

ITALY



MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION
Comitato Interministeriale per i Diritti Umani

**Italy's Mid-Term Report
Following UPR3's Consideration**

29 October 2021

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List of Acronyms

ABF Bank and Financial Arbitrator
AFT Functional Territorial Aggregations
AMIF Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund
ANAC (Italian acronym for) Italian independent National Anti-Corruption Authority
ANCI (Italian acronym for) National Association of Italian Municipalities
ANDISU Association of the Organisms for the Right to University Study
AR Authority Responsible
ASL (Italian acronym for) Local Health Authorities
ATT Arms Trade Treaty
BHR Business and Human Rights
CAS (Italian acronym for) Extraordinary Reception Centres
CAT Convention against Torture
CAV Centre Against Violence
CIDU (Italian acronym for) Inter-Ministerial Committee for Human Rights
CIMEA Information Centre on Academic Mobility and Equivalence
CNUDD Italian National University Conference of Rectors' Delegates for Disabilities
CNVQR National Coordination for the Evaluation of Refugee Qualifications
CONSOB National Commission for Companies and the Stock Exchange
CPI (Italian acronym for) Job Centres
CPIA Public Educational Institution for Adult Education (*Centro Provinciale per l'Istruzione degli Adulti*)
CPR Centres of Stay for Repatriation
CRUI Conference of Italian University Rectors
DCLI Department for Civil Liberties and Immigration
DEO Department for Equal Opportunities
D.P.R. (Italian acronym for) Decree by the President of the Republic
EASO European Asylum Support Office
ECHR European Convention on Human Rights
EDC European Disability Card
ERDF European Regional Development Fund
ESF European Social Fund
EU-FRA European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights
EUMS European Union Member States
FAMI (Italian acronym for) Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund
FCC Family counselling centres

FOIA Freedom of Information Act
GBV Gender-based violence
GEC-MIG Drafting Committee on Migrant Women
GEF Generation Equality Forum
GMI Guaranteed Minimum Income
GPs General Practitioners
GRETA CoE Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings
ICF International Classification of Functioning
ICRPD International Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
ILO International Labour Organization
INL National Labour Inspectorate
IOM International Organization for Migration
IPM (standing for) Juvenile Detention Centers
ISEE (Italian acronym for) the Italian indicator of the family economic situation
ISS (Italian acronym for) Higher Institute of Health
ISTAT Italian National Institute of Statistics
IT Information Technology
IVG (Italian acronym for) Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy
LEA (Italian acronym for) Essential Level of (Health-Care) Assistance
LGBTI Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex people
MAECI (Italian acronym for) Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation
MIC (Italian acronym for) Ministry of Culture
MLPS (Italian acronym for) Ministry of Labour and Social Policies
MoU Memorandum of Understanding
MUR Ministry for University and Research
NARIC National Academic Recognition Information Centres
NAP National Action Plan
NEETs Not Education, Employment or Training
NHRI National Human Rights Institution
NHS National Health Service
NIHMP National Institute for Health, Migration and Poverty
NMRF National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up
NOP National Operational Programme
OECD Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OP Operational Programme
OSCAD Observatory for Security against Acts of Discrimination

PaIS Pact for Inclusion
P.A.L. Local Action Plans
P.A.R. Regional Action Plans
PDC Citizenship pension
P.E.B.A. Plan for the elimination of architectural barriers
PIE (standing for) Educational Intervention Program
P.I.P.P.I. Programme of intervention for prevention of institutionalization
PLS (Italian acronym for) Free Choice Paediatricians
PUA (Italian acronym for) Single point of access
RAI (standing for) Italian Broadcasting Company
RDC (Italian acronym for) Citizenship income
REI (Italian acronym for) Minimum income for inclusion
RSC Roma, Sinti and Caminanti
SAI (Italian acronym for) Reception and Integration System / System of accommodation and integration)
SDGs Sustainable Development Goals
SIA (Italian acronym for) Support for Active Inclusion
SIC Safer Internet Centre
SIPROIMI Protection System for Beneficiaries of International Protection and for
SIRIT Computerized system for the collection of human trafficking-related information (*Sistema Informatizzato per la raccolta di informazioni sulla tratta*)
SMEs Small and Medium-sized Enterprises
STEM Science, Technology Engineering, and Mathematics
TUI Unified Text on Immigration
UAMA (Italian acronym for) the National Authority on Armament Export
UCCP Complex Primary Care Units
UCEI (Italian acronym for) Union of the Italian Jewish Communities
UCIS Central Multiagency Office for Personal Security
UNAR (Italian acronym for) National Office Against Racial Discrimination
UNCAC United Nation Convention against Corruption
UNICEF United Nations Children's Fund
UNHCR United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UAMs Unaccompanied (foreign) Minors
UPR Universal Periodic Review
VAWC Violence against Women and Children
WHO World Health Organization

Introductory Remarks

At the conclusion of Italy's consideration under Third Universal Periodic Review (UPR) cycle (March 2020), as per UN practice by a specific follow-up letter dated 18 May 2020, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Ms. Michèle Bachelet, acknowledged the work done by the Italian Authorities and, at the same time, encouraged Italy to develop an omnibus National Human Rights Action Plan (UPR Implementation Plan), to be focused on the areas highlighted below in view of Italy's next UPR cycle.

With a view to effective cooperation and support for the UN system, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Hon. Luigi Di Maio, confirmed the intention to implement the recommendations received, by the preparation - thanks to the Inter-Ministerial Committee for Human Rights (acronym in Italian, CIDU) as the National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up established in 1978 - of a specific Plan for the Implementation of the Recommendations (PIR), providing for the full involvement of civil society and all stakeholders concerned. Within this framework, several hearings of the President of the Inter-Ministerial Committee for Human Rights took place before the relevant parliamentary committees. This is the background to the present Mid-Term Report, which aims to provide sectorial updates two years after the oral consideration of Italy, as held on 4 November 2019.

Country's Update*

| Scope of international obligations and cooperation with international human rights mechanisms and bodies | <i>Update</i> |
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| Ratifying the human rights instruments to which Italy is not yet a party, including the International Convention on the Protection of the | As for the European Convention on Nationality , the relevant ratification process is expected to be discussed within the Council of Ministers, soon. As for the Additional Protocol to the Convention on Cybercrime , the relevant ratification draft law is under discussion before the Parliament (first reading). |

* In light of UN High Commissioner's follow-up letter dated 18 May 2020 and relevant UPR Matrix.

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| <p>Rights of All Migrants Workers and Members of Their Families, and the European Convention on Nationality</p> <p>Recs.: 148.3, 148.4, 148.5, 148.8, 148.9, 148.10, 148.11, 148.12 148.15, 148.16,</p> <p>Recs.partially accepted: 148.2, 148.6</p> <p>Recs. noted: 148.1, 148.7, 148.276, 148.291</p> <p>(SDGs 8, 10, 16)</p> | <p>As for the ratification of the Kampala amendments to the Rome Statute, this is also before the Parliament (second reading).</p> <p>On the occasion of the International Mother Language Day announced for February 21, 2021, an important conference was held on the ratification of the European Charter for Minority Regional Languages - not yet carried out since Italy signed it on June 27, 2000. Two Bills of ratification were recalled (it was also recalled that in some areas, it is possible to operate even before the ratification, eg. in the communications sector, given that a specific protocol was already signed by RAI for broadcasts in foreign languages). At this Conference, the Minister for Regional Affairs and Autonomies showed willingness to put forward a Bill, while hoping for a parliamentary solution to ensure a broad majority base. A merging exercise aimed to rewrite a text containing the best aspects of the different draft pieces of legislation was launched.</p> <p>Croatian is recognized as a minority language by the Italian Republic, which has signed reciprocity agreements with Croatia through the Treaty between the Italian Republic and the Republic of Croatia concerning the rights of minorities (Zagreb, 5 November 1996). Further, the enhancement of the Croatian language and culture is provided for by the laws of the Molise Region. In this regard, Regional Law No.15 of 14 May 1997, entitled "Protection and enhancement of the cultural heritage of linguistic minorities in Molise" provides for the launch of research initiatives and the promotion of local specificity with explicit reference to didactic activity. The Croatian community of Molise is one of the historical minorities included in the protection Law No.482 of 1999 and is in the list of protected languages as indicated in Article 2 which states the protection of the language and culture "of the Croatian [...] populations". Following the procedure provided for by Law No. 482/1999, in recent years (6 November 2015) the citizens of the Municipality of Tavenna in Molise were recognized as belonging to the Croatian minority. Moreover, three other Municipalities gained the same recognition, namely: Acquaviva Collecroce, Montemitro and San Felice del Molise. For several years, the Croatian language from Molise has been taught in elementary and junior high school of the above three Municipalities. Also, in the past, there have been several editorial experiences in Molise Croatian, although later interrupted due to lack of funding. Currently, a section concerning the Croatian community is published in the magazine "Kamastre". More generally, there has been a growing promotion of this minority nationwide, through the funding of study programs of the Croatian language in schools, through language counters aimed at guaranteeing the use of minority languages in the context of administrative, social and cultural services, as well as through its</p> |
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dissemination through the mass media. In Trieste and the Friuli-Venezia-Giulia Region, there is a lively Croatian community that lately aims to bring out its cultural linguistic wealth to make it more known and well appreciated. This community can aspire to have a regulatory recognition for its language by undergoing the procedure provided for by Law No. 482 of 15 December 1999.

Italy accessed UN Convention on Statelessness Reduction in September 2015.

Law No.105/2012 introduced relevant legislative changes on **armament export control** (Law No.185/1990), which also takes into account European legislation. As a result, the National Authority on Armament Export (Italian acronym, UAMA) is now tasked to centralize controls on the whole transfer of military weapons, maintaining the principle that any individual or entity, whether private or public, has to seek and receive authorization prior to a transfer of items contained in the national control list. Export authorization procedures were also revised, with the aim of increasing controls and compliance with international law requirements. These include assessment on respect for human rights in the Country final destination, as required by Art. 2, criterion 2 of Common Position No. 2008/944 and, since 2014, Art. 7 of the Arms Trade Treaty. According to this procedure, exchange of information between UAMA and the Departments of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in charge of assessing respect for human rights, respect for women and children, disarmament, and non-proliferation, was established on a regular basis. Consequently, a list of arms export destination Countries was established, to be considered: (a) with particular attention; (b) at risk. This list, which is updated every 4 months, presently includes 84 Countries, 22 of which are classified as at risk. For each of these, a country profile keeps record of its performance in the field of respect for human rights and its political and military reliability. Country profiles not only collect information from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, but also from international partners, open intelligence sources and research institutes. According to the procedures established since 2012, any single request of arms export towards a Country included in the list is submitted to relevant Departments of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for further risk assessment. Details on final users and other information are also submitted for verification to Embassies and Offices abroad. In addition, UAMA takes into account EU Partners through the COARM (Working Party on Conventional Arms Export) online system. The risk assessment also takes into account the risk of diversion, as described by Art. 11 of the ATT Treaty. Italy is particularly aware that diversion mainly concerns small arms and light weapons, which is the category

most involved in human rights violation and gender-based/domestic violence, thus having a multiplier effect on GBV and VAWC. Several licenses have been denied for the above-mentioned reasons. Furthermore, UAMA has a regular program of inspections and controls on human rights due diligence by business entities in the arms industry. On a rotating basis, at least 11 arms export companies are inspected every year. Within this inspection program, companies are strongly encouraged to strengthen their compliance division. By pushing to commit more human and financial resources to their internal control system, the Italian arms industry is encouraged to ensure respect for national and international law.

The Italian **anti-corruption** legal framework was strengthened by **Law No. 3/2019** ‘*Measures to fight crimes against the public administration, as well as on the matter of statute of limitations and transparency of political parties and movements*’[†], which consolidates a process based upon **Law No.190/2012** and **Law No.69/2015** (empowerment of anticorruption system). This new Law represents an important step towards a more comprehensive anticorruption regime, particularly with regard to combating corruption in the public sector. Its main features are the following:

- the Law adopts a two-pronged approach, as it enhances (criminal) prosecution and sanctioning of corruption and (administrative) prevention of corruption in the public and private sectors;
- it fosters the coordination among public institutions involved in these areas;
- promotes the multi-stakeholder approach, calling the private sector to play an active role in preventing corruption;
- proves how relevant is the impact of multilateral Conventions, recommendations and standards developed in the relevant Fora (G20, UNCAC, OECD-ABC and the CoE criminal and civil Conventions and respective peer review processes) since it is also the result of further alignment of the national anticorruption system to those frameworks.
- After having introduced the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and the protection of whistleblowers both in the public and the private sector, it is now the turn of undercover agents in corruption-related investigations. Law No.3/2019 also imports some measure from the experience of the fight against

[†] Before the formal adoption of Law No. 3/2019, the main lines of the Bill were very positively assessed in the GRECO, III evaluation Round <https://rm.coe.int/third-evaluation-round-second-addendum-to-the-second-compliance-report/16809942a4>). A similar assessment came from the European Commission Country Report published on February 27, 2019 cfr. p. 17 (https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/file_import/2019-european-semester-country-report-italy_en.pdf) and by the Executive Summary and Country Report adopted within the framework of the second review cycle of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (<https://www.unodc.org/documents/treaties/UNCAC/WorkingGroups/ImplementationReviewGroup/ExecutiveSummaries2/V1808771e.pdf>).

organised crime and adapts them to countering corruption. Its most relevant measures include: Banning order (debarment) for both public officials and private/individuals convicted for corruption; Permanent inability to contract with public administrations; and permanent disqualification from public office even in case of rehabilitation.

- Informers who self-report and cooperate will not be held responsible.
- Strengthening individual and economic sanctions: convicted public officials and individuals will be subject to more robust economic sanctions/penalties, proportionate to the relevance of the crime.
- The Law provides for increased transparency requirements with regards to political parties' funding; it thus addresses previous Recommendations under peer review mechanisms on this topic.
- The statute of limitation will be frozen at the end of the judgement at first instance so that the second instance can continue.

These provisions are enforced through the detection, investigation and prosecution by a strong and independent judiciary besides being subject to the principle of mandatory criminal action. They can proceed *ex officio* for bribery among private persons and embezzlement/incitement to corruption among private persons, a circumstance under which the penalty may be increased by more than one third. The accessory penalty becomes applicable even in case of the conditional suspension of the principal penalty. Further, in 2017[‡] the Parliament approved a comprehensive **legislative regime on whistleblowing**, extended to the private sector (including State-Owned Enterprises). Since January 2019, the Italian independent National Anti-Corruption Authority (in Italian, ANAC) has become the main channel for receiving the reports besides the Judicial Authority and the internal bodies in the organisation concerned. To this end, a desk service is available to whistle-blowers, who signal cases of illegal behaviour at workplace. Each report is acquired through a dedicated software system that guarantees confidentiality, safety and reliability of whistle-blowers. The on-line platform was made available by ANAC to other public administrations. In addition, ANAC enjoys the power to impose sanctions in case of discriminatory or retaliatory measures against reporting employees or in cases of non-compliant procedures or failure to carry out supervisory activities and analysis of the reports. In the public sector, this makes ANAC also a governance and regulatory Authority in view of its investigative and sanctioning powers when it comes to discriminatory measures applied after a report. Moreover, some major Italian companies, heralding “zero-

[‡] Law No.179/2017, entitled "Provisions for the protection of authors of reports of crimes or irregularities of which they have become aware in the context of a public or private employment relationship";

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| | tolerance” policy vs. fraud and corruption, have been pioneers by having set protected reporting channels, upon guarantee of anonymity, well before the obligation by the law to do so. With the support of Transparency International-Italian chapter, they have recently adopted, on a voluntary basis, an on-line whistleblowing platform, which is more advanced than the current tools in use and meets the highest confidentiality standards. The discipline of whistle-blowers’ protection is reinforced, in terms of judicial proceedings, by the principle of shifting the burden of proof: it will be up to the public or private entity to prove that measures eventually adopted against the whistle-blower are not discriminatory - namely in case of dismissal - and that they have been taken for reasons being unrelated to the alert. |
| National human rights framework | |
| Establishing a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles. Recs: 148.17 through 148.61 (SDGs 10, 16) | As for the creation of a National Human Rights Institution , a lively debate is ongoing at the parliamentary level. The relevant Bill is under examination at the First Committee of the Chamber of Deputies, following the merging (“ <i>Testo unificato</i> ”) of two previously existing Bills on the topic, in line with the Paris Principles. Hon. Luigi Di Maio, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy recently indicated the need to speed up the process leading to the establishment of a NHRI by recalling the relevant draft Law, pending before the Constitutional Affairs Committee of the Chamber of Deputies (ANSA, May 22, 2021.) |
| Implementation of international human rights obligations, taking into account applicable international humanitarian law Recs.:148.13, 148.14, 148.15, 148.121, 148.123, 148.141, 148.145, | In compliance with Arts 3 and 8 of ECHR, Decree-Law No.130/2020, converted with amendments into Law No. 173/2020, extended the application of the principle of <i>non-refoulement</i> to other cases [§] , in addition to the risk of persecution and torture: a) cases which fall under the national/constitutional and international obligations of Italy ^{**} which take into account the existence of systematic and serious violations of human rights in the State of origin of the third-country national; b) cases in which the foreign national is likely to suffer inhuman and degrading treatment in his/her country of origin; c) cases in which reasonable grounds exist to believe that <i>refoulement</i> would conflict with respect for private and family life of the foreign national, unless expulsion is deemed necessary for national security, public order or public |

[§] Art. 19 para. 1.1. Legislative Decree No. 286/1998

^{**} Including Art. 5, para. 6 of Legislative Decree No. 286/1998

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| <p>148.169, 148.193, 148.274, 148.275, 148.280, 148.300, 148.304</p> <p>Rec noted: 148.302</p> <p>(SDGs 1,5, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17)</p> | <p>safety reasons. In compliance with economic, social and cultural rights. The above reform also allows to convert residence permits for special protection into residence and work permits and for reasons of respect for private and family life.</p> <p>As part of the resettlement program, Italy has continued to implement the commitment undertaken on the basis of the indications of the Commission Recommendation dated 27 September 2017, for 2018/2019. To date, a total of 2510 refugees were resettled by the Italian Government.</p> <p>Italy has also committed, for the years 2020/2021, to resettling additional 700 refugees from the following first asylum countries: Lebanon; Jordan; Libya; and Niger.</p> <p>As part of the humanitarian corridors, the commitment to transferring 1.000 people in need of international protection from Lebanon to Italy was completed on 18 December 2020, in compliance with the protocol stipulated on 7 November 2017 between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and of International Cooperation, the Ministry of the Interior, the <i>Comunità di Sant'Egidio</i>, the Federation of Evangelical Churches, and the Waldensian Table.</p> <p>Further, 248 people in need of international protection have been transferred to date, in line with the protocol signed on 3 May 2019 between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, the Ministry of the Interior, the Italian Episcopal Conference (acting through the Italian Caritas and the Migrants Foundation) and the <i>Comunità di Sant'Egidio</i>, which established the transfer of 600 beneficiaries from Ethiopia, Niger and Jordan within the following two-year period,</p> <p>In addition to the above-mentioned commitments of resettlement and humanitarian corridors, Italy has carried out further humanitarian evacuations from Libya and Niger since March 2019. To date, a total of 913 people in need of international protection have been relocated to Italy, as long as the COVID-19 outbreak has caused the suspension of humanitarian evacuations.</p> |
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| <p>A. Cross-cutting issues</p> | <p><i>Update</i></p> |
| <p><i>Equality and Non-Discrimination</i></p> | |

