

ANNUAL REPORT 2017



ASSOCIAZIONE
21 LUGLIO
ONLUS



**ANNUAL REPORT
2017**

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THE "MAP OF SHAME" DRAWN UP IN 2017

Carlo Stasolla, President Associazione 21 luglio Onlus

With its Annual Report, submitted on the occasion of the Roma and Sinti International Day, Associazione 21 luglio intends to focus on the condition of the Roma and Sinti communities that, due to institutional discrimination policies, are segregated in Italy as well as in the city of Rome in the so-called "Roma camps". Italy is known in Europe as "the Country of the camps" as it is the nation that has been most engaged, during the last twenty years, in planning, creating and managing outdoor areas with the intention of segregating the Roma communities that live in Italy on ethnic basis. The constant monitoring activity, in its second year, by Associazione 21 luglio has ultimately allowed for a collection of data, very close to the reality, on these measures as well as on the policies promoted for their maintenance.

Therefore it is possible to quantify the number of Roma and Sinti living in housing emergency with the figure of 26.000, and specifically, in formal and informal settlements, in micro settlements as well as in Roma-only reception facilities. In the last 12 months, the difficulty of living within these spaces has induced some families, in particular, those of Romanian nationality, to move to other countries or to return to their cities of origin resulting in a slight decrease in the total presence. A tendency to be carefully read and which once again pushes away the ghost of an uncontrolled "invasion" that, particularly during the period of elections, promptly returns in the statements of various politicians and

its amplification by the media.

Despite the slight numerical contraction and the recommendations made by the various international and European bodies, as well as by the various organizations that are involved in promoting and protecting human rights, in Italy there are still 148 formal settlements inhabited by approximately 16.400 people. Less than 10.000 are Roma, all EU citizens, reported to live in informal settlements and in micro settlements. The total number of the settlements differs slightly from the previous years, a sign that the "season of the camps" is still far from its decline. The estimate in this Report is dramatically current; in fact, in spite of the frail attempts made by a few Administrations aimed at "overcoming the camps", it highlights that since 2012 (the year of the presentation of the National Strategy of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti Inclusion) to date not less than 82 million euro have been spent at various levels in order to create and maintain the perverse "camp system".

Thus, we are dealing with an enormous amount of resources that clash with the commitments undertaken in front of the European Union by the Italian Government through the Roma Inclusion Strategy. A Strategy in which there are several critical elements mainly dictated by the scarce existence and the limited impact of effective instruments for its implementation, and above all by a weak political will. The latter was demonstrated when, following

the resignation of the Director of UNAR - the National Contact Point for the implementation of the Italian National Strategy - in February 2017, at the end of the same year his successor had not yet been appointed.

Rome continues to be the city with the largest number of Roma people living in housing emergency, 27% of the total. Seventeen formal settlements and approximately 300 informal settlements: this is the "map of shame" of a city that accuses severe delays in promoting effective inclusive strategies. However, Roma Capitale is not alone where delays are concerned; there are other important metropolises, from Turin to Naples passing through Giugliano - the city of the Campania Region where, for years, there is one of the largest informal settlements inhabited by a Roma community that has been moved without solution from one area to another - and Foggia, where in Borgo Mezzanone 800 Bulgarian Roma have lived in dramatic and precarious housing conditions and working exploitation in 2017.

Anti-gypsyism remains one of the critical issues that continues to characterize our society, despite the "distraction" created by the migratory flow during the past two years, which only partly diverted the media, politicians and the public opinion from the so-called "Roma issue". In 2017, Associazione 21 luglio recorded one hate speech against Roma and Sinti episode every two days, 4% more than last year, with 60 cases reported in the city of Rome alone.

«The only solution is Napalm» wrote a city councillor on 26 May 2017 in referring to a Roma settlement. Heavy words that become boulders when formulated by a representative of the institutions and which

summarize a widespread thought in front of which we run the risk of becoming accustomed. This forces us to reflect on what is still needed to be done so that the common thought, the language of politicians, articles by journalists and the practices of political decision-makers shall urgently undergo an inversion in order to halt the barbarism that is increasingly pervading our society. Where the 148 institutional "Roma camps", scattered throughout Italy, represent the most obvious litmus test.

CHAPTER I



ROMA AND SINTI IN HOUSING EMERGENCY IN ITALY

1 DATA AND FIGURES

Our country does not have reliable data on the ethnic composition of the Roma and Sinti population present on the national territory. The only numbers relating to the total population are extremely approximate estimates, not supported by analysis, studies and research.

Already in December 2016, the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination had expressed its concern about the absence of a system for collecting this type of information¹. In August 2017, the European Commission underlined the persistent lack of data, indicators and effective monitoring mechanisms capable of investigating the extent of the impact on actions to combat discrimination².

The presence in Italy of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti is estimated by the Council of Europe in a very wide range between 120.000 and 180.000 people, which would still be one of the lowest percentages registered in the European continent³. In 2017, an analysis effort was finalized through a report issued by the National Institute of Statistics (ISTAT) and the National Association of Italian Municipalities (ANCI) in collaboration with the National Office against Racial Discrimination (UNAR). The final text compiles two researches presented on February 6th 2017: "Designing a pilot information system for monitoring the social inclusion of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti populations"⁴ and "The Roma, Sinti and Caminanti settlements in Italy"⁵. This work has not always taken into account the socio-economic variables and the range of housing solutions chosen by the Roma, Sinti and Caminanti

in Italy⁶ and it includes information and data on individuals and communities which are "hypervisible" as they are present in formal or informal settlements. According to the mapping conducted in 2017 by Associazione 21 luglio, while the number of people belonging to the Roma, Sinti and Caminanti communities present in Italy is unknown, it is possible to quantify in approximately **26.000 units the Roma and Sinti people** who are living in a condition of housing emergency, and more specifically in formal slums, in informal slums, in micro settlements, in Roma collection centers⁷. Compared to 2016, when the surveyed Roma were about 28.000, there was a 7% decrease due in part to the transfer of some communities from informal settlements to occupied buildings, and partly to the voluntary transfer of some families, mainly of Romanian nationality, to other European countries.

A separate set of considerations, which cannot be detailed in this Report, should be made in relation to:

- the approximately **1.300 people**, mainly Sinti, living in about fifty micro areas located in Central-Northern Italy;
- the approximately **<1.200 Roma of Romanian citizenship** who live in mono-ethnic occupied buildings in the cities of Rome, Naples and Sesto Fiorentino;
- the approximately **760 Roma of Italian nationality** present in social housing located

in mono-ethnic neighborhoods in the cities of Cosenza (approximately 500 people) and Gioia

Tauro (approximately 260 people).

ROMA AND SINTI IN THE FORMAL AND INFORMAL SLUMS IN ITALY. THE FIGURES

- Approximately 26.000 is the estimated number of Roma and Sinti living in formal and informal slums which is equal to 0.04% of the Italian population⁸
- Approximately 16.400 Roma are present in the formal settlements
- 148 is the number of the formal slums in Italy, located in 87 municipalities
- The estimated number of Roma present in informal settlements and micro settlements is approximately 9.600⁹
- Life expectancy is 10 years lower than that of the Italian population
- 55% are under the age of 18
- It is estimated that 43% of the Roma and Sinti present in the institutional slums, are Italian citizens¹⁰
- In informal slums and micro-settlements 86% of the inhabitants are Romanian citizens. The rest are mostly Bulgarian nationals¹¹
- Roma from the former Yugoslavia are approximately 9.600; they are present almost exclusively in formal slums. Of these, it is estimated that 30% - equal to about 3.000 units - may be at risk of statelessness
- The largest informal slums are concentrated in the Campania region
- The city with the highest number of formal slums (17) is Rome
- Rome is the city with the highest number of informal micro-settlements (approximately 300)

The institutional slums, inhabited by people of Roma origin, are those settlements that are designed, built and managed by public authorities. They are mono-ethnic settlements falling short of international standards with regard to both the hygienic-sanitary conditions as well as the

structural conditions of the settlement itself and of the housing units. Over the years, some institutional slums in the suburbs of some important cities have turned into so-called "**tolerated settlements**", areas no longer authorized, but to which the local authority continues to provide

minimum services. In other cases, "tolerated" settlements were born as informal areas in which, over time, local administrations have formally recognized and legitimized the presence of the people present.

The **informal slums**, also inhabited by people of Roma origin, are spontaneous and mono-ethnic settlements that develop on public areas. In everyday language they have often been called

"illegal camps". They consist of precarious homes (caravans, tents, shacks built with waste material, metal sheets or wood) where running water, heating, a water supply, sewerage and lighting are often absent. Because of the repeated forced evictions, the number of inhabitants present in the various slums has become so tiny that, in some cities, what is left is almost exclusively an informal micro-settlements.

ROMA-ONLY FACILITIES CENTERS

The **Roma-only facilities centers** are real estate accommodating individuals or families who have been victims of forced evictions, that are set up by various municipal administrations to provide a structured accommodation on a *de facto* ethnic basis. In the last 12 years these centers were established in the cities of Naples (where the only one currently present is called "**Municipal Center for Territorial Support**"), Milan (where they have been denominated "**Social Emergency Centers**"), Rome (where they were first named "**Facilities centers**" and then "**Collection centers**") and Guastalla, in the province of Reggio Emilia.

The first facility center for Roma only was set up in Naples in **2005** in the former school "Grazie Deledda" to accommodate some Roma families residing in an informal settlement in the district of Fuorigrotta.

In November **2009**, the first mono-ethnic facility center is inaugurated in Rome inside several industrial warehouses along the Via Salaria; approximately 90 Roma people who had been evicted in the previous days from an informal settlement near the Via Casilina are accommodated there.

In April **2012** the first Social Emergency Center in Via Barzaghi is set up in Milan for the Romanian Roma evicted from the Via Sacile settlement.

The internal management of these facilities, which over the years multiplied in the cities of Milan and Rome, appears similar to that of institutional slums. The high management costs, together with the various complaints filed by organizations for the protection of human rights, have led in the following years to their progressive closure. At the end of 2017, two facilities centers for Roma communities were still active in Italy: in the city of Naples and in Guastalla, in the province of Reggio Emilia.

In the year 2017, according to data gathered through a mapping exercise conducted by Associazione 21 luglio, in Italy there were **148 formal settlements**, inhabited by approximately **16.400 people**, and **2 facilities centers** accommodating about **130 individuals**. This is a unique situation in Europe.

Informal settlements and micro settlements inhabited by approximately **9.600 people** are present in **16 Italian regions**. **86%** of those living there are Roma of Romanian nationality. **9%** are Bulgarian citizens, while the remaining ones are Italian citizens or originally from the former Yugoslavia. **24% of the**

total live in 4 mega settlements: Borgo Mezzanone (Foggia), Scampia (Naples), Camping River (Rome) and Germagnano (Turin). **73% of them, approximately 7.000 people**, live in 5 regions: Campania (2.100), Lazio (1.800), Piedmont (1.000), Puglia (1.100) and Lombardy (1.000).

During 2017 an increase in the number of mega informal settlements, due mainly to the "downgrading" of settlements that were considered formal in the past, can be observed. This is the case of the "camps" of Scampia (Naples), Giugliano (Naples) and Camping River (Rome).

EMERGENCY HOUSING SOLUTIONS

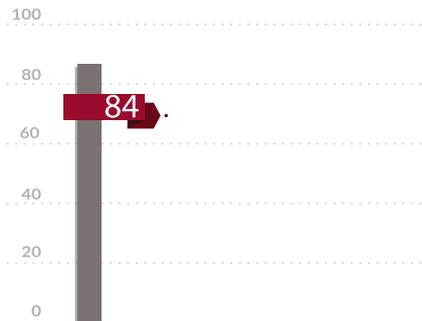
In addition to formal and informal settlements and facilities centers for Roma only, the development of reception facilities organized with an emergency approach by the Municipal Administrations can also, at times be noted. Following a fire in the settlement of Scampia in the summer of 2017, the **Municipality of Naples** ordered the temporary transfer of part of the Roma community to a municipal property, the Auditorium De André. This is a closed space, equipped by the Civil Protection with camping beds. 52 people waiting for a different housing solution were accommodated there. As of 31 December 2017 a new solution, still seemed far from being identified.



ROMA AND SINTI SLUMS IN NORTHERN ITALY

INSTITUTIONAL SLUMS

TOTAL 84



TOTAL INHABITANTS 6.608



Nationality (OR PROVENANCE)
 ITALY
 FORMER JUGOSLAVIA
 ROMANIA



85% 15% 0%

INFORMAL SLUMS ≥ 100

PROVINCE

TURIN

TOTAL 194



TURIN

TOTAL 480





ROMA AND SINTI SLUMS IN CENTRAL ITALY

INSTITUTIONAL SLUMS

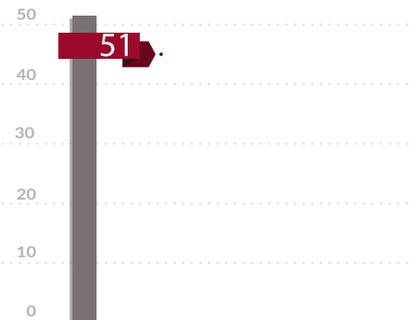
TOTAL INHABITANTS

7.157

Nationality (OR PROVENANCE)

ITALY 
 FORMER JUGOSLAVIA 
 ROMANIA 

TOTAL 51



7.157



10% 78% 12%

INFORMAL SLUMS ≥ 100

PROVINCE

ROME

TOTAL 420



ROME

TOTAL 150



ROME

TOTAL 100

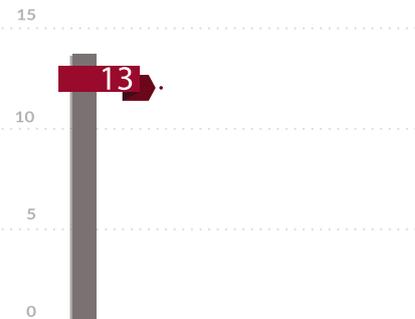




ROMA AND SINTI SLUMS IN SOUTHERN ITALY

INSTITUTIONAL SLUMS

TOTAL 13



TOTAL INHABITANTS 2.632



2.632

Nationality (OR PROVENANCE)

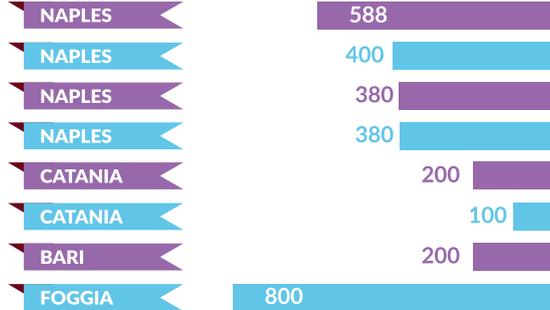
ITALY  ROMANIA 
FORMER JUGOSLAVIA  BULGARIA 



19% 68% 13%

INFORMAL SLUMS ≥ 100

PROVINCE



TOTAL



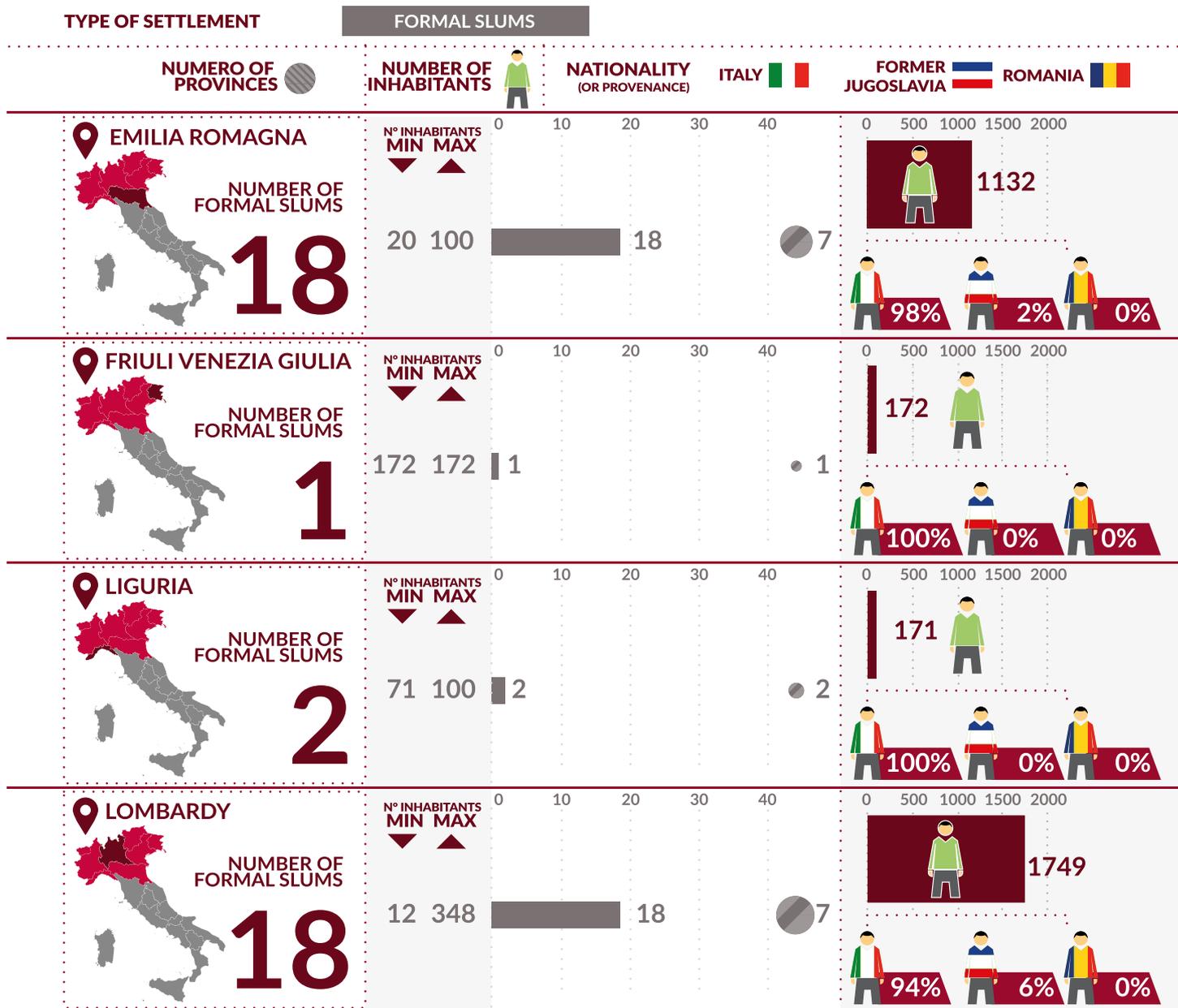
THE MICRO AREAS AND THE MONOETHNIC DISTRICTS

The **micro areas**, inhabited in almost all cases by citizens of Sinti origin, are small public or private areas where one or two extended families live. The approximately 50 micro areas present on the Italian territory are located in 7 regions of Center and Northern Italy. Emilia-Romagna is the region with the largest number (about 40 micro areas inhabited by about 800 Sinti). In Lombardy there are about ten, inhabited by 250 people, while it is assessed that around 150 people live in the two micro areas in Tuscany.

In the Calabria region, in the city of Cosenza and in Gioia Tauro, there are two **social housing developments located in suburban neighborhoods and inhabited by Roma** of Italian citizenship. These are in Via degli Stadi in Cosenza (about 500 people live there) and in an area called Ciambra in Gioia Tauro, where 260 people of which more than half are minors reside.

