integration Portal. The Migrants Associations area was created on the occasion of the 16 meetings held in Italy from February to May 2014 among the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies, the migrants' communities and the migrants' associations. The 16 events were realized in the framework of the initiative IN.CO.NT.RO (INCONTRI COMUNITA' MIGRANTI INTEGRAZIONE LAVORO) [Meetings with Migrant Communities for Job Integration].

b) Cultural area

The Cultural Area of the Migrants Integration Portal was created owing to a collaboration between the Ministry of Cultural Heritage, Cultural Activities and Tourism and the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies – General Directorate for Immigration and integration policies.

The area is composed of five sections: Literature, Cinema, Theatre, Music, Visual Art and Cultural Heritage. Within the sections, it is possible to find a map concerning the consolidated and active experiences in Italy in the respective fields (from publishing houses to cinema festivals, to multi-ethnic orchestras to databases). Moreover, the area provides sections devoted to national and international legal frameworks (rules on culture

and cultural diversity), as well as sectorial reviews and bodies involved in the Recollection of Italian Emigration.

The Cultural Area of the Migrants Integration Portal is the very first virtual place created which talks about cultural and artistic productions of foreign citizens with migrant backgrounds. The aim of this new area is to explain how our society is changing also through artistic productions, owing to new protagonists and topics that highlight how Italy is becoming an increasingly richer and more interesting Country.

c) International Protection

International Protection is a new section of the Portal realized in collaboration with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) covering the issue of international protection. The aim of this section is to promote services and projects throughout the whole national territory for applicants and person granted international, subsidiary or humanitarian protection. The international protection section of the portal is meant as an informative and guiding tool for those operating in the sector as well as for asylum seekers or person entitled of protection.

d) Second generation

Second Generations is an Area of the Integration Portal especially focused on young people coming from a migratory context. The area was created owing to the project “Filo diretto con le Seconde Generazioni” (Direct Line with Second Generations), promoted by the Migrants Integration Portal, with the aim to deepen the knowledge of the second generations’ associations and to collect their requests. At the same time, the initiative aims at creating a space for debates and work, which can be shared among the subjects active on the national territory. The subjects participating in the initiative have been invited to work together in order to create a common document collecting the needs and proposals of the second generations as regards the institutions’ activities. This **Manifesto** was elaborated not only through direct meetings, but also through a **network collaboration**, in particular owing to the area on the Migrants Integration Portal devoted to the initiative. The Manifesto is divided into four sections devoted to **work, school, culture and sport, active participation and citizenship**. It contains proposals and practical solutions for each section, adaptable to the various territorial realities and the addressees’ specific needs. The co-creation work was eased by the implementation of a Community devoted to second generations and in particular to the representatives of the associations participating in the initiative: a space for dialogue **open to all the associations** interested in supporting this national network and the Manifesto in the future as well.

Besides services, the Portal includes information and documentary sections. In particular, the Immigration Handbook (updated at January 2014), drafted by the General Directorate of Immigration and Integration Policies of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, is available online. The handbook is an information tool for people who are willing to enter Italy and need to understand which procedures shall be followed, and for those who already stay in the Country. It is an updated, short, practical and exhaustive tool that can be downloaded in 10 different languages.

The **law section** of the Portal includes thematic reports that, through short legal texts, deal with the different aspects relating to the integration of foreign nationals in Italy. These short reports are equipped with FAQ areas containing the answers to the most frequent questions asked on this topic, translated into ten different languages.

Furthermore, focus on important topics such as citizenship, intercultural mediation, recognition of educational and professional qualifications, has published over the last years. The focus was translated in English.

The Portal publishes a **monthly newsletter** providing updates on the main legislative and case law news, besides information on events, projects launched locally, nationally and internationally, publications and news on migration and asylum. Since January 2013 the newsletter has become Multilanguage (a short version is translated into 10 languages). An English version of the Portal has been on-line since May 2013.

Furthermore the Portal publishes the “Reports on the evolutions of the main foreign communities present in Italy” The first ten reports published in 2012 concerned the communities coming from the Philippines, Morocco, Tunisia, Albania, Moldova, Ukraine, Egypt, Sri-Lanka, Peru and Ecuador. The 2013 edition was enhanced with additional reports concerning the communities coming from China, India, Senegal and Serbia. In 2014, the number of communities investigated through the research extended to 16, with the addition of Pakistan and Bangladesh. The report analyses the demographic evolution of the presences, the characteristics of the active population and employment - stated on the basis of geographical areas of residence, sectors and profession - on access to national insurance, welfare, and income support measures. The 2014 edition added reports and specific focuses dedicated to: the presence of women, minors and second generations, access to health services, the presence of foreign citizens’ associations in Italy. The report was translated in English.

The Annual Report “Migrants in the Italian Labour Market” – edited by the Directorate General for Immigration and Integration Policies of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy - is also available in the Portal. A summary of the 4th Annual Report, presented in July 2014, is available in 10 languages (Albanian, Arabic, Chinese, French, English, Punjabi, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog and Ukrainian).

The Portal is going to have a new homepage and in the next months new thematic areas could be developed.

According to the relevant contents of the Italian Basic Law, the State implements social and welfare policies and promotes social justice. In this context the following rights must be guaranteed: **the right to health and to the highest standards of physical and mental health**, also by ensuring free medical care to all (Art. 32), a minimum standard of living to those who are in need (Art. 38), the protection of the family, in particular mothers and children (Arts. 29-31).