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| <p>Enhancing policies and programmes to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance against persons of African descent, ethnic minorities and migrants, by adopting a new national action plan and by strengthening the capacity of the National Office against Racial Discrimination</p> <p>Recs.: 148.62 through 148.82 148.83 through 148.96; 148.97 through 148.98; 148.99 through 148.105; 148.120, 148.143, 148.144, 148.189, 148.190, 148.195, 148.197, 148.209, 148.253, 148.254, 148.257, 148.277, 148.278, 148.283, 148.285, 148.288, 148.290</p> <p>(SDGs 10, 11, 16, 17)</p> | <p><u>As for the inclusion of disadvantaged and marginalized individuals</u>, over the last years the National Office Against Racial Discrimination (Italian acronym UNAR),^{††} as well as the central and regional Administrations, have allocated extensive European Social Fund (ESF) resources to social inclusion, including through the Program "Inclusion of Vulnerable People", started in 2014, which aims at the social inclusion of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti. Within this framework, many operations are ongoing for the period 2018-2022. Further, thanks to the coordination between regional realities and other intermediate bodies, this objective was included in different National Operating Programs (i.e. <i>NOP Inclusion and NOP Metro</i>) and regional operation plans.</p> <p>With regard to the NOP Inclusion, the following Actions were already launched:</p> <p><u>Action 9.5.1 Education Axis</u> - aimed at preventing school dropouts and at developing schooling and pre-schooling (under the competence of the Ministry of Labour);</p> <p><u>Action 9.5.3 Health Axis</u> - referring to health services and their accessibility;</p> <p><u>Action 9.5.4. Mediation and awareness-raising</u>, including social mediation, mediation in relation to the family and to education and conflict resolution, projects aimed at promoting understanding of the Romani Language and Culture;</p> <p><u>Action 9.5.5. Labour Axis</u> focusing on recognition of competences, vocational training, self-entrepreneurship and occupational mediation, designed to facilitate job placement on the ‘Acceder Program’ model (a Good Practice recognized at the European level);</p> <p><u>Action 11.1.3. Statistical Working Group</u> – focusing on the improvement of organizational processes of the public administration for a better organization of informational bases, social statistics and social reports.</p> <p>Within the NOP Metro^{‡‡},</p> <p><u>Action 9.5.7. Housing Axis</u> aims at facilitating access to non-segregated housing and full interaction with the community of residents, thereby envisaging further opportunities for replacing “Roma settlements”.</p> <p>In view of achieving greater coordination between central and local administrations, UNAR also launched a call for proposals (2020) in collaboration with the Conference of Regions and Autonomous Provinces,</p> |
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^{††} UNAR is responsible for the protection against all forms of discrimination, be it on the ground of race, ethnic origin, religion or belief, age, be it on the ground of sexual orientation or gender identity. UNAR is also strongly engaged in promoting the integration of Roma communities within the framework of the National Strategy of Social Inclusion of Roma, Sinti and Camminanti 2012 -2020 (NRIS);

^{‡‡} The Metropolitan Cities are the main beneficiaries of the allocated funds.

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| | <p>in view of implementing the Project P.A.R. (Regional Action Plans). Over the period 2021-2022, the project will provide the Regions with relevant technical support for the effective planning and financial access to available resources, while ensuring better operational coordination of social and economic interventions for the inclusion of Roma and other communities at greatest risk of social vulnerability.</p> <p>OSCAD has been co-operating with UNAR (“<i>Ufficio Nazionale Antidiscriminazioni Razziali</i>” – National Office against Racial Discrimination, set up within the Department for Equal Opportunities of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers), being the Italian Equality Body, since 2011 when a specific memorandum of understanding was signed.</p> <p>OSCAD will be co-operating closely with UNAR for implementing the future NOP on the grounds related to law enforcement competence.</p> <p>Further, UNAR launched the P.A.L. project (Local Action Plans) for the 2019-2021 period, which supports municipal administrations for Roma inclusion and, in 2021, it launched a joint programme, in collaboration with the Conference of Regions and Autonomous Provinces, in view of implementing the P.A.R. (Regional Action Plans). For the period 2021-2023, the project is providing the Regions with relevant technical support for the effective planning and financial access to available resources on Roma inclusion, while ensuring better operational coordination of social and economic interventions for the inclusion of Roma and other communities at greatest risk of social vulnerability.</p> <p>Moreover, since 2020 - a public debate, coordinated by UNAR, has been promoted with NGOs, public administrations and other stakeholders in view of defining common priorities and implementing a participatory writing of the new second National Strategy for the social inclusion of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti, 2021-2030.</p> <p>More recently, the adoption process of the new National action plan against racism, xenophobia and intolerance 2021-2025 has been launched through public consultation with relevant stakeholders. Also in this case, the process is coordinated by UNAR.</p> |
| <p>Adopting further legal and policy measures, including awareness-</p> | <p>As for xenophobia, the ‘Observatory for security against acts of discrimination’ (OSCAD) was established within the Ministry of Interior in 2010, to improve the coordination between Italian Police Forces (in</p> |

raising campaigns, to counter racism, discrimination, hate speech and xenophobia against Roma, Sinti and Caminanti communities, and to ensure their full access to the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights

Recs.: 148.76, 148.98;
148.117 through 148.120,
148.188, 148.189, 148.190, 148.191;
148.255 through 148.259, 148.306

(SDGs 10, 11, 16)

particular State Police and Carabinieri Corps) in preventing and combating hate crimes. Within its remit, OSCAD addresses xenophobia and verbal/physical abuses against migrants, asylum-seekers, refugees and stateless persons. To this end, a specific email address was also activated (oscad@dcpc.interno.it) to receive 'informal' reports from victims, witnesses and NGOs. OSCAD's experts analyse those reports and, where appropriate, initiate targeted interventions by the Police or the Carabinieri. Moreover, OSCAD facilitates the approach of victims to competent Police agencies, in case of willingness to file a complaint. Further, OSCAD promotes general awareness on how to tackle crimes with discrimination motives (i.e. Hate Speeches and hate crimes), through a variety of training or e-learning activities for law enforcement, as well as through the organisation of seminars targeting a wider public.

In this context, UNAR also plays a crucial role. Since its establishment in 2004, it supports victims of discrimination through a Contact Centre and collects data on its causes in view of monitoring its incidence and development. The reports handled by UNAR over the last years confirm that the most relevant discrimination cases relate to ethnic-racial motives. For example, in 2019, the great majority of the 3,394 reports processed by the Office (namely 2,496 cases, equalling 73.5% of the total) referred to discrimination based on "Race and Ethnicity", whereas discrimination based on "Religion or personal beliefs" amounted to 326 cases (9.6% of the total), with 212 cases concerning anti-Islamism and 69 anti-Semitism. Further, 219 cases referred to "Sexual orientation and gender identity", 188 to "Disability", 108 to "Age" and 53 classified as "Multiple Discrimination".

OSCAD was included as the Italian best practice on combating hate crimes in the compendium of best practices^{§§} developed by the EU-FRA "Working Party on Improving Reporting and Recording of Hate Crime". From 2014 to 2016, OSCAD was also a member of the Working Party, established in response of the Council "Conclusions on Combating Hate Crime in the European Union" and co-leader of its sub-group concerning training. In 2018, OSCAD released the "Guide on Judaism for Police Officers" in cooperation with the Union of the Italian Jewish Communities (UCEI). Since then, its cooperation with UCEI was extended to other hate-crime reporting activities. In 2019, the two bodies developed a dedicated reporting form, based on the most relevant Anti-Semitic bias indicators. In January 2020, OSCAD

^{§§} <https://fra.europa.eu/en/promising-practices/observatory-security-against-acts-discrimination-oscad>

organized the Conference ‘The victims of hatred’, at the Presidency of the Council of Ministers,^{***} in view of enhancing the commitment made by law enforcement in preventing and combating all forms of discrimination, while promoting the values of tolerance and inclusion. During this event, the OSCAD Secretariat also presented its article “When hate becomes crime. Hate crime: what it is and the legal framework against it”, published on the official National Police magazine ‘Polizia Moderna’ (Modern Police).

In October 2020, OSCAD published the brochure "*L'odio contro le persone disabili*" (“Hatred of disabled people”) available in Italian and in English, on institutional websites and disseminated among Italian and international Police forces and stakeholders. The aim of this publication is to offer an opportunity for reflection and enrichment on a particularly sensitive issue and to provide Police officers with practical tools to recognize and fight crimes committed against disabled people in the most effective way.

In order to build/reinforce trust between the Police and Roma communities, OSCAD, in the second half of 2021, will cooperate with the OSCE-ODIHR in the implementation in Italy of the Training of Trainers (ToT) Programme “Training on Effective and Human Rights-Compliant Policing in Roma and Sinti Communities”. The programme is based on the manual “Police and Roma and Sinti: Good Practices in Building Trust and Understanding” which identifies principles and good practices to improve relations between Police and Roma and Sinti communities while complying with international HR standards. The training activity will start in September 2021 with the “*needs assessment evaluation*” and will follow with a four-day training for a group of selected trainers from National Police and Carabinieri Corps.

The phenomena of “de facto” **statelessness** in Italy re-emerged significantly in the 1990s, following the conflict in the former Yugoslavia. The Roma (i.e. from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, North Macedonia and Kosovo) were among the communities that suffered the most relevant consequences. To date, there are still many second or third generation people in Italy who have never acquired Italian citizenship or determined their stateless status. In order to address these problems, a specific Working Group was set up

^{***} Attended also by the Minister of the Interior, the Minister for Equal Opportunities and the President of the Italian Inter - Ministerial Committee for Human Rights (CIDU).

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| | <p>in the framework of the National Strategy for the inclusion of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti. However, due to the present epidemic emergency, its proceedings were interrupted. In terms of proceedings, statelessness in Italy can be granted either by administrative means or ordinary judges, independently from each other. In the case of administrative certification, the competent authority is the Ministry of the Interior, through a procedure governed by art. 17 of D.P.R. No.572/1993 “Regulation for the execution of Law No.91/1992”. As for the judicial proceeding, the judge has broader powers of probative ascertainment with respect to the Administration. As far as the proof of the status of statelessness is concerned, circumstantial evidence is considered sufficient, according to established jurisprudence, in addition to proving a permanent residency on Italian territory. In accordance with Law No.91/1992, stateless persons can acquire a ‘status civitatis’ after 5 or more years of legal residence in Italy (Art.9) and children born in Italy to recognized stateless parents acquire Italian citizenship at birth (Art.1). Moreover, in line with the obligations of the 1954 New York Convention, stateless persons are entitled to the same treatment as Italian citizens in various sectors, whereas in others they are entitled to the same rights as aliens. Moreover, Italy ratified also UN Convention on Statelessness Reduction in September 2015.</p> |
| <p>Strengthening laws and programmes to combat discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, including by adopting a holistic non- discrimination law that includes the bases of sexual orientation and gender identity, by enhancing the capacity of the National Office Against Racial Discrimination, and by strengthening the role of the Advisory Working Group for the Promoting of the Rights of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Persons</p> | <p>Concerning the Italian LGBTI policies, Italy continues to be strongly committed to advancing equality and non-discrimination through the improvement of policies for the promotion of rights and the protection of LGBTI people’s rights. In the coming months, the adoption of a <u>National LGBTI Strategic Plan</u> is expected, in close cooperation and open dialogue with the most relevant Italian NGOs, within the framework of a Permanent Consultation Table for the protection of the rights of LGBTI people, set up by the Minister for Equal Opportunities. The Table consists of 66 LGBTI NGOs, working in plenary and sectorial sessions. The Ministry of Health takes part in the LGBT technical committee, coordinated by UNAR (first meeting 23.06.2021) for the drafting of the UNAR Working Document “Towards a National LGBT Strategy”, by which health-care is one of the priority areas of intervention.</p> <p>OSCAD participates in UNAR’s permanent consultation Table for the protection of the rights of LGBT people. OSCAD has always paid the utmost attention to the training in order to increase awareness and the competence of the Police officers about Hate crime, Hate Speech and Human Rights. Considering the complexity of these issues, since 2012 public institutions and CSOs have been involved in the training. In particular, OSCAD has established a close and effective cooperation with “Rete Lenford” (‘Lenford</p> |

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| <p>Recs.: 148.98; 148.106 through 148.107; 148.108 through 148.116, 148.189, 148.203, 148.204 148.224, 148.284</p> <p>Recs. noted: 148.171</p> <p>(SDGs 3, 5, 10, 16)</p> | <p>network’) a lawyers’ association highly specialized on LGBTI people rights, that during OSCAD training activities presents the module “A correct police approach with LGBTI people”. In 2019 OSCAD experts took part to the CoE ToT: «Policing Hate Crime against LGBTI persons: training for Professional Police Response». In March 2021, OSCAD organized, in cooperation with the SOGI Unit of the Council of Europe, a ToT programme for 18 National police trainers and 15 Carabinieri Corps trainers.</p> <p>In addition, several activities are currently under implementation by UNAR, funded by European and national financial resources. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Actions aimed at the Promotion of inclusion and diversity in the workplace:</i> through the translation and dissemination of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Standards of Conduct on Diversity Management; the creation of ad hoc webinars for training and exchange of best practices of diversity management in a network with NGOs, Trade Unions and enterprisers; specific projects to promote the transgender people’s inclusion in the workplace (through training courses and support of self-employment and start ups). - <i>Actions aimed at the Promotion of health of transgender people.</i> UNAR, in cooperation with the National Health Institute, has implemented an experimental project aimed at the first institutional web portal for transgender people (called INFOTRANS.IT). - <i>measures to combat discrimination and violence (including domestic) against LGBTI people,</i> through the implementation of a network of Centers for LGBTI people who are victims of violence and discrimination, funded by 4 million Euros each year, in cooperation with LGBTI NGOs. <p>Further, UNAR implemented several measures (financed by the ESF/NOP Inclusion) related to job inclusion of LGBT people, including projects supporting self-employment for transgender people. Other interesting practices relate to: the translation and dissemination of the standards of conduct of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights on management of diversity; the networking with NGOs, trade unions and entrepreneurs who implement training and exchange of good practices (e.g. through ad hoc Webinars). The <u>Law against Homo-lesbo-bi-transphobia</u> is currently under discussion in the Italian Parliament. The Bill was approved by the Chamber of Deputies and is now being debated by the Senate.</p> |
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| | <p>In the context of the sub-action 6 of the project Empowerment Asylum Commission (EM.as.com), financed by the European Commission, National Asylum Commission and UNHCR are about to publish new guidelines for the identification of victims of sexual and gender-based violence among asylum-seekers. These also aim to raise awareness of the victim's situation and to allow, through a reporting mechanism, the establishment of contacts between the victims and the territorial services of protection and assistance.</p> |
| <p><i>Development, the environment, and business and human rights</i></p> | |
| <p>Implementing <i>the</i> first National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights in line with the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights</p> <p>Recs.: 148.121, 148.122</p> <p>(SDGs 8, 12, 16)</p> | <p>The first Italian National Action Plan (NAP) on Business and Human Rights (2016-2021),^{†††} reviewed in 2018, is in the process to be re-launched for the next cycle.</p> <p>Meanwhile an assessment of the first NAP and the drafting process towards the new NAP, 2021 - 2026 have counted upon a two-steps open online consultation to receive feedbacks and suggestions on relevant topics to be implemented in line with the basics of the UN BHR Working Group roadmap for the next decade.</p> <p>The Italian NAP contains a reference to the need of promoting stronger relationships with business as fundamental ways towards reinforced cooperation to protect high human rights standards. This commitment translated into the request addressed to business companies to respect the national legislation in force, in compliance with hard and soft international law, in matter of right of association and assembly, labour rights, consumers' rights and environmental conservation. At the same time, institutional actors are committed to inform about human rights promotion, to facilitate multi-stakeholder initiatives with the participation of business companies, to call for a transparent communication about the impact of business on human rights, and to pursue the protection of high human rights standards through the sharing and reception of national and international best practices. To this end, Italy has accepted the recommendations addressed during the UPR 3rd cycle, which make explicit reference to the BHR issue, namely: 148.121 - <i>Ensure that its policies, legislation, regulations and enforcement measures effectively serve to prevent and address the heightened risk of business involvement in abuses in conflict situations, which includes situations of foreign occupation</i>; and 148.122 - <i>Support businesses in addressing modern slavery in supply</i></p> |

^{†††} http://cidu.esteri.it/comitatodirittiumani/resource/doc/2020/02/cidu_napbhreng_2018def.pdf

chains by implementing Italy's 2016 labour exploitation legislation and encouraging agricultural business to sign up to the "quality agricultural network".

In terms of Italian legislation, **Law Decree No.231/2001** created a strong incentive for the adoption of adequate compliance programs that can exonerate a company from corporate liability for crimes committed in its interest. Further, a draft proposal for the adoption of mandatory models for limited companies with a certain annual profit is currently pending in the Italian Parliament.

Law No.273/2002 provided for the establishment of the National Contact Point in charge of promoting the OECD Guidelines for multinational enterprises at the Ministry of Economic Development - General Directorate for Industrial Policy, Innovation and SMEs, which –among others- has the task to:

- handle specific allegations of non-observance of the OECD Guidelines, especially with regard to the duty to respect human rights;

- recommend and support companies in implementing a due diligence process, through which they can identify, prevent, mitigate and account for how they address their actual and potential adverse impact as an integral part of their decision-making and risk-management systems.

Moreover, as the competent Authority for the national implementation of Regulation (EU) 2017/821, the Italian Ministry of Economic Development has the task of carrying out ex-post checks on compliance with importers' duty to implement a supply chain due diligence.

Italy also takes part to the EU process aiming at a mandatory **human rights due diligence**. Since the adoption of Legislative Decree No.254/2016 (in line with Directive 2014/95/EU4), larger enterprises and groups are already obliged to publish, for each financial year, a non-financial statement concerning environmental and social information, human resources, respect for human rights and fight against corruption. Finally, the implementation of a supply chain due diligence is now an optional criteria for public administrations to select textile product suppliers.