Both the micro areas and the social housing districts inhabited exclusively by Roma **reiterate the housing and social segregation of families on an ethnic basis.**

ROMA AND SINTI SLUMS IN NORTHERN ITALY



ROMA AND SINTI SLUMS IN NORTHERN ITALY

TYPE OF SETTLEMENT

FORMAL SLUMS

NUMERO OF PROVINCES

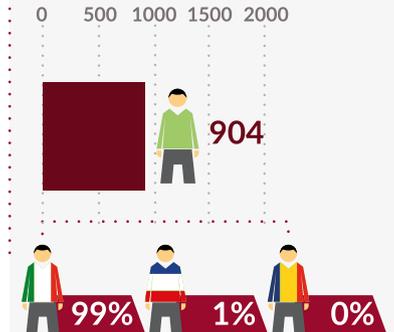
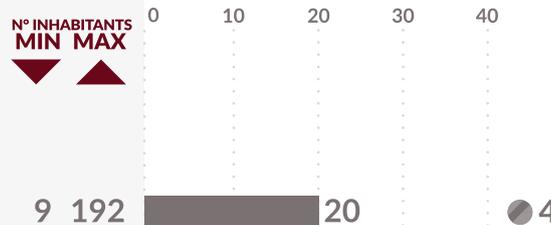
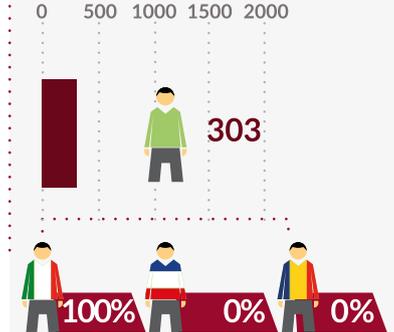
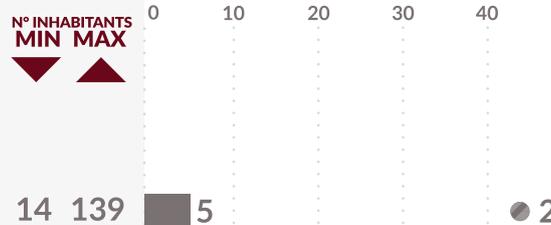
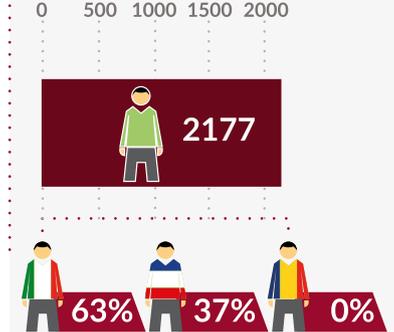
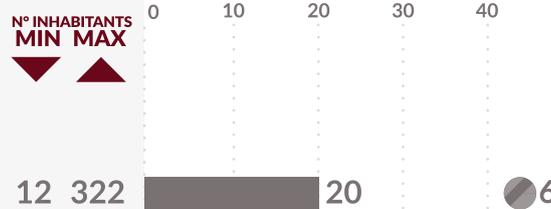
NUMBER OF INHABITANTS

NATIONALITY (OR PROVENANCE)

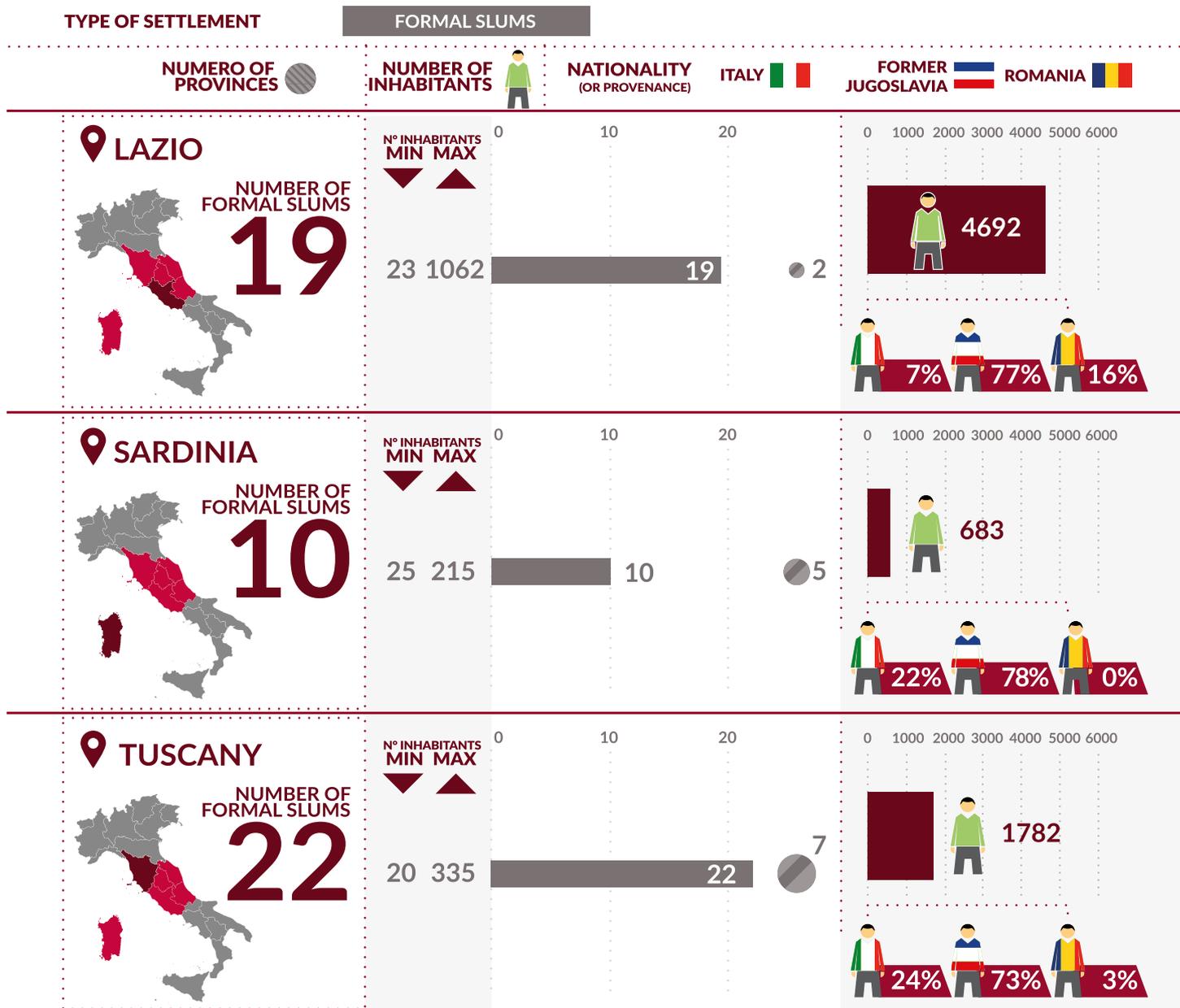
ITALY

FORMER JUGOSLAVIA

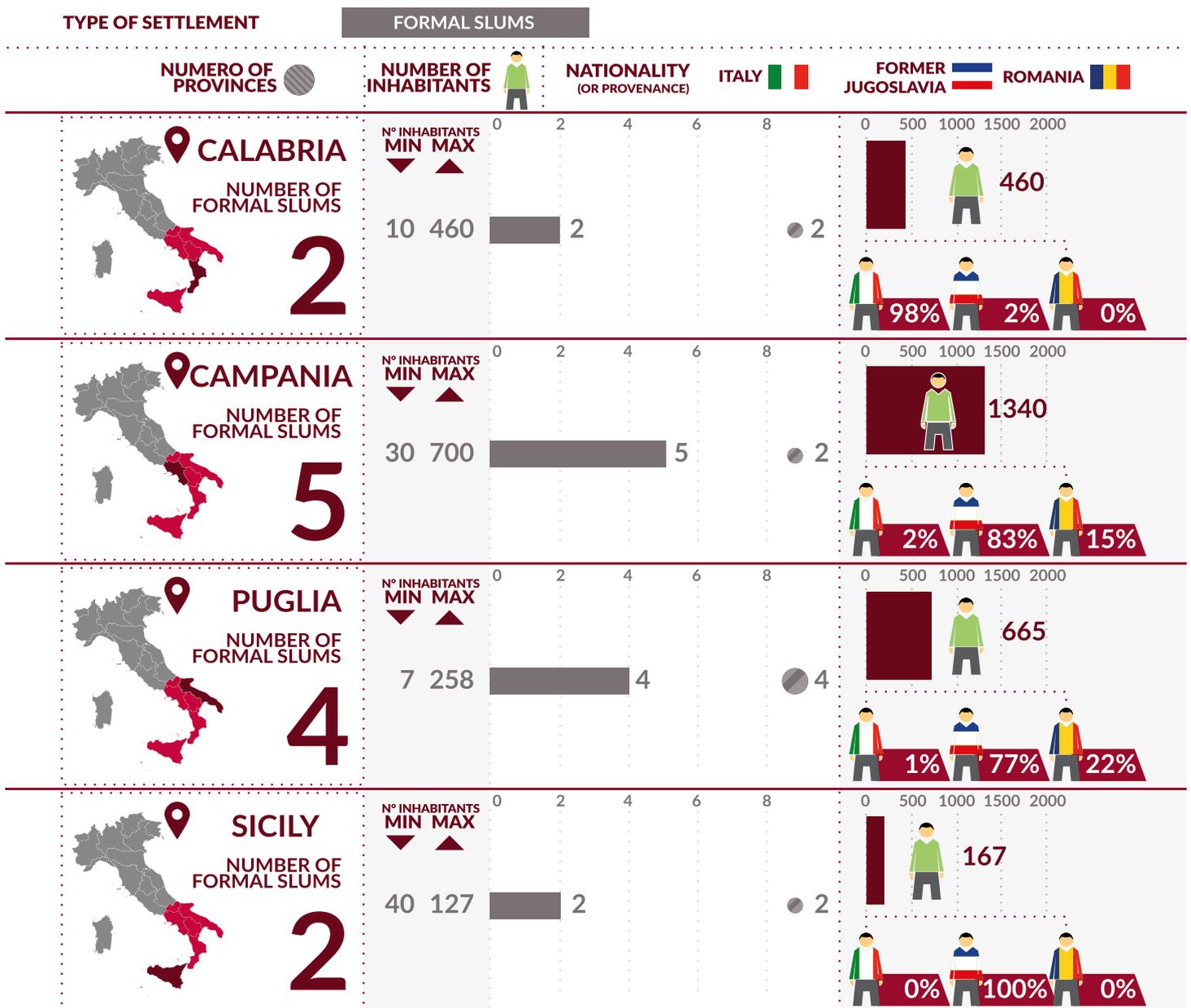
ROMANIA



ROMA AND SINTI SLUMS IN CENTRAL ITALY



ROMA AND SINTI SLUMS IN SOUTHERN ITALY



2 THE NATIONAL STRATEGY IN 2017

For several years various international monitoring bodies¹² have been emphasizing on various occasions that the implementation of the National Strategy for the Inclusion of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti continues to suffer from delays, and that no tangible improvements in the conditions of Roma and Sinti communities in housing emergency have been observed. In 2017, no developments were reported compared to previous years and the situation, both at national and local level, appears substantially unchanged. Problematic issues deriving from the scarcity and the poor impact of the instruments necessary for the implementation of the *Strategy*, from the weak political will and the low level of priority recognized to the implementation of the actions envisaged in the same, continued to be notice.

Regarding the *governance* of the *Strategy* there are no significant changes compared to the past. The picture remains unchanged and devoid of substantial developments at both national and regional level. There are only three exceptions. The Emilia Romagna Region planned in 2017 actions for the implementation of the *Regional Strategy for the Inclusion of Roma and Sinti*¹³ already adopted in 2016. In 2017 the Puglia region started preliminary works for the adoption of its own *Regional Strategy for the Inclusion of Roma and Sinti*¹⁴. This effort has been interrupted after the first meeting held on April 7th, 2017 also due to the sudden death of the regional councilor in charge of taking the necessary actions for the establishment of the working group. Following the work done by the thematic working

groups in 2016, in Spring 2017 the Lazio region released a summary document¹⁵. The other regional working groups established in the previous years remained "dormant" throughout 2017.

As observed in the previous years, also in 2017 there were a series of interventions, in particular at the local level, which were inhomogeneous, contradictory and sometimes in sharp contrast with the *Strategy's* orientation. Therefore, the construction of new mono-ethnic settlements and the renovation of some of the existing ones prevailed over the idea of closing the settlements. Despite the recommendation to avoid forced evictions, in some cities their number surged. Examples not in line with this trend and actually in line with the *Strategy* were rare.

"Overcoming the mono-ethnic camps": this is the main challenge that remained outstanding also in the past year. When attempts were made, the initiatives undertaken ended up recreating what had to be overcome. Examples are the cases of Moncalieri, in the province of Turin, where a new settlement was built; Giugliano, in the province of Naples, where in 2018 a new "camp" for the Roma will be set up; Naples, where in April 2017 a "village" was inaugurated to accommodate some families evicted from the Gianturco settlement. A peculiar story is the one concerning the closure of the Camping River in Rome, which simply resulted in the transformation of the settlement from "equipped village" to informal settlement. In light of the fact that none of the objectives set in 2012 is expected to be achieved, in 2017, at

THE NATIONAL STRATEGY. SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS IN 2017

The **National Office against Racial Discrimination (UNAR)**, National Point of Contact for the implementation of the National Strategy, hosted the first two meetings of the Roma National Platform on June 28th and September 19th 2017, involving a multiplicity of Roma and non-Roma associations and initiating the creation of working groups. At the same time UNAR set up the work of the Forum, a smaller group for the representation of the instances concerning the planning of the priority interests of the Roma, Sinti and Caminanti communities. It should also be notice that, following the resignation of the third director of the UNAR in February 2017, as of 31 December 2017 the appointment of the fourth director is still pending.

In the three-year period 2017-2019, the **National Project for the Inclusion and Integration of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti children**, promoted by the Ministry of Labor and Social Policies in the framework of the actions of the PON "Inclusion" 2014-2020 and implemented in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, University and Research, the Ministry of Health and the Institute of the Innocents resumed.

The three-year period is the natural continuation of the "Experimental Project" launched in 2013, involving 13 Italian metropolitan cities (Bari, Bologna, Catania, Florence, Genoa, Messina, Milan, Naples, Palermo, Reggio Calabria, Rome, Turin and Venice) and having various objectives, including: **improving inclusion in education and the educational achievements of minors, combating school drop-out by these children and young people, promoting access to local services and the active participation of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti families.**

Recipients of the initiative are Roma, Sinti and Caminanti children and youth between 6 and 14 years of age, school managers, teachers, ATA staff, families, managers and operators in the social and health sectors. The project foresees the involvement of **5.580 students, approximately 600 Roma, Sinti and Caminanti children and 81 schools.**

national and international level, a first reflection on the development of the National Strategy beyond its natural deadline set for 2020 began. The new municipal administrations in the main Italian cities had raised hopes for an inversion of the trend that did not materialize; instead immobilism and inactivity prevailed. The release of the "Ex Emergency" surplus in November 2016, resulted in the disbursement of 16 million Euro to the Campania authorities. These are resources that could give an important acceleration to the implementation of the *Strategy* in the near future, but that, in fact, have seen the city of Naples in the forefront in the revival of segregating policies, harmful to human rights and economically unsustainable in the long run.

In this context, which is certainly not encouraging, it is important to strengthen the monitoring of the implementation of the National Strategies for the Inclusion of Roma in the EU countries launched at the end of 2015 with the introduction of new *monitoring templates* for Member States and civil society. The report of the European Commission, published on August 30th 2017 and covering the year 2016, examines in depth the numerous problems and critical issues related to the implementation of Member States' *strategies* and to the anti-discrimination and inclusion policies for Roma, Sinti and Caminanti. It also highlights aspects related to the use of european funding in the implementation of the *Strategies*¹⁶.

THE NATIONAL STRATEGY ACCORDING TO THE INTERNATIONAL AND EUROPEAN HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORING BODIES

The assessment of the international and european human rights bodies are clear: in Italy the situation is far from being excellent due to limited progress and the absence at national level of strategic orientation and coordination with respect to the policies of housing desegregation and persistent forced eviction operations.

The recent Observations adopted by the **United Nations Human Rights Committee (HRC)** on March 23rd 2017, expressed concern in relation to the continuous discrimination and segregation of Roma and Sinti in Italy. The Committee recommends that Italy implements all measures necessary to fully implement the *Strategy*, that it avoids the practice of forced evictions of Roma and Sinti communities residing on its national soil and that it implements policies aimed at housing desegregation in line with international standards¹⁷.

The **UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)**, in its Concluding Observations of July 24th 2017, expressed vivid concern for the high school drop-out

rates among Roma girls and for their low level of school attendance. These phenomena have a negative impact on the implementation of the *Strategy* which, according to the Committee, should include a gender impact assessment for the implementation of the National Strategy¹⁸.

Resolution CM / ResCMN (2017) 4 of July 5th 2017 on the implementation of the **Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities** adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe recommended Italy to take action to rectify the shortcomings at national legislative level in the protection of the rights of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti communities living in Italy, to fight and sanction all forms of discrimination paying particular attention to children in school age and the gender dimension and to provide adequate alternative housing for Roma who live in institutional and informal "camps"¹⁹.

The **Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs of the European Parliament** evidence in its Motion of October 11th 2017 that the segregating and discriminatory policies in Italy and in the other member states are practices that have lasted for a long period of time, thus highlighting the need to have the European Parliament adopt a resolution on fundamental rights in the processes of inclusion of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti in Europe²⁰.

The **Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA) of the European Union**, in its 2017 Report, underlines how the confinement in spaces below international standards, the housing segregation, the lack of adequate alternative housing in cases of forced eviction turn out to be a constant for the Roma living in Italy²¹.

3 THE "POLICY OF CAMPS" IN 2017

Even in 2017, as in the previous years, due to the persistent local segregation policies aimed at consolidating a parallel housing system for the Roma and Sinti communities, the implementation

of the National Strategy for Roma Inclusion did not lead to meaningful results. Therefore, considering that social and spatial marginalization and substandard housing conditions produce a domino

effect in the protection of other fundamental rights, the issue of housing remains crucial.

In 2017 there were no particular developments regarding the implementation of systematic actions aimed at ending the housing segregation of Roma in formal settlements managed by public authorities, and the resolution of the main problems connected to it. According to the mapping conducted by Associazione 21 luglio, at the end of 2017 there were a total of 148 formal settlements for Roma only scattered throughout the Italian territory. A number very close to last year's, when the mapped settlements were 149.

Contrary to what one might think, there has been no closure of "camps" through inclusive pathways. The numerical variation is determined exclusively by the "downgrading" of some formal settlements (which have become informal) and by the contextual creation of new "camps".

As for the previous year, it is important to underline that the residential segregation of the Roma and Sinti communities is a phenomenon that is not limited to the main metropolitan areas, but that involves as many as 87 Italian Municipalities.

THE "POLICY OF CAMPS" ACCORDING TO THE INTERNATIONAL AND EUROPEAN HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORING BODIES

As it has been periodically the case for over a decade, in 2017 Italy has been called by various international and European human rights bodies to comply with European and international obligations and end discrimination and human rights violations against Roma communities in the field of housing.

The **Observations adopted by the United Nations Human Rights Committee** in March 2017, highlight that the residential segregation of Roma and Sinti is persistent in Italy. For this reason, the Committee recommends that the national authorities implement policies aimed at housing desegregation in line with international standards.

The **Resolution of the Council of the European Union** from July 2017 urges Italy to fight and sanction all forms of discrimination and also to ensure adequate housing alternatives for Roma living in formal and informal "camps".

Finally the **Commission on Civil Liberties, Justice and Internal Affairs of the European Parliament** stigmatizes the segregating housing policies in Italy, and proposes the adoption by the European Parliament, of a resolution on fundamental rights in the processes of inclusion of the Roma in Europe.

Contrary to what was hoped for the previous year, in 2017 the commitment to "overcome the camps", recommended above all by the *National Strategy*, was not followed up with effective and sustainable actions²². On the contrary, trends which go against national, European and international obligations on the fight against discrimination and the protection of the human rights of Roma and Sinti communities in the housing sector that Italy is obliged to respect, were confirmed. The intention manifested on

29 November 2017 by the Minister of Interior Marco Minniti²³ to co-finance, with additional resources in addition to those already budgeted, the construction of a new settlement for Roma only in the Municipality of Giugliano is of particular political significance. Numerous questions and perplexities remain regarding the forms and modalities as to how to "overcome the camps" shall be interpreted by the various municipal administrations.

THE "ECO-VILLAGE" OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF GIUGLIANO: A STORY THAT ARISES AND DEVELOPS IN A CONTEXT OF EMERGENCY

On **21 June 2016** the authorities of Giugliano evicted over 300 people from the formal Roma settlement of Masseria del Pozzo, where for roughly three years 75 families had been living near a landfill of toxic waste. The Giugliano authorities offered the families from the settlement, as the only alternative solution, the relocation to the land of a former fireworks factory, an area lacking toilets and electricity. From that date onwards and throughout 2017, families have been living in conditions of very serious precariousness and fragility, setting up homes on their own with waste materials.

Already a few months prior, on **4 February 2016** the Municipality of Giugliano, the Campania Region and the Prefecture of Naples had signed a memorandum of understanding aimed at the construction of an "eco-village" to relocate the Roma families²⁴. The memorandum of understanding for the realization of the "Project of social inclusion and housing arrangement for the Roma of the Masseria del Pozzo camp" provides, through a joint financing of the Municipality of Giugliano, the Prefecture of Naples and the Campania Region²⁶, the construction of a new "Roma camp" made up of 44 housing modules to accommodate 260 people.

In several public statements made in 2017, the national and local authorities renewed their intention to proceed with the implementation of the *Project* of the Municipality of Giugliano. During the *Question Time* in the Chamber of Deputies in Rome held on **29 November 2017**²⁷ the **Minister of Interior Marco Minniti** supported the realization of the *Project* of the Municipality of Giugliano, announcing the allocation of additional resources for the interventions necessary

for its implementation. Thus clarity was made for the new economic and planning overview of the municipal administration for the interventions related to the construction of the new "Roma camp", for an estimated cost of approximately **2.500.000 euro**²⁸. Out of the total, the funds for the realization of the Roma "eco-village" amount to **700.000 euro**.

The design for the construction of an "eco-village" for the Roma community currently residing in the slum located within the area of the former fireworks factory, presents many critical aspects. The project would reiterate the **ethnic based spatial segregation** of people who have already been subjected to a segregating and discriminatory policy which has relegated them to an unhealthy area with substandard housing conditions.

