

ACCESS OF UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN TO CHILD PROTECTION SERVICES IN ITALY



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MIGRANTS ARRIVED IN ITALY BY SEA

Jan-Sept 2015 Source: Mol – Dep.Public Security

Total of migrants arrived	132.000	(138.800 in 2014)
Total of children arrived	10% 13.700	(22.000 in 2014)
Unaccompanied children 10.000 (11.500 in 2014)		

Age	15-17
Countries of origin	Eritrea (2.900) Egypt (1.350) Somalia (1.000)



ERITREAN UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN

Sept 2015	2.900
2014	3.400
2013	685
2012	150
2011	30

- They escape from the forced military service
- Detention in Libya (sexual violence and exploitation)
- Main destination: **Northern European Countries**
- They try to avoid identification (fingerprint) procedures -> **use of force**
- They leave coastal areas within a few hours after disembarkation
- They **transit through Rome (occupied houses) and Milan** -> smugglers



EGYPTIAN UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN

Sept 2015	1.350
2014	2.007
2013	1.144
2012	392
2011	560

- Mainly from Delta Region and Assyut
- Push factors: positive stories from their peers (facebook)
- Pushed to leave by their families (debt); low level of education
- They early leave the border to reach Rome and Milan
- High risk of exploitation
- Lack of cooperation for voluntary return



Unaccompanied Children in Italy: more relevant law provisions

ALL the unaccompanied children in Italy
(even if they are NOT asylum seekers):

- can't be expelled
- can stay in Italy when they turn 18 if they obtain a positive evaluation by the Ministry of Welfare
- can't be detained in Centers for adults
- have the right to be hosted in care facilities for children (12 places each) as well as all the other children's rights recognized

Legal Framework

Children without family and Migration Law

Unaccompanied Children in Italy: more relevant protection gaps

- ✓ Lack of a national reception system
- ✓ Uncertainty on fundings for UASC reception
- ✓ Low standards of reception at the arrival and in care facilities for children at the border (in particular, not authorized)
- ✓ A national protocol with procedures for age assessment is still missing
- ✓ Delay on the appointment of the Guardian and Majors of Municipalities appointed as guardians (bad practice).
Law on temporary guardian not applicated
- ✓ Lack of clear and fast procedures for family reunification
in Italy or in EU countries -> children in transit -> risk of trafficking and exploitation

Legal Framework: last developments

10 July 2014: AGREEMENT between the Government and the Italian Regions

includes specific provisions for the reception of unaccompanied children

- **a coordination body** for the reception of unaccompanied children among the Ministry of Interior is established
- **a double-level of reception for unaccompanied children** is introduced: **the first reception and assistance** by shelters selected by the Minister of Interior overall Italy (maximum 4 for each Region with at least 50 places each) and **the second reception**, ensured by the children's homes included in the system for the protection and assistance of asylum seekers and refugees (SPRAR), opened to all the unaccompanied children (not only asylum seekers), with limits of places and resources available

Up today, 15 first reception shelters are opened (750 places) and 1.000 new places for unaccompanied children in the SPRAR system are going to be approved