In line with its new 2021-2026 National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights, Italy acknowledges the need for appropriate non-state based grievance mechanisms. To this aim, the Government encourages civil society organizations, trade unions and business associations to set up and activate grievance

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| | <p>mechanisms (i.e. through online networks, corporate mechanisms or multi-stakeholder dialogue tools) to enable the formulation, reception, and evaluation of claims for alleged human rights abuses and the proposal of adequate remedies. In addition to the non-judicial remedies offered by the National Contact Point, Italy also supports respect for human rights within the UNEP rights-based approach to environmental protection and sustainable development. Another Italian non-judicial grievance mechanism is the Bank and Financial Arbitrator (ABF) created in 2009 and active since 2010 through its Panels in Milan, Rome and Naples (panels are likely to be established soon in other major towns). In the course of its mandate the ABF has extended the concept of ‘customers’ to cover individuals affected by the action of an intermediary even if the parties were not bound by contract. ABF expanded its functions to deal also with pre-contractual obligations in order to protect individuals claiming that intermediaries violated the obligations of good faith - which bind the parties to adopt fair behaviour while negotiating</p> <p>In addition, by adopting the 2016-2021 National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights. Italy committed to promoting and carry out key-actions to provide that, within the domestic legislative, institutional and operational framework regulating economic activities, human rights are conceived as a priority so that the eventual adverse impact of business on these rights is properly addressed. Within this framework, companies are expected, among others, to provide for grievance mechanisms enabling reparation to victims of abuses they may have caused directly or indirectly, or to which they are linked to. In conducting this activity, companies shall be able to foresee and/or avoid potential negative impact on the human rights of individuals and communities. In doing so companies should also refer - at a minimum - to internationally recognized human rights, as expressed in the International Bill of Human Rights, as well as those set out in the International Labour Organization’s Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Right at Work and the ILO Tripartite Declaration on Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy. In particular on circumstances, companies may also want to consider additional international instruments and standards, such as the international humanitarian law in case of conflicts or other UN human rights treaties.</p> |
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| B. Civil and political rights | <i>Update</i> |
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| <p><i>Right to life, liberty and security of person</i></p> | |
| <p>Bringing the definition of torture into line with Article 1 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.</p> <p>Recs.: 148.124, 148.126, 148.128 148.125 148.127; 148.129 through 148.133</p> <p>(SDGs 10, 16)</p> | <p>Law No.110/2017 established the crime of torture in Articles 613-<i>bis</i> and 613-<i>ter</i> of the Penal Code. Compared to Article 1 of UN CAT Convention, as also considered in 2017, the national provision has a broader scope.</p> <p>It should be noted that Law No.110/2017 also established the crime of incitement to torture by public officials.</p> |
| <p>Continuing to tackle overcrowding prisons, improving prisons conditions and developing further alternative measures.</p> <p>Recs.: 148.125, 148.127, 148.129, 148.136, 148.137, 148.138, 148.139 148.140, 148.142, 148.145</p> <p>(SDGs 4, 16)</p> | <p>In order to reduce prison overcrowding and reduce the chances of contagion from COVID 19 among prisoners, during 2020 an inter-institutional synergy was started in view of implementing alternative measures to detention. This activity included the participation of the Fines Fund Office, local bodies the Prison Administration and the Juvenile and Community Justice Department and, as a result, there has been a decrease in the number of admissions in prison (at 29.02.2020, prisoners present were 61,230; at 20.04.2021 were 53,539).</p> <p>As for prison buildings, in recent years, the Prison Administration has committed itself to increasing and/or recovering new detention places. Further, in order to increase the detention capacity of the prison system, in March 2019, a financial plan was approved in accordance with Art.7 of Legislative Decree No.135/2018. This plan aims at building 25 new medium-security detention pavilions in "<i>intra moenia</i>" unused available areas in already existing prisons. In 2020, 600 new detention places were made available in the prisons of Parma, Lecce and Trani, as a result of the completion and opening of the new pavilions containing 200 places. In the meantime, a pavilion of equal capacity has been completed and enabled for use at Taranto remand prison. The new 200-place pavilion at Sulmona prison and the 92-place pavilion at the Cagliari remand prison have been completed and are under testing stage. In the last four years (2016-2020) the</p> |

average of square meters made *ex novo* and/or renewed for treatment activities has been of about 9,000 square meters, per year. Based on the financial resources available at the time of Budget Item 7300, the activities were focused on the proceedings related to 8 modules, for 960 new places overall (planning phase in conclusion). A review of this plan is ongoing (following Ministerial Decree dated 12 January 2021) by the "Commission for Prison Architecture" established at the Cabinet of the Minister of Justice. The plan is to build n. 8 pavilions of about 80 places each, with strengthened treatment, in line with the Italian Recovery and Resilience Plan of the European Union. This project will complement the reform action, which will be carried out within the next five years in matter of justice and social inclusion. The relevant details are still to be defined.

Further, Presidential Decree No. 448 of 22 September 1988 "*Provisions on criminal proceedings against juvenile defendants*", which governs **criminal proceedings concerning juveniles conflicting with law in Italy**, is inspired by a number of fundamental principles which are also referred to in the relevant international conventions. Overall, it represents a "child-friendly" decree designed to provide the juvenile court with a tool, which allows to shape the rules of ordinary proceedings in view of ensuring the protection of the child's evolving personality. Among its inspiring principles, it is worth mentioning:

- the principle of appropriateness, which requires that measures shall be: "applied in a manner appropriate to the child's personality and educational needs;"
- the principle of minimum offensiveness, which aims to avoid that the juvenile's contact with the penal system may compromise the harmonious development of his/her personality and social image, and the consequent risk of future marginalization;
- the principle of de-stigmatization regarding the individual and social identity of the juvenile, Who shall be protected, as far as possible, from processes of self-depreciation or devaluation by other people;
- the principle of the residual nature of imprisonment, which indicates that the juvenile legal system shall provide appropriate means for detention as the last and residual measure for young offenders (the so called **last resort**).

The Presidential Decree No.448 of 22 September 1988 therefore aims to combine the community's need to respond to the crime with the need to protect the child's personal development. The whole system is in

line with the so-called educational finality, whereby the criminal process must not interfere with the continuity of education.

The **juvenile criminal proceedings** shall play an empowering and thus preventive role for the minor's future life, as they provide the young offender with some coordinates around which he/she can build a different developmental pathway. On 2 October 2018, namely. 43 years after the enactment of the Penitentiary Order (Act No. 354 of 26 July 1975), Italy implemented its Article 79, through the provisions of Legislative Decree No. 121 "*Discipline of the execution of sentences against convicted minors*" which gave birth to a specific Juvenile Penitentiary Order that, for the first time, regulates the modalities of the execution of prison sentences and community penal measures for crimes committed under the age of 18. In particular, it is provided that "all measures must include an Educational Intervention Program" (*PIE*), tailored to the individual needs of the child and must contain, in addition to the indication of educational and vocational paths, the provision of community service measures or voluntary work. In the execution of custodial sentences and community measures, Article 1(2) favours and encourages "restorative justice and mediation with crime victims". The aforementioned principle of appropriateness laid down in Presidential Decree 448/88 - according to which all provisions must be aimed at the accountability, education and full psycho-physical development of the young offender - is therefore also reinforced. This Legislative Decree actually incorporates the guiding principles of the juvenile criminal justice, by requesting that the punishment must prepare the juvenile for his/her life after release. The tools identified for this purpose are those already tested by the juvenile penal and social services and consist of education, vocational training, social/cultural/sporting and leisure activities, as well as special courses to become active and responsible citizens. Further, the Decree has introduced a number of changes in some substantive areas of the regulation of penal enforcement for juveniles and young adults, with the related consequences on the organization and operational levels inside the Juvenile Detention Centers (acronym in Italian, *IPM*). Specifically, the legislator identifies the following general principles, in view of guiding the system of execution of sentences:

1. the sentence must aim at the juvenile's accountability, education and full psycho-physical development in order to prepare him/her adequately for release. This shall be done through paths of substantial and concrete social inclusion;

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| | <p>2. the sentence must aim at preventing further offences, by strengthening, in a careful, individualized manner, paths of education and vocational training, active and responsible citizenship, to be combined with social/cultural/sports and leisure activities.</p> <p>The execution of prison sentences and community penal measures should favor restorative justice and mediation with crime victims. The Decree also provides for detailed regulation on the implementation of various alternative measures (probation, home detention, semi-liberty, special cases of probation), which are significantly brought together under the new name "<i>community-based criminal measures</i>". These give greater emphasis to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the aim of encouraging the positive development of the young offender's personality and a fruitful educational and rehabilitation process (b) the requirements to extend this discipline to young adults under 25 years of age; (c) the need for a really concrete and customized educational project that is developed after discussing it with the offender; (d) the need for minors to be separated from young adults as well as defendants from convicted offenders; (e) the need for cells in penal institutions for minors to hold no more than four people at night; (f) at least four hours of open air time per day for prisoners; (g) the right of the prisoner to have 8 monthly visual interviews with relatives and 2 to 3 weekly telephone interviews lasting 20 minutes each; (h) the possibility of up to 4/per month Extended Private Visits (between 4 and 6 six hours each) with immediate family members/registered domestic partners or other acquaintances with whom there is a significant emotional bond; visits are carried out in special apartment-like facilities on prison grounds; (i) greater protection of the principle of territoriality of enforcement: the sentence must be carried out in facilities as close as possible to the residence or habitual abode of the prisoner and his/her family, in order to maintain personal and socio-familial relationships that are educationally and socially significant (Art. 22); (l) careful planning and preparation of inmates' discharge from the institutions in order to avoid discontinuity between the educational and reintegration project prepared before release and any vocational and support program outside and to ensure successful re-entry in the community. |
| <i>Fundamental freedoms</i> | |

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| <p>Ensuring a safe environment for journalists, human rights defenders and Non-Governmental Organizations, including those working with migrants and with victims of human trafficking, ensuring that their work is not criminalized or penalized, and investigating all acts of intimidation against them</p> <p>Recs.: 148.147; 148.149 through 148.152</p> <p>(SDG 16)</p> | <p>In 2017, the Minister of the Interior established the "Coordination Centre for monitoring activities, analysis and permanent exchange of information on the phenomenon of intimidating acts against journalists", with the additional capacity of formulating proposals aimed at identifying strategies of prevention and fight against this phenomena. Further, a Permanent Supporting Body for the Coordination Centre was set up in 2018. Within this framework, the analysis on intimidation of journalists highlighted some critical issues, which are particularly relevant at the local level. Amongst other, data showed an increasing trend (163 cases in 2020, against 87 episodes in 2019 and 27 in 2018), whereby the Regions with the highest number of incidents were Lazio, Sicily, Campania, Calabria and Lombardy. Further, against the number of intimidations received via social networks in previous years (24% in 2018 and 23.5% in 2019), these data significantly increased to 44% in 2020 (71 incidents). Finally, a number of individual intimidating events involved journalists or media professionals working on issues concerning the protection of human rights.</p> <p>In terms of legislation, the safety of human rights defenders and journalists, including their protection against exposure to risks, is not regulated separately, but is part of the national system of personal protection and surveillance measures, which our country adopts to ensure the individual security of people on the national territory. In particular, personal protection entails all security measures planned to prevent, avoid or limit any unwanted harm to physical safety and freedom of life, as well as any threat, intimidation or hindrance to the exercise of functions and work activities of a person exposed to risk.</p> <p>The Italian system for personal protection distinguishes three levels of decision-making and intervention:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) the personal security measures referred to in Decree-Law No.83 (converted with amendments by Law No. 133/2002) establishing the Central Multiagency Office for Personal Security (UCIS); 2) the special protection measures for witnesses of justice and of those who collaborate with justice; 3) ordinary protection measures, delegated to the exclusive competence of the Prefects and Provincial Public Security Authorities, as protection tools in response to more general security purposes. <p>The protection of human rights defenders, journalists and civil society actors, falls into the first level.</p> |
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| | <p>In particular, the Central Multiagency Office for Personal Security (UCIS) has the task to ensure, in an exclusive and a coordinated manner, the adoption of protection and surveillance measures throughout the national territory. This is done in the framework of the specific powers attributed to the Minister of the Interior, as National Public Security Authority for the protection of people exposed to particular risks. The UCIS is therefore embedded within the Department of Public Security at the Ministry of the Interior and holds the nationwide task of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collecting and analysing the intelligence products • Identifying the protection schemes • Providing for its adoption and implementation • Planning the use of relevant resources • Monitoring the needs for special tools and means • Supervising the identical training of all the officers operating in this field. <p>The legislation also envisages a complex evaluation process, based on a double level of examination of the individual positions, to be carried out preliminarily at provincial level, by the so-called Offices for Personal Security within the Prefectures.</p> <p>In January 2021, Italy joined the Media Freedom Coalition, to strengthen its action in advocating for media freedom and safety of journalists and to hold to account those who harm journalists for doing their job. Further, in 2019, 2020 and 2021 Italy continued to contribute to the UN initiatives on “Response to Intimidation and Reprisal for Cooperation with the U.N.”.</p> |
| <p><i>Prohibition of all forms of slavery</i></p> | |
| <p>Adopting further measures to fight against trafficking in persons and labour exploitation, including by ensuring that perpetrators are punished appropriately, by strengthening legal and social protection for victims, and by</p> | <p>The current National Anti-Trafficking Plan provided for the establishment of a political/institutional Control Room, entrusted with the task of ensuring a multidisciplinary and integrated approach among institutional and private/social actors. This body was reshaped by Prime Minister’s Decree of 9 April 2019 and was convened by the Minister for Equal Opportunities and the Family on 2 March 2020. It is supported by a Technical Committee (appointed by Prime Minister’s Decree of 10 April 2019), composed of representatives of central and local governments, law enforcement agencies, trade unions and third sector bodies involved in the fight against trafficking in human beings. During its last meeting, the Technical</p> |

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| <p>finalizing the new National Action Plan of Action against Trafficking and Serious Exploitation of Human Beings.</p> <p>Recs.: 148.151; 148.153 through 148.168, 148.269, 148.287, 148. 296, 148.305</p> <p>(SDGs 5, 8, 10, 16)</p> | <p>Committee expressed full convergence on the actions proposed by the Minister, starting from the re-establishment of the Technical Committee and the drafting of the new National Anti-Trafficking Plan by 2020. Further, it was decided to establish an <i>ad hoc</i> working group involving all the competent Administrations in view of strengthening the collaboration for data collection. More in particular, the meeting was an opportunity to take stock of some actions in relation to transnational crime and the phenomena of ‘<i>caporalato</i>’ and to address a series of issues. These included, amongst other: the collection and sharing of data for the identification of victims, especially children; the protection and psychological support given to victims; the protection of relatives; the training of operators and interpreters; the strengthening of partnerships with the Countries of origin etc..</p> <p>In particular, the drafting of the first National Anti-Trafficking Plan (NAP) was based on a long and complex analysis involving all anti-trafficking administrations and networks, and, was formally adopted by the Council of Ministers on 26 February 2016. The NAP was articulated according to the five key priorities identified by the EU Strategy: (a) identify, protect and assist victims of trafficking; (b) intensify the prevention of trafficking in human beings; (c) strengthen the prosecution of traffickers; (d) improve the coordination and policy coherence among key stakeholders; (e) increase knowledge of emerging issues related to all forms of trafficking in human beings and provide an effective response.</p> <p>As for the future, the new National Anti-Trafficking Plan (NAP) will endorse the contents of the EU Strategy for the Eradication of Trafficking, the recommendations of the Committee of the Parties to the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA), as well as the results of the current NAP. Specifically, it will be based on the following priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - improving the reliability and availability of data on trafficking, as a prerequisite for proper monitoring of trafficking and better policy making; - intensifying actions to address trafficking for sexual exploitation, forced marriages, begging, forced crime, trafficking in human organs and skins, sale of pregnant women infants, with a special focus on labour exploitation; - addressing trafficking within the new context of migratory crisis (indeed many victims of trafficking are involved in asylum application systems); - intensifying the training of professionals who, in different capacities, have contact with victims of trafficking, also in relation to traffickers evolving operational methods; |
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- combating the impunity of those who knowingly use victims of trafficking;
- strengthening efforts to prevent trafficking in children for different types of exploitation;
- taking further measures to improve the identification of trafficked persons;
- facilitating and ensuring access to compensation for trafficked persons;
- ensuring that the return of trafficked persons is carried out with the due respect of their rights, safety and dignity and, in relation to children, in line with the principle of best interest of the child;
- improving the efficiency and effectiveness of investigation and prosecution activities.

Within the framework of the project “Coordination mechanism for victims of trafficking”, carried out by National Asylum Commission and UNHCR and implemented with the sub-action 7 of the project EM.as, the “*Guidelines on identification of victims of trafficking among asylum seekers and referral procedures*” were recently revised into a new updated version, which was presented in November 2020. The new version provides **for a higher number of trafficking indicators and new information on identification techniques**. Moreover, this Guidelines envisages modalities for an enhanced cooperation among Territorial Commissions and the competent Prosecutor's Offices.

As for **reception**, considering the available places for the victims of trafficking provided by the Department for Equal Opportunities (DEO), the migrants holding a residency permit for special cases, including victims of trafficking who do not access dedicated paths (Art. 18, Legislative Decree No. 286/98), are admitted to the Reception and Integration System (Italian acronym SAI), as renamed in accordance with Decree Law No.130/2020.

Legislative Decree No.24 of 4 March 2014 provides that **the Department for Equal Opportunities (DEO) at the Presidency of the Council of Ministers’ Office coordinates, monitors and evaluates the outcomes of prevention, law enforcement and social protection policies for victims of trafficking**. Moreover, the Legislative Decree provides: (a) the adoption of a National Anti-Trafficking Plan (NAP) according to a multi-level governmental approach; (b) the merging of the two previous paths of intervention in a Consolidated Program of disclosure, assistance and social integration for victims of trafficking; (c) compulsory training for all actors involved; (d) compensation and support mechanisms for victims.

Due to the complex, multi-sectorial nature of interventions, the NAP provided for the establishment of a political/institutional Control Room, entrusted with the task of ensuring a multidisciplinary and integrated approach among institutional and private/social actors. To that purpose, the Control Room is supported by a Technical Committee, composed of representatives of central and local governments, law enforcement agencies, trade unions and third sector bodies involved in the fight against trafficking in human beings. The Technical Committee will be reconvened in a near future. Further, DEO is in charge for the SIRIT data collection system (*Sistema Informatizzato per la raccolta di informazioni sulla tratta*), managed and updated by the Municipality of Venice in the framework of the Agreement “Numero Verde Anti tratta” (trafficking hotline). **The SIRIT** is fed by the competent bodies managing the projects for the assistance and social protection of victims of trafficking and exploitation funded by the Department. It takes into consideration the wide range of actions foreseen by the projects, encompassing the contact with victims, the assessment of interventions, the care and social inclusion of assisted individuals, the evaluation of the results achieved through a follow up sheet. For 2019-2020, the collaboration agreement with the Municipality of Venice was renewed for the implementation and management of SIRIT (in collaboration with the Ministries concerned, the Regions and local authorities, as well as with other relevant associations) in order to monitor the treated cases and the protection and prevention measures for victims' rights. This also allows to fulfill the data collection and analysis function required by EU Directive No.36/2011.