Another aspect that raises questions is the high number of economic resources spent compared to the relatively low number of beneficiaries. If one divides the total amount allocated, by the number of households identified by the "Project" (44 families, corresponding to the number of new housing modules that are defined as "single-family"), the expenditure per family amounts to approximately **57.000 euros**.

Six years after the adoption of the National Strategy, many local administrations continue to operate in stark contrast with it, and to reiterate the "policy of the camps", implementing it also thanks to the absence of effective coordination, monitoring and accountability mechanisms both at national and local level. Although housing segregation is only one of the multiple facets of discrimination and human rights violations affecting the Roma and Sinti communities in Italy, also in 2017 new settlements for Roma only were built, while other settlements were renovated or reconstructed in various parts of the country. This approach, which continues to trap entire communities in a segregative and discriminatory spiral, appears to be unsustainable not only in social but also in economic terms. Concrete examples that show how even in 2017, the political choices of some local

administrations reiterate and strengthen de facto the maintenance of the "camps system" can be identified in the Municipalities of Naples and Moncalieri.

On 7 April 2017 in the Municipality of Naples approximately 200 people - following the eviction from the informal slum located in the Gianturco neighborhood in Via Brece in Sant'Erasmo, where approximately 1.200 Roma of Romanian nationality lived - are "temporarily" transferred to a new "temporary reception center" built with municipal funds (total amount 549.688,12 euro²⁹).

The area in question, located in Via del Riposo, was placed under judicial seizure following the illegal dumping of waste. On 4 July 2016 the Local Police for the Protection of the Environment released the temporary area in order to proceed with the

assessment of the site and decide the location of the new institutional "camp"³⁰.

The space inside the new settlement is insufficient, and the housing units located there - 28 containers with approximately 21 square meters each - are, in light of the average number of inhabitants per housing unit, cramped.

On the one hand this is the umpteenth example of an informal settlement with a mono-ethnic and therefore discriminatory character; on the other, the municipal administration does not seem to foresee any integrated and structured pathways to facilitate the relocation of the inhabitants that are sustainable and that have a medium-long term planning.

MUNICIPALITY OF TURIN RESIDENTIAL SEGREGATION, REGULATIONS AND SECURITY MEASURES

In the absence of inclusive policies, in some cases what can be observed is the phenomenon of "normalization" of segregation practices through instruments that, as in the City of Turin, can range from the preparation of regulations aimed at "promoting social integration" to measures aimed at "restoring legality and security".

On **2 March 2017**, with Decision n. 20 of the District Council VI³¹, the local authorities of the City of Turin formally request the Mayor, in relation to the Roma slums of Via Germagnano "to ask the Prefect of Turin to restore the joint 24 hours a day (7 days a week) permanent patrolling by the Army and the Police, in order to avoid the continuous toxic fires and to restore legality and safety".

On **8 May 2017** the City Council of the City of Turin approves motion n. 01055/002 presented on 20 March 2017, which has as object "Operations for overcoming the Roma slums"³². The motion also envisages, albeit in generic terms, the promotion of short and medium-long term actions aimed at overcoming the formal and informal settlements of Turin.

On **29 August 2017** the City of Turin approves a new **municipal regulation** for the "staging areas for Roma and Sinti", with the aim of "overcoming the problem of irregular settlements and favoring legality and social integration"³³. The regulation on the four "equipped areas of Turin" - the Sangone area in Corso Unione Sovietica 655, the Germagnano area in the homonymous street, the Le Rose "camp" in via Lega 50 and the Strada dell 'Aeroporto 235 "campo", provides for each of the settlements a maximum

capacity, defined according to the composition of the households, as well as certain economic criteria, sanitary conditions and public order requirements. The residence permit will be annually renewable, each staging area will have up to three delegates from the communities staying there, chosen on the basis of the criterion of representativeness. This regulation should have come into force by October 2017; however, as of 31 December 2017 there was no information on its effective implementation.

In the same month, the construction of a new institutional slum was completed in the Municipality of Moncalieri, in the Province of Turin. With Decision DS12 n. 742 of 28 April 2017³⁴, the Municipality of Moncalieri sets up a "temporary staging area" with a total surface of 2.300 square meters on land owned by Iren Energia Ltd in via Freyilia Mezzi, in order to relocate part of the previously displaced Roma family units from the informal "camp" of strada Brandina. The latter was evacuated for reasons of safety at the end of November 2016 following the floods and heavy rains that had affected the territory of the City of Moncalieri between 23 and 25 November 2016, which caused the overflow of the Po River and the flooding of large areas of the municipal territory, including the area located within the parking lot of the Brandina road where more than 30 Roma were living in 15 caravans for more than seven years. Following the floods, these families had

been temporarily hosted in private facilities at the expense of the municipal administration³⁵.

With Decision DS12 n. 742, the Municipality of Moncalieri therefore deliberates on the construction, by direct assignment, of an area suitable for 28 people. The amount for the purchase of 9 housing modules (containers), 1 container used as a shared shower and for the transport and assembly service amounted to 47.580,00 euros. The construction of the new settlement in via Freyilia Mezzi - aimed solely at Roma family units - is also planned as a temporary housing measure assigned on an ethnic basis which, in addition to not conforming to the principles of the *National Strategy* and the international standards on fundamental human rights, ends up increasing the vulnerability of the families in question and the risk to aggravate their stigmatization and social marginalization.

THE "ROMA CAMPS" IN MILAN

The Municipality of Milan, through the Social Emergencies - Rights and Inclusion Unit of the Social Policies Department, launches with Decision n. 133 of 1 September 2017³⁶ a public tender for the implementation of a **project for the management of social paths involving family units residing**

in the formal Roma settlements located in Milan, which cover the period from 1 October 2017 to 31 October 2018. The public call for expression of interest³⁷ n. 6836448 "aimed at identifying non-profit organizations available for co-planning and co-management of first reception services (former Social Emergency Centers, now Temporary Reception Centers and Centers for Housing Autonomy) aimed at families with children and people in conditions of fragility and housing difficulties and at the realization of projects and social paths of integration and inclusion in legality" foresees in Lot 5 the "management of inclusion and social integration pathways in the legality of Roma households accommodated in camps authorized by the municipal administration" for an amount equal to **268.400,00 euros**. The planned interventions are therefore concentrated in the formal settlements of Via Bonfadini, Via Chiesa Rossa, Via Negrotto, Via Impastato and Villaggio Martirano, where approximately 500 people reside³⁸. The management of the Roma formal settlements and the related Project started on 1 October 2017, and will be completed by 31 October 2018 with the possibility of continuing for up to maximum 180 days with a special management provision.

The interventions that reiterate segregating policies, and are therefore in contrast with the commitments made at the European level through the adoption of the *Strategy*, have involved the entire national territory. Between 2012 and 2017 in **Northern Italy** the construction of new camps involved the Municipalities of Milan, Carpi, Merano and Moncalieri with measures aimed at housing approximately 240 people, for a total cost of approximately 4.700.000 euros.

During the period under review, "upgrading" and "remaking" works were carried out in Asti, Parma, Savona and Vicenza and are being carried out in the Municipality of Camposanto, in the province of Modena, involving a total of about 430 inhabitants for a cost of approximately 920.000 euros. The works for the transfer and for the construction of new mono-ethnic formal settlements for Roma and Sinti

in the Municipalities of Genoa and Merano are still under discussion, at different stages of approval; the settlements would host approximately 180 people in total. In Turin, with Decision n. 12 of 12 January 2017³⁹, the Municipality approved the Executive Project aimed at the ordinary maintenance of the 4 "equipped areas used by the nomads and those for the accommodation of people due to the cold emergency", where about 770 people live⁴⁰. This is done to "guarantee their effective use, by means of maintenance, repair or replacement of accessory items". The expenditure incurred for the realization of the works, on the basis of the executive project, is equal to 40.960 euros.

In **Central Italy** between 2012 and 2017 two new formal settlements were built in the Municipalities of Rome and Pistoia, and a Roma reception center was inaugurated, also in Rome, involving a total of

nearly 1.000 people, compared to a total expenditure of around 10.500.000 euros. The planning of new settlements in the Municipalities of Pistoia, Rimini and Latina for the total transfer of 350 people is currently under discussion.

In the city of Rome, in the period 2012-2017, the costs incurred by the Roman Administration for utilities and for the provision of primary services within "solidarity villages" and Roma "camps" amount to about 8.400.000 euros⁴¹. One must also add to those expenses the ones related to the "management" of the eight "villages of solidarity" from 2012 to 2014; this involved approximately 6.000 people for a total estimated cost of about 49.100.000 euros⁴². In 2017, 3.645.000 euros were committed for the ordinary maintenance of the "solidarity villages" and the emptying of sewage tanks.

In the time frame in question in **Southern Italy** new formal settlements for Roma only were established in the Municipalities of Barletta, Catania, Cosenza, Lecce and Naples. All in all the new settlements are aimed at housing more than 1.220 people

and their construction has overall required about 4.625.000 euros. In Lamezia Terme, about 70.000 euro were used in the year 2017 alone, for the land reclamation of the Roma camp in Scordovillo, where about 450 people live. In Oristano, in Sardinia, around 100.000 euros were allocated to identify an area that can accommodate about 30 people; the location of the area on which the public authorities intend to transfer the 7 families in question is still under discussion.

The works for the construction of a new formal settlement in the Municipality of Giugliano, which will host about 260 people at a cost for its construction of approximately 2.500.000 euros are still in the planning stage.

The aggregated known costs of the "camps policy" during the period analyzed, show that unsustainability in terms of housing segregation goes hand in hand with the economic unsustainability with respect to the amount of resources allocated and / or actually spent. **Overall, the aforementioned interventions involved about 9.600 people, with an expense of 82.000.000 euros⁴³.**

THE RIGHT TO ADEQUATE HOUSING

The **UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights** has explicitly defined the meaning of "adequate housing"⁴⁴: the right to housing should not be interpreted in a narrow or restrictive manner but should be understood as the right to live somewhere in security, peace and dignity.

The Committee has therefore listed 7 criteria for determining the adequacy of housing:

1. legal security of tenure
2. availability of services, materials, facilities and infrastructures

3. affordability
4. habitability
5. accessibility
6. location
7. cultural adequacy

In identifying these criteria, the Committee took into great consideration the extent of the right to adequate housing and its implications, recognizing the profound interrelations existing with the enjoyment of other human rights. In relation to the second criterion, the Committee stressed that the adequacy of housing is closely linked to sustainable access to natural and common resources, safe drinking water, heating and lighting, sanitation and washing facilities, means of food storage, waste disposal, a functioning sewage system and emergency services. To meet the habitability requirement, adequate housing must provide adequate space and must provide protection against threats to structural hazards, and disease vectors. In order to determine the adequacy of the accommodation, its location should also be considered: adequate housing must be in a location which allows access to employment options, health-care services, schools, child-care centres and other social facilities. Similarly, housing should not be built on polluted sites nor in immediate proximity to pollution sources that threaten the right to health of the inhabitants. Finally, the enjoyment of the right to adequate housing must not be subject to any form of discrimination.

URBAN GHETTOS. THE CASE OF "CIAMBRA"

The present report does not take into consideration the living conditions of the Roma communities present in mono-ethnic public housing buildings. However, it is important to report that in 2017 approximately **8.5 million euro** were budgeted in the framework of the so-called Ciambra Project for the redevelopment and renovation of the segregating and monoethnic ghetto located in the Ciambra district, Gioia Tauro Municipality, where for some decades an Italian Roma community has been living in conditions of near total absence of any primary services.

The project was presented through the national tender notice titled "Tender for the submission of

projects for the preparation of the extraordinary Program of intervention for urban redevelopment and security in the suburbs of metropolitan cities and of main provincial municipalities⁴⁵ launched August 2016 by the metropolitan city of Reggio Calabria, together with the municipal administration of Gioia Tauro⁴⁶ and approved on 5 January 2017⁴⁷.

According to the public authorities, the objective of the project is to facilitate the end of the ghettoization of approximately 160 Roma minors who live with their families in the Ciambra. This objective would be pursued through the renovation of the 17 buildings, including 114 dwellings, owned by the Territorial Company for Regional Public Housing Construction (ATERP) of the Calabria Region, as well as the construction in the same area of other buildings and of urban infrastructure.

Outside the framework of the Project, with **Decision no. 910 of 28 August 2017**⁴⁸, ATERP Calabria approves the technical and economic feasibility work for the recovery and renovation of two buildings comprising 16 dwellings located within the Roma ghetto of the Ciambra, for a total cost of **730.000 euros**.

In reality, through the renovation of existing housing and the construction of new buildings there is a risk of actually reiterating and increasing the situation of ghettoization experienced by the Roma community.

4 FORCED EVICTIONS

Also throughout 2017, in many Italian cities there was a high number of forced evictions of Roma communities from the slums and micro-settlements in which they were living. Italy still lacks a clear regulatory framework on evictions from informal settlements, with the consequence that these operations continue to be conducted by local authorities in a discretionary manner, often in disregard of procedural safeguards provided for by international law, which turn them into clear human rights violations⁴⁹. Furthermore, what should not be underestimated is the fact that forced evictions,

despite involving high costs⁵⁰, never address the issue of inadequate housing⁵¹; they produce the opposite outcome, that of replicating the same inadequate housing conditions elsewhere, thereby consolidating the vicious circle of poverty and exclusion.

As noted several times over the years by international and European human rights bodies, the failure to provide adequate alternative housing by the Italian authorities in cases of forced evictions, often risks exacerbating the condition of those already vulnerable. Minors and women continue to suffer

the most obvious consequences of forced evictions, in particular in terms of impact on educational and schooling pathways and integration into the social and urban fabric. The discriminating and segregating housing conditions in which Roma children and women live and, in the absence of the

procedural safeguards provided for by international law, the chain of vulnerability perpetrated and repeated through forced eviction operations, affect the schooling rates and overall the educational pathways⁵².

FORCED EVICTIONS IN ITALY: INTERNATIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS

In 2017 the persistent forced eviction operations from Roma settlements in Italy have been analyzed and monitored by the **United Nations Human Rights Committee (HRC)**. The Committee, expressed strong concern for the persistent segregation and discrimination of the Roma, Sinti and Caminanti communities living in Italy, and recommended that the National Authorities take all reasonable measures to avoid the practice of forced evictions from Roma settlements and, in case of evictions, ensure that the affected communities enjoy legal protections and are provided with adequate alternative housing⁵³.

WHEN THE EVICTION IS "FORCED"

Forced evictions constitute "a clear violation of human rights, in particular of the right to adequate housing"⁵⁴ and are defined as 'the permanent or temporary removal of persons, families or communities against their will from the housing and / or land they occupy, without being provided and having access to appropriate forms of legal protection or other safeguards'. These protections must be implemented irrespective of whether the accommodation or land in question is owned, rented or occupied. The **UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights** has specified that evictions can be carried out exclusively as a last resort, after having exhausted all the other possible alternatives, and only when the appropriate procedural guarantees are provided⁵⁵, such as:

- A genuine and effective **consultation** with those affected;
- Availability and access to **legal remedies** and the possibility of obtaining adequate compensation

for the loss of personal assets;

- An adequate and reasonable **notice** on the eviction and adequate information on its implementation;
- The presence of **representatives of the authorities** and all those carrying out the eviction to be properly identified;
- The prohibition to conduct evictions during **night hours or in adverse weather conditions**;
- The preparation of **adequate alternative housing solutions** for those who are not able to provide for themselves;
- The **prohibition to render** people affected by the eviction homeless or make them vulnerable to further human rights violations.

Not all forceful evictions are forced evictions. An objectively justified eviction, conducted in respect of the dignity of the people and that respects international standards, even when it foresees the use of force - if necessary and proportionate - is a legitimate eviction that does not violate the prohibition of forced evictions. On the contrary, eviction operations that do not involve the use of force, but carried out in the absence of the appropriate procedural safeguards, constitute for all intents and purposes forced evictions.

During 2017 no legislative steps were undertaken to implement international standards on forced evictions in the Italian legal system⁵⁶. The policy decision to use the practice of forced eviction as the preferred tool to respond to social and economic problems is extremely negative.

In this sense, forced evictions have never had the effect of remedying the inadequacy of housing or health and hygiene problems; on the contrary, the social and psychological impact on people's lives was devastating also due to the obvious repercussions on education and work.

Emblematic in this regard are the events related to the forced eviction from the Roma informal slum located in the Gianturco district of the City of Naples (where, approximately 1.200 people lived permanently for years until the early months of 2017), as well as those related to the Roma communities of Cupa Perillo, in the district of Scampia, also in Naples.

The eviction in the **neighborhood of Gianturco** has its genesis on 22 March 2016, when the competent authorities notified approximately forty people with a report enforcing the Decree on Preventive

Confiscation of the area between Via Brece di Sant'Erasmus, 106/108 and 123, issued on 23 January 2016 by the Court of Naples⁵⁷. Several informal slums inhabited mainly by Roma families originating from Romania were set up around these areas. An historical review of the presence of the settlement⁵⁸ and of the chain processes produced by the periodic forced evictions carried out by the Authorities in the Municipality of Naples, shows that with time the slums grew bigger. Additional families affected by the forced evictions of Ponticelli in 2008, Parco della Marinella in Via Marina in 2012, Via Maddaloni in 2013, Via Santa Maria del Pianto in 2014, Via Galileo Ferraris former Manifattura Tabacchi area in 2015, and again Ponticelli in 2016 went to live there.

Following several postponements of the enforcement of the eviction, the Public Prosecutor's Office at the Court of Naples had indicated that the deadline for the evacuation of the slum in Gianturco was 10 January 2017. However, by the time the deadline expired, neither had the slum been dismantled nor had a further postponement been granted.

Starting from January 2017, public authorities and law enforcement agencies decide to start exercising different types of pressure (such as forbidding the local market, seizing carts, cars and vans, constantly having local municipal police patrolling the areas next to the entrances to the "camp", occasionally prohibiting the delivery of meals provided by Caritas inside the slum, providing oral notices of imminent eviction) that make the concerns of the Roma communities of an imminent eviction greater and more tangible. This activity means that dozens of families decide to leave the settlement

autonomously, in the absence of adequate alternative housing arrangements by the municipal authorities, in a dynamic that can be qualified and assimilated to an "induced eviction".

In Spring 2017, authorities repeatedly warn the inhabitants of the slum in Gianturco about the eviction that actually takes place on 7 April 2017, in the absence of any suitable alternative offers. Roma families disperse in a real "diaspora" throughout the city.

Approximately 200 people are temporarily transferred to the temporary reception center of Via del Riposo, an institutional mono-ethnic settlement built a short time earlier by the Municipality of Naples to host only selected Roma families. Other families, whose situation is more precarious and fragile, are offered the possibility of moving to the "Grazia Deledda" reception center, a mono-ethnic structure falling short of international standards that hosts about 100 people. The remaining families are not offered any alternative housing solution and they become homeless. Following the forced eviction, some of them, having established for years solid roots in the urban fabric, do not appear to have moved away from the city but are scattered in a fragmented way on the local territory. Many have slept in the car for weeks, while others have sought shelter in informal settlements, or have moved away from the city and have temporarily returned to Romania.

THE DIASPORA OF THE ROMA FROM GIANTURCO

It is interesting to understand and highlight that the "**diaspora**" produced by the forced eviction from the slum of Gianturco was fragmented on the territory of the city of Naples, replicating elsewhere, if not in a worse form, the situation of vulnerability of the Roma families evicted.

In the days immediately following the eviction, in the absence of alternative solutions, approximately **160 people including women and minors** coming from the slum in Gianturco, seek refuge in a disused private factory called "former Manifattura Tabacchi" and located in Via Ferraris in the Municipality of Naples, not far from the previous informal settlement. The building, consisting of multiple sheds, does not meet the minimum requirements for habitability and is lacking basic services such as water, sanitation and electricity. After the inspections carried out by the Fire Brigade and the Public Authorities, on 6 July 2017 the Local Police of the Municipality of Naples warn the occupants to immediately free the premises in question due to the danger of rubble collapsing from the roof.

Following the abandonment of the site "former Manifattura Tabacchi" by the occupants, as a consequence of the numerous pressures by the public authorities, about **250 people** - the same 160 people present in the building of the "former Manifattura Tabacchi" together with other people evicted from the Gianturco settlement - seek refuge in the area located between Via Ausilio and Via Gianturco, called "former fruit and vegetable market", which is managed by a private company and is surveilled by a private security company.

On **3 August 2017** the Court of Naples orders the preventive seizure of the area due to the fact that it is occupied without authorization and because the health and hygiene situation is extremely critical. The order is notified only to some families present within the "former fruit and vegetable market" while on **14 August 2017** the final deadline for the relocation from the area is set for 8 September of the same year.

On **11 September** the Authorities issue a decree postponing the execution of the decree for the preventive seizure of the area known as "former fruit and vegetable market", and at the same time providing that the eviction operations should be resumed as of 11 October 2017. The date is further moved to **24 October**. Following the postponement of the execution of the eviction to **27 October**, this is further moved to **9 November**. Despite the establishment of working groups involving some of the Roma from the eviction of Gianturco and others from the informal slum at risk of forced eviction in Via Cupa Perillo in Scampia, as well as the network of local associations, the condition of

the Roma evicted by Gianturco remains unresolved.

