

Immigration:  
faith-based organizations  
can make the difference.



# Italy from emigration to immigration



A regular, stable and integrated presence

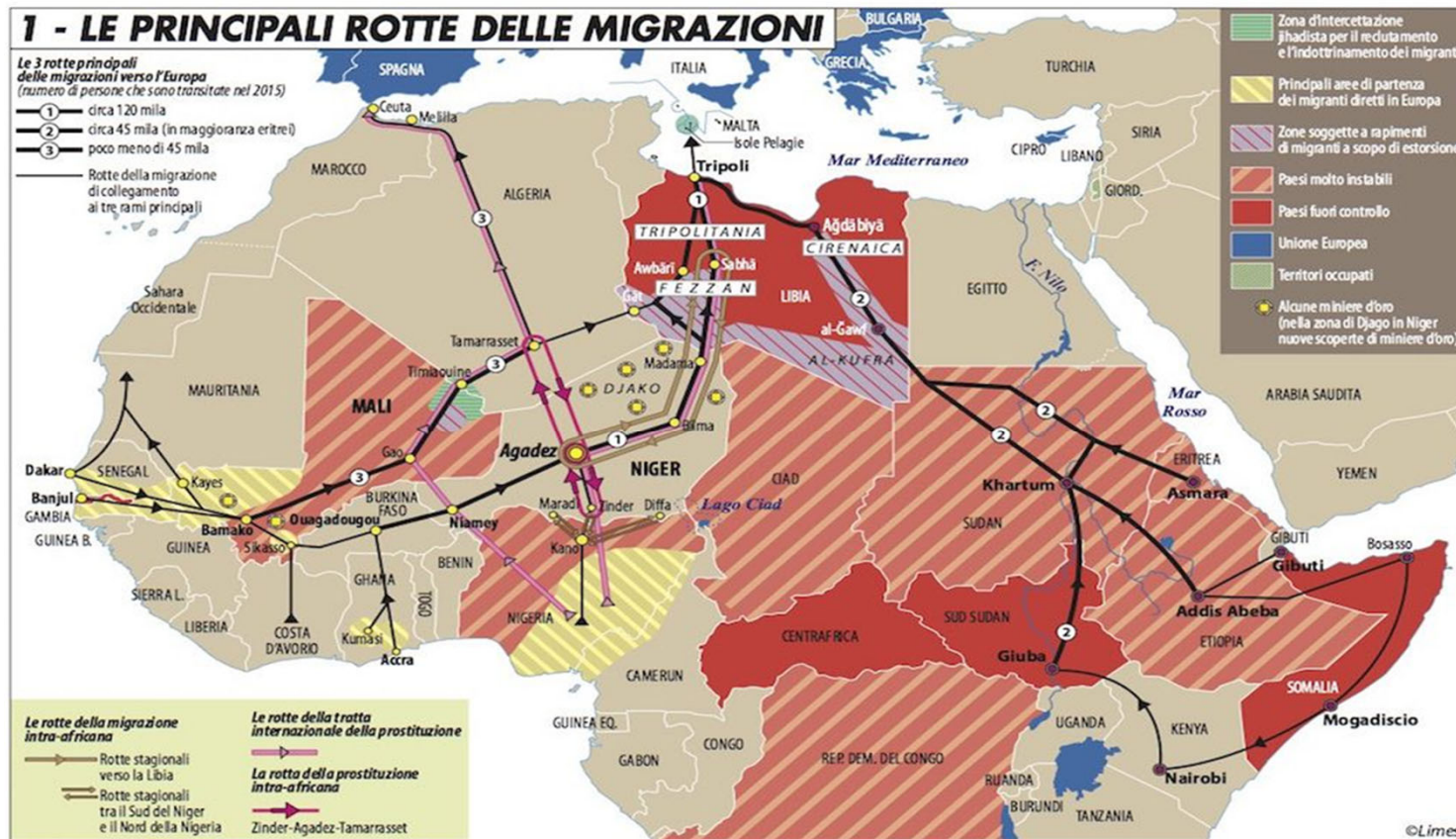


# What's the problem? Why Italy is becoming xenophobic?

- 500.000 asylum seekers in a few years
- Without a specific «migration project»
- Pushed by the collapse of a vast geopolitical area
- Trafficked and exploited
- Absence of an European answer
- Political enterprises of fear and scapegoating



# Where «new migrants» come from



An European wave. And not only



# The policy (and the mentality) of the wall



# Greece





# Spain



# And Italy?



# Protestant Churches' responses

## Mediterranean Hope



## Being Church Together



# 1. Mediterranean Hope / Lampedusa



## 2. House of Cultures



### 3. Humanitarian Corridors. A protocol with the Government



- «Humanitarian visas» for 1000+1000 asylum seekers from Morocco, Ethiopia, Lebanon
- For «vulnerable people»
- Entering Italy legally and safely
- An alternative to human trafficking
- A model in Europe, duplicated in France and Belgium and Italy
- An ecumenical venture