Since the adoption of the 2014 Consolidated Program for disclosure, assistance and social integration for victims of trafficking, the DEO has prepared **special calls for proposals** to implement social assistance and integration programs, through projects submitted by accredited bodies. In 2020, there was a reduced demand of access to assistance (2054 cases), compared to the demand registered the previous year (3624). The figure dropped especially during March and autumn 2020, due to the lockdown measures, and was relatively greater during the summer months. The number of new victims who requested to be hosted in social protection programs and who benefited from assistance measures in 2020 also decreased to 691, compared to the 812 of the former year. On one hand, such decrease may be explained by the lower attractiveness of the anti-trafficking system, given its changing approach in terms of social inclusion, vocational training and reduced job opportunities. However, in spite of these difficulties, the number of assisted persons in 2020 (i.e. those who benefited from social inclusion programs focusing on literacy,

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| | <p>vocational training, job placement, regularization, legal support and housing aimed at social integration) was 2040, namely not far from the previous year (2078). Therefore, this data may confirm the effectiveness of the new initiatives aimed at addressing the needs of the target population.</p> <p>A specific <i>Register of Bodies and Associations</i> carrying out activities in favour of migrants was established at the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies, in relation to Calls No. 1/2016 (€ 15 million Euros) and No. 2/2017 (22.5 million euro). In 2018, the interventions of the Consolidated Programme were carried out with increased available financial resources. Projects started on 1st March 2019, following the selection procedure set out in the Call for Proposals No. 3/2018 (published on 21 December 2018), amounting to € 24 million. The 21 selected projects referred to different territorial areas (11 were submitted by Regions and/or Municipalities and 10 by associations). The interventions were supposed to be completed on 31 May 2020 to ensure full care of victims within the projects funded by the previous Call for Proposals No. 2/2017. Yet, in light of the pandemic persistence, the DEO took note of the new needs of both public and private operators and deemed appropriate to extend the projects until 31 December 2020 (also by expanding available resources over € 11 million). Further, this extension was later reiterated until 30 June 2021, by providing additional funding of approximately € 10 million.</p> <p>Due to the COVID-19 emergency, the DEO decided to postpone the issuing of a new call for proposals and provided for an extension of all projects to 31 December 2020. In addition, it intensified its relations with various actors of the national anti-trafficking system (local administrations and NGOs) in view of addressing the issues emerging from the containment measures of COVID-19.</p> <p>DEO released a new Call for Proposals (No. 4/2021), to facilitate the implementation of all activities of identification, assistance and social integration of victims of trafficking as of 1 July 2021. This call considers the changes in the way a number of services can now be provided, pending the current emergency situation, and is structured in view of endorsing further proposals made by the referees of the anti-trafficking projects.</p> |
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| C. Economic, social and cultural | <i>Update</i> |
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| rights | |
| <i>Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work</i> | |
| <p>Enhancing further efforts to address unemployment disproportionately affecting certain groups, including young persons, women, persons with disabilities, and persons of minority groups, and guaranteeing equal remuneration for men and women for work of equal value</p> <p>Recs.: 148.170, 148.172, 148.176 through 148.180 148.181 through 148.185, 148.234</p> <p>(SDGs 5, 8, 10)</p> | <p>The Italian Government is committed to strengthening female participation in the job market: women represent key factors for an integrated development of society, also in view of the digital and green transitions. Currently, women remain particularly resilient in managing work and family time. Nevertheless, it remains essential to encourage and achieve real co-responsibility between women and men within the social context, by favouring equal distribution of care work, enhancing care services and corporate welfare, as well as by countering gender stereotypes that prevent women from achieving leadership responsibilities. In order to overcome barriers to their career advancement, especially in the fastest growing fields (STEM, IT, cloud computing, data and artificial intelligence), it is also necessary to support appropriate education and training initiatives. During the pandemic crisis, the Ministry for Equal Opportunities and the Family set up a female team, "Women for a new Renaissance", with the idea that by starting from women and with women it is possible to build a new path of growth for the Country. The Task Force was made up of twelve women, distinguished by their original, high-level contributions in the cultural, scientific or other professional fields, who provided for effective, feasible and targeted proposals. The team was divided into thematic subgroups and produced a report, based on objective data and scientific evidence, on the impact of the epidemic crisis in different sectors. Further, it focused on the opportunities for social, cultural and economic restart in Italy after the emergency. The final document, launched on 16 July 2020 by the then President of the Council of Ministers, includes the following proposals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to increase the percentage of women in every working sector; - to overcome barriers that prevent the advancement of career paths, in particular in the fastest growing fields (STEM, computing, cloud computing, data and artificial intelligence); - to address gender stereotypes that prevent women to participate in leadership positions; - to activate measures to ensure the financial independence of girls and women. |

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| | <p>In addition, a number of interventions were proposed in view of boosting and/or developing female employment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to introduce gender impact assessment for businesses, - to introduce proper measures to reconcile life time: - to support care parenting and for women victims of violence,; - to enact integrated measures to uphold female empowerment; - to create conditions for the development of female talent. <p>The indications of the Task Force will be integrated in the DEO planning, also in view of the targeted access and use of the financial resources provided the European cohesion funds and the Next Generation EU, and will thus provide an opportunity to strengthen the planning of interventions in the field of gender equality in the coming years</p> <p>As for gender balance, since adoption of Law No.120/2011 Italy is witnessing a significant revolution in women's leadership, thanks to the provision, which requires equitable representation of gender in the organs of management of listed companies. In 2013, such requirement was extended to public companies. Further, the Consolidated Law on State-owned companies^{***} reinforced the principle of gender balance, requiring that at least one third of the appointments at the directorial level had to refer to the less represented gender. In 2018, an inter-institutional Observatory, aimed at monitoring the implementation of Law No.120/2011 was established in the framework of a 5-year <i>Memorandum of Understanding</i> between the Department for Equal Opportunities of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, the CONSOB and the Italian National Bank. Moreover, by acting as a supervisory body on female participation, the Department for Equal Opportunities initiated 391 administrative proceedings against companies whose composition of the Boards of Directors /of Statutory Auditors did not respect gender balance. Together, these measures proved to be effective tools for promoting the presence of women in top positions and highlighted a positive correlation between women's empowerment and the improvement of company performances. As such, the law under reference was renewed in 2019 within the 2020 Budget Law towards the target of 40% rate of women in companies' boards. To date, the percentage of women in management boards of listed companies stands at 33,5%, (against 6% before the legislation), thereby</p> |
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^{***} Legislative Decree No.175/2016

exceeding the ratio (1 out 3) required by Law; the presence of women in Boards of public companies (now at 32.1%) increased by 75% in about five years.

Likewise, in the **entrepreneurial sector**, the Italian Government launched a significant action since 2013, in view of supporting female entrepreneurship and employment opportunities, by providing a public guarantee covering financial transactions of Italian SMEs, aimed at business activities carried out by women. In particular, the initiative meant to ease procedures for ‘access to credit’, being this one of the main problems faced by women undertaking business and self-employment. To date, over 16,000 female companies benefited from this guarantee and about 42% of Italian financial institutes are involved in the operation. In terms of female presence in political areas, some positive signs are also emerging. The percentage of women elected during the general election in 2018 increased to 35.4 % (against the ratio of 30.7% of the previous parliamentary term) and Italian female representation in the European Parliament (41.7%) is almost twice than ten years before, in line with the European average. However, despite these important achievements, the **gender employment gap in Italy** is still wide and already lagging women's working conditions deteriorated, especially during the epidemic crisis, particularly in the South. This also by considering that women are mainly (and precariously) employed in the service sector, which was the most affected sector over the past year^{§§§}. For example, the 2nd trimester of 2020 registered less 470 thousand employed women than in the same trimester of 2019, and less 323 thousand women with a fixed-term contract. As such, the employment rate among females aged 15-64 years now stands at 48.4%, compared to 66.6% for men, placing Italy in the second-to-last position in the European ranking, just above Greece. Further, female unemployment in Italy is startling, considering that the level of female education is comparatively higher than that of men. For example, in 2019, almost 2 out of 3 women had a high-school diploma, indicating a percentage that is about 5 points higher than that of men (64.5% vs. 59.8%), whereas 22.4% of women (vs. 16.8% of men) had a university degree. Overall, the female employment rate has increased by only 15 points in the last 40 years (from 33.5 % in 1977 to 48.4% in 2020), despite investments in education, *tertiarisation* of the economy and progressive cultural changes have significantly contributed to the participation of women in the labour market.

^{§§§} 809.000 less people employed than in the 2nd trimester of 2019.

As for **unemployment among young people**, according to ISTAT, in 2018, the so-called **NEETs** (young people, aged 15-29, neither in employment, in education or training) amounted to 2,116,000, representing 23.4% of the total number of young people of the same age. Their distribution on the Italian territory is unbalanced, with approximately 1,099,000 NEETs in the Southern regions, 666,000 in the North and 336,000 in the Central regions. In 2015, the Department for Youth Policies and Universal Civil Service and the Department for Anti-Drug Policies of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers issued a Public Notice "Prevention and contrast to youth discomfort", to finance targeted actions aimed at addressing youth discomfort and risk-behaviours with reference to the identification and reintegration of NEETs.

As for **unemployment among Roma**, within the framework of the National Roma Inclusion Strategy, UNAR has launched the ACCEDER program for the period 2021-2023, in order to develop a strategy addressing unemployment rates among vulnerable minorities, such as Roma communities. The program aims at recognizing competences and offering vocational training, promoting self-entrepreneurship and occupational mediation, as well as new opportunities for facilitating job placements in mainstream labour markets for Roma and Sinti people.

Equal treatment. In accordance with Legislative Decree No.216/2003 on "Implementation of Directive 2000/78/EC for equal treatment in the field of employment and working conditions", the **principle of equal treatment** applies to: a) access to employment and work, both self-employed and dependent, including selection criteria and hiring conditions; b) employment and working conditions, including career advancement, remuneration and conditions of dismissal; c) access to all types and levels of vocational guidance and training, further training and professional retraining, including professional internships; d) affiliation and activity within the organization of workers, employers or others professional organizations and services provided by the same organizations.

While implementing their supervisory activity, the territorial offices of the National Labour Inspectorate (INL) also carry out investigations in relation to the rules on equal opportunities and to the prohibition of **gender discrimination** at workplaces, including in terms of remuneration.**** Further, on gender issues

**** Legislative Decree No.198/2006 - "Code of equal opportunities between men and women" and subsequent amendments.

relating to equality and equal opportunities, they take into account reports submitted by councillors and equality councillors, in the context of their institutional cooperation with ITL, as foreseen by Art.15 of Legislative Decree No.198/2006. In this regard, in 2018, a new Memorandum of Understanding was signed between INL and the National Councillor for Equality, aimed at boosting the collaboration between the Inspection Agency and the National Network of Counsellors/Directors of Parity, with particular regard to physical protection and economics of pregnant and working mothers. As such, in 2019, the inspection staff intervened in favour of 466 female workers in the tertiary sector, which is traditionally characterized by a higher female employment rate, as well as by a higher rate of this type of violations (namely 81%, against 16% in the industry, 2% in construction and 1% in agriculture). Further, the inspection staff is engaged in prevention activities (pursuant to art. 8 of Legislative Decree No.124/2004) aimed at promoting correct methods of application of the current legislation in the labour market (i.e. among private companies, employers' and trade unions and professional associations).

As for **parental leaves**, to improve the wellbeing of children and parents, while supporting the national birth policy, the Italian Government adopted a series of legal measures, such as the mandatory paternity leave, introduced by Act No.92/2012, which was extended from 5 to 7 days through Law No.160/2019.^{†††} In June 2020, the Council of Ministers adopted the so-called 'Family Act', which introduced a set of new measures for families with children. The new bill also aims at combating the low birth rate in Italy, while supporting parenthood, promoting work-life balance and facilitating the social and educational role of families, in view of a harmonious growth of children and youth. The Act envisages, inter alia : the establishment of a monthly universal allowance for each child (from birth to adult age and without age limits for children with disabilities); the strengthening of family policies which support coverage of educational and school expenses; the promotion of sport and cultural activities; the extension of parental leaves to all professionals, including with regard to compulsory and paternity leaves. In the framework of the Covid-epidemic, Decree-Law No.18/2020 (the so-called *Cura Italia* Decree) provided for an extraordinary leave and bonus for parents, with the aim of supporting them during the period of temporary suspension of child services and school activities.

^{†††} The 2020 Budget Law.

Law No. 68/1999 (*Regulations on the right to employment for persons with disabilities*) protects the inclusion of people with disabilities in the labour market. The aim of this Act is to “*promote the work inclusion of people with disabilities through support services and targeted employment*”. This Act applies to people of working age with physical, psychological, sensorial or intellectual disabilities and refers to: a reduced capacity to work higher than 45%; victims of accidents at workplace with a degree of disability higher than 33%; the blind and deaf-mute people; civic, war and service-related invalids with disabilities from the first to the eighth category referred to in the tables annexed to the consolidated text of the rules on war pensions.

The guarantee of access to employment by persons with disabilities is achieved through “disability reserved quotas”. In the active and passive policy Database, a specific section, called “*Database of targeted placement*” has been set up in order to optimize the systematic collection of available data on targeted placement. The specific section collects information concerning private and public employers and the worker concerned.

Art. 13 of Law No. 68/1999 provides for Regional Funds by allocating subsidies for people with disabilities. The subsidies are used for the partial flat-rate reimbursement of all costs involved in the realization of reasonable accommodation for people with a reduction in working capacity higher than 50%. In addition, new technologies and forms of remote working are provided in order to remove the architectural barriers that limit the employment inclusion of people with disabilities, as well as the designation of a Supervisor in charge of the integration at workplace. The Regional Funds for people with disabilities are set up by the Regions in order to finance the regional job placement plans and related services. The operating procedures and the administrative bodies are determined by Regional Laws, in order to ensure the comprehensive representation of workers, employers and people with disabilities. The amounts to the Funds stem from administrative penalties and subsidies not paid by employers as well as subsidies of foundations, private entities and interested parties. Article 21 of Law No. 68/1999 establishes the obligation to report to the Parliament the “*State of play with regard to the right to work of people with disabilities*” and, according to this decision, Ministry of Labour presented its VIII Report to the Parliament on Law No. 68/1999, during the period 2014/2015.

Legislative Decree No. 151/2015 has deeply innovated (Article 10 amending the aforementioned Article 13 of Law No. 68/1999) the regulation of incentives for the recruitment of people with disabilities and the

operating principles of the relevant Funds. The previous system, which consisted in the annual State's assignment to the Regions and the subsequent allocation provided for by the Regions to employers, has been modified. The legislator has thus ensured the employer, the automatic and immediate incentive provided for by law. According to the new provisions, the National Institute of Social Security (Italian acronym I.N.P.S.) pays the incentive by adjusting the monthly contribution, through a specific electronic procedure. The Fund's resources for the employment of people with disabilities are transferred to the Institute, according to a Decree of the Minister of Labour and Social Policies in accordance with the Minister of Economy and Finance. This Decree is updated annually in order to allocate the resources that merge into the Fund for the payment of the exempt contributions in accordance with Article 4, paragraph 3-bis of Law No. 68/1999. The economic incentive is linked to the taxable gross salary for social security purposes and it varies depending on the degree and type of reduction of the employee's working capacity. The duration of the contributory benefit also varies according to the characteristics of the employee and the type of business collaboration. Specifically, employers who hire people with disabilities with a permanent contract, receive incentives for 36 months, with regard to people with disabilities with reduced working capacity of 67% (the incentive is equal to 35% of the gross monthly salary, but, for people with disabilities with a 79% reduction of working capacity, it rises to 70%). The incentives are also provided for a longer period of time (60 months), for the recruitment of workers with intellectual and mental disabilities. Furthermore, this category of employees is expected to get incentives for a fixed-term contract for a minimum of twelve months. Regarding the incentives provided for employees with work disabilities, Art. 1, paragraph 166, of Law No. 190/2014 has ascribed to the National Institute for Insurance against Accidents at Work (Italian acronym I.N.A.I.L.) competences in relation to reinsertion and work inclusion for people with work related disabilities by concluding the protection model provided for by the Institute. The aforementioned competencies are linked to specific projects designated to maintain the job position or to facilitate the job search through vocational re-training, as well as interventions to overcome workplace's architectural barriers and for the adaptation of workspaces.

Labour policies for persons with disabilities. In Italy, Law No.68/1999 was adopted to the purpose of “promoting the inclusion and integration of disabled people in the labour market, through support services and targeted placement”. Its provisions apply to: people of working age, affected by physical, mental or sensory impairments and to people with intellectual disabilities, which result in a reduction of work

capacity of more than 45%; persons disabled at work, with a degree of disability exceeding 33%; blind or deaf-mute persons; persons disabled during war, civilian invalids during war and invalids for service with disabilities. The Law also establishes that employers cannot ask the disabled worker for a benefit that is not compatible with his/her disabilities (Art.10), and are required to preserve the job to those subjects who, not disabled at the time of hiring, have acquired a disability due to an accident at work or occupational disease (Art.1).

In order to ensure access to work by people with disabilities, Italian legislation also provides for particular 'reserve quotas' for their recruitment. Since January 2018, private companies with 15-35 employees, are now required to have at least one disabled worker among them.

Likewise, in the Public Administration, Legislative Decree No.75/2017 provided for the establishment of: the National Council for the integration of people with disabilities into the workplace; the person in charge of integration of people with disabilities; the task of monitoring the application of Law 68 in the public area. Further, Italy provides a variety of **incentives** for the hiring of people with disabilities, particularly since Legislative Decree No.151/2015 innovated the discipline on this subject and the functioning of the relevant Fund. Specifically, the system that provided for the annual budget allocation to the Regions and its subsequent disbursement to the employers (formerly based on the hires of the previous year) was superseded in favour of an immediate benefit for the employer, whereby the incentives are now paid according to monthly contribution reports, through a telematics-procedure of the National Social Security Institute (I.N.P.S).

The economic incentive relates to the taxable gross salary for social security purposes and varies according to the degree and type of reduction in the working capacity of the hired person. The duration of the contributory benefit also varies according to the characteristics of the hired worker and the type of employment relationship. In particular, for employers who hire people with disabilities for an indefinite period, a 36-month incentive is provided for the recruitment of disabled workers with a reduction in working capacity of and above 67%. Moreover, incentives of 70% of the gross monthly salary can be provided for a longer period of time (60 months), for the recruitment of workers with intellectual and mental disabilities. For these workers there are also incentives for a fixed-term hiring of no less than twelve months.