On **6 November** the community that lives within the "former fruit and vegetable market" seeks refuge in the abandoned buildings of the former factories of the industrial zone, triggering discontent among the residents of the neighborhood. Around **250 Roma** find shelter in the area called "ex Frigoriferie", and as of 31 December 2017, they are still residing there.

As exemplified by the forced eviction in Gianturco, in the case of evictions from settlements inhabited by Roma, in 2017 throughout the country these continue to be characterized by the absence of effective consultations with those affected, of adequate notice, of alternative housing solutions for those who do not have the means to provide for themselves and, very often, of notifications. In the few cases in which a housing alternative is offered, this often consists in accommodation in a mono-ethnic settlement.

In the **Municipality of Rome** and in the **metropolitan city of Milan** forced evictions continue to be among the main violations affecting the most vulnerable communities, those who live in a situation of extreme segregation and discrimination on a daily basis. In the two cities, a high number of forced evictions can also be observed throughout 2017. In Rome, Associazione 21 luglio has documented 33 forced evictions from informal slums and micro settlements, while in the metropolitan city of Milan, with reference to the same year, there were 25 forced evictions of micro Roma settlements. It should also be noted that the removal by public authorities of campers, vans and motor homes of Roma families

through ordinances of the local mayors - which are not included in the total number of forced evictions - appears to be growing not only in Milan but also in the entire Centre-North area. This is the case of the **Municipality of Vicenza** - where such ordinances are used to prevent the temporary stay and parking of vehicles and cars in certain areas of the city.

Associazione 21 luglio, through its constant monitoring activity, has recorded for the entire year of 2017 the following evictions of Roma families: **96 in Northern Italy, 91 in the Center and 43 in the South⁵⁹ for a total of 230 forced evictions.**

The overall picture shows that the practice continues to be widespread and reiterated throughout the country and in most cases it involves medium-small size slums, micro camps and micro settlements. Forced evictions involving the largest number of people documented by Associazione 21 luglio in 2017 were: Via Bruzzo, Genoa (about 30 families⁶⁰ - 9 May); Borgo Mezzanone, Foggia (about 100 people - 20 July); Via Breccie di Sant'Erasmo, Naples (about 1200 people - 7 April); Via Menotti, Cinisello Balsamo (about 150 people - 18 April), Via Newton, Rome (about 80 people - 18 December).

MAIN FORCED EVICTIONS: FROM NORTH TO SOUTH

On **9 May 2017**, with the Mayoral Ordinance n. 133⁶¹ the informal slum in Via Bruzzo, adjacent to the fruit and vegetable market of Bolzaneto, in the **Municipality of Genoa**, where about 30 Roma families of Romanian citizens live in dilapidated housing and in precarious sanitary conditions, is dismantled. Although it involved the provision for a very limited period of time (3 days) of emergency accommodation in a hotel to those who had requested it, in the absence of adequate and genuine consultations with the residents of the slum and of a real alternative and adequate medium-long term solution that takes into account the needs of the families affected, this eviction can be qualified as a forced eviction. In November, almost all the families evicted, settle on the same site that had been previously vacated.

With the Mayoral Ordinance no. 8 of 9 February 2017⁶², the **Municipality of Foggia** orders the eviction from the informal slum of Borgo Mezzanone inhabited by about 100 Roma of Bulgarian citizenship, including many minors. The Ordinance envisages the recovery and securing of the site, following a violent fire developed in December 2016 which caused the death of a young man and the destruction of about 50 shacks. The inhabitants of the so called "Bulgarian Ghetto" have been present on the territory of Foggia for about 6 years and have engaged in seasonal agricultural work. They live in homes in structural conditions of extreme decay and precariousness and lacking minimal and essential sanitation. During the summer months, their presence probably amounts to more than 800 units due to the seasonal demand for labor for the harvesting of vegetables. On 20 July 2017, the eviction is carried out without any offer of alternative and adequate housing solutions, in violation of international and national housing standards.

In the **Municipality of Cinisello Balsamo (MI)** on 18 April 2017 about 150 Roma of Romanian citizenship are evicted from an informal slum mainly consisting of shacks and tents, located in Via Ciro Menotti. The eviction is carried out without genuine consultations with the people affected and without adequate notice; the operations do not provide for the provision of suitable alternative housing solutions for those who are not able to provide for themselves, with the result that those evicted are rendered homeless.

In addition to the evictions carried out by local authorities, there are also situations in which entire Roma communities have lived long periods under

the constant threat of a sudden transfer and without an alternative housing solution. This is the case of the inhabitants of the slum of Cupa Perillo, in the

Municipality of Naples, a large community of 628 people, about half of whom are minors. The 106 families, originating mainly from countries of the former Yugoslavia (Croatia, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina,

Macedonia and Kosovo), rooted in the social and urban fabric of the city of Naples for about thirty years, have been living in this situation since summer 2017.

INFORMAL SLUM OF CUPA PERILLO: RESIDENTIAL SEGREGATION AND RISK OF FORCED EVICTION

On **17 July 2017**, in execution of the Decree of Preventive Seizure⁶³ of three areas of the settlement of Cupa Perillo, only some families – about 40 – are formally notified of the date of 11 September 2017 as the last term for the vacation of the three areas⁶⁴.

On **27 July** about 30 people who had received the eviction notice, file an appeal with the Court of Naples with the legal support of Associazione 21 luglio and the European Roma Rights Center⁶⁵; about 2 months later, the Court declares it inadmissible⁶⁶.

On **27 August** a fire, whose causes are still being investigated, occurs near the settlement of Cupa Perillo. Five residential units are destroyed. The fire had been announced in the previous days via some threats by unknown persons against the inhabitants of the "camp". After the fire, the Department of Prevention of the Naples ASL (Local Health Care Centre), with a report dated **29 August** takes note of the very alarming hygienic-sanitary situation there, and requires the immediate removal of the waste and the urgent transfer of the people from the area in question⁶⁷.

Two days later, with an Urgent Mayoral Ordinance, the Municipality of Naples orders the immediate securing of the location through the removal of waste present in the area affected by the fire, and requests from the Central Welfare Department of the Municipality, in cooperation with the Municipal Civil Protection Service and the Local Police, the temporary transfer of the population settled in the area affected by the fire⁶⁸. One part of the households living in the three areas affected by the preventive seizure, (in particular the one located in the area affected by the fire), in total 52 people (25 adults and 27 minors), is temporarily transferred to the municipal structure, 'Auditorium De André in Scampia, an indoor space of about 900 square meters, equipped by the local Civil Protection with temporary installations and camping beds. In the absence of an adequate alternative housing arrangements by the municipal authorities, as of 31 December 2017, the households were still housed in the Auditorium.

On **5 September** the assessment carried out by two air monitoring laboratories confirm that the air pollution crisis related to the fire ceased, and a week later the Public Prosecutor's Office at the Court of Naples decides to postpone the eviction from the remaining two areas under seizure of the camp in Via Cupa Perillo. The postponement also follows from a request of the municipal authorities to postpone the deadline for vacating the area for 30 days, in order to arrange alternative housing for about 350 people (about 300 registered in the slum of Via Cupa Perillo and around 50 already moved to the Municipal Auditorium)⁶⁹. The location identified for setting up a tent camp is in the abandoned barracks "Boscariello", in the nearby Miano district.

On **28 December**, the Municipality of Naples approves through the Municipal Council Decision no. 750, "the measures to support autonomy and permanent exit from the emergency reception system, of Roma households accommodated in the Scampia Auditorium"⁷⁰(10 families), allocating 5.000 euros per family, for a total of 50.000 euros.

The uncertainty on the timeframes and the modalities of the implementation of the municipal measures, the precarious conditions below international standards in which Roma from the Scampia slums live, the failure to provide adequate alternative accommodation by the Municipality of Naples, the absence of effective internal remedies together with a general climate of uncertainty about the future, generate the fear of a forced eviction that could affect the entire community currently present in Cupa Perillo.

For this reason, with the support of Associazione 21 luglio and ERRC, on 4 September some inhabitants of Cupa Perillo have addressed the European Court of Human Rights.

5 HATE SPEECH, DISCRIMINATION AND VIOLENT ATTACKS

Antigypsyism remains one of the distinguishing features of our society that in alternate periods, sees its intensity increase or decrease. The economic and banking crisis that broke out in 2008 with its serious consequences and the increase in the migratory flow recorded over the last 24 months on the Italian

coasts have partly distorted the media and the public opinion from the "Roma question" by loosening the negative perception fed by stereotypes and prejudices. However, this was not enough to extinguish this form of intolerance because, as already noted in the previous reports of the Observatory 21 luglio, there

is a direct connection between the discriminatory and segregative public policies and "hate speech" addressed to the Roma communities; this can be

noticed in particular during the election campaign periods, when these phenomena surge both in terms of numbers and intensity.

RELEVANT DEVELOPMENTS IN 2017: REPORTS, COMMISSIONS AND CONSULTATIONS

Significant developments include the draft report of 11 October 2017 of the **Commission on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs of the European Parliament** which highlights how antigypsyism has effectively marked the existence of many Roma and Sinti living in Italy⁷¹.

Also the Final Report of the **Commission of the Chamber of Deputies "Jo Cox" on intolerance, xenophobia, racism and hate phenomena**, approved on 6 July 2017, notes that antigypsyism is a well-rooted trait in Italian society which has seen its intensity increase in recent years, through the use of fake news and the resort to emotional appeals on the reality of the facts⁷².

On 14 December 2017, the Cabinet of the Ministry of Justice, through a Ministerial Decree, established a working group denominated "**Permanent council for the fight against hate crimes and hate speech**" to carry out an advisory role with regard to actions and initiatives at national, European Union and international level on issues related to the fight against hate crimes and hate speeches⁷³. The meetings of the Council will be held every six months⁷⁴.

In areas where formal and informal settlements exist and inclusive policies are inexistent or weak, where exchanges and relations are suffocated by spatial isolation, it is certainly easier to detect words that unmask an attitude of intolerance and open hostility. After all, a "downward spiral" has been reported since years. This is because where numerous formal settlements exist and forced

evictions occur, a greater level of antigypsyism develops proportionately, which in turn raises the pressure on local administrators who feel so legitimated in persevering in policies with security approaches, characterized by eviction actions and the construction of mono-ethnic settlements.

THE "JO COX" PARLIAMENTARY COMMISSION

On 10 May 2016 the "**Commission on intolerance, xenophobia, racism and hate phenomena**" was established; it was presided by the Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies Laura Boldrini⁷⁵.

On 20 July 2017, the Commission, named "Jo Cox", presented its final report approved on 6 July 2017. In the Report, **antigypsyism**, understood as "a form of racism directed against members of the Roma, Sinti and Caminanti communities" is mentioned among the forms of hatred motivated by ethno-cultural reasons.

Quoting the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance of the Council of Europe (ECRI), the Report reiterates that among the main issues linked to antigypsyism "there are: cases of racist violence against Roma and ill-treatment by law enforcement agents which are not adequately investigated; racist and offensive political speech against the Roma; cases of segregation in schools where special classes are destined exclusively to Roma students; problems related to discrimination in the enjoyment of social rights such as access to health, education and employment; certain media associate the Roma with criminal activities, portraying them as a threat to public security; many Roma do not yet have access to basic social services, as they are not registered in a municipality and/or have no identity documents».

Some of the recommendations of the Commission focus on antigypsyism: "ensure that political leaders and public figures condemn publicly and promptly episodes of racism, anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, sexism or antigypsyism; [...] implement the National Strategy of Inclusion of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti, putting an end to the existence of segregating settlements and evictions without alternatives and promoting the educational, social, employment and housing inclusion of these communities [...]" »

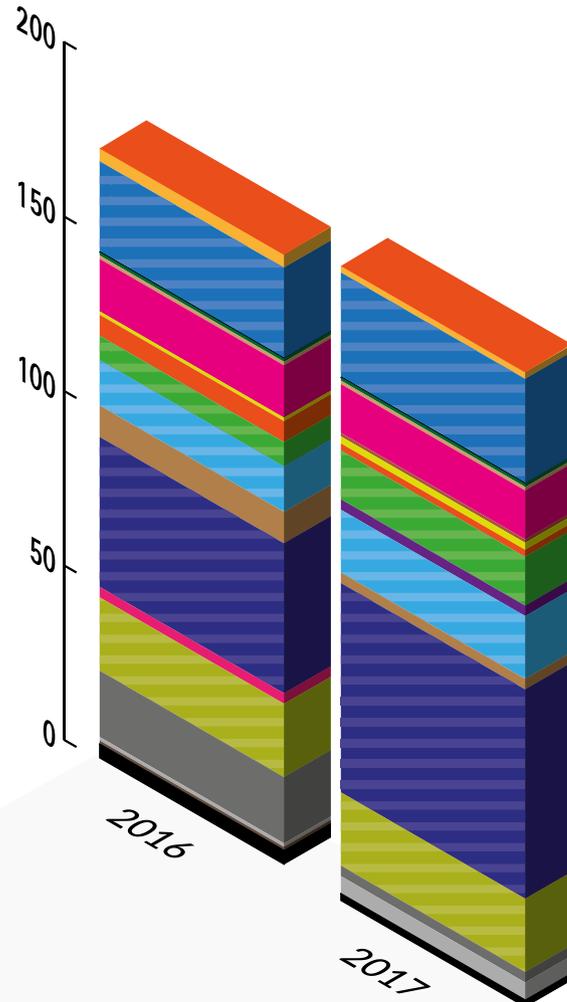
TYPE OF DISCRIMINATION	2016			2017		
	NUMBER REPORTED	TOTAL %	DAILY AVERAGE	NUMBER REPORTED	TOTAL %	DAILY AVERAGE
Stereotyped speech	118	67,4	0,32	131	71,9	0,36
Incitement to hatred and / or discrimination	57	32,6	0,16	51	28,1	0,14
TOTAL	175	100	0,48	182	100	0,50

In 2017 the Observatory 21 luglio registered a total of **182 episodes of hate speech** against Roma and Sinti, of which 51 (28.1% of the total) classified as episodes of a certain gravity. The daily average is **0.50 episodes per day**, while excluding the episodes of a certain gravity (category: incitement to hatred and/or discrimination) the daily average stands at 0.14 episodes per day,

signalling a further drop compared to the previous year when the average daily cases of a certain gravity was equal to 0.16. Therefore, the Observatory 21 luglio notes that in 2017 the overall figure compared to 2016 increased by 4%, **from 175 episodes recorded in 2016 to 182 in 2017.**

	2016		2017			
	A	B	TOTAL	A	B	TOTAL
Abruzzo	3	1	4 (2,2%)	2	0	2 (1,1%)
Basilicata	0	1	1 (0,5%)	0	0	0
Calabria	1	0	1 (0,5%)	5	0	5 (3%)
Campania	10	9	19 (11%)	3	0	3 (1,6%)
Emilia Romagna	15	6	21 (12%)	19	2	21 (11,5%)
Friuli Venezia Giulia	3	0	3 (1,7%)	0	0	0
Lazio	33	10	43 (24,5%)	40	20	60 (33%)
Liguria	3	6	9 (5,1%)	2	1	3 (1,6%)
Lombardy	10	3	13 (7,4%)	14	4	18 (9,9%)
Marche	0	0	0	2	1	3 (1,6%)
Molise	0	0	0	0	0	0
Piedmont	7	0	7 (4%)	11	3	14 (7,7%)
Puglia	1	5	6 (3,4%)	2	0	2 (1,1%)
Sardinia	0	1	1 (0,5%)	1	1	2 (1,1%)
Sicily	0	0	0	1	0	1 (0,5%)
Tuscany	11	4	15 (9%)	9	5	14 (7,7%)
Trentino Alto Adige	1	0	1 (0,5%)	1	0	1 (0,5%)
Umbria	0	1	1 (0,5%)	0	1	1 (0,5%)
Valle d'Aosta	0	0	0	0	0	0
Veneto	19	7	26 (15%)	17	13	30 (16,5%)
National	1	3	4 (2,2%)	2	0	2 (1,1%)
TOTAL	118	57	175 (100%)	131	51	182 (100%)

A Stereotyped speech **B** Incitement to hatred and / or discrimination



As far as the geographical distribution of the episodes is concerned, in 2017 the high concentration recorded in the Lazio region (33% of the total equal to 60 cases recorded, with Rome alone reaching 31.2% of the total with 57 episodes), in Veneto (16.5% of the total amounting to 30 episodes recorded, with Vicenza reaching 8.8% of the total with its 16 registered cases), in Emilia Romagna (11.5% of the total amounting to 21 episodes recorded, with Faenza reaching 4.9% of the total with its 9 registered cases), in Lombardy (9.9% of the total equal to 18 episodes recorded, with Milan reaching 4.4% of the total with its 8 cases recorded), in Piedmont (7.7% of the total amounting to 14 episodes recorded, with Torino reaching 5.5% of the total with its 10 registered cases), in Tuscany (7.7% of the total equal to 14 episodes registered) stand out.

In all these regions, during 2017 the public debate on the Roma and Sinti communities periodically degenerated in antigypsy rhetoric. It should also be noted that despite the relatively "dynamic" scenario in the two-year period 2016-2017 in the Campania Region⁷⁶, in 2017 there was a considerable reduction in hate speech episodes (3 episodes, 1.6% of the total) compared to the 19 episodes in 2016, with Naples having only 2 confirmed episodes in 2017, equal to 1.1% of the total, against the 14 registered the previous year. The possible cause of this decrease can be ascribed to two factors, a local one and a national one. On the one hand, the election campaign for municipal elections in the city of Naples in 2016 exacerbated the political debate on the presence of Roma settlements on the Neapolitan territory and on the discriminatory policies and/or statements;

on the other the important trend, noticeable in the wider national panorama, was that language used by public figures was less explicit.

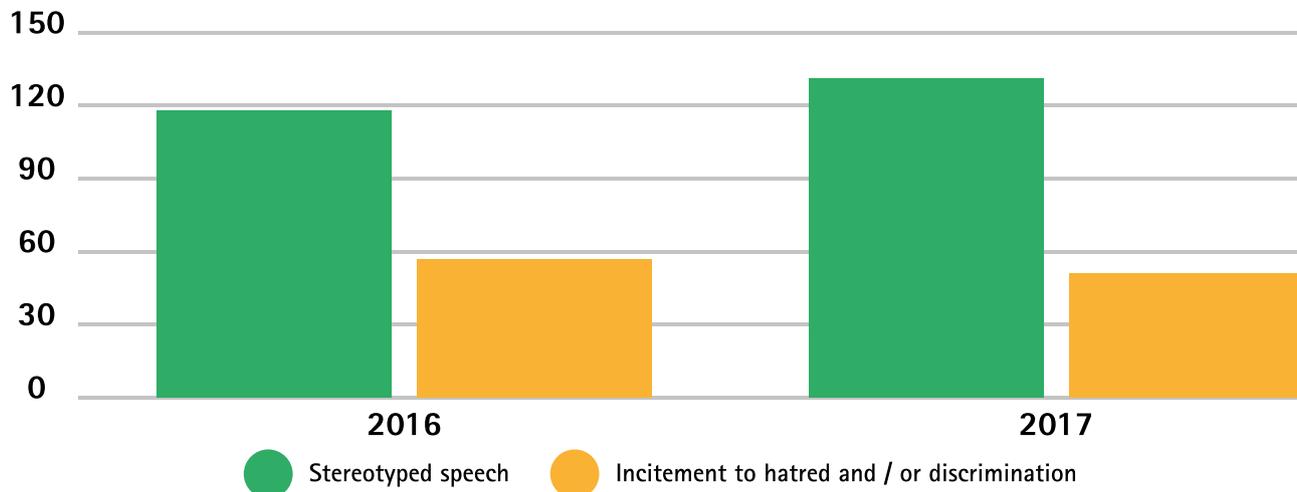
The shift observed in recent years, from a language manifestly discriminatory and inciting hate to more *borderline statements*, denotes a more or less conscious communication strategy by national and local public and political figures. This leads to an increase in stereotyped discourses and a decrease in incitement to hatred and / or discrimination, a phenomenon that in itself could represent a *positive trend*, if confirmed. However this tendency on the one hand, nourishes and nurtures the cultural substratum on which episodes of incitement to discrimination and / or hatred are rooted, on the other it places the producers of this language in an area where they cannot be sanctioned.

Percentage wise, the most significant increases are recorded in the Lazio, Veneto, Lombardy, Piedmont and Calabria regions, with Piedmont doubling its previous figure. Furthermore, analyzing the geographical distribution of the episodes in 2017, we note that 86% of the cases of hate speech (157 episodes) are overall concentrated in the Regions of Lazio, Veneto, Emilia Romagna, Lombardy, Piedmont and Tuscany; 47 of them, (26% on the total) are of a certain gravity. Noteworthy is also the increase of episodes between 2016 and 2017 in both the city of Milan with a percentage variation of 60% and in the city of Rome with a percentage variation of 42.5%. In the latter case the public language seems to have been conditioned by the wide debate established triggered by the approval of the "Roma Capitale Plan for the Inclusion of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti populations".