Healthcare assistance to non EU citizens not legitimately present in Italy is guaranteed through hospital emergency services and according to regional MoUs, also involving NGOs with specific experience. The law forbids healthcare and administrative personnel to alert police officials of illegal migrants who make use of

health structures. As far as “Mare Nostrum” operation, under the coordination of the Ministries of the Interior and Defense, the Ministry of Health and the National Health System were involved: health professionals voluntarily helped and saved hundreds of life during emergencies in 2013 and 2014. Moreover let me recall that the Interregional Migrants Board, established in 2008 at the Ministry of Health, has drawn up the “Instructions for a correct application of the regulations for healthcare to the foreign population by Regions and Autonomous Provinces”.

Since 1997 the National Institute for Health (ISS) has coordinated the Italian National Focal Point on Infectious Diseases and Migrants: it is a network made up of over 70 experts from public and non-governmental organizations working in all the Italian Regions.

In 2011 the Ministry of Health adopted a syndromic alert system for the first assistance of migrants, which was updated in 2012 with the publication of a document titled “Recommendations for the management of healthcare criticalities due to migrant flows to small islands”, sent to all Regional Health Offices and supporting the following projects: with WHO until 2015 - “Public Health Aspects of Migration in Europe”; with the Regional Office of IOM Europe - “EQUI-Health Project”, to protect health conditions of vulnerable migrants (asylum seekers, Roma, ethnic minorities).

Being part of the European project PROMOVAX (Promote Vaccinations among Migrant Populations in Europe), the ISS-CNESPS, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, created in 2013 an ad hoc “Instrument for Health Professionals” addressed to general practitioners and freelance pediatricians in support migrants in their access to vaccination services, providing them information on health professionals working in this field.

Furthermore, in 2014 specific training actions have been programmed and funded for healthcare personnel, particularly in Sicily, also to overcome intercultural barriers which greatly limit the effectiveness and efficiency of healthcare services for migrant population.

Services have also been provided by the National Institute for Migration and Poverty (an institution within the National Health Service) with financial resources amounting to € 10 million in 2013. From 1st September 2007 to 3rd March 2014 the Institute assisted 46,752 alien patients (70.6 % of patients assisted), of which 5,453 claiming international protection received first aid. The INMP grants healthcare services to migrants according to a multi-specialist outpatient clinic approach, ensuring direct access thanks to a broad staff of cross-cultural intermediaries. Since 2011 the Institute has supplied free medical devices in various treatment settings through social medical projects. The three-year development plan, approved by the Conference State-Regions, envisages the establishment of an epidemiological monitoring centre and the establishment of a national public health network with the active participation of Regions.

In accordance with EU Directives 2000/43/EC and 2000/78/EC and their respective transposition decrees (namely Decree No. 215/2003 and Decree No. 216/2003 focussing on the principle of equality and the protection against all forms of discrimination), **UNAR** is the **National Equality Body** entrusted with the

promotion of equality and the removal of discrimination (Art.7 of Legislative Decree No. 215/2003). To this end, UNAR has taken concrete steps to ensure that the protection against discrimination be effective and properly enforced and, above relevant actions the following ones deal with the phenomenon of migration to Italy:

- Media contest, entitled “From refugees to citizens. Chronicles of everyday living together/living side by side”. On the occasion of the World Refugee Day 2014, UNAR launched jointly with SPRAR and the online newspaper Repubblica.it a contest for young journalists working at a local level. By this contest, the aim is to reward those articles reporting stories of positive integration of refugees – so as to eradicate stereotypes and prejudices which are too often associated with relevant journalists’ articles. The contest intends to promote a positive information on refugees and fight every form of racism and discrimination through an aware press.
- Annual immigration report. For the second year UNAR has funded and contributed to “Dossier Statistico Immigrazione”, sub-titled “From discrimination to rights”. Thanks to the long-standing experience on immigration of the research and studies centre Idos, the report provides an update of the statistical framework on migration, foreigner residents in Italy, immigrants’ inclusion in the labour market and in the society, multi-religious overview, and equal opportunity principle application/implementation. According to IDOS data, over five millions migrants, out of 60 million population, regularly reside in Italy. In 2013 only, the residence permits exceeding 90 days were about 170,000. The majority of foreigners (over 51%) are from: Romania, Ukraine, China, Albania and Morocco. According to ISTAT, 2,400.000 foreigners work in Italy. However the unemployment rate among foreigners amounts to 17,3%.
- A videogame, entitled “In my shoes” was prepared and supported by UNAR on how to be in migrant’s shoes living in Italy. There are 4 stories based on four fictional characters but using real statistical data: Benjamin, a Nigerian boy whose residence permit has expired; Fatima, a Muslim mother of two school-aged children; Irina, a Romanian girl with a dream to hopefully come true in Italy; and Zhang, a young second-generation Chinese boy. The videogame invite player to be in the characters’ shoes by trying to face ten everyday life situations ranging from house-hunting to job-searching. In order to win the game you have to keep an eye on two parameters: budget and happiness, both representing physical and psychological well-being.
- UNAR has funded a project run by ARCI an NGO that manages reception centres for asylum seekers and refugees. The service has the following objectives: promotion of non discrimination culture; spread of information about UNAR and its Contact Center role; collection and reporting of discrimination complaints to UNAR contact centre; publication of technical advice on discrimination against asylum seekers and refugees; promotion training on how to detect discrimination. Within the project 3 joint training sessions ARCI-UNAR for asylum seekers and refugees reception operators have been implemented in Campania, Apulia and Sicily, respectively.