Unaccompanied children disappeared



**Unaccompanied
children reported
to MLSP
(September 2015)**

15.290

Present

9.700

Egyptian

2.050

Albanian

1.160

Eritrean

1.130

Disappeared

5.590

Eritrean

1.465

Somali

1.300

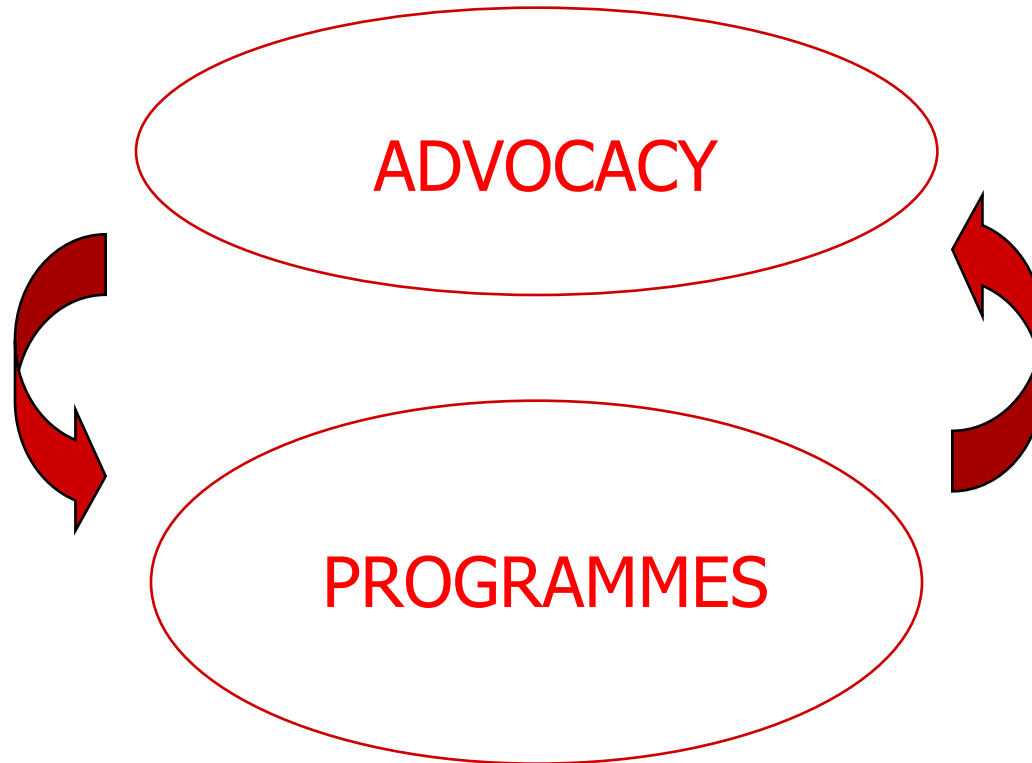
Egyptian

1.180



Save the Children
Italia ONLUS

OUR APPROACH



CHILD PROTECTION PROGRAMME FOR UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN



CHILD PROTECTION AT BORDERS

Sicily, Apulia, Calabria



CIVICOZERO – Drop in Center and outreach

Rome

Milan

(Turin)



A 28 – Night Center

Rome

WHAT WE DO: ACTIVITIES AT THE SOUTHERN BORDER



CIVICOZERO: DAY DROP IN CENTRE IN ROME, MILAN, TURIN



- CHILDREN'S NEEDS: showers, washing machines, clothes, food, internet
- LEGAL INFORMATION AND ADVICE
- EDUCATIONAL AND LEISURE ACTIVITIES: CLIO (learning Italian), art/photography and video laboratories, Newsletter (GRIOT)
- **OUTREACH ACTIVITIES**
(mobile Unit – BAOBAB Centre)

45 unaccompanied children per day in Rome,
mainly Egyptians

200 in 6 months in Milan, mainly Egyptians and Albanians

A28 – NIGHT CENTRE FOR UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN IN TRANSIT IN ROME

22 (+2) places

in the centre of Rome from 10 PM to 8 AM
every day of the year

It provides protection, satisfaction of basic
needs and legal information

to unaccompanied children in transit:

not fingerprinted

nor registered by law enforcement
authorities

mainly Afghans until 2013 (600 per year)

since 2014 mainly Eritreans



AMIF EMERGENCY FUND FOR UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN

Improving the capacity of the Italian territory to receive unaccompanied children

capacity building activities to support the start up of the 15 first reception shelters for unaccompanied children

Coordination:



Partnership:



From March 2015 to February 2016

OUR APPROACH



ADVOCACY: A COMPREHENSIVE LAW FOR THE PROTECTION OF UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN

Atti Parlamentari

— 1 —

Camera dei Deputati

XVII LEGISLATURA — DISEGNI DI LEGGE E RELAZIONI — DOCUMENTI

CAMERA DEI DEPUTATI N. 1658

PROPOSTA DI LEGGE

D'INIZIATIVA DEI DEPUTATI

**ZAMPA, CARFAGNA, ANTIMO CESARO, GOZI, DALL'OSSO
FRATOIANNI, MANTERO, D'AGOSTINO, DELLAI, FORMI-
SANO, GALGANO, IORI, MARAZZITI, OLIARO, SBROLLINI,
SCUVERA, SOTTANELLI, VEZZALI, RAMPI, DE ROSA**

Modifiche al testo unico di cui al decreto legislativo 25 luglio 1998,
n. 286, e altre disposizioni concernenti misure di protezione dei
minori stranieri non accompagnati

Presentata il 4 ottobre 2013

ONOREVOLI COLLEGGHI! — Ogni anno, secondo le statistiche ufficiali, arrivano in Italia circa 7.000 minori stranieri soli, lontani dalla famiglia e senza adulti di riferimento (il numero è certamente sottostimato, dal momento che considera solo i minori identificati, mentre esiste un numero rilevante di minori non identificati). Nell'ambito delle migrazioni, essi rappresentano un gruppo particolarmente vulnerabile. I minori stranieri hanno alle spalle viaggi che talvolta sono durati anni, arrivano in Italia spesso dopo aver vissuto violenze di ogni tipo e con il problema di dover restituire il denaro che si sono fatti prestare per il viaggio. Essi possono essere una facile preda dei circuiti di illegalità,

soprattutto se non si attiva, fin dal momento del loro arrivo, una rete coordinata di protezione e di sostegno.

Negli ultimi anni, il flusso maggiore di minori stranieri non accompagnati proviene principalmente dall'Afghanistan, dal Bangladesh, dall'Egitto, dalla Tunisia, dalla Nigeria, dalla Somalia e dall'Eritrea e, in questi ultimi mesi anche dalla Siria. Si tratta soprattutto di adolescenti tra i 16 e i 18 anni di età, prevalentemente maschi, ma vi sono anche ragazzi più piccoli (anche di 13-14 anni) e ragazze, soprattutto provenienti dalla Nigeria. Secondo gli ultimi dati ufficiali disponibili forniti dal Ministero dell'interno ai partner *Praesidium* (UNHCR, OIM, *Save the Children*,

Drafted by SC IT
in July 2013

Officially presented by the
Parliamentarians of the main
Italian parties
in October 2013

Supported by the main IT
NGOs

Actually under the exam of
the Chamber of Deputies



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Thank you for your attention!

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