CITY	2016	2017
MILAN	5 (2,9%)	8 (4,4%)
ROME	40 (22,9%)	57 (31,2%)
NAPLES	14 (8%)	2 (1,1%)
FAENZA	8 (4,5%)	9 (4,9%)
TURIN	5 (2,8%)	10 (5,5%)
VICENZA	13 (7,4%)	16 (8,8%)

Analyzing the tendency from the point of view of the type of episodes, it is evident that the specific weight of the less serious episodes on the total (category: stereotyped speech) has increased to 71.9% (131 episodes recorded) compared to 67.4% in 2016 (118 episodes recorded) with a growth rate of 6.7%. These

data show that in the course of 2017 the slight drop in the most serious episodes - 10.5% - was actually counterbalanced by a slight increase in stereotyped discourse, leaving the total computation of the recorded episodes nearly unchanged compared to 2016.



VIOLENT AND INTIMIDATING INCIDENTS AGAINST ROMA AND SINTI IN 2017

In 2017 there were a number of violent incidents in Italy that targeted Roma and Sinti. In most cases, investigations to identify those responsible are still ongoing and, from the evidence available, it is not possible to label these episodes certainly as hate crimes⁷⁷.

- **13 March 2017** - In Rimini, two women residing in the Via Islanda formal "camp" express strong concern regarding the increasing hatred towards the Roma and Sinti communities residing in the city, in particular, in relation to the construction of a micro-area where Roma and Sinti families will be relocated following the planned eviction of the settlement. To be noted the intimidating act of a person, unidentified by the authorities, who, during the night, hurls from inside his car various invectives: "We'll burn you"⁷⁸.

- **6 June 2017** - In Turin approximately 100 people march in front of the Strada Aeroporto formal slum demonstrating against the presence of the Roma settlement. After a few hours from the start of the march various fringes detach from the protest to proceed towards some dwellings located at the far end of the slum, waving and then throwing numerous lit torches in the direction of these dwellings inhabited by Roma families and threatening the inhabitants with the following threats: "We'll kill you", "You are animals", "We will drive you away". The fire brigade, rushing to extinguish the flames, are blocked by protesters, including approximately 20 people belonging to the political group of Forza Nuova, who prevent them for several minutes from accessing the settlement⁷⁹.

- **1 July 2017** - In Dragona, Acilia (RM), a 14-year-old girl of Serbian origin, residing in the slums of Via degli Ortolani, is assaulted with a bat while walking in the city with two other peers. During an altercation, arising from a verbal exchange between the three teenagers and two people (a man and a woman stopped in their cars), the man driving one of the cars shouts: "I know you are from the nomad camp." Following threats and repeated sexist and racist insults, the man takes a bat from his car with which he hits the teenager on the head. After chasing the other two minors, the man hits the girl who is still on the ground again on her leg, and then flees with his car. The police immediately launch investigations⁸⁰.

- **27 and 28 August 2017** - At Scampia, Naples (NA), on 27 August a fire is set in the vicinity of the Cupa Perillo informal settlement. The blaze affects a part of the "camp" involving five housing units. The authors who set the fire in the undergrowth surrounding the dwellings are unknown. However, also following the public denunciation of the residents of the slums to the competent authorities,

the police decide to start an investigation. It is assumed that the act may have been carried out with an intimidation intent, connected with the possible evacuation of settlement, or in retaliation following complaints of the residents of the slums to the competent authorities regarding the spillage of waste and dumps by unknown persons in the vicinity of the "camp". It should also be noted that the day after the fire, on 28 August, approximately 5 scooters passed through the slum publicly threatening the residents with intimidating invectives and threats: "We'll burn all of you", "We'll set you on fire"⁸¹.

• **27 September 2017** – In Guidonia (RM) approximately 100 residents from Via dell'Albuccione stage a protest against a neighboring Roma "camp". The demonstration degenerates into a fight and stone-throwing. At the origin of this episode is the reckless driving of an informal settlement dweller a few hours prior. Numerous people rush in the street to form a manhunt. Some inhabitants from the neighborhood create barricades on the street and throw stones in the direction of the settlement. Following the urban warfare, which lasted roughly four hours, the container where the Roma boy whose behavior in driving the car had produced the mobilization usually sleeps, is set on fire⁸².

STEREOTYPICAL SPEECH, INCITEMENT TO DISCRIMINATION AND / OR HATRED: EMBLEMATIC CASES IN 2017

• **26 May 2017** – **Ivan Boccali**, Ciampino municipal councillor for the "Gente Libera" (Free People) Civic Movement, writes on his public Facebook profile in relation to a bonfire at the La Barbuta formal settlement in Rome:

Another fire at a Roma Camp

"La Barbuta" in Ciampino

Once again toxic bonfires.

South Rome and Castelli Romani hostages of these savage, primitive thugs.

The do-gooder politics of integration has failed.

*The only solution for that Nomad Camp is NAPALM.*⁸³

• **29 October 2017** – **Stefano Spagnoli**, Deputy National Secretary General of the Autonomous Police Union Confederation (Consap), in response to the report of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs of the European Parliament on the contrast to antigypsyism of October 2017 which recommended, among other measures, "to encourage the recruitment of Roma people within the Police Corps", replies with a press release stating that "the concept of integration of the Roma is a contradiction, in fact their culture has always been that of living on the margins of society to exalt their parasitism. By throwing it into a Disney metaphor, as someone has already said, would there not be a risk of having the Beagle Boys guard Scrooge McDuck's Money Bin? We imagine that the perplexities that we have could also be the same for the gypsies, who view people, in uniforms, to be absolutely avoided and that this culture of "as far away from the police" is passed down from generation to generation, from an early age where the policeman could prevent them from begging»⁸⁴.

• **2 November 2017** – **Massimo Gnagnarini**, Budget Assessor of the Municipality of Orvieto for the Civic List "Per andare avanti" (To move forward), responding on Facebook to a citizen from Orvieto who reported the presence of women from a "nomad camp" in the area of the local station, soliciting solutions, he affirmed on his Facebook profile: «*Uncle Adolf had also tried to make some remedies, politically incorrect, but even he did not succeed*».⁸⁵

• **4 November 2017** – **Giovanni Ardita**, Municipal Councillor of the Municipality of Ladispoli, exponent of the political party "Fratelli d'Italia", comments on a theft in an apartment with a post on his Facebook profile. Although there are ongoing investigations and the identity of the perpetrators has not yet been ascertained, he writes: «*These bastard Romanian thieves do not stop in front of anything, not even the home of a disabled deaf women nor the home of a dead boy. Disgusting, the authorities must kick them all the way up to the border and send them back to their country. Without return. Enough with this rubbish of gypsies...*»⁸⁶.

• **10 November 2017** – **Filippo Facci**, journalist for the newspaper "Libero", in relation to the Report of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs of the European Parliament on the fight against antigypsyism in October 2017, during the television program Matrix claims: "*That movie, the one with the lady's mother, I want to know in which century it was filmed. I want to know where they get water from, where they get electricity from. I mean, lady, you have to send your children to school, you have to have dentures made, you have to learn Italian. Sorry lady there can no longer be nomads, this culture does not exist, it is forbidden, it is banned! Because otherwise something comes out of this, not so much out of the control of the State, but something that is*

fundamentally an unbearable ignorance which we cannot bear. These people cannot be integrated, it is an oxymoron to be assimilated, they must be dissolved ... The Roma, taking this as a general term, for the way they think culturally, the Roma must not and can no longer exist as Roma because they infiltrate in the society and all these things they will take home to rearrange their abusive camp. When I say assimilated and not integrated, I mean, brutally, because I realize that assimilated is a bad word that recalls sad historical appeals, I mean that these people must no longer exist as such, as a culture is not possible»⁸⁷.

• **7 December 2017** - In response to an amendment to the 2018-2020 Regional Economic and Financial Document concerning the scholastic inclusion of Roma children, the regional councillor for the education, training and work of the Veneto Region, **Elena Donazzan**, claims: "*If you want to have any hope of them being educated, you must take the children aged 0 to 6 away from Roma and Sinti parents*»⁸⁸.



The Observatory 21 luglio points out how the discriminatory incidents with an "ethnic" basis, specifically aimed against Roma and Sinti people in Italy, reported and officially registered by the competent authorities, are difficult to interpret. Although there are traces of discriminatory episodes

against Roma and Sinti, often the total number of discriminatory acts that can be recorded and prosecuted appears to be an underestimation due to the scarce sanctioning tools available, their low incidence and the high rate of interpretative uncertainty of the cases themselves.

OSCAD AND OSCE

During the year 2017 the **Observatory for Security against Acts of Discrimination (OSCAD)**⁸⁹ received a total of 128 reports, of which 61 related to a discriminating racial / ethnicity nature. Regarding the latter, in line with the cases recorded by the Observatory 21 luglio, there are 2 discriminatory incidents against Roma people⁹⁰.

The actual difficulties in the registration and prosecution of cases are evident if we compare the data reported by the **Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)**, where in the absence of official disaggregated data from the Italian authorities, in 2016, 338 incidents of hate crimes were reported for reasons of racism and xenophobia, which included hate crimes against Roma and Sinti, while according to the monitoring of violent incidents and hate crimes by civil society in the same year in Italy there are 14 cases of hate crimes against Roma and Sinti⁹¹.

FOOTNOTES:

1. UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, Concluding Observations on Italy, December 2016, para. 8, available at: http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/Treaties/CERD/Shared%20Documents/ITA/CERD_C_ITA_CO_19-20_26015_E.pdf.
2. See the Communication of the European Commission to the European Parliament and the European Council, COM (2017) 458 final, *Midterm review of the EU framework for national Roma integration strategies* of 30 August 2017, available at: http://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/just/document.cfm?action=display&doc_id=46282.
3. See European Council, *Estimates and official numbers of Roma in Europe*, July 2012; European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, Roma Pilot Survey, see: <http://fra.europa.eu/DVS/DVTroma.php>
4. See: <https://www.slideshare.net/slideistat/c-freguja-progettazione-di-un-sistema-informativo-pilota-per-il-monitoraggio-dellinclusionesociale-dellepopolazioni-rom-sinti-e-caminanti>.
5. See: http://www.cittalia.it/images/Gli_insedimenti_Rom_Sinti_e_Caminanti_in_Italia_.pdf.
6. *Ibidem*. According to this research, analysing the data on the RSC populations residing in the camps (*ranging from the large "villages of solidarity" where the residents are periodically registered by the municipal administrations, to the most inaccessible "spontaneous camps", deprived of any kind of services or interventions*) overall there are 23,277 people surveyed, 28,360 estimated and 24,248 actually present.
7. The constantly updated data relating to the mapping, conducted by Associazione 21 luglio, are not entirely public mainly due to concerns linked to security. The data presented did not include or take into consideration the so-called "micro-areas". The mapping involves 18 regions, excluding Val d'Aosta and Basilicata, where it was not possible to compensate for the absence of reliable sources and data
8. The figure is the result of the constant monitoring of Association 21 Luglio and its request - addressed to civil society organizations and institutional bodies present on the ground - of numerical data on the presence of Roma and Sinti in the various settlements.
9. This estimate is the result of the constant monitoring work of Associazione 21 luglio. The fragmentary nature of the settlements and the eviction have changed during the year the number of presences that are believed to move within a range of between 8,600 and 10,600 units.
10. This data is the result of the information obtained through interviews on the data of the individual settlements held with representatives of civil society organizations and of institutions.
11. *Ibidem*
12. Among the international institutions which have published their recommendations on Italy in recent years: in 2015 the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance of the Council of Europe, the Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities of the Council of Europe and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights of the United Nations; in 2016, the Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities of the Council of Europe, the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance of the Council of Europe and the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination of the United Nations; in 2017 the United Nations Human Rights Committee, the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs of the European Parliament.
13. At the beginning of 2016, the Emilia Romagna Region, which in 2015 had already promulgated new regional legislation, "Rules for the social inclusion of Roma and Sinti", adopted the "Regional strategy for the inclusion of Roma and Sinti", acknowledging and adapting at local level the orientation contained in the National Strategy. Like the national document which inspires it, the Regional Strategy of Emilia Romagna is a programmatic document that elaborates in detail the 4 are-

as of intervention (housing, employment, education, health), but that suffers from the absence of quantifiable objectives and result indicators and from the fact that the resources with are needed to implement it are not identified. See: <http://sociale.regione.emilia-romagna.it/allegati/strategia-regionale-rom-e-sinti>.

14. Presidency of the Regional Council, Section for Citizen Security, Policies for Migration and Social Anti-Mafia, Protocol AOO_176/0000371 of 31 March 2017, Subject "Puglia Region Strategy for integration of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti populations. Inauguration of the regional working group". The relevant documentation is available in the archive of Associazione 21 luglio.

15. The relevant documentation is available in the archive of Associazione 21 luglio

16. See: http://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/just/document.cfm?action=display&doc_id=46282

17. Observations adopted by the United Nations Human Rights Committee on 23 March 2017, *Advance Unedited Version*, CCPR_C_ENG_CO_6_27016, http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CCPR%2fC%2fITA%2fCO%2f6&Lang=en.

18. See: <http://docstore.ohchr.org/SelfServices/FilesHandler.ashx?enc=6QkG1d%2fPPRiCAqhKb7yhsgA84bcFRy75ul-vS2cmS%2f%2boggWNcU4%2fign%2bZiHvEZQc5SEWgcHa%2f%2bgSomFFruJyt%2fajkB5IO3%2fHDJ86%2f-VRXmK72WeXGB9aYXQX5DqYUGqKWwW>.

19. See: https://search.coe.int/cm/Pages/result_details.aspx?ObjectId=090000168073038c.

20. See: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?type=REPORT&reference=A8-2017-0294&language=EN>.

21. See: <http://fra.europa.eu/en/publication/2017/fundamental-rights-report-2017>.

22. The idea of "overcoming of the camps" has until now been poorly implemented despite the fact that in 2015 a national court recognized the discriminatory character a formal settlement for Roma only. The formal settlement in question is that of La Barbuta, in Rome. See: Rome Civil Court, Section II, Ordinance 30 May 2015.

23. See the relevant parliamentary question on: <http://www.camera.it/leg17/410?idSeduta=0893&tipo=stenografico>.

24. The relevant documentation is available in the archive of Associazione 21 luglio

25. The memorandum of understanding "for a project of social inclusion and accommodation for Roma in the town of Giugliano in Campania" of 4 February 2016 is available in the archive of Associazione 21 luglio.

26. Furthermore, the Campania Region with Decision of the Regional Government n. 815 of 23 December 2015 and Resolution n. 868 of 29 December 2015 has committed to allocating additional 900,000 euros, as an extraordinary contribution "for the project in favor of the Roma communities". Through Regional Government Decision n. 712 of 6 December 2016 the Campania Region approves the outline of the "Program Agreement for the realization of the project of social inclusion and housing for the Roma of the camp of Masseria del Pozzo" prepared by the Municipality of Giugliano. The relevant documentation is available in the archive of Associazione 21 luglio.

27. See the relevant parliamentary question on: <http://www.camera.it/leg17/410?idSeduta=0893&tipo=stenografico>

28. Originally, the *Project* provided for the allocation of 1,300,000 euro in total. In May 2017, the Mayor of the Municipality of Giugliano informed the Ministry of Interior that the funds originally allocated were insufficient, and that a further allocation of resources was necessary.

29. The Municipal Council Decision no. 519 of 11 August 2016 of the Municipality of Naples is available in the archive of Associazione 21 luglio.

30. The relevant documentation is available in the archive of Associazione 21 luglio.

31. The relevant documentation is available in the archive of Associazione 21 luglio.

32. The relevant documentation is available in the archive of Associazione 21 luglio.
33. See: http://www.comune.torino.it/ucstampa/2017/article_647.shtml
34. The relevant documentation is available in the archive of Associazione 21 luglio.
35. The reconstruction of the main events mentioned therein is the result of the constant monitoring activity by Associazione 21 luglio.
36. The relevant documentation is available in the archive of Associazione 21 luglio
37. The relevant documentation is available in the archive of Associazione 21 luglio
38. The data provided is the result of the monitoring activity of Associazione 21 luglio.
39. The relevant documentation is available in the archive of Associazione 21 luglio.
40. Approximately 230 Italian Sinti and around 540 Roma, mainly from the former Yugoslavia, live in the four equipped areas.
41. The "Synoptic framework of the villages and Roma camps - RSC Office - Roma Capitale" is available in the archive of Associazione 21 luglio.
42. *Nomadi camps Ltd, op.cit.*; Associazione 21 luglio.
43. These aggregated data represent a sample, at national level, of the expenditures made by the various local administrations and refer to information and data that Associazione 21 luglio collected during its constant monitoring activity.
44. See: <http://www.refworld.org/pdfid/47a7079a1.pdf> and http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/FS21_rev_1_Housing_en.pdf
45. See Decree of the President of the Council of Ministers of 25 May 2016: http://www.governo.it/sites/governo.it/files/DPCM_20160525_testo.pdf
46. See: <http://www.inquietonotizie.it/gioia-presentato-progetto-riqualificazione-della-ciambra/>
47. See: <http://www.gazzettaufficiale.it/eli/id/2017/01/05/17A00004/sg>
48. The relevant documentation is available in the archive of Associazione 21 luglio.
49. See the Concluding Observations adopted on 9 December 2016 during the ninety-first session of the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, following the monitoring cycle on Italy (CERD / C / ITA / CO / 19-20), http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/Treaties/CERD/Shared%20Documents/ITA/CERD_C_ITA_CO_19-20_26015_E.pdf; See also Associazione 21 luglio, *Beyond the slums, op. cit.*; Associazione 21 luglio, *Capital Sin, op.cit.*
50. See Berenice, Lunaria, Compare and OsservAzione, Segregating costs, *op. cit.*; Associazione 21 luglio, *Nomad Camps Ltd, op.cit.*; Associazione 21 luglio, *Collection Centers Ltd, op.cit.*
51. See also: United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, *Concluding observations on the fifth periodic report of Italy*, October 2015 in correlation with the General Comment No. 4/1991 on adequate housing of the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. <http://www.refworld.org/pdfid/47a7079a1.pdf>
52. See Working Group on the Convention on the Rights of the Child, *The rights of children and adolescents in Italy*, 3rd Supplementary Report to the United Nations on the monitoring of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Italy, November 2017, <http://www.gruppocrc.net/IMG/pdf/rapportocrc-x2017.pdf> ; Concluding observations of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) of 24 July 2017, <http://docstore.ohchr.org/SelfServices/FilesHandler.ashx?enc=6QkG-1d%2fPPRiCAqhKb7yhsgA84bcFRy75ulvS2cmS%2f%2bggWNcU4%2flgn%2bzIhVvEZQc5SEWgcHa%2f%2bgSomFFruJyt%2fajk-B5lO3%2fHDJ86%2fVRXmK72WeXGB9aYXQX5DqYUGqKWwW>; Associazione 21 luglio, *Going out to dream*, November 2016,

http://www.21luglio.org/21luglio/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/uscire-per-sognare_3_4-11_web.pdf.

53. Concluding Observations adopted by the United Nations Human Rights Committee on 23 March 2017, *Advance Unedited Version*, CCPR_C_ENG_CO_6_27016

54. See UN Commission on Human Rights, Resolution 77/1993, 10 March 1993 https://www.google.it/url?sa=t&trct=j&eq=Etscrc=s&source=web&ecd=1&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEWiosdaLwuHYAhWINJoKHfJrDjcQFggoMAA&url=http%3A%2F%2Fap.ohchr.org%2FDocuments%2FE%2FCHR%2Fresolutions%2FE-CN_4-RES-1993-77.doc&tusg=AOvVaw3AUQv5xx5Nhhjlg1jPyShQe.

55. General Comment No. 7/1997 of the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on forced evictions "The right to adequate housing" (Article 11 (1) of the Covenant): Forced evictions ", FORCED EVICTION INT_CESCR_GEC_6430_E https://www.google.it/url?sa=t&trct=j&eq=Etscrc=s&source=web&ecd=1&ved=0ahUKEWij7fwzweHYAhUwhaYKHUWUCzEQFggoMAA&url=http%3A%2F%2Ftbineternet.ohchr.org%2FTreaties%2FCESCR%2FShared%2520Documents%2F1_Global%2FINT_CESCR_GEC_6430_E.doc&tusg=AOvVaw1Vpwbw9-bhUJ3j67TkdfOY.

56. To the contrary, it should be envisaged the Circular of the Ministry of the Interior, dated 1st September 2017, regarding the evictions from occupied buildings.

57. The relevant documentation is available in the archive of Associazione 21 luglio

58. The reconstruction of the main events mentioned therein is the result of the constant monitoring activity by Associazione 21 luglio.

59. The data on the number of evictions in Northern, Central and Southern Italy are the result of the constant monitoring activity by Associazione 21 luglio.