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| | <p>With reference to the incentives for work disabled, Law No.190/2014 attributed various competences in the field of work integration/reintegration of people with disabilities to the National Institute for Insurance against Accidents at Work (I.N.A.I.L.) These include the promotion of customized projects or interventions aimed at preserving the workplace or at looking for new employment through professional training, as well as at adapting workstations or overcoming architectural barriers in the workplace.</p> <p>With regard to persons with disabilities, equal treatment in working condition is ensured also by Law No.67/2006, which provides for their judicial protection, by enabling them to appeal to the judge in order to obtain the cessation of discriminatory acts. Trade unions and representative organizations may be entitled to act for delegation for collective discrimination and obtain administrative procedures for the annulment of acts that harm people's interests. Further, the Law allows the judge to order the publication of the judicial measures on a national newspaper or on the most popular newspapers in the territory. Moreover, Law No.68/1999 provides that accidents or illness do not constitute a justified reason for dismissal of workers who become unable to carry out their duties as a result of injury or illness: they should be rather assigned to equivalent duties or, failing that, to lower duties. In the case of assignment to lower jobs, people with disabilities have the right to preserve the most favourable treatment corresponding to their previous jobs. Should it be impossible to assign these workers to equivalent or inferior duties, they shall be initiated in another company, in activities compatible with their residual working skills.</p> |
| <p>Strengthening protections for workers in the informal economy (including the agricultural labour market), by enhancing initiatives against labour exploitation, by providing access to regular labour opportunities, by improving identification of victims, and by ensuring access to basic services and living services.</p> | <p>As for migrant workers in irregular situation, among the main areas of intervention included in the annual supervision planning of the National Labour Inspectorate (INL), are the contrast to undeclared work, illegal hiring and labour exploitation of migrants. In particular the latter, and especially those without residence permit, fall within the categories of more vulnerable workers and worthy of protection. Especially, since the start of the epidemic crisis, the national production fabric became particularly exposed to the risk of illegal economy and, in terms of inspections, these consequences shall be countered through the following actions:</p> <p>(a) inspection campaigns in targeted product sectors and territorial contexts, to be intensified in coincidence with phases of increasing production activities;</p> |

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| <p>Recs.:148.122, 148.194, 148.294, 148.297</p> <p>(SDGs 8, 10, 12, 16)</p> | <p>(b) initiatives envisaged by the ‘Three-year plan against exploitation and illegal hiring in agriculture’ (2020-2022),^{****} which embodies the national strategy of contrast to illegal hiring and labor exploitation in agriculture;^{§§§§}</p> <p>(c) participation of the INL in specific projects aimed at strengthening the fight against illegal hiring and to labour exploitation. In this context, the Su.Pr.Eme project, based on the FAMI (standing for Fund for Asylum, Migration and Integration), aims at promoting effective forms of integration of migrants in some territorial contexts of Southern Italy. Further, the so-called ‘A.L.T. Caporalato!’ project, focusing on central and northern regions of Italy, aims at countering illegal hiring also in sectors other than agriculture;</p> <p>(d) adoption of a multi-agency logic and establishment of specific task-forces that attest the importance and usefulness of working in collaboration with other supervisory bodies, of communicating with the Public Prosecutors and to involve the social operators of the territory (trade unions, anti-trafficking associations interpreters / cultural mediators). In particular, the latter play a crucial role in facilitating relations between inspection forces and exploited workers, thanks to their capacity in understanding and overcoming language barriers and cultural differences.</p> |
| <p><i>Right for an adequate standard of living</i></p> | |
| <p>Adopting further measures, including further implementation of the “Universal Basic Income”, to combat poverty and to promote social inclusion programmes, especially for persons with disabilities, ethnic minorities and migrant workers</p> | <p>As for the citizenship income (“<i>Reddito di Cittadinanza</i>”), following the Support for Active Inclusion (SIA), started in 2015, the first national measure against poverty (REI – minimum income for inclusion), covered by the anti-poverty Fund, was introduced by Legislative Decree No.147/2017 to provide benefits in terms of financial and/or service assistance to families/ households in need. Later, Decree Law No. 4/2019 replaced the REI with the <i>Reddito di Cittadinanza</i> (acronym in Italian, RDC) as a universal measure to combat poverty, inequality and social exclusion, by expanding its coverage and by strengthening the job activation component. RDC provides for a Guaranteed Minimum Income (GMI) that includes cash assistance and tailor-made labour and social service plans. The Rdc program covers over 1.3 million families (more than 3 million individuals), topping up their monthly income to a defined threshold. Decree-</p> |

^{****} Approved on 20/02/2020 at the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies (acronym in English, MOL).

^{§§§§} The Plan is implemented by a specific operational working group, chaired by Minister of Labour and of Social Policies, which brings together all the institutional bodies involved at a national and local level, the social partners and the main organizations of the Third Sector.

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| <p>Recs.: 148.182, 148.187, 148.191, 148.196, 148.198, 148.202, 148.265</p> <p>(SDGs 1, 3, 10, 16)</p> | <p>Law of 28 January 2019 establishes that the person of the family requesting the Citizenship Income must be in possession of Italian citizenship or of a country of the European Union, or it can also be a citizen belonging to a third country, provided that the following conditions are met, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -it holds an EU residence permit for long-term residents; -it is a family member of an Italian citizen; it is a citizen of one of the countries of the European Union and in possession of a valid residence permit in Italy. <p>The person requesting the Citizenship Income must also be resident in Italy for at least ten years at the time of the request, of which the last two years continuously. Additional requirements concern the economic conditions: ISEE (the Italian indicator of the family economic situation) lower than € 9,360; real estate assets (in addition to the residence house) not exceeding € 30,000; movable assets not exceeding € 6000 for a single-member household (the value is higher for larger families); Family income less than € 6000 for a single component family (the value must be multiplied by an equivalence scale in the case of larger families). This law aims at economic support and social inclusion of those exposed to the risk of social and labour marginalization. The RDC provides an income support conditioned to the participation of beneficiaries in a tailor-made project agreed upon by the families and the social services, in case of households with multidimensional needs, or the employment services (Job centres, acronym in Italian, CPI), in case of beneficiaries whose poverty is primarily related to recent unemployment. In the first case the tailor-made project, called <i>Patto per l’Inclusione (PaIS)</i>, aims at promoting the social activation and the active inclusion of all the members of the household. The PaIS benefitted from the experience gained through the PIPPI programme in particular, from the “Multidimensional model of the Child’s World” that is part of the comprehensive assessment carried out by multidisciplinary equips. The tailor – made projects and the support they provide, as well as the multidimensional assessment that may precede them, are essential levels of services to be guaranteed throughout the national territory.</p> <p>The households benefiting from minimum income in 2020 (i.e. those who benefited from at least one benefit in the year) were 1,581,629. Net of the beneficiaries who have lapsed during the year, this is 1,249,809 households with active benefits (or in the process of being renewed), corresponding to 2,858,246 individuals (4.8% of the Italian population). Individuals not of working age, employed or enrolled in educational paths are not required to comply with the activation obligations. 50 % of recipients (among</p> |
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the individuals constrained to the obligations) are addressed only to social services (which, however, can establish, in agreement with the Employment Services (CPI), work inclusion activities).

Persons addressed only to CPI: 44%.

Adults addressed both to social services and CPI: 1%.

Young addressed both to social services and CPI: 5%.

The provision amounts to 5906,8 million Euros for the year 2019, to 7166,9 million Euros for the year 2020, to 7391 million Euros for the year 2021 and 7245,9 million Euros for the year 2022.

The benefit for a single-member household is between 480 and 9360 Euros per year, and can reach a maximum value of 16560 for larger families, in consideration of specific parameters. This amount includes a maximum of 3360 Euros in case the family is paying a rent, or 1800 Euros for a mortgage. Labour and social inclusion are fostered through custom paths that involve activities to serve the community, professional retraining, completion of studies, social support, etc.

The 2020 annual report on citizenship income provides some indications on the coverage and effectiveness of the measure about the first year of implementation (2019). The incidence of the beneficiaries of the Rdc / Pdc on the resident population at regional level is compared with other main indicators of poverty and social exclusion. The indicators considered refer to poverty and exclusion from the market work:

- Incidence of absolute poverty (Istat, Survey on household expenses)
- Incidence of severe material deprivation (Eurostat, EU-Silc)
- Disposable income *per capita* (Eurostat, Income of households)
- Unemployment rate (Istat, RCFL)
- Incidence of people in very low work intensity households (Eurostat, EU-Silc)

All the indicators show a high degree of correlation with the incidence of the beneficiaries of Rdc / Pdc on the resident population, confirming the effective distribution of resources on the territory, with greater diffusion of the Rdc / Pdc in regions in which the socio-economic context shows greater signs of unease, specifically in Campania, Calabria and Sicily. Only for the incidence of people in very low work intensity households, in the southern regions we observe a less strong correlation with the incidence of Rdc / Pdc beneficiaries. In the first year of implementation, the beneficiary families correspond to about 60% of the

families in absolute poverty. Furthermore, there is a gap in terms of the greater coverage between single-component families compared to the numerous ones. Further analysis will be needed as the measure becomes fully operational.

Whilst the benefit is covered with the RDC fund, the resources of the Anti-Poverty Fund, along with the ESF resources of the NOP Inclusion, are dedicated to the consolidation and improvement of the social services, the multidimensional equips, to finance the social interventions and services dedicated to the beneficiaries, with special attention to households with children aged 0-2. The Anti-Poverty Fund dedicates also specific resources to activities for homeless people and for young care leavers (young adults who live outside their family of origin on the basis of a measure of protection by the judicial authority, to support the process of autonomy). The Anti-Poverty Fund is a structural fund for social service implementation (in terms of professionals dedicated and interventions provided) and the annual allocation on the Budget law has been growing (from 297 MLE in 2018 up to 615 MLE from 2021 onwards).

As for **healthcare**, in Italy, primary care is guaranteed within the socio-health district, intended as an element of territorial socio-health integration and a reference point for the citizen, through the collaboration of General Practitioners (GPs) and Free Choice Paediatricians (PLS). Over the last decade, health policies in Italy were increasingly oriented towards the reorganization of primary care, also through the identification of organizational models based on professional integration and the participation of patients and families. This allowed for a multidisciplinary approach to the needs of the citizens, while guaranteeing the necessary continuity of preventive, curative and rehabilitative care processes. In view of the creation of integrated care pathways and of ensuring unified access to health and social services, the Italian legislation has given a strong impetus to the reorganization of Primary Care, by providing that the Regions, within the scope of their decision-making and organizational autonomy, establish the Complex Primary Care Units (UCCP) and Functional Territorial Aggregations (AFT). These represent two organizational forms of integrated medicine with employees of the National Health Service for the provision of Primary Care. The UCCPs are usually organized in a single site, linked to the corporate and/or regional telematics-network, and work in a multi-professional organizational form, which engages General Practitioners, Paediatricians of Free Choice, Outpatient Specialists and other professionals. The AFTs are functionally linked to the UCCPs and act in mono-professional organizational forms of the affiliated medicine (General

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| | <p>Practitioners and Free Choice Paediatricians). In terms of access to territorial-district services, the presence of a "single point of access" (PUA) to health and social services, has a strategic importance in view of giving effective and immediate response to patients. The process of strengthening the primary care system in Italy also foresees the development of assistance structures with temporary residency, such as the hospital of community, aimed at ensuring health interventions by an average level of medicalization over 24 hours. The facility has an intermediate function between home care and hospitalization. It is designed for patients who, following an acute episode or exacerbation of chronic diseases, require low-intensity clinical assistance, potentially available at home, but who need hospitalisation, in the absence of a suitable domicile. Assistance is provided by nurses, GPs and other doctors who are employed or affiliated with the National Health-care System and is carried out in the context of short-term hospitalizations (15-20 days), in line with the provisions of the Pact for Health 2014-2016 and Ministerial Decree No.70/2015.</p> <p>Further, through the Pact for Health 2019/2021, territorial assistance was reorganised, in agreement with the Regions, to the purpose of favouring an integrated approach in various prevention and health promotion activities, including pathways taking charge of chronicity based on initiative medicine.***** This new Pact also aims at strengthening home, semi-residential and residential care, in view of preventing the aggravation of diseases related to the aging process of the population. In this context, the expansion of the Pharmacy's testing of services is envisaged as a relevant aid for taking care of patients and controlling their therapeutic adherence. At the same time, family / community nursing assistance shall be enhanced, in order to ensure continuous and integrated care, in the context of therapeutic adherence, especially for the most fragile subjects of the population.</p> |
| <i>Right to education</i> | |
| Enhancing measures to ensure equal access to inclusive and quality education for children with disabilities, including through the implementation of the Rules for the | By Decree-Law No.197/2020 (" <i>D.L. Ristori</i> "), the Fund set up at the Ministry of Education for the purchase of individual digital devices and tools for the use of integrated digital teaching activities has been increased by €85 million. These devices and tools will be provided on a free loan basis to less well-off students, also in compliance with accessibility criteria for people with disabilities, as well as for the use of digital platforms for distance learning and for the necessary network connectivity. The resources are distributed |

***** In line with the National Chronicity Plan, the Waiting List Governance Plan and the National Prevention Plan.

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| <p>Promotion of Inclusive Schooling for Student with Disabilities and the strengthening of the Fund for School Inclusion of Students with Disabilities.</p> <p>Recs.: 148.206 through 148.208</p> <p>(SDGs 4, 8, 10)</p> | <p>among the educational institutions, taking into account the needs in relation to the number of students of each and the socio-economic context of the families. The educational institutions are responsible for the purchase of digital tools and devices. More specifically as for children with disabilities, since the adoption of Law No.517/1977 Italy has established a framework and school integration model whereby all succeeding rules and regulations aimed at overcoming the logic of exclusion and separate education. In recent years, the measures aimed at supporting the learning of pupils with disabilities introduced a number of special instruments, including Braille printers, ocular interfaces for quadriplegics, software for augmentative alternative communication, speech recognition software, etc.. The yearly budget of 10 million Euros for school years 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20 served to purchase over 32.000 items of teaching equipment for students with disabilities. In view of optimizing the use of these resources, the Ministry of Education also developed special training courses and an e-learning platform for school staff in both state and private schools, in view of increasing awareness on the needs of students with disabilities. These training activities focus on different areas, including: the role of the Individual Education Plan based on ICF, the identification of the best assisted technologies for various functional frameworks, the purchase and management procedures of teaching support instruments; the choice of most appropriate teaching support instruments and their operating instructions.</p> <p>By Law No.197/2020 "Decree <i>Ristori</i>", the Fund for the purchase of individual instruments for the enjoyment of integrated digital teaching increased by 85 million Euros. The new tools and devices, to be distributed on loan to students and underprivileged students, shall be purchased by their respective educational institutions, according to specific needs for both distance learning and digital connectivity (i.e. number of students and the socio-economic family contexts).</p> <p>Article 5, paragraph 6 of Legislative Decree No. 66/2017, entitled "Rules for the promotion of the education inclusion of the students with disabilities, in accordance with article 1, paragraphs 180 and 181, letter c), of Law No. 107", establishes that the Minister of Health draws up the Guidelines for the drafting of the certificate in developmental disabilities for the purposes of education inclusion and functioning profile, in agreement with the Ministers of Education, Labour and Social Policies, Economy and Finance, Equal Opportunities and Family, Regional Affairs and Autonomies, following consultation with the Permanent Observatory for Educational Inclusion (<i>Osservatorio permanente per l'inclusione scolastica</i>) and upon previous agreement with the Unified Conference (<i>Conferenza Unificata</i>). The Guidelines takes into account the changes introduced by the above-mentioned Legislative Decree No. 66/2017 in the pre-</p> |
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| | <p>existing path of assessment for educational inclusion provided by Law No. 104/1992 and they intend to provide a guarantee of interpretative and operational uniformity on the national territory, identifying new tools, including the use of internationally recognized classification systems, to support the operators involved in assessment and evaluation-related processes.</p> <p>As for teaching staff for children with disabilities, an important initiative to help mitigate early school leaving and supporting educational continuity was promoted in 2019, through the launch of a new portal for students who are not able to attend traditional schooling. In addition to offering dedicated services for home and hospital schooling, the portal supports teachers' commitment in the use of technologies. In the academic year 2017/2018, 68.900 students benefited from hospital schooling with the support of 740 teachers. The service covers the entire national territory, but it is more widely used in the regions of Campania, Lazio, Liguria and Sicily. Home education service is intended for all level students who are undergoing home therapy, thus preventing them from attending school for a period of not less than thirty days, even if not continuously. In the academic year 2017/2018, 1.306 students took advantage of this service, for a total amount of 64.715 hours of home schooling. Moreover, the "Fund for the implementation of the National Training Plan", intended for the mandatory training of teachers working with students with disabilities, was increased by 10 million Euros.</p> |
| <p>Strengthening measures and policies to reduce the number of school dropouts in primary and secondary school, especially amongst girls, ethnic minorities and migrants.</p> <p>Recs.:148.205; 148.210 through 148.215, 148.250</p> <p>(SDGs 4, 5)</p> | <p>As for school drop-out, over the last years the Ministry of Education has implemented several initiatives to reduce school dropout, to promote inclusive education and training opportunities as well as the right to quality education. All these objectives were pursued through a dedicated funding from the national budget, in addition to other ad hoc interventions financed through other budgets (e.g. local authorities).</p> <p>At an institutional level, the most relevant measures carried out by the Ministry of Education are the following: The line of intervention aimed at fighting early school leaving annually financed by the competent Department of the Ministry of Education which, in addition to the establishment of a fund equal to 4.500.000 Euro to face the educational emergency, has proceeded among various actions taken to appoint a leading school to act as territorial coordinator for actions to be taken against school dropout in each regional school offices. The introduction of the "Io Studio" card, which ensures to all upper secondary students, in state and private schools, a sustainable access to the right to education and, more broadly speaking, to all different cultural services. This prepaid rechargeable card allows safe and traceable</p> |

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| | <p>purchase management by the students providing them the opportunity to benefit from dedicated discount rates. The free supply of textbooks in favor of disadvantaged background students all over Italy, with dedicated funds ensured by the competent Department of the Ministry of Education, in compliance with art. 27 of Law 448 of 23rd December 1998. The outcome of this action has resulted in the loan of textbooks and digital aids to support disadvantaged background students, with an allocation of 10 million Euros. Moreover, in January 2020, the Ministry of Education signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the National Association of Italian Municipalities (ANCI) to deepen the cooperation in the fight against early school leaving and to promote equal opportunities for the right to education.</p> |
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| D. Rights of specific persons or groups | <i>Update</i> |
| <i>Women</i> | |
| <p>Continuing efforts to combat gender discrimination and stereotypes and to eradicate all forms of violence against women, including by ensuring the effective implementation of the National Strategic Plan on Male Violence against Women 2017-2020 and its Operative Plan, and by implementing the legislative framework</p> <p>Recs.: 148.170; 148.173 through 148.177, 148.184, 148.200, 148.201, 148.199;</p> | <p>Within the Italian framework, the National Strategic Plan on male violence against women 2017-2020 is in force. Its key goal is to provide a comprehensive and multidisciplinary response to the needs of women victims of violence, by always ensuring the intervention of both central and local institutional actors, as well as the third sector. In particular, the Plan aims at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -strengthening the network of support to women beneficiaries of assistance (territorial services, anti-violence centers and shelters); - creating an integrated system of collection and processing of data on the phenomena; - raising awareness and informing -in both a general and targeted way -on gender-based violence; - educating the younger generations on the phenomena; - training operators who act in support of women victims of violence. <p>To that purpose, two main bodies have been entrusted with the objective to draw up an operational plan of the above mentioned actions: a Control Room tasked to define the governmental strategy, and a Technical Committee tasked to prepare operational plan proposals, according to the directions of the Control Room. Being more flexible and dynamic in nature, the operational Plan, indicates concrete actions to implement the objectives contained in the Strategic Plan. It also indicates the financial resources that the central and</p> |

148.217 through 148.221;148.222 through 148.242

Recs. noted: 148.135

(SDGs 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 16)

territorial Administrations have declared to allocate to this end, making them responsible in this context. An on-going assessment on the creation of new emergency facilities, the so-called safe houses, aims at enhancing immediate and timely assistance for women victims of violence.