We go to the refugees camps



Federation of Protestant Churches in Italy

# We explain the project





# The beneficiaries get a Humanitarian Visa



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# When in Italy they apply for asylum



They are accommodated in apartments and an «integration» plan starts (learning Italian, training job searching)



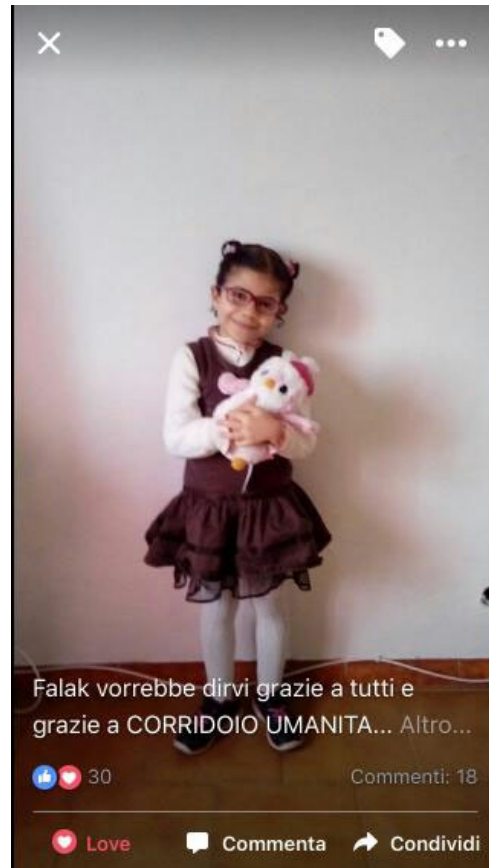
# Children go to school



# Falak's arrival, seriously sick at her eye



# Falak's smile today



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## 4. Search and rescue in the Mediterranean sea







# What moves us?



- Cowardice asks the question, is it safe?
- Expediency asks the question, is it politic?
- Vanity asks the question, is it popular?
- But, conscience asks the question,
- is it right?

Martin Luther King

# Being Church Together: Oneness in Christ in an Multiethnic Church



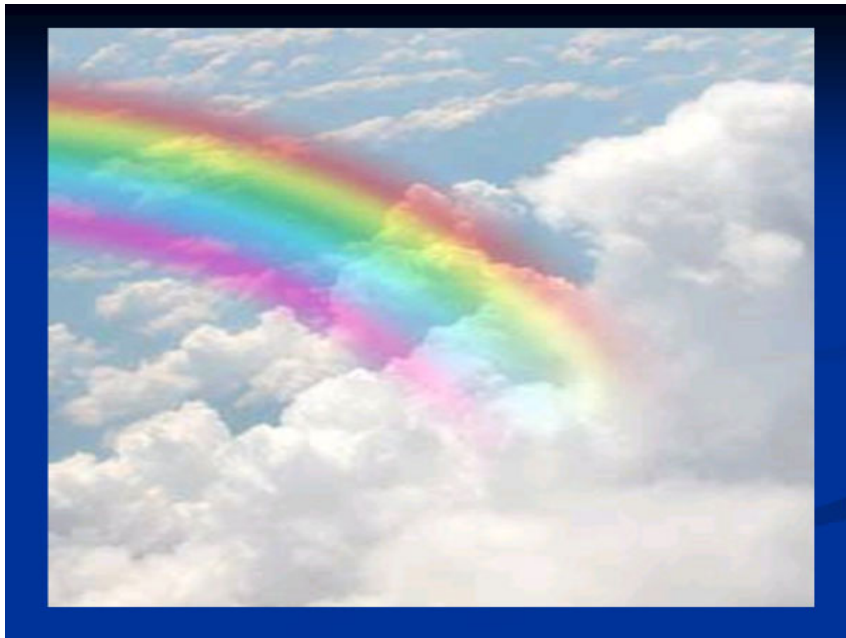
# Planning Together, Worshipping Together, Taking Action Together



Training seminars, conventions, and international meetings to establish multicultural leadership



# Why these efforts?



- Ethical. Integrating diversities is the core of the Christian life
- Christological: The Church can experience integration as God's gift in Christ
- Vocational: The Church has to pursue integration as a vocation to be a beloved and reconciled community
- Eschatological: building integration, Church lives the dimension of the Kingdom of God

Faith based organizations  
can make the difference!



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