60. Only the number of Roma families affected by the forced eviction is available.

61. The relevant documentation is available in the archive of Associazione 21 luglio.

62. The relevant documentation is available in the archive of Associazione 21 luglio.

63. The Documentation relating to the Decree on Preventive Seizure RG 3315/2017 issued on 11 July 2017 by the Public Prosecutor's Office at the Court of Naples is available in the archive of Associazione 21 luglio.

64. The relevant documentation is available in the archive of Associazione 21 luglio.

65. European Roma Rights Center: <http://www.errc.org/>.

66. The relevant documentation is available in the archive of Associazione 21 luglio.

67. The relevant documentation is available in the archive of Associazione 21 luglio.

68. The relevant documentation is available in the archive of Associazione 21 luglio.

69. The relevant documentation is available in the archive of Associazione 21 luglio.

70. The relevant documentation is available in the archive of Associazione 21 luglio.

71. See: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?type=REPORT&reference=A8-2017-0294&language=EN#title2> and <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?type=REPORT&reference=A8-2017-0294&language=EN>.

72. See Final Report of the Commission of the Chamber of Deputies "Jo Cox" on intolerance, xenophobia, racism and hate phenomena, approved on 6 July 2017, pg. 78 and pg. 90:

<http://website-pace.net/documents/19879/3373777/20170825-JoCoxCommission-IT.pdf>

73. Associazione 21 luglio was invited to participate actively in the activities of the "Standing Committee for combating hate crimes

and hate speech".

74. The document m_dg. GAB.18-12-2017.0050592 of 14 December 2017 establishing the "Standing Committee for combating hate crimes and hate speech" is present in the archive of Associazione 21 luglio.

75. The Commission on intolerance, xenophobia, racism and hate was established on 10 May 2016 with the task of conducting study and research on these issues, including through the holding of hearings. The Commission is chaired by the speaker of the House and includes within ten members, one from each political group, three representatives of organizations, two experts in the field and eight representatives of research institutions and associations. Associazione 21 luglio is a member and participates actively in the work of the Commission.

76. The two-year period 2016-2017 was characterized in the city of Naples by the forced eviction of the informal slum in Gianturco, the establishment of a new formal settlement in the Municipality of Naples, the risk of evacuation of the "camp" site in Scampia, the design and allocation of additional funds for the construction of a new formal settlement in Giugliano.

77. For the definition of hate crimes, see the OSCE thematic page: <http://hatecrime.osce.org/what-hate-crime>

78. See: <https://m.altarimini.it/News96215-vi-diamo-fuoco-nomadi-denunciano-intimidazioni-atmosfera-tesa-a-rimini-per-il-caso-microaree.php>.

79. See: http://www.corriere.it/cronache/17_giugno_06/torino-rom-forza-nuova-pompieri-fermati-8195cbfe-4af9-11e7-ac11-205c7f1cfc9f.shtml and https://torino.diariodelweb.it/torino/articolo/?nid=20170607_421678.

80. See: http://www.ilmessaggero.it/roma/cronaca/roma_ragazza_roma_aggredita-2545878.html and <http://www.romatoday.it/cronaca/bambina-rom-aggredita-dragona.html>.

81. Direct testimonies from the European Roma Rights Centre and Associazione 21 Luglio.

82. See: <https://www.ilfattoquotidiano.it/2017/09/27/roma-guerriglia-urbana-guidonia-tra-residenti-e-nomadi-manovre-azzardate-con-furgone-vicino-a-campo/3880286/>.

83. The relevant documentation is available in the archive of Associazione 21 luglio.

84. See: <http://www.imolaoggi.it/2017/10/29/rom-in-polizia-consap-scappiamo-da-questa-ue-prima-che-sia-troppo-tardi/>.

85. See: http://www.repubblica.it/cronaca/2017/11/02/news/l_assessore_di_orvieto_contro_i_rom_non_ha_potuto_nulla_neanche_lo_zio_adolf_-_180039551/ and <http://www.umbria24.it/attualita/orvieto-assessore-gnagnarini-frasi-razziste-sui-rom-ci-provato-anche-zio-adolf>.

86. The relevant documentation is available in the archive of Associazione 21 luglio.

87. See: <http://tv.liberoquotidiano.it/video/spettacoli/13280845/filippo-facci-rom-campo-nomadi-matrix-nicola-porro.html>.

88. See: http://www.repubblica.it/cronaca/2017/12/08/news/veneto_l_assessore_regionale_donazzan_togliere_i_figli_ai_rom_solo_cosi_si_possono_educare_-_183483212/ and <http://nuovavenezia.gelocal.it/veneziana/cronaca/2017/12/08/news/donazzan-i-bambini-rom-vanno-tolti-ai-genitori-1.16213390>.

89. See: <http://www.interno.gov.it/it/ministero/osservatori/osservatorio-sicurezza-contro-atti-discriminatori-oscadand> for episodes reported and received by OSCAD between 10 September 2010 and 31 December 2017 http://www.interno.gov.it/sites/default/files/dati_oscad_31.12.2017.pdf.

90. Clearance from the Observatory for Security Against Acts of Discrimination for the publication of said data and for the citation of the source present in the archive of Associazione 21 luglio.

91. These data are published at: <http://hatecrime.osce.org/italy>.

CHAPTER II



ROMA AND SINTI IN THE CITY OF ROME

1

GENERAL PREMISE. THE YEAR OF THE "ROMA INCLUSION PLAN"

In the city of Rome, 2016 had ended with significant expectations.

On 21 November 2016, Rome's City Council had approved a Council Memorandum¹, with the subject "Guidelines for the initiation of the overcoming process of the "solidarity village" camps and for the inclusion and integration of the Roma, Sinti and Caminanti populations", which should represent the first step of a break with the past. Considered that the previous administrations had opted to establish and manage the Roma-only settlements, thus "generating, – we read in the Memorandum – in recent decades, a proliferation of, on one hand, situations of insecurity and conflict in the suburbs, and on the other hand, an increase in the levels of marginalisation of Roma and Sinti populations, while failing to secure any social inclusion process in spite of the considerable economic resources invested in the sector", and that "the spatial aspect is a key issue affecting the living conditions of individuals and the community because it affects the possibility to access services, to activate social relationships with other residents, not to mention the opportunities of access to employment and to education", the City Council had recommended to the Department for Social Policies the adoption of the measures proposed in a Schedule attached to the Memorandum. The same Schedule – titled "Roma Inclusion Project" – elaborated a series of actions, included in the period January-July 2017, that would be preparatory to the overcoming of the settlements and that would conclude with the analysis of the collected data and the drafting of a report.

On 16 December 2016, with Resolution No. 117, a

"City Round Table for the Inclusion of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti populations" was established² (hereafter referred to as "Round Table"). The Round Table's main task would be to "draw up a plan for the planning and designing of short and long term measures, for the gradual closure of collection centres and Roma camps in the capital city – in implementation to European and Italian regulations – through integrated interventions in the field of social inclusion policies and oriented, mainly, to general policies on poverty, health, housing emergency, education, lifelong/vocational training, and equal opportunities". In the same act, the City Council decided "to arrange the drafting by 31 January 2017, [of a] plan for the planning and designing of short and long term interventions, to be submitted for the approval of the Rome's City Council".

At the beginning of 2017, the Round Table met for the first time, while on 31 May 2017, after another Round Table, by Lazio Region, had produced its summary document, Mayor Virginia Raggi disclosed the "Plan" for the overcoming of the "Roma camps"³, with the aim of "restoring legality and promoting inclusion". Associazione 21 Luglio immediately defined the Plan as a "Fake Plan", although – and credit must be given to the Raggi Administration – it represents the first real attempt made by the Administration of an important Italian city to put down on paper a single comprehensive document for overcoming the slums found in the municipal territory.

The actions promoted in the second half of the year by the Roman Council have highlighted the fragility of a "Plan" that immediately revealed its first internal contradictions with the – tragically failed – pilot

project at the Camping River settlement, which ended up being simply "downgraded" to informal settlement. The actions launched during summer 2017 at the settlement located along the Via Tiberina have exposed the inability of the local administration to fully understand the living conditions of the Roma communities in housing emergency and to implement adequate countermeasures. Even the Call for proposals for the management of European funds aimed at overcoming La Barbuta and Monachina, which was partially deserted, revealed the critical aspects of a "Plan" which obviously requires important corrections and the adoption of new paradigms.

At the same time, after the indiscriminate cuts to the social and educational services offered in the slums - cuts already provided for at the time of the Extraordinary Administration of the Municipality of Rome and confirmed by the current Administration - the living conditions of the approximately 4,500 Roma living in the 17 formal settlements (including the "tolerated camps") of Rome has worsened⁴. The conditions of children in the settlements have seriously worsened. A single figure is enough to understand its range: in the 11 main slums of the city of Rome, enrolment in compulsory education from the 2015-2016 school year compared to the 2017-2018 school year decreased by 48%! An alarming fact

that should not be underestimated and that could produce, immediately, devastating consequences and non-recoverable delays.

In 2017, the attempt to build a new settlement to accommodate the dwellers of Camping River has also definitely failed. Such an important signal reveals how the "camp season" in the Capital can be considered at its end: in fact since 2012, no new camps have been built in Rome.

On the other hand, a debate explicitly focusing on the methods to overcome the situation, has taken over in the Capital: how is it possible and sustainable to overcome the slums of the city of Rome? What methods should be adopted? Which actions should be privileged? With which funds? In this sense, the "Roma Plan" of the Capitoline Administration can be considered the first "stammering" of a response that is still lukewarm, insufficient and that failed when put to test. However, in the next few years it will have to grow stronger and fully shape up into truly effective actions that can lead the city of Rome towards the definitive overcoming of Roma slums, a reality that continues putting a very typical "shame" on Rome.

NUMBERS

In the second half of 2017, there are **6.900** Roma and Sinti persons in housing emergency in the city of Rome, equal to **0,24%** of the Roman population, according to the following breakdown:

- Roma and Sinti living in the **17** formal settlements (including "tolerated camps"): **4.419 people**
- Roma living in the about **300** informal settlements: **1.620 people**
- Roma living in **2** mono-ethnic occupied buildings: **750 people**

- the largest formal settlement is that of Castel Romano: **1.062 people**
- the largest informal settlement is that of Camping River: **420 people**

In the reception centre of via Toraldo, a non-mono-ethnic structure, in the second half of 2017, **111 people of Roma origin** had been accommodated.

2

SETTLEMENTS FOR ROMA FAMILIES IN HOUSING EMERGENCY IN THE CITY OF ROME IN 2017

At the end of 2017, we can identify, for Roma families in housing emergency, four types of housing:

- Institutional slums (17 in total, including 6 formal settlements and 11 settlements defined as "tolerated" by the Administration);
- A non-monoethnic reception centre (located in via Toraldo);
- Spontaneous micro settlements, improperly

defined as "illegal camps";

- Squats.

Both the institutional slums and the reception centre are formal settlements, while the spontaneous micro settlements and the occupations of buildings represent informal housing typologies. The reality of the Camping River should be considered anomalous: a residential area that has slipped to informality only in the second half of the year.

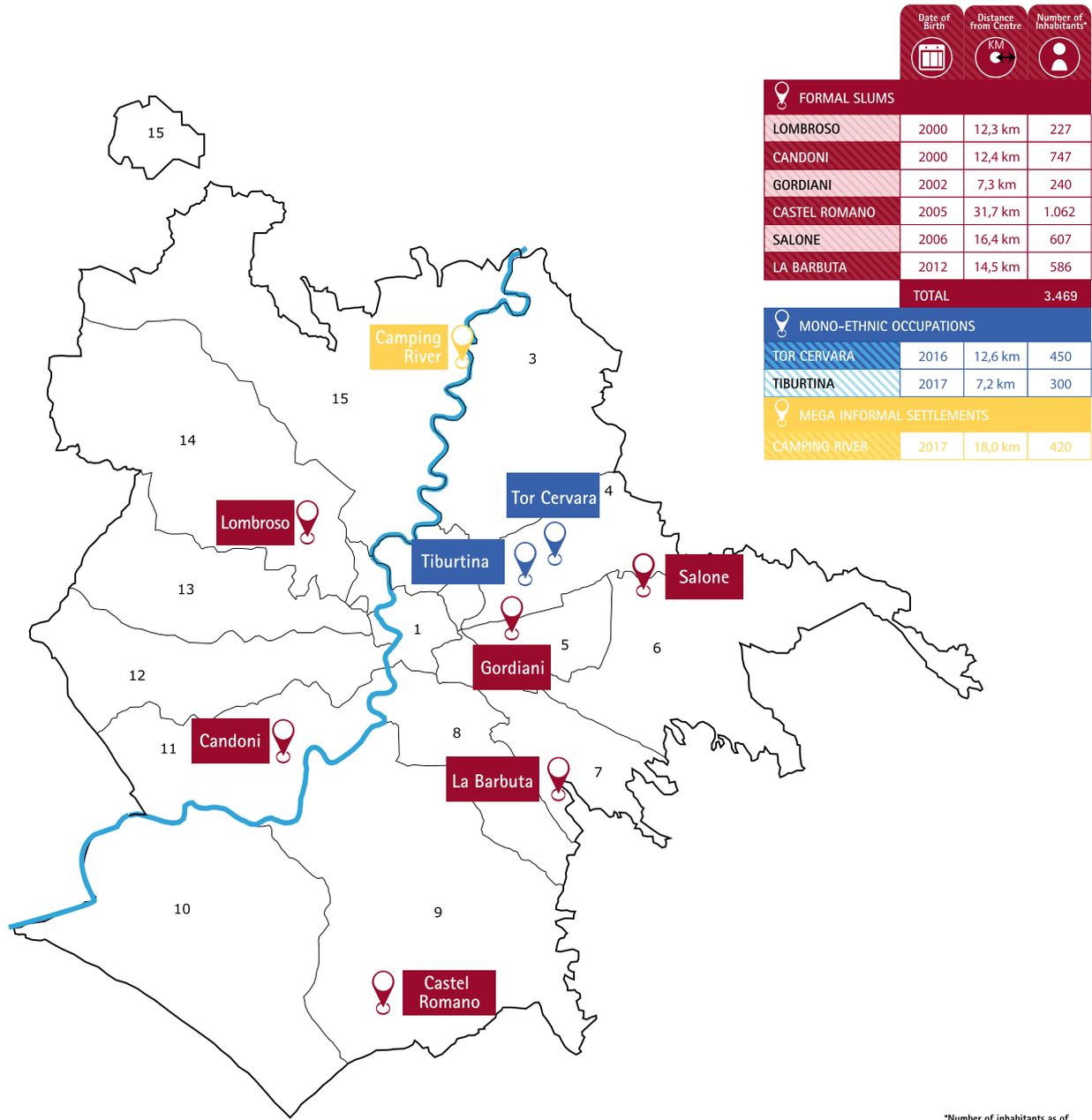
THE NUMERIC DECREASE OF PRESENCES IN THE 2014-2017 PERIOD

The slight decrease trend in inhabitants living in the six formal settlements of the capital continued in 2017. This phenomenon occurred spontaneously and due, after the events following the investigation called "Mafia Capitale", to the lack of services and the deterioration of the living conditions in the settlements, which led all those who were in a position to do so, to search for different housing solutions, in Italy and abroad.

In 2017, the presence of 3.469 people was recorded in the six formal settlements, with a decrease of 6,5% compared to 2014, when those registered were 3.711.

An increase is registered only in the slums of Lombroso (from 190 individuals in 2014 to 227 in 2017, an increase by 20%) and Castel Romano (which is still the largest settlement in Italy with its 1.062 inhabitants, +14% compared to 2014).

In the Gordiani slum no significant changes have been registered, compared to the previous three years. The decrease in the Salone slum has been relevant (-32%); milder the decrease detected in Candoni (-9%) and La Barbuta (-5%) slums.



*Number of inhabitants as of January 2017

2.1 INSTITUTIONAL SLUMS

Called "solidarity villages" in the early 2000s, Rome's formal settlements already existing at the time of Mayor Gianni Alemanno's Administration were renamed "equipped villages", to then return to being "solidarity villages" during the Administration of Mayor Ignazio Marino. Faithful to this alternation, the Raggi Administration once again defined them as "equipped villages". In this semantic variation, through the use of improper names, the most appropriate definition remains that of the United Nations UN-HABITAT Agency, defining as "slums" a settlement in which the inhabitants have no certainty of ownership, where the homes lack the main basic services and do not comply with the criteria established by municipal regulations, are located in areas that are dangerous from a geographical or environmental point of view. Again, according to the UN-HABITAT Agency,

the slums represent the most disadvantaged and marginalized forms of informal settlements, as they are characterized by a condition of poverty and by large conglomerations of dilapidated houses often placed in dangerous areas. In addition to the uncertainty of ownership, slum dwellers are not provided with basic services and infrastructures, do not have public spaces and green areas, and are exposed to evictions, diseases and violence⁵.

The six formal settlements of the Capital, in reality, for their structural conditions, can be considered as "slums". This has also been confirmed in the two-year period 2016-2017, with the gradual disappearance of their full formal character due to the suspension of public and private services active in previous years.

2.1.1 THE LOMBROSO INSTITUTIONAL SLUM

Founded in 2000 in the XIV District, in via Cesare Lombroso 91, the slum is located inside the Grande Raccordo Anulare freeway ring road. The site was established in the Jubilee year to guarantee the reception of 120 Roma citizens coming from Bosnia and Herzegovina. The slum, the smallest among the others, is surrounded by a metal fence and covers an area of 11.185 square meters. There are 31 housing units and is inhabited by 227 people. The general conditions of the settlement appear in very poor condition, as well as the houses, which, with the physiological demographic

increase, have been extended with precarious structures made with waste material. The settlement is supplied with water and power (75kW), with an annual electricity consumption costing alone approximately 60.000 euros. 42 children were enrolled in compulsory education in the 2017-2018 school year. Of these, 4 in kindergarten, 28 in primary school and 10 in secondary school. On 23 October 2017, during the Municipal Assembly of the XIV District, it was announced that, after the closure of Camping River, La Barbuta and Monachina settlements, the next would have been the Lombroso slum⁶.

2.1.2 THE CANDONI INSTITUTIONAL SLUM

The Candoni slum was established in 2000, under Mayor Francesco Rutelli's Administration. Initially, it was meant to receive 480 people from Bosnia Herzegovina. In 2004, it was extended to prepare for the reception of another 170 people coming from the same Balkan area. The slum is located in the Magliana area, in the XI district, in Via Luigi Candoni 91. The slum covers an area of 15.764 square meters and is surrounded by a metal fence and a video surveillance system (out of order). This slum includes 99 containers inhabited by 747 people of Bosnian and Romanian

nationality. The general conditions of the settlement are very bad and the houses, particularly deteriorated, are unsuitable to accommodate the people who live there. The slum is supplied with power (210kW for an annual cost of approximately 75.000 euros) and water (for an annual cost of approximately 175.000 euros). 164 minors enrolled in compulsory education in the 2017-2018 school year. 11 of these are in kindergarten, 93 in primary school and 60 in lower secondary school.

THE AMERICAN DREAM

For several years, within the Romanian community of Candoni, we have been observing an unusual phenomenon: the migration to the United States of America. Generally, the "pioneer" is a young man who manages to reach Mexico. From there, he then manages to cross the US border. Once crossed the border, he deliberately exposes himself to arrest by the police to be identified and seek political asylum and to obtain, thanks to the fact of belonging to a particularly discriminated minority in Europe, a temporary residence permit. Others manage to enter the United States directly with a tourist visa valid for 3 months and then, when the visa expires, apply for political asylum.

The asylum status is not always recognised. However, pending the response, the applicant manages to remain in the US for about 2 or 3 years. In the event of a rejection, if traceable, the applicant is obliged to return to the country of origin. Those who manage to obtain the refugee status, see the doors of the "American dream" officially opened before them. In this case, family reunification can sometimes be achieved.

2.1.3 THE GORDIANI INSTITUTIONAL SLUM

Along with Lombroso, the Gordiani slum is the closest to the central area of Rome, being located approximately 7 km away from the city centre. The slum is located near the new C line metro station. This has helped to reduce the isolation of the settlement. Located in the V District, at Via dei Gordiani 325, the site was established in 2002 for the reception of approximately 200 people from Serbia. Over the years, despite slight fluctuations, the number of residents has remained constant and in 2017 the presence of 240 people was recorded in 52 residential units. The slum is surrounded by a metal fence equipped

with a video surveillance system activated during the "Nomad Emergency" period and no longer working. The houses appear to be particularly deteriorated and both the indoor and outdoor space is inadequate. The slum is supplied with electricity (180Kw for an annual cost of approximately 77.000 euros) and water (for an annual cost of approximately 63.000 euros). 52 minors enrolled in compulsory education in the 2017-2018 school year. Of these, 9 in kindergarten, 26 in primary school and 17 in lower secondary school.