During the implementation of the National Strategic Plan, Act No. 69/2019, known as the ‘Red Code’ was adopted. Amongst other, it has amended and innovated the criminal discipline with regard to domestic and gender-based violence, also by providing for more severe penalties. Further, it has provided for an acceleration of criminal proceedings for certain offences, including mistreatment in the family, stalking, sexual violence, with the effect that any measure to protect victims will be adopted more quickly. Moreover, the criminal framework was reinforced through the insertion of additional cases of offence. For instance: the offence of unlawful distribution of sexually explicit images or videos without the consent of persons displayed (the so-called revenge porn); the offence of deforming the person's appearance through permanent injury to the face; the offence of coercion or induction into marriage the penalty of which is aggravated when the offence is committed to the detriment of children. Offence is also committed when perpetrated abroad, by or to the detriment of an Italian national or a foreigner residing in Italy. the violation of orders to leave the family's home and the prohibition to approach the victim in public spaces.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, anti-violence centres activities were never suspended. A public call for the financing of urgent interventions to support CAV and shelters in relation to Covid-19 was released online in early April 2020, which also provided for a further urgent allocation of 40 million Euro in favour of Regions supporting complementary countering-gender violence activities carried out by the anti-violence centres and shelters. With detailed reference to measures aimed at ensuring the better functioning of the anti-violence centres and shelters during the Covid-19 emergency, recent activities promoted by the Department for Equal Opportunities should be mentioned: a) the awareness raising campaign launched on 19 March 2020 over activities of the anti-violence centres and the possibility of moving from home for necessary reasons; b) the social campaign in support of women victims of violence during the emergency, launched on 24 March 2020; c) the Call for the “financing of urgent interventions to support measures adopted by Shelters and Anti-Violence Centres in relation to the Covid-19 health emergency” of 30 April 2020 for a total amount of 5.5 million Euros.

Also, the Partnership between the National Institute of Statistics (ISTAT) and the Department for Equal Opportunities was renewed during the Covid-19 pandemic, when ISTAT carried out an analysis of the data contained in the dataset of the helpline 1522 for the period between March and June 2020. Following

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| | <p>a suggestion provided at international level, the information collected by the Italian helpline promoted and managed by the Department of Equal Opportunity of Presidency of Council of Ministers against violence and stalking, can provide some evidence on the domestic violence's trend during the pandemic period. In the absence of an updated statistical study carried out in real time, the analysis of data on registered calls to 1522, can provide useful indications on the evolution of the phenomenon (as well as on the trend of requests for help) during the period of the lockdown especially if compared with the same period of previous years.</p> <p>In the new second National Strategic Plan on male violence against women, economic independence of women will be a core-issue. This both to the purpose of dealing with potentially dangerous situations and of moving away from situations of violence in place. To this purpose, the Minister for Equal Opportunities and the Family and the Italian Bank Association, the Italian Federation of Cooperative Credit Banks and Rural Savings Banks, the National Agency for Microcredit and <i>Caritas Italiana</i> signed a MoU for the establishment of the so-called 'Microcredit of Freedom', a financial tool for the economic independence of women victims of violence. According to Art.111 of the Consolidated Banking Act, entrepreneurship's microcredit can be guaranteed by the SMEs Guarantee Fund, to the maximum extent provided for by law (to date, 90%). Whereas, social microcredit will be guaranteed at 100% by a new guarantee fund set up by the Department of Equal Opportunities (Guarantee Fund for Microcredit of Freedom) with an initial endowment of 3million Euros.</p> <p>In 2021, after a first meeting with civil society representatives in March to discuss about the roadmap towards the new second National Strategic Plan on male violence against women, on 28 April 2021 the above mentioned Control Room, was convened by the Minister for Equal Opportunities and Family, with the participation of concerned Ministers as well as political representatives of local and regional authorities. The main scope was to illustrate the aforementioned roadmap, also through the launch of technical working groups, and to refer about the allocation of resources for anti-violence centres and shelters in 2021 (30 million Euros). Following the release of the report jointly compiled by ISTAT and DEO on GBV during the pandemic, the Control Room started the discussion on the draft Strategic Plan against male violence against women: it reflects the legal basics of the Istanbul Convention and it will be linked with the National Strategy on gender equality, the National Plan for Recovery and Resilience and</p> |
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| | <p>with all actions put in place to promote women’s empowerment, the main tool for preventing male violence.</p> <p>The preventive approach to gender-based violence remains a priority, jointly with countering stereotypes, also and especially among the young generations. Meanwhile, a strong attention will continue to be devoted to measures aimed at protecting and supporting victims treated by anti-violence centres and shelters’ networks, through the use of an improved amount of financial resources (28 million Euros).</p> <p>At the international level, Italy co-sponsored with Cyprus a round-table to debate over the issue of gender-based violence as an obstacle to women’s participation in public life during the UN 65th CSW; the Ministry for Equal Opportunities and Family released her intervention to the conference organised by the European Commission on 6 April to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the signing of the Istanbul Convention, and signed a joint declaration together with Ministers from 16 European states, stressing the relevance of the Convention. Finally, within the framework of the Generation Equality Forum (GEF), the UN Women global initiative promoted by the governments of France and Mexico to address the issues of equal opportunities, women's empowerment and gender-based violence, the Minister introduced at the opening ceremony the national commitment to preventing and combating violence against women and girls.</p> <p>Under the Council of Europe Gender Equality Strategy, 2018-2023, and its Strategic Objective 5 “<i>Protect the rights of migrant, refugee and asylum seeking women and girls</i>”, the National Asylum Commission was appointed to take part in the Drafting Committee on Migrant Women (GEC-MIG). The latter being a subordinate body of the Gender Equality Commission, tasked of drawing up a Recommendation on migrant and refugee women on the basis of Recommendation Rec(79)10. The National Asylum Commission is an administrative Authority of the Ministry of the Interior (Department for Civil Liberties and Immigration) operating in the field of the international protection, and the main purpose of the upcoming Recommendations will be to strengthen the procedures to prevent, identify and respond to all forms of discrimination, sexual and gender-based violence, trafficking in persons and exploitation involving migrant, refugee and asylum-seekers women and girls.</p> <p>As for abortion services, in order to monitor the application of Law No.194/1978, the Minister of Health activated, since 2013, a permanent "Technical Table" with the participation of the Regional Departments,</p> |
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| | <p>in view of monitoring individual hospitals and family clinics (CF) with regard to the choice of conscientious objection. To this end, some monitoring indicators were established, summarized in 3 parameters, in order to verify the adequate application of the Law at the local level and to identify any critical issue that may not emerge from the overall framework at the regional level:</p> <p>Parameter 1 - IVG service offer in relation to the absolute number of available facilities; Parameter 2 - IVG service offer in relation to the female population of childbearing age and birth points; Parameter 3 - average weekly IVG workload for each non-objector gynaecologist.</p> <p>The analysis of the data relating to each parameter is inserted annually as an integral part of the Report presented to Parliament by the Minister of Health.^{††††}</p> <p>The Ministry of Health is committed to a constant evaluation of operating methods, in view of guaranteeing the offer of social and health services to all citizens. A free and direct access to care is ensured through the family counselling centres, a health facility established by Law No.405/1975, which is unique in the world in its planning.</p> <p>The FCCs represent an effective reference system for all women, including those who wish to use the IVG, as they constitute a network of services throughout the Italian territory, managed by the Regions, while the local health authorities are responsible for their financial management and organization.</p> <p>The Epidemiological Surveillance System for Voluntary Interruptions of Pregnancy (IVG) has been active in Italy since 1980, involving the Ministry of Health, the <i>Istituto Superiore di Sanità</i> (ISS), ISTAT, the Regions and Autonomous Provinces, the hospitals and territorial assistance networks. While monitoring the evolution of voluntary abortion, this surveillance system provides the data and the related analysis for the Minister's Annual Report to Parliament, it provides answers to specific questions and indications for in-depth research on the IVG phenomena.</p> <p>To date, the level of conscientious objection in Italy does not appear to harm the right of women to terminate the pregnancy. The phenomena is also balanced by various factors, such as: the mobility of personnel; special contracts with specialists in obstetrics and gynaecology; the introduction of</p> |
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^{††††} The latest report (2018) at: www.salute.gov.it/portale/documentazione

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| | <p>pharmacological abortion in outpatient facilities and family clinics, in line with the guidelines issued following the positive technical opinion of the Superior Health Council in 2020. According to the analysis (parameter 3) of the IVG Report, the average workload for the IVG, per non-objector gynaecologist, counted on 44 working weeks per year. The evaluation of this parameter includes the regional organizational capacity to ensure the service through temporary mobility of non-objecting personnel in other structures^{****}.</p> <p>Further, in the context of the Covid-19 epidemic, the Ministry issued some organizational guidelines for hospitals and territorial services, aimed at the remodelling IVG services, among the undeferrable health services in the gynaecological field.</p> <p>As for reproductive health, several measures in the Italian system guarantee access to reproductive health services and the right of women to make free decisions in this regard. In particular, the President of the Council of the Minister's Decree of 12 January 2017 defines and updates the essential levels of assistance,^{*****}by providing in particular:</p> <p>(Art.24) Health and social assistance to minors, women, couples and families. It establishes that the National Health Service guarantees women, minors, couples and families the services, including home, specialist medical, diagnostic and therapeutic, obstetric, psychological and psychotherapeutic, and rehabilitation, through the use of necessary/appropriate methods and tools, based on the most advanced scientific evidence, in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - education and counselling for responsible motherhood and fatherhood; - administration of the means necessary for responsible procreation; - preconception counselling; - protection of women's health, prevention and therapy of sexually transmitted diseases, prevention and early diagnosis of female genital tumours in collaboration with screening centres, and of benign pathologies of the genital system; - assistance to pregnant women and protection of the health of the unborn child also for the purpose of preventing related mental illness; |
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^{****} As established by Law No.194/1978.
^{*****} Art. 1, para.7, Legislative Decree No.502/1992.

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - birth accompaniment courses in collaboration with the hospital unit; - assistance in the postnatal period, promotion and support of breastfeeding and support in the care of the new-born; - counselling, psychological support and assistance for voluntary termination of pregnancy and issuing of certifications; - counselling, psychological support and assistance for problems of sterility and infertility and for medically assisted procreation. <p>(Art. 59) - Specialized outpatient assistance for pregnant women and for maternity protection, which are excluded from participation in the cost of outpatient specialist services for the protection of maternity, used in accredited public and private health facilities, including family counselling. However, periodic obstetric-gynaecological visits and specialist outpatient services for ascertaining procreative risks related to a pathological condition or genetic risk of one or both parents (i.e. highlighted by the couple's reproductive or family history) prescribed by the specialist are excluded from participation in the cost.</p> <p>In June 2020, the Ministry of Health issued the "Guidelines for the progressive reactivation of scheduled activities considered deferrable in the course of an emergency by Covid-19", aimed at the safe reactivation of reduced or suspended social and health services due to the Covid-19 emergency and the progressive restoration of all essential levels of assistance. In view of preventing the spread of the virus, the Guidelines, concern all public (institutional and professional), private, accredited and non-accredited health activities. Among the interventions aimed at strengthening the territorial health networks, the strengthening of family clinics is envisaged, namely: a single model of multidisciplinary service of the NHS, designed to protect the health of women, the developmental age and couple /family relationships. Through the integration of basic socio-health activities, the counselling centres shall be strongly oriented towards prevention and health promotion. With regard to the family clinics, the Ministry of Health also launched a specific project in 2018***** to the purpose of updating the mapping of their offices and their activities.</p> <p>On February 20, 2020, agreement has been achieved on the document "Investing early in health: actions and strategies in the first thousand days of life" in the State-Regions Conference. This document has been developed by the Technical Committee on the protection and promotion of health-care in the first 1000 days of life: from the conception to the age of 2, to the Ministry of Health.</p> |
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***** In collaboration with the ISS and within the program of the National Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (CCM).

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| | <p>In line with the Minsk Declaration (WHO Regional Office for Europe, 2015), the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (2030 Agenda), and the recent document “Nurturing care for early childhood development: a global framework for action”, provided by WHO, UNICEF and World Bank, jointly with the constant attention paid over the years by the Ministry of Health to the Essential Levels of Assistance (LEA) for the decrease of health inequalities, the above document was elaborated to systematize the main knowledge and interventions related to the first 1000 days of life that as available today.</p> <p>In the document attention has been paid to the preventive and protective actions that parents/caregivers can implement to protect the health of children, also with the strategic support offered by health experts in the various health settings. The Decree of September 29, 2020 of the Ministry of Health established the Permanent Table on the first 1000 days of life, to implement the above-mentioned Agreement, with equal composition from Regions and Autonomous Provinces.</p> |
| Children | |
| <p>Strengthening the legislative framework, the role and the financial resources of the National Observatory for Childhood and Adolescence.</p> <p>Recs.: 148.216; 148.243 through 148.248 148.249 through 148.252</p> <p>(SDGs 1, 4, 10, 16)</p> | <p>In April 2020, the Italian National Observatory on Childhood was renewed and convened by the Ministry of Equal Opportunities and Family. The National Observatory is composed of about 60 people representing, among others, Ministries, Regions, Municipalities, civil society organizations. It is inter alia in charge of drafting every two years the National Plan of Action on Childhood.</p> <p>From July to November 2020, the Observatory has worked on the draft Plan through the establishment of 5 thematic working groups respectively dedicated to: child poverty risk, the role of educational communities and local solidarity networks, the promotion of health and wellbeing, the protection of the most vulnerable groups, the participation of children. The draft Plan, in its final version, was introduced and endorsed on the occasion of the meeting of the National Observatory held (by remote) on 21 May 2021. Within the framework of the activities carried out by the national Observatory for Childhood and Adolescence, a specific Working Group of experts for the assessment of the current health emergency’s impact on children and the identification of actions and strategies on the topic to be proposed to the Government was established. The final report of this Working Group was released in May 2021.</p> |

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| | <p>Given that the causes and impacts of child poverty are multidimensional (i.e. access to health, education, childcare, leisure, food, health and housing are all interlinked), and considering that poverty and social exclusion are expected to rise across Europe in the coming years ,), the European Commission is implementing a 2-year project in partnership with UNICEF, in view of testing the European Child Guarantee in 7 EU Member States, including Italy.</p> <p>The Child Guarantee aims to ensure that vulnerable children have access to quality services and to implement interventions that can reduce the effects of poverty and social exclusion on them. Among the most vulnerable, the Child Guarantee targets children without parental care, children with disabilities, children belonging to minorities and refugee and migrant children.</p> <p>Since the second half of 2020, Italy’s competent authorities (i.e. the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies and the Ministry of Equal Opportunities and Family) are working in close partnership with UNICEF, in view of strengthening the capacity of delivering relevant care services and support to vulnerable children and their families. These also include improving access to education, healthcare, education, nutritious food, quality housing and childcare and identifying examples of best practices that could be scaled up across the European Union.</p> <p>Further, in line with the European strategy “Better Internet for Kids”, the Italian Government enacted Law No.71/2017⁺⁺⁺⁺⁺ in view of strengthening the fight against cyber-bullying, and the Ministry of Education published the "Guidelines for the prevention and contrast of the phenomenon of cyber-bullying" as a tool to respond to the educational and pedagogical challenges related to the new technologies. Consistently with this regulatory framework, the Elisa Platform was developed as a tool to implement a national training program on the fight against bullying and cyber-bullying for referent teachers. It is foreseen that each school establishes a working group of up to three teachers to monitor these phenomena in primary and secondary schools, through periodic surveys.</p> <p>As for cyber-bullying, the initiative “Safer Internet Centre (SIC) - Generations Connected project”, meant to raise awareness on safe Internet access, was funded with an annual budget of 398,000 Euros, in the</p> |
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⁺⁺⁺⁺⁺ "Provisions for the protection of minors for the prevention and contrast of the phenomenon of cyberbullying".

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| | <p>academic years 2018/2019 and 2019/2020. This project^{*****} is part of a network promoted by the European Commission through the online platform "Better Internet for Kids" managed by European Schoolnet, in cooperation with INSAFE (a network that gathers all European Safe Internet Centres SICs) and Inhope (a network that gathers all European hotlines). In Italy, it is coordinated by the Ministry of Education, in partnership with many important bodies dealing with safety issues on the Web: the Italian Independent Authority for Children and Adolescence, the State Police, the Ministry for Cultural Heritage and Activities, the Universities of Florence and 'La Sapienza' in Rome, Save the Children Italy, Telefono Azzurro, the cooperative EDI onlus, Skuola net, the press agency DIRE and the Giffoni Experience.</p> <p>The Safe Internet Centres (SIC) were created to provide information, advice and support to children, teenagers, parents and teachers with (problematic) internet experiences, by facilitating the reporting of illegal material online and by sharing good practices or useful training tools to promote a positive and critical use of the network.</p> <p>Additional campaigns and online actions aimed at raising awareness on the risks of Internet usage include the production of cartoons and tutorial videos channelled through YouTube, and other social media targeting children, parents and educators.</p> <p>Additional actions on the issue are promoted by the Directorate General for students, inclusion and school guidance to raise awareness and information on online hate speech and related risks, including through competitions for secondary school students, aimed at stimulating a reflection on the risks and dangers of online violence and hatred.</p> <p>Lastly, it is worth mentioning the 'Memorandum of Understanding' (October 2018) between the Ministry of Education and UNICEF aimed a better implementation in Italy of the UN Convention on the rights of the child and adolescent which, among others, provides for the promotion of active digital education for a conscious use of new technologies and social networks.</p> <p>As for the Inter-institutional Technical WG (article 3, paragraph 1, Law 29 May 2017, n. 71 "Provisions for the protection of minors for the prevention and combating of the phenomenon of cyber-bullying": since June 2019), the Ministry of Health has been participating in the work of the Inter-institutional Technical</p> |
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^{*****} Co-financed by the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) - Telecom program.

WG set up by the Ministry of Education, on cyber-bullying. To support **refugee integration**, many actions were taken by the Ministry for University and Research (MUR) and the Ministry for Internal Affairs, also in collaboration with private bodies (e.g. the Italian NARIC Center-CIMEA and the Conference of Italian University Rectors (CRUI). In particular, CRUI supports the integration of refugees and holders of international protection in Italian universities through:

- 100 annual fellowships for holders of international protection to enrol in an Italian university, through an annual call (since 2016), managed with the Ministry of Internal Affairs. All universities associated to CRUI (84) participate in the project;
- A mentorship project to strengthen the integration of refugee students, managed (since 2019) with the International Organization for Migration (IOM-Italy) and the Ministry of Internal Affairs. In 2020, 10 universities were involved.

Recognition of qualifications held by refugees. In line with the Lisbon Convention, Italy adjusted its legislation on refugee qualification recognition with Legislative Decree No.251/2007 (Art.26). Moreover, the “Procedures for access to foreign students requesting visas for higher education courses”, invite Italian higher education institutions to «...recognise cycles and periods of study conducted abroad and to evaluate refugee and subsidiary protection holder qualifications, even in cases where all or part of the relative documents certifying the qualifications are missing». The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI) offers a service for the request of Statements of Validity (*Dichiarazione di valore*) for refugees and international and subsidiary protection holders.

