



## Chronicles of Ordinary Racism

### *Third White Paper on Racism in Italy*

Is on line here:

<http://www.lunaria.org/2014/11/25/the-english-version-of-the-2015-report-on-racism-is-out/>

Almost three years down the line, **Lunaria** has gone back to telling the *Tales of everyday racism* that define public and social life in our country. We have done so, this time, by casting our sights towards Europe, where last spring's elections revealed a growing tide of nationalist, xenophobic and populist sentiment.

This study is the result of the daily monitoring, reporting, information and awareness-raising work that **Lunaria** undertakes on the [www.cronachediordinariorazzismo.org](http://www.cronachediordinariorazzismo.org) website. The analysis is based on **2566 cases** of discrimination and racially motivated violence recorded on an online database between 1 September 2011 and 31 July 2014, and on daily monitoring of the public, institutional and media debate.

'Everyday racism' takes place in many different contexts: buses, trains, clubs, restaurants, hotels, stadiums, shops, radio, TV (including variety shows), newspapers, football games, churches, schools, workplaces, cemeteries, streets, apartment blocks, supermarkets, public services, police stations, courtrooms and every type of institution, and, of course, the endless maze that is the internet. On the other hand, the cultural, social, political and institutional tools used to fight it are still utterly limited and inadequate.

This is the picture we are able to build from the tales of 'everyday racism' that we have collected over the past three years (or thereabout). The events featured here have not been chosen at random, but they certainly do not cover the whole spectrum: each of the places mentioned can be traced back to specific cases of racism which we were able to monitor by analysing newspaper articles and, more and more frequently, information provided by readers and other organisations.

We recorded daily episodes of verbal aggression, from insults to threats and actual harassment, to propaganda (statements, public speeches, articles, posters, banners, flyers, comic strips, documents, press releases, publications, websites, blogs and posts on social networks) and public protests; of physical violence (assaults in the street, on public transport, in schools and carried out by the police itself) and discrimination that is endemic in Italian society and, with disappointing frequency, also in the actions of the media and institutions.

Our account is necessarily incomplete and selective but it gives a contribution in understanding the recent evolution of discriminations and racism in Italy.

# Table of contents

<b>Introduction</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Section 1. The political and cultural context</b>	<b>7</b>
A political and moral crisis. Italy caught between national preference and the return of “race” <i>Annamaria Rivera</i>	8
More than Eurosceptic. As Europe feels the crisis, xenophobia takes the polls <i>Guido Caldiron</i>	21
Migration, conflicts and culpable omission <i>Grazia Naletto</i>	28
The crisis, immigrants and the labour market <i>Enrico Pugliese</i>	34
“Migrant” Islam at home. From “differential inclusion” processed to “normative” integration and overt criminalisation <i>Maurizia Russo Spina</i>	42
Roma and Sinti: the everydayness of racism. The “Roma question” after the approval of the National Inclusion Strategy <i>Sergio Bontempelli</i>	56
More of the same. Citizens of Chinese origin in the media’s blind spot. Prato and environs. <i>Giuseppe Faso</i>	71
Discrimination and the law <i>Daniela Consoli</i>	79
<b>Section 2. Migrants and media</b>	<b>88</b>
Media and immigrants: sensationalism or unbiased reporting <i>Serena Chiodo</i>	89
The perverse intermingling of virtual and “viral” hatred <i>Paola Andrisani</i>	97
Continassa: violence feigned and violence suffered <i>Paola Andrisani</i>	103
Fabricated and/or manipulated data <i>Grazia Naletto</i>	107
Kaur and the blue pyjamas <i>Paola Andrisani</i>	110
<i>la Repubblica</i> ’s learned hearsay <i>Giuseppe Faso</i>	114
The Pope goes to Lampedusa	117

<i>Duccio Zola</i>	
Maria and the Roma baby-snatchers <i>Serena Chiodo</i>	121
Cie and beyond: a legitimate uprising <i>Grazia Naletto</i>	124
<b>Section 3. Chronicles of ordinary racism</b>	<b>129</b>
Racism in official statistics <i>Lunaria</i>	130
Chronicles of ordinary racism data <i>Lunaria</i>	132
Racism's many, endless settings <i>Grazia Naletto</i>	134
The roots of racist imagery <i>Guido Caldiron</i>	153
The Florence massacre <i>Duccio Zola</i>	160
(Un)civil Service <i>Serena Chiodo</i>	165
Alina and the mystery of the Precinct of horrors <i>Paola Andrisani</i>	169
Minister and scapegoat: the case of Cécile Kyenge <i>Duccio Zola</i>	172
The 3 October tragedy <i>Serena Chiodo</i>	178
Education: from "quotas" to "ghetto classes" <i>Serena Chiodo</i>	182