2.1.4 THE CASTEL ROMANO INSTITUTIONAL SLUM

It is Rome's and Italy's largest formal settlement, with its 1.062 inhabitants counted in February 2017. Located along Via Pontina, at street number 2501, in the IX District, the slum is on the border with the Municipality of Pomezia and nearly 32 km from the city centre of Rome. The site, with a total area of over 40.000 square meters, was inaugurated by Mayor Veltroni's Administration in 2005, to accommodate the Roma families evicted from the Vicolo Savini informal settlement. Under Alemanno's Administration, between 2010 and 2012, the slum was expanded to allow the reception of Roma communities from La Martora and Tor de' Cenci settlements. The conditions of the settlement are the poorest. The "houses" are wrecked containers, and the amount of indoor

space is insufficient. According to a survey carried out by the Municipal Police at the beginning of 2017, the slum was subdivided into four areas: area M (with 109 residential units), area K (with 61 residential units), area D (with 4 residential units) and area F (with 32 residential units). The slum is supplied with a single power contract (700kW for an annual cost of approximately 365.000 euros). A purifier occasionally ensures water supply. 253 children were enrolled in compulsory education in the 2017-2018 school year. Of these, 28 in kindergarten, 159 in primary school and 66 in lower secondary school.

AN ENVIRONMENTAL AND HEALTH BOMB

In February 2017, the Municipal Police Corps seized the sewage treatment plant inside the Castel Romano slum, following an investigation by the Public Prosecutor's Office. During the investigation, the failure of the plant was ascertained with consequent environmental damage caused by daily untreated discharges⁷.

Because of the seizure, in August the underground tanks used to purify the water were overloaded. Therefore, the water supply was interrupted. A situation defined by local media "**An environmental and health bomb**". The Municipality of Rome responded with the daily delivery of water bottles to the settlement residents.

The following month, through a Parliament question by MP and city councillor **Stefano Fassina** "*the situation is dramatic: dozens and dozens of ascertained and confirmed cases of scabies, mange, hepatitis, leukaemia, and leptospirosis have been reported. In five years, in the same area, 63 people died as a result of the inhumane health and hygiene conditions - reads the text - The sewage systems, already put under seizure, in February 2017, by Rome's Municipal Police have recently exploded invading the whole area and a nature reserve adjacent to the camp; the supply of water has not been ensured for five months and the supply of electricity has been interrupted for twenty days. The dramatic hygienic/health situation, reported by the same local healthcare agency (ASL Roma 2), has remained completely unheard by Mayor Raggi's Administration for two full years*".

2.1.5 THE SALONE INSTITUTIONAL SLUM

The Salone formal slum is located in the VI District in Via di Salone 323, outside the Grande Raccordo Anulare freeway ring road. The settlement was founded as a "solidarity village" in 2006 for the initial reception of 600 Roma citizens from former Yugoslavia and Romania. During the period of the "Nomad Emergency", the slum, already surrounded by a metal fence, was provided with a video surveillance

system currently out of order. Within the area, 607 people of different nationalities were counted, in 127 particularly deteriorated residential units. The settlement is supplied with electricity (600kW for an annual cost of approximately 180.000 euros) and water. The slum remains far from primary services and means of transport, forcing the residents in a general state of isolation from the urban and

social fabric. There were 174 children enrolled in compulsory education in the 2017-2018 school year. 12 of these in kindergarten, 100 in primary

school, 61 in lower secondary school and 1 in higher secondary school.

2.1.6 THE LA BARBUTA INSTITUTIONAL SLUM

The La Barbuta formal slum is the last, in chronological order, to have been established by the Rome's Administration. It is located outside the Grande Raccordo Anulare freeway ring road, in Via di Ciampino 63, in the VII District. The slum was established as a formal settlement in 2012, in the middle of the "Nomad Emergency" receiving roughly one hundred Macedonian Roma people relocated after the forced eviction of the "tolerated camp" of Via del Baiardo. Subsequently, over 200 Roma of Bosnian nationality were relocated to this slum from the nearby "tolerated camp" and approximately 250 Roma of Macedonian and Bosnian nationality, who had been evicted from the

Tor de' Cenci settlement⁸. The settlement presents various critical points, mainly linked to forms of forced cohabitation between heterogeneous family groups. 586 people live in the slum in 83 housing units. The settlement is supplied with electricity (400kW for an annual cost of more than 100.000 euros) and water. The relationship of the inhabitants with the neighbours is strongly marked by the problems related to the toxic fires that periodically occur near the slum. 94 minors were enrolled in compulsory education in the 2017-2018 school year. Of these, 5 in kindergarten, 57 in primary school and 32 in lower secondary school.

THE VIA TORALDO RECEPTION CENTRE

Located in the eastern outskirts of Rome, the reception centre of Via Toraldo is located in the VI District, in the Torre Angela area, outside the Grande Raccordo Anulare freeway ring road. Starting from January 2014, approximately twenty Roma families were evicted from an occupied building in Via Castel Guidone. For a long time, it has retained its mono-ethnic reception nature. In 2017, **111 Roma people** were recorded, together with other families of different nationality.

Only for the former families, on 15 March 2016, the Municipality of Rome approved the Public Notice⁹ "for a market survey aimed at finding suitable structures". In the following year, a "Restricted negotiated procedure with a call for expression of interest for the temporary management of the reception of the Roma population currently accommodated in the Via Toraldo structure for

the purpose of market survey - Timeline 1.6.2017/31.5.2018 for a total expense commitment: € **737.988,61 (VAT included)**" was held with Decision no. QE/222/2017 of 24.01.2017.

On 19 September 2017, the Municipality of Rome acknowledged "**that the tender was closed without any suitable offer**".

2.2 THE "TOLERATED" AND INFORMAL CAMPS

In addition to the six formal slums, other established settlements are found on the Roman territory, almost all designed and built by the various successive Administrations. Over the years, these have been deprived of essential services and, in some cases, of electrical and water supply. They are inappropriately called "tolerated camps" and stand halfway between formal slums and informal micro-settlements. With the exception of the Salviati 1 settlement, giving shelter to some 300 people, all the remaining count a low number of inhabitants. In the 11 "tolerated camps" the estimated total population stands at about 950 people. Along the Circonvallazione Salaria, in the II District, there is the Via del Foro Italico settlement, consisting mainly of houses made with waste material. It accommodates approximately one hundred people from Bosnia, Romania and Serbia.

In the IV District, there can be found the Salviati 1 settlement (302 people of Bosnian origin), Salviati 2 settlement (127 people of Serbian origin) and Via Spellanzon settlement.

In the VII district, near the Metro A stop, there is the Arco di Travertino settlement, while a small settlement is registered in Via Schiavonetti.

In the VIII District, there is the Ex Fiera di Roma settlement in Via dell'Arcadia and Via delle Sette Chiese, inhabited by a small community of Sinti.

The Via Ortolani settlement is located in the X District. In the XIII District the Via Aldisio settlement (near via Grisolia) can be found.

In the XIII district there is the Via Grisolia and Monachina settlement, located at the junction of Via Aurelia, at km 13, and inhabited by 115 people of different nationalities.

DAGLI INSEDIAMENTI INFORMALI ALLE OCCUPAZIONI

In the last 4 years, with a population of approximately **2.200 Roma citizens of Romanian nationality** present in the informal settlements of the Capital, **175 forced eviction actions** have been recorded that have forced communities, families and individuals to periodic shifts from one point to another in the city.

These continuous removals have severely lowered the quality of life of the evicted persons, aggravating already heavily deteriorated sanitary conditions. Therefore, recently, a new phenomenon has taken over: occupations by many Roma families of abandoned industrial and commercial buildings located on the outskirts of the city. On some occasions, these occupations took place within the processes initiated by the Roman movements for the right to housing. In two cases, however, they were carried out in total autonomy. In 2017, the **Tor Cervara** area and along **via Tiburtina**, two buildings were occupied by **750 people**.

According to the report of the Parliamentary Commission of inquiry on the security conditions and the state of degradation of the cities and their suburbs, issued in December 2017, the city of Rome counts approximately 300 micro settlements inhabited by approximately 1.200 people.

Following is a breakdown of figures regarding the population residing in micro-settlements registered in the various districts of the city of Rome: 48 (I District); 36 (II

District); 12 (III District); 30 (IV District); 15 (V District); 18 (VI District); 21 (VII District); 9 (VIII District); 12 (IX District); 21 (X District); 9 (XII District); 9 (XIII District); 33 (XIV District); 27 (XV District).

Camping River must be added to this count. With its population of 420 individuals, following the "downgrading" carried out by Rome's Administration, it has become the largest informal settlement of the city.

2.3 CAMPING RIVER: FROM "EQUIPPED VILLAGE" TO INFORMAL SETTLEMENT

Listed since 2005 as an "equipped village" (or "village of solidarity") by the successive administrations in the city of Rome, Camping River, until September 30 2017 was considered a private campsite for the reception of Roma families thanks to an agreement between the managing body and the Municipality of Rome, which was periodically renewed. The site, with an area of 11.151 square meters, is located in the XV District and has been allocated to the reception of Roma families mainly from Bosnia and Romania. At the beginning of 2017, the Municipality of Rome, after the survey

carried out by the local police, has assessed its population in 420 people.

After resolution no. 105 of May 26 2017, with which the Municipality of Rome had set out the "authorization, on an experimental basis, for actions and interventions provided for in the Guidance Plan, to be implemented in La Barbuta and La Monachina camps", the same Municipality has extended the measures for the dismissal of "camps" to the Camping River settlement on June 15 2017, with resolution no. 146.

On July 4 a letter is sent to each of the Camping dwellers with the object "Closure of the Camping River Equipped Village on the date of 30.09.2017. Communication of dismissal». "People in need - as stated in the text - will have access to the support measures provided for in the Plan". At the same time, the Guardia di Finanza (the Financial Police), thanks to a MoU signed with the Municipality, conducts economic investigations on the 250 adults. This survey will lead to the identification of a dozen adults lacking the requirements for accessing the support for inclusion provided for in the "Plan".

From mid-August - and until October 12 - each family is called by the social workers of the Municipality of Rome and they are granted indefinite support on condition that the family, counted as lacking stable employment and resources, provides "a property rental agreement" or "a preliminary agreement for the rental of a building" or "a booking agreement with a reception facility". The families were unable to sign such agreements due to their lack of documents ensuring their adequate and sustainable

solvency (with the exception of five families that will therefore benefit from public aid), hence, they are forced to stay in the campsite which, as of 1 October 2017 is no longer considered an "Equipped village" but an illegally occupied private area.

In the following days, a failure in the water and water purification system of the camping site is reported. On October 23, the Municipality of Rome, by order no. 167, orders the managing body «to provide for the restoration and maintenance of the proper functioning of the aforementioned systems».

In the last weeks of 2017, the managing body abandons the settlement, which therefore lacks any service within it and is definitively "downgraded" to informal settlement. However, the December 1, with an order, the Roman Administration ordered the maintenance of the functionality of the water and wastewater purification systems as "it is necessary to continue to maintain suitable health conditions in the private area until June 30 2018".

3

THE SCHOOLING OF ROMA CHILDREN IN FORMAL AND "TOLERATED" SETTLEMENTS

Already during school year 2016-2017, there had been a sharp decline in attendance by Roma children residing in "equipped villages" and "tolerated camps"¹⁰.

In recent years, the number of Roma children enrolled in Roman schools had fluctuated between 1.700 and 2.000. For the 2015-2016 school year, the number

of registered children was 1.972. According to the Department of Educational and School Services of The Municipality of Rome, the number of Roma children enrolled in the 2016-2017 school year was found to be 1.400 pupils of which: 110 in kindergartens, 829 in primary school, 461 in lower secondary school; distributed on a total of 200 school complexes of which: 32 kindergartens, 100 primary schools and 68

secondary schools. The settlement with the highest number of registered children was Castel Romano, with 244 students.

As far as the 2017-2018 school year is concerned,

there were 1.025 Roma minors present in formal and "tolerated" settlements enrolled in compulsory education: 84 in kindergartens, 612 in primary schools, 328 in lower secondary schools and only 1 in higher secondary school.

SETTLEMENT	VARIATION IN NUMBER OF INHABITANTS FROM 2015 TO 2017	ENROLLED S.Y 2015-2016	ENROLLED S.Y 2017-2018	VARIATION IN 2017-2018 COMPARED TO 2015-2016
Lombroso	+19%	93	42	-55%
Candoni	-9%	350	164	-53%
Gordiani	-5%	80	52	-35%
Castel Romano	+13%	395	253	-36%
Salone	-33%	349	174	-50%
La Barbuta	-4%	258	94	-64%
Camping River	-31%	238	107	-55%
Foro Italico	0%	35	17	-51%
Monachina	+15%	35	26	-26%
Salviati 1 and 2	-14%	157	96	-39%
TOTAL	-10%	1.990	1.025	-48%

4 THE ROMA IN ROME. REPORT FOR 2017

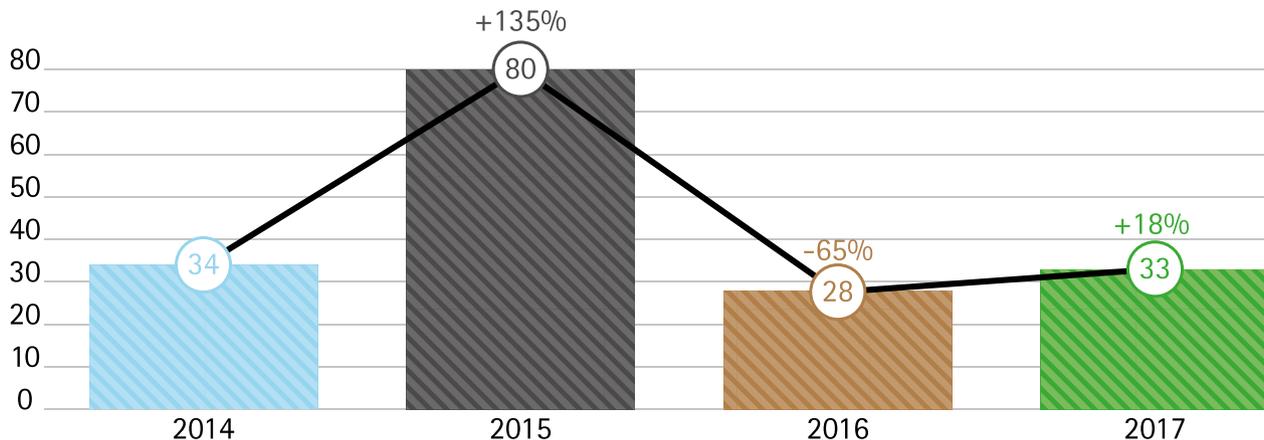
4.1 FORCED EVICTIONS IN THE CITY OF ROME

An eviction can be defined as "forced" when, for its implementation, the procedural guarantees provided by the international standards on the matter are not met¹¹. In this regard, in view of its constant monitoring of the Roman territory, Associazione 21 luglio has never recorded full compliance between the eviction actions carried out against the Roma communities by the Roman authorities and the appropriate procedural guarantees provided in 2017.

In 2014, there had been 34 forced eviction actions. In 2015, 80 forced evictions had been recorded, with

an increase by 135% compared to the previous year. In 2016, 28 forced evictions have been monitored, with a decrease by 65%, compared to 2015. In 2017, Associazione 21 Luglio has recorded 33 forced evictions, a number very similar to that of three years earlier, and still 18% higher than the previous year. This number gathers particular relevance in consideration of the fact that the inhabitants of informal settlements, as explained in the previous chapters, have decreased, in the last 12 months, from 2.200 to 1.200 individuals.

NUMBER OF FORCED EVICTIONS WITH VARIATION COMPARED TO THE PREVIOUS YEAR



The first forced eviction action registered in Rome in 2017 takes place on January 23 in the East Ring Road (Tangenziale est) area near Via Tiburtina. Four days later, eight Romanian citizens are removed from the settlement in Via Cilicia.

On February 8 and 24, two eviction actions are reported, both in the Marconi area.

On March 1, from the Park of the Archaeological area of Villa Gordiani, several Romanian Roma families are evicted, while March 27 houses are torn down inside a settlement inhabited by roughly thirty people in Viale di Torre Maura, just opposite of the headquarters of a national newspaper. Two days later, several makeshift houses are demolished in the pinewood of Via di Mar Rosso, while on 30 March, it is the turn of the Parco delle Valli settlement, in the III District.

In April, dozens of Roma are turned away, again, from Viale Marconi, through an eviction action organized on the sixth of the month. Five days later, 10 Roma people, camped under the Ponte Duca d'Aosta, are forced to collect the few objects they owned to get away just in time before the bulldozers arrived. On April 20, some families were evicted from the Via Morelli settlement, in front of a former nursery in the town of Acilia.

In May, three forced evictions were reported: on the 10 in Via Aspertini, in the district of Tor Bella Monaca, on the 15 along the via della Magliana viaduct and on the 16 in via Cilicia, where 16 Romanian Roma assist helplessly to the destruction of their five dwellings.

In June, five evictions follow. On the 13, is the turn of the settlement in the Parco di Monte Ciocci; on

the 15, approximately fifteen Roma are removed from their homes in Viale Isacco Newton and the following day it is the turn of the Roma families living in Via Ostiense, 246. On 19 June, the Police demolish the houses in Via Valle Aurelia, in the XIV District; on the 26, when the police went to Piazza del Lavoro to remove a Roma community, the dwellers had already left, as they had been warned of the imminent eviction.

In August, only one eviction is reported, which occurred on the 2 at the Mura Aureliane.

Three forced evictions occurred in September. On the 18, a small slum in Via Mattia Battistini was demolished, three days after, the bulldozers destroyed seven houses inhabited by Romanian Roma; on the 27, scattered among the reeds of the Rome-Fiumicino motorway section, the beds of some families residing there are collected.

October turns out to be the month in which the highest number of forced evictions was recorded. Only on the 9, four evictions are reported: at the Marconi metro station, in Via Cristoforo Colombo (by the Sheraton Hotel), at the intersection between Via Laurentina and Via Cristoforo Colombo, near Forte Ardeatino. On October 18, follows another eviction in Lungotevere della Vittoria; on the 23, approximately twenty Roma are removed from their dwellings in Via di Torre Spaccata; two days later, an eviction is registered in via Diego Fabbri, in the IV District.

On 4 December, an unknown number of people are removed from the Via Romeo Romei settlement. On the 13, instead, it is the turn of the small slum located in Largo Maestri del lavoro. On 18 December, the

eviction involving the largest number of people takes place. The Police tear down about forty houses built with recycled material in the XI district, in Via Isacco Newton: approximately eighty people, including many

children, see their homes destroyed and are forced to find provisional shelter elsewhere.

EVICTIIONS AND THEIR COSTS

According to the monitoring also conducted on the field by Associazione 21 Luglio, it is estimated that a total of **560** Roma were involved in the eviction operations organized in 2017 by the Roman authorities for a total cost of **700.300 euros**¹².

4.2 THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ROUND TABLE FOR THE INCLUSION OF ROMA

The end of 2016 was marked by the establishment of the "City Round Table for the Inclusion of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti populations" as provided for by Resolution no. 117 of 16 December 2016. The new-born Round Table is charged with "the task of drawing up a plan for the planning and designing of short and long term measures, for the gradual closure of collection centres and Roma camps in the capital city and to promote participation in European calls for proposals concerning the inclusion of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti, with special regard to employment for all layers of the population in social

and economic difficulties." The Round Table, chaired and coordinated by the Councillor for the Person, School and Community Solidarity, has the task "to arrange the drafting by 31 January 2017, of the [...] Plan for the planning and design of short and long period of the interventions, to be submitted to the City Council for approval". The Round Table meets on 4 January 2017 at the Department of Social Policies and approves a summary document that will represent the first draft of the "Plan" to be presented in the following months by the Mayor Raggi.

THE RESOLUTION FOR CITIZENS' INITIATIVE

First, a cognitive survey is conducted not only on the assets, to understand, family by family, individual by individual, the scholastic level, the work situation, the needs and expectations. Then, several

solutions are offered as accompanying measures to leave the camps, school and housing inclusion: social housing, search for solutions in the private market, experimentation of forms of self-construction in areas designed for this purpose, aimed at small family groups. Finally, the existing settlements would be closed. This is, in short, the path envisaged in the **Resolution for Citizens' Initiative** for the closure of the "Roma camps", implementing the National Strategy for the Inclusion of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti submitted, on **15 March 2017**, to the Social Policy Commission, before it will be discussed by the City Council. On **30 March**, the proposal is scheduled for discussion in the City Council. However, it is **postponed** until a later date to allow the Council to incorporate some points to the Resolution.

4.3 THE WORK OF THE LAZIO REGION ROUND TABLE

In line with the provisions of the "National Strategy for the Inclusion of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti", the Lazio Regional Council establishes, on 17 February 2015, the "Regional Round Table for the Inclusion and Social Integration of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti Populations" by means of Regional Council Decision. On 2 March 2016, the first meeting of the Round Table takes place at the Lazio Region premises. In the following months, a dozen meetings were organized with the entities and associations involved to draw up a summary document that was made public on 27 March 2017.