CIMEA (the Italian ENIC-NARIC Centre, operating under the authority and financial support of the Italian Ministry for Universities and Research) produces, via its own service of certification, “Statements of Comparability” of foreign qualifications free of charge, for persons with refugee status, subsidiary or international protection holders and detainees. CIMEA has also sponsored the ‘National Coordination for the Evaluation of Refugee Qualifications (CNVQR)’- an informal network of experts from the administrative sector, operating in higher education institutions, who deal with recognition of qualifications. The aim of this collaboration is- to share evaluation procedures, problem cases, sources of

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| | <p>information and methodological practices with regard to qualifications held by refugees, even in cases of little or no documentation.</p> <p>Within the framework of the CoE project ‘European Qualifications Passport for Refugees’, financially supported by the Italian Ministry for Universities and Research, CIMEA and CRUI started a trial phase of the ‘Academic Pass of Refugee Qualifications’, through an innovative evaluation procedure of refugees’ qualification. Through this action, 100 fellowships for students holding the refugee status were assigned in 2019, in collaboration with ANDISU and the Ministry of Interiors.</p> |
| <p><i>Persons with disabilities</i></p> | |
| <p>Adopting additional measures to integrate persons with disabilities in society, including by further improving their accessibility.</p> <p>Recs: 148.176, 148.178 148.182, 148.183, 148.185, 148.191, 148.199; 148.205 through 148.208; 148.260 through 148.262</p> | <p>In order to facilitate access to computing tools for persons with disabilities, Law-Decree No. 76/2020 (“<i>Decreto Semplificazioni</i>”) extended a series of obligations, as originally intended for the central administration, to other public and private entities. Specifically, the obligation of making websites and applications for smartphones and tablets accessible to persons with disabilities was extended to entities which provides relevant public services that accounted for an average budget of more than 500 million Euros over the last three years. Further, this Law-Decree provided for new interventions aimed at the elimination of architectural barriers within buildings in all cases of relevance, only provided that such interventions do not affect the stability or safety of the building.</p> <p>In this regard, the objective of overcoming architectural, cognitive and sensorial barriers for people with disabilities is also a priority of the Ministry of Culture (MIC). In 2018, the MIC published both the Guidelines for overcoming architectural barriers in places of cultural interest and the Guidelines in preparation of the “Plan for the elimination of architectural barriers (P.E.B.A) in museums, museum complexes, archaeological areas and parks” .</p> <p>In the same perspective, MIC’s project ‘Ad. Arte’ developed an information system on the quality of fruition of cultural heritage by people with specific needs. The project involved the implementation and dissemination of an analysis regarding both architectural features and services offered at Italian cultural sites, with regard to their accessibility to visitors with specific needs. The accessibility sheets of the first 80 places are available at www.accessibilitamusei.beniculturali.it.</p> |

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| | <p>In addition, the project ‘<i>Cultura e Sviluppo</i>-NOP (National Operational Programme financed by European Funds)’, focusing on the digitization of cultural heritage, is promoting, since 2020, other 32 interventions aimed at improving the access and fruition of cultural heritage in Southern Italy, through: knowledge creation and information platforms, integrated information systems, areas of socialization and web-oriented sharing, digital archives, virtual reality, 3D and gaming applications.</p> <p>Moreover, the inclusion of students with disabilities and learning disabilities in schools and universities is guaranteed by different rules, including Law No.170/2010 and its subsequent Decrees. In line with the principle of university autonomy, the related actions are implemented by each university, through their respective Delegates for Disability and Learning disabilities, with the financial support of the Ministry for University and Research (MUR). On the grounds of their university strategies, each delegate designs actions and projects to support the population of students with disabilities or learning disabilities, through a personalized approach, aimed at reducing risks of exclusion and guaranteeing equal opportunities for success. Moreover, the National Conference of these Delegates (CNUDD) serves as a coordination body at the national level.</p> <p>On a similar note, for the implementation of gender policies, universities rely on specific delegates focusing on gender strategies.</p> <p>Against this background, mention has to be made of the application of the European Disability Card (EDC). Law-Decree No. 76/2020 also establishes a single digital platform that verifies license plates associated with the driving licences of the holders of European Disability Card (EDC), making municipal data banks interoperable. Among others, the platform aims at facilitating mobility (e.g. access to Restrictive Traffic Zone Areas–ZTL - of different municipalities) nation-wide. In addition, the introduction of the European Disability Card (EDC) in Italy, in line with the European Disability Strategy (2010-2020) should allow people with disabilities to access a series of free or low-cost services in the field of transport, culture and leisure time, also in reciprocity with the other EU countries. Given that the objective the EDC is to ensure full inclusion of persons with disabilities in social and cultural life, the badge should be the same in all EUMS and should be issued on the basis of general standard criteria, identified by the EU. This initiative was presented in Italy in 2016. Financial Law 2019 (Art. 1, paragraph 563) provided</p> |
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| | <p>resources for the effective adoption of the Card. In 2020 a decree was adopted to set out the criteria and the procedures to identify the beneficiaries and for the realization and the distribution of the Card.</p> <p>A new fund, called Fund for the Inclusion of People with Disabilities, has been established within the Law-Decree “<i>Sostegni</i>” (D.L. No.41/2021).A Fund of 100 million Euros for measures to protect and support people with disabilities, dedicated to concrete projects to improve, make life easier and ensure rights of people with disabilities. The Fund is established at the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, with ensuing decrees, will be allocated to individual objectives and projects.</p> <p>Law No. 76/2020 ("Decree <i>Semplificazioni</i>") extended the obligation to make accessible websites and tablet/smartphone-applications to other public and private entities providing services of social relevance. Further, in view of promoting their full inclusion in the social and cultural community life, the introduction of the ‘EU Disability Card’ in Italy aims to facilitate their access to a series of services in the area of transport, culture and leisure (at no or reduced cost), in reciprocity with other EU countries. The 2019 Budget Law (art. 1) reserved specific financial resources for the adoption of the Card and, in 2020, the criteria and methods for the identification of its beneficiaries were defined by Legislative Decree.</p> <p>Moreover, as for reasonable accommodation for disabled workers, in line with International Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities – ICRPD, Law No.68/1999 provides Regional Funds for the right to work of people with disabilities, through the provision of contributions to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The (full or partial) reimbursement of expenses relating to the adoption of reasonable accommodation in favour of workers with reduced working capacity of more than 50%; - The introduction of teleworking technologies or the removal of architectural barriers that limit the employment of persons with disabilities; - The employment of persons responsible for job placement in the workplace. <p>The Regional Funds are established by the Regions to finance employment integration programs and related services.</p> <p>Following the start of the epidemic emergency, Law-Decree 104/2020 provided that (from 16 October and until 31 December 2020) workers at certified health risk (i.e. relating to immune-depression, oncological</p> |
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| | <p>pathologies, life-saving therapies etc.) and their cohabiting family members should normally perform their work in an agile manner, possibly also through their employment in a different job of the same category or area of classification.</p> <p>Continuity of protection for fragile workers was ensured with the following provisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - By Law No. 178 of December 30, 2020, this protection was renewed for the months of January and February 2021 - By Law-Decree No. 41/2021, renewal from February to June 2021 - By Law-Decree No. 105/2021, renewal of the measures from July 2021 to October 31, 2021. |
| <p>Minorities</p> | |
| <p>Enhancing efforts to further integrate minority groups, particularly, Roma, Sinti and Caminanti, by increasing their access to education, health, housing and employment, and by implementing the National Roma Inclusion Strategy 2012- 2020 among other measures</p> <p>Recs: 148.148, 148.184, 148.199, 148.202, 148.209, 148.250</p> | <p>The National Multi-Fund Program (ERDF and ESF) Metropolitan Cities 2014-2020 (NOP Metro) aims to improve the quality of services offered to residents and city users, through the involvement of 14 capital municipalities (Milan, Turin, Venice, Bologna, Genoa, Florence, Rome, Naples, Bari, Reggio Calabria, Messina, Palermo, Catania, Cagliari). In this framework, the interventions for the housing of Roma communities are focused on Action 3.2.1 of the Expected Result RA 9.5. “<i>Accompaniment paths to the home for marginalized communities</i>”. The Action is based on an integrated approach, aiming at a constant interaction between interventions in different fields (education, health, regularization of Roma legal status and/or employment etc.), thereby providing an accompanying path to the housing measures of the municipalities concerned.</p> <p>In particular, the Action is based on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the analysis of single family needs for the correct identification of the necessary support for housing inclusion; • the preparation of personalized agreements for housing inclusion; • search for a housing solution mainly through the identification of a home in the private market; • a contribution to the rent as part of the accompanying path; • the implementation of accompanying services, both with reference to the family / individual belonging to the Roma population and to the community. |

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| | <p>The updates acquired, with respect to the housing and living conditions of the Roma population in Italy, indicate that - despite the persistence of a number of difficulties-, numerous efforts were made, at various levels, to adopt effective and diversified solutions. As a result, a series of good practices, scattered throughout the national territory, refer to the various areas of intervention identified by the 2012-2020 Strategy (Work, Education, Housing, Health).</p> <p>Housing and the role of UNAR. In view of overcoming Roma settlements, places of isolation and physical degradation, UNAR (as National Contact Point of the National Strategy for Roma inclusion 2012-2020) launched a series of project proposals, while monitoring on-going activities for the advancement of non-mono-ethnic housing opportunities. These activities focus on the housing displacement of families and are designed on the grounds of territorial dialogue and consultation agreements with various social actors and Roma beneficiaries..</p> <p>Since 2016, UNAR promotes a correct use of available resources in favour of housing policies for the Roma communities, both through the NOP Metro and in synergy with the interventions of the NOP Inclusion and the Regional Operational Plans. As such, UNAR works in coordination with the Territorial Agency for Cohesion and with the Metropolitan cities, respectively being the Managing Authority and the intermediate bodies of the NOP Metro. Overall, the aim is to reinforce the complex governance process of the National Inclusion Strategy, with a focus on the local level, by enhancing synergies of policies and interventions in favour of Roma communities, while promoting their participation in social, political, economic and civic life. To this end, the initiative promotes greater coordination between regional and municipal administrations for a greater optimization of interventions and available resources.</p> <p>In particular, in order to support local administrations, UNAR launched the project P.A.L. (Local Action Plans) in 2018 to carry out additional services for the establishment and animation of municipal working groups in the metropolitan cities involved (Rome, Cagliari, Milan, Genoa, Naples, Bari, Palermo and Catania). The first phase of the project referred to the period 2018-2020 and a second phase will embrace the period 2021-2022. Moreover, in order to support and coordinate regional authorities for Roma inclusion, a P.A.R. project (Regional Action Plans) was envisaged for the period 2021-2023.</p> |
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| | <p>At the local level, UNAR’s activation of thematic city tables develops from the 4 main axes of the National Strategy for Roma inclusion (housing, work, education, health), which refer to the overcoming of settlements as a key theme. Hence, in the frame of the consultations with the concerned Municipalities, a number of key topics concern the evictions of illegal Roma settlements and to the protection of housing rights, as well as to the social protection of vulnerable subjects. Further, within the Local Action Plans, approved by the eight Municipalities involved, the development of methodologies and interventions on the subject of housing envisages the issue of relocation of communities living in precarious or disadvantaged housing contexts, in line with the National Strategy for Roma inclusion and the protection of people's rights in situations of fragility.</p> <p>By way of example, some of the most relevant recent interventions include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) a Protocol for the overcoming of camps signed in Turin in 2019, which made it possible to accommodate many families, with the consequent closure of the Camp in via Germagnano, 10. The Ministry of the Interior also participated in this project.2) the projects implemented by the city of Milan, in cooperation with various Third Sector Entities, to enable the reception of over 100 people in residential structures. Further, a number of other projects were launched in order to facilitate the transition into the new housing structures. Meanwhile, a series of specific plans targeting the younger generations aimed at contrasting the phenomena of prostitution and at facilitating inclusion, schooling and the start of work activities. The Ministry of Labour and Social Policies also participated in these projects and resources from European funds were allocated.3) the plan of the city of Rome, aimed at the closure of the Castel Romano and Monachina Camps by 2021, thanks to the funding allocated to the relocation of the families concerned. <p>The municipalities of Turin, Milan, Rome and Naples have taken various measures to facilitate the social inclusion of RSC, present on their territory, also thanks to the NOP Inclusion, jointly with the elaboration of local social inclusion plans, besides, for example, specific projects, such as the A.B.R.A.M.O. Program in the municipality of Giugliano, in Campania .</p> <p>UNAR’s bottom-up approach in supporting Roma’s participation to social development and policy-making can be considered a best practice, insofar as its employment of innovative tools.</p> |
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| | <p>In particular, UNAR's National Roma Platform, established in 2017, represents an effective tool for dialogue between Roma communities and central/local public administrations, in line with UNAR's strategic objective of promoting networks across the national territory. In this framework, the Roma Platform (consisting of 79 Associations) and the Forum of the Roma Communities, (composed of 25 Roma NGOs) represents the central nucleus of the Platform, by acting as an interface and consultation body, both with respect to the implementation of the Roma Strategy and its periodic evaluation and review. This Forum expresses a common position vis-a-vis competent institutions, on relevant issues such as housing and the overcoming of camps. To that purpose, the National Roma Platform also served to appoint a delegate for each area of intervention through a public vote. The Platform and the Forum meet several times a year, in view of discussing specific situations and critical issues at the national/local level, or designing capacity building/training activities, as well as wider policy strategies and practices for Roma inclusion. Over the 2020-2021 period, the Platform has been working with UNAR to a public bottom-up debate for the elaboration of the next National Roma Integration Strategy 2021-2030. For employment related information, please refer to information above with regard to ACCEDER programme.</p> <p>As for Roma children, special attention has been paid to children belonging to specific ethnic groups, such as Roma, Sinti and Caminanti. Since 2013, the Ministry of Education has been working with the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies, the Ministry of Health and Istituto degli Innocenti in Florence on the national project for the inclusion and integration of children of these communities, in the framework of the "National Strategy for the inclusion of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti populations" as issued by the National Anti-Racial Discrimination Office.</p> <p>Rome Culture. In order to protect and promote the cultural diversity of ethnic minorities (e.g. Roma), the ESF Operational Programme (OP) 2014-2020 for Social Inclusion includes different measures aimed at the socio-economic integration of Roma communities (Priority 9), through a global approach to Roma culture (Action 9.5.4). Specifically, this approach aims to improve social, educational and familiar mediation, as well as to promote Roma participation and conflict resolution. In this framework, the National Anti-Racial Discrimination Office (UNAR) also launched a strategy for the promotion of Roma</p> |
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| | <p>culture in 2017, implemented through a MoU with a public in house company (Formez), in view of designing specific initiatives to fight prejudice and stereotypes towards Roma, Sinti and Caminanti (i.e. through communication and sensitization activities on their history, art and language), by engaging also representatives of these communities.</p> <p>In particular, in 2018-2020, the three pillars of the project focused on: awareness raising campaigns, trainings and social interventions, targeting both the public opinion and specific groups (i.e. school students and teachers, traditional and new media journalists, etc).</p> |
| <p><i>Migrants, refugees and asylum seekers</i></p> | |
| <p>Enhancing legislative and policy measures to protect the human rights of asylum- seekers, refugees and migrants and to prevent and combat discrimination against them, including by conducting additional awareness raising campaigns and by punishing discriminatory and xenophobic acts</p> <p>Recs: 148.74 through 148.105; 148.120, 148.130, 148.134, 148.143, 148.144, 148.189, 148.190, 148.199, 148.202, 148.209, 148.250, 148.254, 148.263, 148.264; 148.266 through 148.268; 148.269, 148.270 148.273, 148.275, 148.277, 148.278, 148.282, 148.283, 148.285, 148.286, 148.288, 148.290, 148.292, 148.293,</p> | <p><u>Italy remains committed to ensuring safe and legal channels to potential international protection applicants fleeing from war and persecution. The COVID-19 outbreak has unfortunately caused the postponement of some transfers both in the field of humanitarian corridors and of the national programs of resettlement, which are now at the stage of being progressively rescheduled.</u></p> <p><u>The Department for Civil Liberties and Migration of the Ministry of Interior has co-funded the ADITUS project, through the resources of the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF), in cooperation with IOM. This project, started on 1/1/2017 and concluded in December 2019, was structured along 4 action lines:</u></p> <p><u>1. Information at the landing places/hotspot facilities and identification of vulnerable persons – in particular victims of trafficking and unaccompanied foreign minors;</u></p> <p><u>2. Support activity and capacity building of the staff of the facilities for Unaccompanied Foreign Minors on trafficking, serious exploitation and family reunification according to the Dublin Regulation III;</u></p> <p><u>3. Training of the reception staff on trafficking and serious exploitation;</u></p> <p><u>4. Support to the Mireco project’s monitoring activities of the reception facilities.</u></p> <p><u>All these activities were carried out in close cooperation with the abovementioned Department and with the other involved Organizations, such as UNHCR, as a follow-up to the activities carried out with the Assistance and Praesidium projects co-funded by the same Department.</u></p> |

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| <p>148.295, 148.296, 148.299 through 148.301,148.304 through 148.306</p> <p>Recs. noted: 148.271,148.279, 148.281, 148.289, 148.291, 148.298, 148.302</p> <p>(SDGs 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 16, 17)</p> | <p><u>In line with the contents of the previous AMIF planning 2017-2020, UNHCR has presented a new project proposal.</u></p> <p><u>The project activities take up the conclusions and the recommendations noted in the previous AMIF project, with regard to the staff’s training needs involved in the different phases of the identification, referral and response and of protection of applicants and holders of international protection.</u></p> <p><u>This allowed for a continuation and/or completion of relevant activities, also on the basis of the collaborations already initiated with protective networks for the strengthening of access to services. In particular, the line 1 of intervention, called ACCESS, provides:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Training activities on the provision of legal notice on the international protection and on the access to the territory to all the actors involved in the arrivals by sea, land and air, with a sensible approach to the age, gender and diversities;</u> - <u>Targeted support to information activities for asylum seekers on the possibility to apply for international protection and in the identification of people with specific needs in the areas affected by arrivals by sea, in particular in Lampedusa Island and in Sicily, and for landing events of particular importance, in other involved Regions.</u> <p><u>Law-Decree No. 130/2020 includes a series of provisions for the protection of children. These include the exclusion from accelerated procedures before the territorial Commissions in charge of the recognition of international protection, as well as the possibility, for the same territorial Commissions, to report the existence of serious grounds for assistance to the Public Prosecutor of the Republic at the Juvenile Court, after the interview, in view of the child’s psychophysical development.</u></p> <p><u>Furthermore, to implement Law No.47/2017 (the so-called <i>Zampa Law</i>), specifically devoted to UAMs the draft Decree of the President of Council of Ministers regarding the procedures for the interview of unaccompanied foreign minor hosted in the first reception centres, stemmed from f a discussion which</u></p> |
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involved all competent administrations, the National Authority on Childhood and Adolescence and the main organizations concerned (SAVE THE CHILDREN, UNHCR, UNICEF, IOM, and Caritas).

The text is under approval by the Presidency of the Council of Ministers. The adjustment Decree of the President of the Republic for the regulation of residency permits to be issued to unaccompanied foreign minors and to people who just reached the legal age is currently at the attention of the Minister of Economy, in view of finalising the document for approval by the Council of Ministers.

The draft regulation that reorganizes the competences of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies in the field of unaccompanied foreign minors is currently under consideration by the Council of State.

Further, on 9th July 2021, an Agreement was reached within the Unified Conference, between Government, Regions and local authorities, for the adoption of the multidisciplinary protocol for determining the age of unaccompanied foreign minors.