The text gathers the work done by the Round Table on Health, by the Round Table on Housing, by the Round Table on Education, and by the Round Table on Work. *"The outcomes of the thematic round tables - states the document - has allowed to drafting useful contributions to reinforce a regional strategy. The same contributions will be able to periodically provide orientation for the regional planning aimed at carrying out appropriate policies for the development and social integration of the Roma, Sinti and Caminanti populations as well as at overcoming discrimination."*

THE PON METRO OPERATIONAL PLAN

In April 2017, the **"Operational plan of Roma Capitale"** related to the **PON Metro 2014-2020** including the project **"All roads lead to Roma"** is made available to the public. *"The project - reads the text - intends to support paths related to the exit of the Roma population that agrees to abandon the camps and actively participate in the measures for an accompanied inclusion in the job and housing markets"*. The intervention of these measures involves a financial commitment of 3.8

million euro and has as its reference target the 86 families present in the **La Barbuta** settlement and the 27 families residing in the **La Monachina** slum.

4.4 PLAN FOR OVERCOMING THE "ROMA CAMPS"

On 31 May 2017, on the occasion of a press conference, Mayor Virginia Raggi and the Councillor for the Person, School and Community Solidarity, Laura Baldassarre, presented the text of Resolution no. 105 of 26 May 2017 "Guidance Plan for Rome for the Inclusion of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti Populations"¹³.

"The Plan for Rome for the Inclusion of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti Populations - states the Resolution - is meant to be a strategic orientation plan, the implementation of which will be progressively implemented in all fields,

taking into account budget and European funding availability, including through the provision of services following a public tender procedure, which will provide for special descriptive and performance specifications consistent with the Plan". The first actions foreseen by the "Plan" will concern the La Barbuta and Monachina settlements "the results of which will allow the Administration to implement the planned actions and activate the paths for accompanied empowerment, also in the other settlements".

THE FOUR KEY ELEMENTS OF THE "PLAN"

During the press conference, Mayor Virginia Raggi discloses the key elements of the "Plan for Rome for the Inclusion of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti Populations".

As regards **schooling**, we plan to pursue the specific objective of *"foster pre-schooling and schooling processes for Roma, Sinti and Caminanti children by promoting access (enrolment, attendance, results) to schools of all levels and combating early school drop-out by minors in primary and secondary schools. The participation of young RSCs in university education, high education and training / vocational paths will be implemented".*

Regarding **training** *"the increase in employment among Roma, Sinti and Caminanti will contribute to reducing the crime rate and will increase overall productivity, eliminating any possibility of undeclared work. Training courses will therefore be organized for the creation and self-management*

of small local businesses at the local level or by encouraging the creation of individual companies and mixed service co-operatives".

On the sensitive theme of **housing**, the "Plan" provides for "the activation of Memorandums of Cooperation with the Financial Police, with the Revenue Agency and with INPS (the Italian Social Security Agency)" which will allow "detecting economically self-sufficient people in the camps, who are therefore not entitled to public support measures. On the other hand, those who are not self-sufficient will benefit from support interventions financed by the European Union".

In the field of **healthcare**, the "Plan" addresses "some specific themes, especially to implement preventive care and health education. In particular, information will be provided on the right to healthcare and on how to access and use the services; we will listen, collect and analyse the needs of the population concerned, in order to identify conditions of severe psycho-social disadvantage and to activate caregiving paths, with particular attention to minors".

Resolution no. 105 includes the "Guidance Plan for Rome for the Inclusion of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti Populations" as its attachment, composed of the following 6 chapters: 1. An integral perspective; 2. International and European collaborations; 3. Co-planning and sustainability; 4. Monitoring and evaluation; 5. SWOT Analysis; 6. Analysis of the risks inherent in the project and possible solutions

to counter them. The Plan includes the following attachments: 1. Experimental and temporary measures to support RSC people in fragile conditions to overcome their accommodation in the camps and solidarity villages of Roma Capitale; 2. "Standard" social responsibility agreement; 3. Application for participation in the project; 4. Substitute declaration in lieu of an affidavit.

FIRST IMPLEMENTATION OF THE "PLAN"

During the presentation of the "Plan", Mayor Raggi clarifies: "The actions and interventions contained in the Plan will be started immediately in the two camps named **La Barbuta** (656 people organized in approximately 100 families) and **La Monachina** (115 people organized in approximately 30 households), through the allocation of European funds (**3.8 million**), available on the Rome's Budget 2017. These are the steps envisaged to overcome the existence of camps and villages".

4.5

A TENDER TO OVERCOME THE "ROMA CAMPS"

In the summer of 2017, an "Open public tender procedure, in 2 lots, to award the Social Inclusion Project for Roma, Sinti and Caminanti people aimed at

overcoming La Barbuta and Monachina Roma camps" is published on the website of the Municipality of Rome, within the PON Città Metropolitane 2014-2020".

WHY BEGIN WITH LA BARBUTA AND MONACHINA

The decision to start the "Plan" actions in the settlements of La Barbuta and Monachina is based on several reasons. Regarding La Barbuta, the reason is that the settlement *"was identified, among others in Rome, to comply with Legal Notice of 30/05/2015 (Reg. 17035/2012) with which the Ordinary Civil Court of Rome ordered its closure"*.

On the other hand, the reason why the Municipality of Rome intended to include the Monachina camp in the test closure is threefold: *"location in an exit area owned by ANAS (the Italian Highways Agency) on which a project of significant traffic modification has been submitted to the competent offices for some time; the long-term presence of the majority of the settled families and of the relationships already established between them and the services available in the territory, which would most likely boost a more flexible participation in the proposed project and its implementation according to its ultimate purpose; peculiar features of the settlement"*.

The general objective of the tender *"is to design and support measures for the abandonment of the La Barbuta and La Monachina camps by their inhabitants. These measures include the implementation of systemic measures aimed at achieving progressive social, economic and housing inclusion in view of the final closure of the camps"*. The closing date of the two settlements is set at 21 December 2020.

The specific objectives are: *"mapping the social resources and capital of the camp; structuring*

and implementation of customised projects of job inclusion to fully empower families and individuals; housing support; active accompaniment and tutoring with continuous monitoring". The cost of the service is 1.859.000 euros net of VAT.

The activity plan includes: 1. Specific resource mapping and action planning with the stakeholders; 2. Acquisition of applications to participate in the project, drafting and underwriting of individual action plans and social responsibility agreements, continuous monitoring and control of the

commitments made by individuals and families and of the timing of the settlement abandonment, planning and implementation of corrective measures in critical cases; 3. Job inclusion actions; 4. Housing inclusion actions; 5. Monitoring and control of all

actions envisaged as a commitment for individuals and families in individual projects and of the reporting of contributions provided by the Department of Social Policies, Subsidiarity and Health.

THE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AGREEMENT

The **Social Responsibility Agreement** represents a pivotal point for the overcoming of the settlement structure. It is an operational tool that the Municipality of Rome intends to use for the definition of the agreements with the members of the families, beneficiary of support for job and housing inclusion.

The agreement "consists of a series of mutual commitments in the form of actions to be carried out over a period of 15 months, with at least quarterly interim checks to be carried out by the person responsible for the accompaniment".

The Agreement includes **the commitment by the individual undersigning the Agreement** (accepting the legalisation of their documents; ensuring school enrolment of minors; agreeing to attend training and vocational courses, and agreeing on the accompanying path for inclusion in the alternative solution identified) and **the intervention tools by the Municipality of Rome** (legal advice; support in ensuring school attendance; advice and guidance on training choices; and accompaniment in identifying alternative housing solutions).

The Agreement was first tested on the occasion of the closing of the Camping River formal settlement. Detached from any specific context and lacking an adequate presentation that made it fully understandable to the signatories, it was an instrument devoid of the operational outcomes for which it was designed.

On 12 October 2017, the only proposal package submitted in relation with the "Tender procedure" is opened at the Department of Social Policies of the Municipality of Rome. This confirms that the "Tender

procedure" for Monachina did not raise any interest by potential bidders, while for La Barbuta, only one proposal was submitted by the Italian Red Cross.

THE SPECIAL UNIT FOR ROMA, SINTI AND CAMINANTI

On 4 July 2017, with the Mayor Legal notice no. 102, a **dedicated office** named "Special Unit for Roma, Sinti and Caminanti" is established. Ms. Michela Micheli is charged with the role of directing and coordinating it.

The objectives of the Unit are: the strategic coordination of the implementation of the "Guidance Plan for Rome for the Inclusion of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti Populations"; the monitoring and evaluation of the implemented interventions; the operational coordination between the different interinstitutional actors, and the drafting of periodic reports with evidence of the main indicators.

4.6 INVESTMENTS TO MAINTAIN THE "CAMPS SYSTEM"

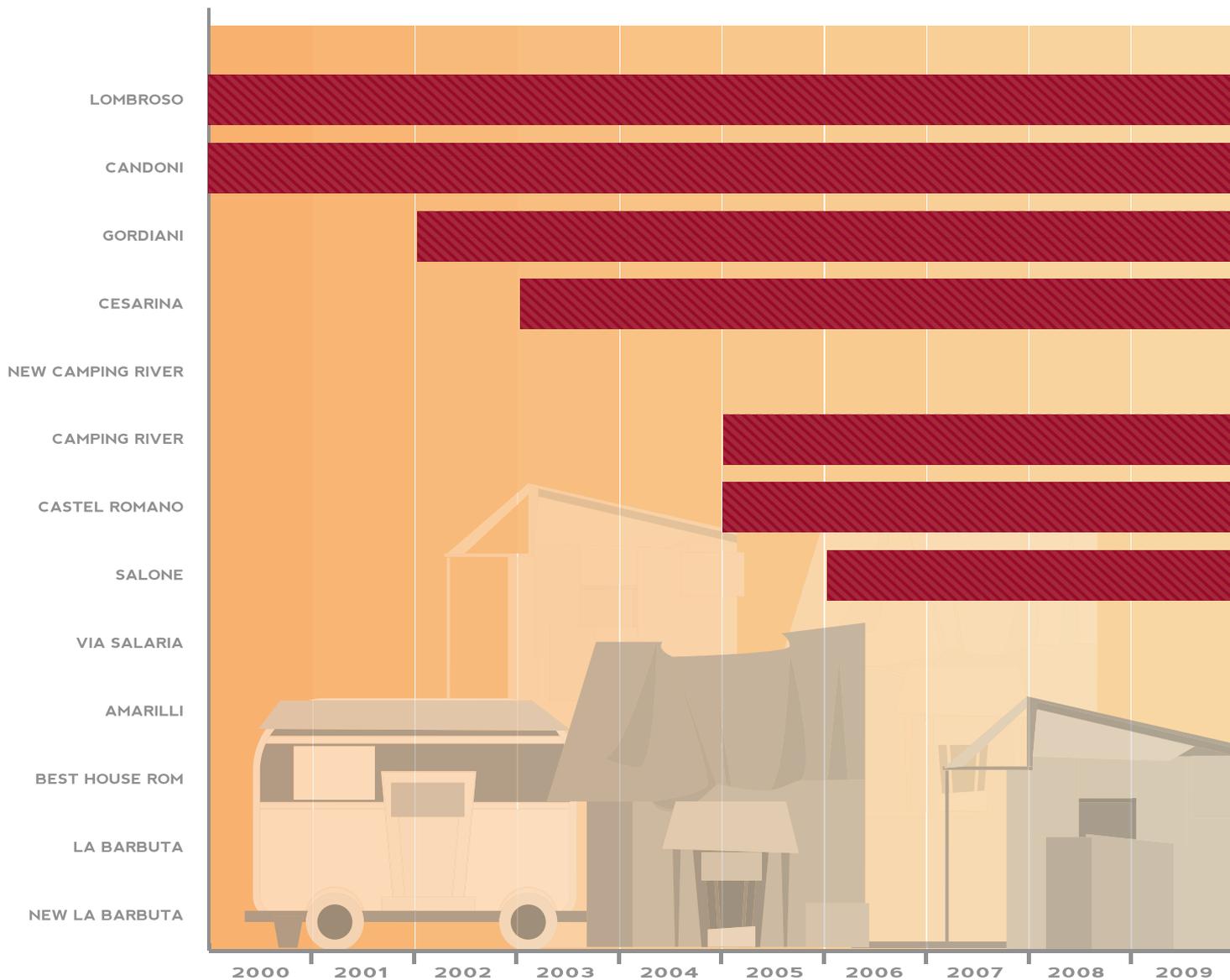
At the beginning of 2017, the competent municipal offices, drew up a document certifying the structural conditions of the formal settlements ("equipped villages" and "tolerated camps"). It included the cost items related to power and water supply. The text shows how the annual expenditure for power supply had stood, in the previous year, at around 812.000 euros, while water utilities costed around 590.000 euros, for a total of 1.402.000 euros¹⁴.

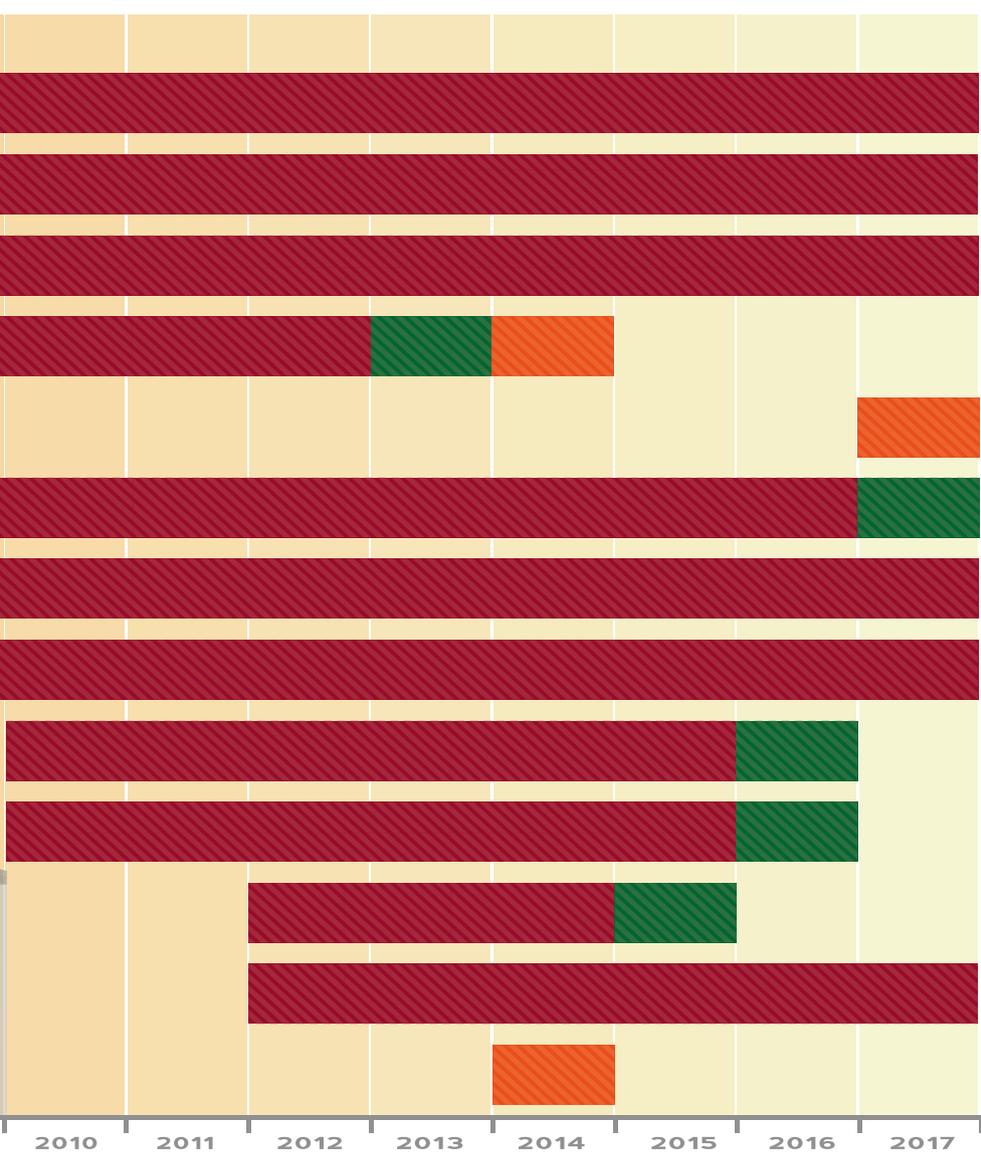
On 25 May 2017, with Decision no. 737, the Department for Infrastructural Development and Urban Maintenance presents a "Negotiated procedure [...] for the award of ordinary maintenance work at the villages of solidarity and related structures of the Municipality of Rome" for the period between 1 June 2017 and 31 December 2018 for a total amount of 845.000 euros. The call for proposals includes measures divided into two lots: lot A, relating to the settlements located

within the XI and XII Districts, and lot B, relating to the settlements located within the IV, V, VI and VII Districts¹⁵.

In October 2017, the Special Unit for Roma, Sinti and Caminanti issued a "Special Tender Specification Document relating to the service for the emptying of temporary sewage accumulation tanks" located in various formal settlements of Rome for an amount of 2.800.000 euros, net of VAT¹⁶.

THIS GRAPH ILLUSTRATES, FROM THE YEAR 2000 TO THE PRESENT, THE OPENING, THE CLOSING AND THE INTERRUPTION OF A NEW CONSTRUCTION, OF THE FORMAL IS IN THE CITY OF ROME:





-  OPENING AND MAINTENANCE
-  CLOSURE
-  INTERRUPTION OF A NEW CONSTRUCTION

NOTE:

1. Text and comments on the Memorandum of the Council can be consulted in the Annual Report of Associazione 21 Luglio: http://www.21luglio.org/21luglio/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/RAPPORTO-ANNUALE_2016_WEB.pdf
2. *Idem.*
3. This is the "Guidance Plan for Rome for the Inclusion of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti Populations" described in the Resolution of the City Council no. 105 of 26 May 2017.
4. For the names of the settlements and the number of residents, please refer to the following chapters.
5. See: <https://unhabitat.org/books/designing-and-implementing-street-led-citywide-slum-upgrading-programmes-a-training-module-companion/>.
6. In reference, see: <http://montemario.romatoday.it/consiglio-campo-rom-monte-mario-23-ottobre-2017.html>.
7. http://www.ilmessaggero.it/roma/cronaca/roma_mafia_capitale_campo_nomadi_castelromano-2246574.html
8. For further information on the history of the settlement, see: Associazione 21 luglio, Terminal Barbuta. Il "villaggio della solidarietà" La Barbuta a Roma. Presente e future di un "campo" per soli rom, Rome, October 2014.
9. https://www.comune.roma.it/resources/cms/documents/QE20170078484-DD._n._3124_del_19.9.2017_Esecutiva.pdf
10. See Annual Report 2016, by Associazione 21 luglio: http://www.21luglio.org/21luglio/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/RAPPORTO-ANNUALE_2016_WEB.pdf
11. The UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights has pointed out that evictions may be carried out as a last resort and only when appropriate procedural safeguards are arranged, such as: a genuine consultation with stakeholders; the provision and access to legal remedies; reasonable and well timed notice about the operation and adequate information on how it would be carried out; the presence of institutional representatives and the ability to identify the bodies in carrying out the eviction; the prohibition to conduct any eviction procedure during the night or in bad weather conditions; the provision of adequate housing alternatives for those who are unable to fend for themselves; the prohibition to create situations of homelessness or exposing those evicted to vulnerability to further human rights violations.
12. The total cost of the evacuation operations of the informal settlements inhabited by Roma households is calculated by Associazione 21 luglio on the basis of expenses, paid by the Roman authorities, incurred in order to clear the informal slum located in via Salvati/Collatina in Rome in 2013. In this eviction operation, the per-capita cost was equal to 1,255 euros. See: Campi Nomadi s.p.a., op.cit.; Associazione 21 luglio.
13. The "Guidance Plan for Rome for the Inclusion of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti Populations" is available here: https://www.comune.roma.it/web-resources/cms/documents/Del_G_C_105_26_maggio_2017.pdf.pdf.
14. A summary overview of the utility costs for the formal and tolerated Roma settlements, RSC Office - Roma Capitale, is kept in the archives of Associazione 21 luglio.

15. The "Negotiated procedure [...] for the award of ordinary maintenance work at the villages of solidarity and related structures of the Municipality of Rome" is kept in the archives of Associazione 21 luglio. As a reference, also see: https://www.comune.roma.it/resources/cms/documents/Comunicazione_di_gara_Villaggi_della_Solidarieta.pdf.

16. See reference: http://www.comune.roma.it/resources/cms/documents/CAPITOLATO_SPECIALE__7163512D19.pdf.



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within the Italian Roma Rights Project 4

Associazione 21 luglio Onlus is a non-profit organization that supports groups and individuals in conditions of extreme segregation and discrimination, protecting their rights and promoting the well-being of children.

Associazione 21 luglio carries out research on the conditions of Roma settlements in Italy and exerts pressure on institutions to protect and promote the rights of the child.

When necessary, Associazione 21 luglio intervenes in situations of violation of human rights and the rights of the child or in situations of incitement to hatred and racial discrimination by means of legal action.

Associazione 21 luglio also organizes public awareness campaigns and events, promotes human rights education activities, implements experimental pedagogical projects for children and other projects to pursue its objectives.



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