Seven projects are financed with AMIF resources within the framework of the public notice “Promotion of foster care within the national reception system for unaccompanied minors, which will terminate their activities on 30 September 2022. The objective is to ensure foster care of 195 unaccompanied minors and reach 602,170 persons with information about foster care.

Moreover, 6 out of the 14 projects financed with AMIF resources for the realization of complementary actions to the second reception of UAMs are still active. They aim to promote the social inclusion and autonomy of UAMs. These projects will expire on 31 December 2021.

It is also worth mentioning the 13 Language Learning and Access to Education projects financed so far with AMIF resources. They aim to improve access to the National Education System by UAMs. They will terminate their activities on 30 June 2022.

Finally, the AMIF resources are used to finance 19 projects aimed to qualify the education system in multicultural contexts to avoid school dropout and promote the social inclusion of UAMs. They will expire on 30 June 2022.

In order to increase the number of places in SAI reception facilities for unaccompanied minors, AMIF resources were used to finance a project called "*Strengthening the capacity for reception, inclusion and accompaniment to autonomy of UAMs in the SIPROIMI network*".

As a result, on the 1st of July and 11th of August the Ministry of Interior published the Decree approving the funding of 96 new SAI projects for a total of 1.532 new places for UAMs.

Moreover, on the 11th of August, the Ministry of Interior also published the Decree approving the funding of 797 new places in 37 SAI projects already active for UAMs and 174 new places in 14 SAI projects already active for persons with mental and social disorders.

Overall, the network has so far reached 6,692 for the former and 783 for the latter category of beneficiaries.

In addition, following the DCLI specific directives to Prefectures on the activation of dedicated temporary shelters for the reception of UAM, their number has increased up to 458 places on the 19th of October. Moreover, in March 2021, the DCLI signed an agreement free of charge with UNICEF, for a 18-month, monitoring of the modalities and quality of reception conditions for children and adolescents.

Finally, the DCLI Authority Responsible (AR) for AMIF adopted the Public Notice "*System interventions to strengthen the prevention and contrast of violence against foreign minors*" (by Decree dated 21st July 2020). It aims to strengthen systemic actions for the prevention and the contrast of violence (physical, psychological, gender-based, sexual, witness domestic violence, pathology of care) against foreign minors. Its beneficiaries include regions, local authorities, Local Health Authorities (ASL), international and civil society organizations, as well as educational and research institutions. Fifteen projects have been approved, which will terminate their activities on 30 September 2022.

With regard to the measures aimed at protecting the most vulnerable groups among migrants and refugees, the new project proposal related to AMIF, submitted by UNHCR, is currently being evaluated by the DCLI.

The proposal includes training activities for staff (personnel) engaged in the arrivals by sea, land and air, in the different phases of the identification, referral and response and of protection of seekers and holders of international protection, with a sensitive approach to the age, gender and diversities. In particular, its 3 lines of intervention (Capacity-Building) – provide inter alia:

•Training and capacity-building activities of the actors involved in services for asylum-seekers and refugees, with particular attention to the operators of first reception Centres and of Detention Repatriation Centres (CPR) through multidisciplinary awareness-raising workshops on international protection-related issues (including LGBTI, sexual and gender-based violence) at a national and local level - for the promotion of integrated referral and intake mechanisms and of system, as well as the strengthening of the access to the services;

•Workshops for the strengthening of the coordination and of multidisciplinary protection mechanisms and the dissemination of tools and best practices (as mapped under the previous project), addressed also to the reception operators in relation to the profiles of the international protection with focus also on vulnerability.

Moreover, a working group on vulnerabilities was set up in June 2021 with the aim of promoting a coordination mechanism for the identification and taking charge of people with specific needs and vulnerabilities.

The working group is composed of representatives from the Ministry of the Interior (Central Directorate of Civil Services for Immigration and Asylum), the Ministry of Health, the National Institute for Health Promotion of Migrant Populations and the Fight against Poverty-related Diseases (NIHMP), the three UN agencies (UNHCR, IOM and UNICEF), *Médecins Sans Frontières*, Italian Red Cross, EASO and the Central Service for the management of the Reception and Integration System (SAI) network.

The ongoing assessment of trafficking-related risks also relates to cases of entry into national territorial waters, without prejudice to the activities that may be developed in the context of AMIF planning by IOM. In 2020, the Head of the Department for Civil Liberties and Immigration was appointed “Implementing Body” of the measures aimed at containing the risk of epidemiological spread

of COVID-19 among migrants rescued at sea or arrived in the national territory as a result of autonomous landings (by Decree of the Head of Civil Protection Department (DCDP) No. 1287/2020).

In line with the Decree, the Head of the above said Department can employ ships to carry out the period of health surveillance for adults and family units identified by means of Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport's facilities. However, in case of unaccompanied minors the surveillance period is not carried out on the vessels, but at dedicated local shelters.

To implement these measures, a special agreement was signed with the Italian Red Cross on 9th May 2020, and integrated with subsequent Addenda.

In addition to preventive healthcare services and screening activities of migrants, the agreement covers, among others, the provision of personal services, as well as linguistic and cultural mediation. specific, identification of vulnerable people and psychological support. During the entire period on board, training sessions and individual interviews are organized, in the course of which useful information is provided to migrants (i.e. on the arrival context and the situation in Europe, as well as on labour exploitation, human trafficking and the procedures of international protection).

Regarding the other guarantees and services provided to **trafficked victims**, Article 17 of Legislative Decree No.142/2015 expressly includes trafficked victims among people with special needs, for whom appropriate assistance measures and medical care are guaranteed during the entire reception phase. This is foreseen in addition to the specific psychological support, which is provided as an essential service to all asylum-seekers in the hotspots.

In this particular regard, the DCLI signed two relevant agreements to provide support to UAMs from the moment of disembarkation until first reception.

On 23 December 2020 it renewed the collaboration, free of charge, with the NGO *Save the Children* to guarantee protection, support, and legal and informative guidance to UAMs until the 31st of December 2021. On 8th June 2021 it signed an agreement with the NGO *Terres des Hommes* to offer, free of charge, psychological and psychosocial support to UAMs, until the 31st of December 2021.

In addition, Article 17 of Law No. 47/2017 establishes that specific protection must be guaranteed to unaccompanied foreign minors who are victims of trafficking, by setting up a specific assistance program that ensures adequate reception conditions and psycho-social, health and legal assistance, providing long-term solutions, even beyond the age of majority.

Further, Decree of the President of the Council of Ministers No. 234/2016 envisages a multidisciplinary procedure aimed to verify the gender and age of unaccompanied foreign minors, respectful of the presumed age self-proclaimed,

In the first reception Centres financed by AMIF, there are teams formed by specific professionals, such as social workers, linguistic mediators, educators and legal operators, who follow children during their stay. These professionals also aim to identify potential trafficking victims, in order to activate the protection procedures provided for by law.

Without prejudice to the connections that each project has established with the anti-trafficking network, all these projects are included in an up-to-date program on issues related to minors, which includes a focus on trafficking. This program, managed by IOM staff, is a part of European Asylum Support Office (EASO) training. Moreover, during dedicated workshops, a series of good practices related to these projects were highlighted. Trafficking of unaccompanied foreign minors was also discussed during online workshops sponsored by EASO in 2020, to the benefit of SAI integrated reception projects and local authorities involved in the field of unaccompanied foreign minors. At the end of this process of training and exchange of practices, a Vademecum was drawn up regarding the procedures for receiving and taking charge of unaccompanied foreign minors, containing a specific section with in-depth information on the phenomenon of trafficking and its management.

It is also worth-recalling that, in 2020, the National Commission for the Right to Asylum published, the update version of the information brochure for asylum-seekers and refugees in collaboration with UNHCR, in accordance with Article 10, paragraph 2, of Legislative Decree No.142/2015. The brochure, which is handed out to asylum-seekers upon their application is available in twelve languages (including

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| | <p><u>Italian, English, French, Spanish, Arabic, Persian, Amharic, Bengali, Kurdish, Somali, Tigrinya and Urdu) and provides the contacts of UNHCR, IOM, as well as the anti-trafficking toll-free number of the DEO (operating 24 hours a day, every day of the year, anonymously and with multi-language specialized staff).</u></p> <p><u>Lastly, the collaboration between the National Commission for the Right to Asylum and UNHCR has led to the drawing up of the “Guidelines for the correct and early identification of victims of trafficking among applicants for international protection”, as well as to the implementation of specific referral procedures for their protection. Among others, this Guidelines will be followed by the Territorial Commissions for the recognition of international protection.</u></p> <p><u>The National Guarantor for the Rights of Persons Deprived of Liberty continues to have access to relevant Centres.</u></p> <p><u>With regard to third country nationals at Centres for Repatriation (CPRs), Decree-Law No. 130/2020, converted, with amendments, by Law 18 December 2020, No. 173, provides for the possibility to submit applications or complaints to the National Guarantor, who, after verifying the complaint’s validity, makes specific recommendations to the Administration (article 3, paragraphs 4 and 5).</u></p> |
| <p>Adopting further measures to achieve greater integration of asylum-seekers, refugees and migrants, including victims of trafficking in the context of migration</p> <p>Recs.: 148.265, 148.272, 148.303, 148.304</p> <p>(SDGs 4, 10, 16, 17)</p> | <p>As for special protection, in compliance with Law No. 132/2018 on immigration and security, humanitarian protection was replaced by complementary-type of protection. In light of the “<i>non refoulement</i>” principle. Territorial Commissions can recognize special protection, whereas the <i>Questura</i> is the responsible authority for assessing the following “special cases”, to release a residence permit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Victims of domestic violence (art. 18bis TUI); - Medical care (art. 19, c. 2, d-bis TUI); - Natural disasters (art. 20bis TUI); - Exceptional labour exploitation (art. 22 TUI); - Exceptional civil acts (art. 42-bis TUI); - Victims of trafficking in human beings. |

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| | <p>-</p> <p>In view of improving Law No.132/2018, in compliance with articles 3 and 8 of ECHR, the recent Decree-Law No.130/2020, converted into Law No.173/2020, extended the application of the principle of <i>non-refoulement</i> to other cases,^{§§§§§§} in addition to the risk of persecution and torture:</p> <p>a) cases which fall under the national/constitutional and international obligations of Italy, which take into account the existence of systematic and serious violations of human rights in the State of origin of the third-country national;</p> <p>b) cases in which the foreign national is likely to suffer inhuman and degrading treatment in his/her country of origin;</p> <p>c) cases in which reasonable grounds exist to believe that <i>refoulement</i> would conflict with respect for private and family life of the foreign national, unless expulsion is deemed necessary for national security, public order or public safety reasons.</p> <p>In compliance with economic, social and cultural rights, the above reform also allows to convert residence permits for special protection into residence and work permits and for reasons of respect for private and family life.</p> <p>Decree-Law No. 130/2020, converted, with amendments, by Law 18 December 2020, No. 173, revised the reception system for international protection applicants, providing for the simultaneous adoption of higher reception standards in the reception centres and additional services. In addition to the first assistance provided by the first reception Centres and in the temporary facilities (acronym in Italian, CAS), and to the rescue and identification activities carried out in the Hotspots, the reception is guaranteed, within the limits of available places, in the facilities formerly named SIPROIMI, and currently called “System of accommodation and integration” (SAI).</p> <p>The asylum-seekers with specific vulnerability needs shall be relocated into the reception and integration System as a priority.</p> <p>In the first reception Centres and in the special ones, additional services will include: Italian language courses, psychological assistance and territory orientation. Their contents were described in detail in the</p> |
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^{§§§§§§} Art. 19 para. 1.1. Legislative Decree No.286/1998.

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| | <p>outline of the contract specifications for the management of reception services, approved by Ministerial Decree of January 29, 2021.</p> <p>In these Centres adequate hygienic-sanitary and housing standards are guaranteed in accordance with the criteria and procedures established by Decree of the Ministry of Interior, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, following the indications of the Unified Conference, adopted on 22 July 2021.</p> <p>However, it should be noted that previous specifications, approved by Ministerial Decree dated 20 November 2018, already provided compliance with standards set by the regulations in force.</p> <p>The reception and integration System (SAI) is organized on two levels of services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) a first level of services for asylum-seekers, which includes all services generally provided by local authorities, with the exclusion of integration services; b) a second level of services, aimed at integration, which includes job orientation and professional development, reserved to other categories of reception beneficiaries. <p>Access to the SAI is extended to international protection applicants, as well as to special protection permit holders (unless there are grounds for denial or exclusion from international protection) and to special cases permit holders granted in accordance with Article 1, paragraph 9, of Decree-Law No. 113/2018 (so-called “Sicurezza”). A Decree-Law, which later converted with amendments into Law No. 132/2018. These special cases refer to applicants who, in the transitional period, have received a residency permit on serious grounds of humanitarian nature, in line with the conditions laid down in previous legislation.</p> <p>Further the possibility of accessing the reception and integration System is applicable to holders of residency permits for social protection, domestic violence, disasters and acts of special civil value, in case they cannot access to specifically assigned protection systems.</p> <p>In line with Article 13 of Law No. 147/2017 (so-called “Zampa Law”), the reception of young adults of maximum 21 years of age is allowed for the period during which the Juvenile judicial authority allows their stay in Italy.</p> <p>Decree-Law No. 130/2020 further enhanced the role of the territorial Commission, in accordance with the protection of fundamental human rights recognized by European and International Conventions.</p> |
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| | <p>In case of reject of the protection application, the territorial Commission may now forward the documents to the police commissioner for the issue of a permit for “medical treatment”, on the grounds of “serious psycho-physical conditions or serious diseases”.</p> <p>Similarly, the Commission can inform the Public Prosecutor of the Republic at the Juvenile Court, on the opportunity to provide special assistance measures to children, in view of the their psychophysical condition. An option that may also require the permanence of the parent or trustee in the national territory.</p> <p>In order to support integration of foreign citizens on the national territory, Decree-Law No. 130/2020 introduced the possibility to convert some permits into residency permit for business reasons. These include residency permit for special protection, for disaster, for elective residence, for the acquisition of citizenship or stateless status, for sport activities, for artistic work, for religious reasons, as well as permits for minors in need of special assistance (mentioned above).</p> <p>On the integration front, asylum seekers are expected to be involved in e social activities in the framework of projects of local Authorities Further, there is the possibility to start specific integration paths for the beneficiaries of SAI’s reception measures, at the end of the reception period, provided that there are available resources. These interventions are identified by the National Plan for Integration, on the basis of the proposals formulated by the <i>Table of national coordination</i>, established at the Ministry of the Interior. Being the responsible Authority for the use of AMIF European Funds 2014-2020, the Ministry of the Interior has financed numerous projects addressed to integration, social inclusion and the autonomy of housing and employment of holders of international protection.</p> <p>In accordance with Constitutional Court judgment No. 186, 9th July 2020, the above Decree-Law further establishes a new registration system for the applications of international protection, provided that the civil registry was abrogated by Art.13 of the aforementioned "security decree" - censured by the Court. For applicants hosted in the Centers, the registration is carried out in cohabitation lists and the Head of the Center has the responsibility to communicate the variations of cohabitation to the relevant Registry Office.</p> |
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| | <p>Migrants, asylum-seekers and refugees. The Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) 2014-2020 allowed for the implementation of numerous actions aimed at the integration and protection of migrants, asylum seekers and unaccompanied minors, with particular regard to the following areas:</p> <p>Reception and social inclusion of unaccompanied minors: since 2016, 86 projects were funded for a total of 93.352.396,82 Euros.</p> <p>The strategy entailed the creation of a national first-line reception system for unaccompanied minors through highly specialized care facilities; the improvement of the national second-line reception system for unaccompanied minors; the activation of specific programs for the assistance of vulnerable cases, including legal assistance of unaccompanied minors in places of disembarkation and identification.</p> <p>Achievements (until 31.12 2020):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 42.798 minors received legal assistance in places of disembarkation and identification; - 9.163 unaccompanied minors were welcomed at first-line reception facilities, and other 1.002 unaccompanied children were accepted in second-line reception facilities; - 2.330 unaccompanied minors benefitted from services of social inclusion; - Many services concerning legal assistance, psychological and social support, improvement of the legal protection institute, recreational activities, educational support and school admission, were set up with the aim of ensuring effective inclusion of unaccompanied minors. <p>As for promotion of refugees' autonomy when exiting the reception services: 42 projects (30 on-going) were funded for a total of 34.125.688,58 Euros.</p> <p>The strategy entailed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The improvement of services relating to social, economic and cultural integration or inclusion (i.e. access to accommodation /housing, access to the labor market, etc.) - The customization of services, according to the particular needs of each beneficiary; - The complementary use of national and European resources to avoid overlapping or duplication of services. <p>Achievements (until 31.12.2021):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1.285 international protection beneficiaries were assisted during their transition into the new socio-economic environment through proper guidance and support; |
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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 875 beneficiaries successfully completed their individual plans for socio-economic inclusion, and 498 beneficiaries gained full socio-economic autonomy. <p>As for civic education and language training: 84 projects (44 on-going) were funded for a total of 72.701.224 Euros. The strategy entailed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - two complementary levels of intervention: domestically, the delivery of qualified educational services reinforced through a specific regional training, implemented in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, the Regions, the Public Educational Institution for Adult Education (CPIA - <i>Centro Provinciale per l'Istruzione degli Adulti</i>), the Local Government Authorities and various associations; locally, pilot actions were financed to target vulnerable individuals with specific educational needs; - the integration of reception facilities and language training services; - the monitoring of services, best practices and education tools. <p>Achievements (until 31.12.2020):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 60.278 third-country nationals -10.459 of which belonging to vulnerable target groups- benefitted from specific trainings; - 34.340 migrants obtained an Italian language certificate; - 4.592 courses (for a total of 320.395 hours) were delivered; - multiple online platforms, multimedia products, apps, evaluative models, training guides and material were developed for educational purposes. <p>Health protection and support of asylum-seekers and beneficiaries of international protection belonging to a vulnerable group: 30 projects (19 being ongoing) were funded for a total of 31.872.835,41 Euros.</p> <p>The strategy aimed at providing an overarching system for the undertaking of migrants in vulnerable conditions by the National Health Care System. It envisages the identification of vulnerabilities and their referral to the National Health Care System, through the activation of specific networks and procedures, as well as the ensuing undertaking.</p> |
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| | <p>Achievements (until 31.12.2020):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assistance and support were provided to 12.834 asylum seekers and beneficiaries of international protection; - 5.454 health-care professionals were trained on the treatment of post-traumatic vulnerability and psychological-health distress; - 61 multi-disciplinary teams were set up. - <p>Improvement of educational system in multicultural environments, also through actions that tackle obstacles to continued education and training: 16 projects were funded for a total of 12.186.994,79 Euros. So far, 36.523 foreign students have participated in activities concerning school inclusion and other 10.500 are still assisted through 19 on-going projects.</p> <p>Promotion of access to integration services: 16 projects were funded for a total of 12.401.057,80 Euro, through which 46.926 TCNs benefitted from different social, health and housing services between 2017-2018. Further, 19.364 TCNs are being assisted through 19 on-going projects.</p> |
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Annex No. 1 – Italian Regions’ Update.