

We believe in social justice, in equality, in cooperation and solidarity.

We are the people who have always fought and will continue to fight - during and after elections – against the barbarism that today has countless faces. Among them we must name: rising unemployment, hyper-exploitative working conditions, gender based violence, unsustainable and destructive capitalist development, new forms of fascism and racism, the use of fear as a tool of repression, war, and the unspeakable number of deaths that result from the refusal of safe passage. In the world we currently live in, 8 people have the same amount of wealth as 3,6 billion human beings; there is the capacity to produce food for 12 billion people, but one billion are still suffering from hunger. This is the consequence of deliberate political choices that have transferred, to an unprecedented extent, resources and power to a tiny minority of people. They have eroded rights, privatised and commodified every aspect of our lives, and imposed competition as the main criterion of social relations. To all of this we say NO. But alongside to the NO there is the YES that we need to build.

It the people power, #poterealpopolo, #powertothepeople; the repossession of sovereignty by the people in every aspect of our society.

It is the reaffirmation of the right to work without precarity and exploitation, the reclaiming of social rights, the preservation of the environment, the affirmation of women rights.

The programme we present for these national elections concerns Italy in particular but it shares the same aims as political movements fighting worldwide against exploitation, for our rights and for democracy, against capitalism and neoliberal barbarism. These movements that, that are spreading across Europe and the world, represent a break with the past. They are expression of a will to build an alternative to the policies of the last three decades. They are also expression of a will to defeat our common enemy.

We are women and men who fight and reject racism, class exploitation and gender oppression. Who fight against war, against the destruction of our natural environment and of human lives. We are democratic and antifascist, communist and socialist, feminist and environmentalist, individuals and organisations. We come from different backgrounds, but we want to build a common path among the people who reject the pervasiveness of injustice, exploitation and oppression and who want to trigger a process of change.

We are the people, we are rebels.

We want to take back our present and our future.

1. Defence and revival of our Constitution, born from the Resistance movement

Our Republic is founded on labour. This is written in the first article of our Constitution, born from the struggle for liberation from Nazi-Fascism. The 4th December 2016 Referendum demonstrated the will of the Italian people to defend the Constitution.

We not only want to defend it, but to fully implement its original sense, based on the ideas of those who took part in the Resistance. This means the building of a new society founded on the principles of human dignity and the rights of workers; the elimination of all forms of discrimination; the principle of substantial equality; the institution of social rights; the protection of environmental and artistic heritage; the rejection of war.

We are committed to:

- restoring to workers their central role in our republic and their dignity;
- ending all discrimination based on sex, ethnicity, language, religion or sexual orientation and removing the economic and social obstacles that limit equality;
- abolishing Article 7 of the Constitution, referring to the Lateran Pact, so as to fully institute the principle of secularism of the State in all aspects of public life;
- promoting and supporting scientific culture and research, protecting environmental and artistic heritage;
- rejecting war in all circumstances and cutting military spending down to the bare minimum;
- removing the constraints on the state budget that were recently written into the Constitution with a modification of Article 81. The balanced budget amendment sacrifices workers' lives and their dignity to fiscal purity and European diktat;
- restoring the fifth title of the constitution to the original text and abolishing the changes of the 2001 reform;
- fighting, by all means, the CETA, TISA and TTIP agreements, international treaties designed to repress popular and democratic sovereignty in the name of the primacy of profit;
- restoring a truly proportional system for the election of parliament, overturning the majoritarian system and the strengthening of executive power;
- combatting and disbanding fascist organisations, confiscating their assets so they can be used for social purposes, as has been done in the case of the Mafia.

2. European Union

Over the past 25 years and beyond, the European Union has become ever more present in our lives. From Maastricht to Schengen, from the Bologna process to the Lisbon Treaty, and up to the Fiscal Compact, its anti-social policies are justified in the name of respecting its treaties.

The rich, the owners of the big corporations and of the banks, the ruling classes of the European continent take advantage of this "new" instrument of government that, together with the "old" national state, impoverishes and oppresses the working class. The European Union is an instrument of the ruling classes that allows for the application of unpopular "structural reforms" through the bypassing of any form of democratic consultation.

The "European dream", belonging to the many who believed in the possibility of building an area of peace and progress, has come into conflict with the harsh reality of an institution at the service of the interests of the few. We feel a close connection to the many different peoples who live in our own continent, with which our history has been intertwined, as will be our future. Those peoples are suffering like us because of decades of neoliberal policies. Together, we want to reconstruct the agency of working people in Europe.

We are committed to:

- breaking the undemocratic treaty system on which the EU is based
- building another Europe based on solidarity between workers and social rights, and which promotes peace and shared policies with the peoples of the southern shores of the Mediterranean;
- rejecting the obsession with "governability", the emptying of power of the Parliament, the strengthening of the executives, the imposition of decisions from above because "Europe asks us so";

- the right of peoples to be called upon to express opinion on all decisions which affect them at any level - municipal, regional, state, European - previous or future, with recourse to the referendum.

3. Peace and Disarmament

Our times are marked by the risk that the "piecemeal world war three" currently afflicting the planet will become a permanent reality and drag the world into a devastating general conflict. It is no coincidence that the resuming of the arms race, with the particularly aggressive role of the Trump administration, has had the effect of bringing military spending in all Nato countries up to 2% of GDP. Italy has found itself involved in more and more wars of aggression. This is the result of the obligations that come with being a member of NATO, though the Italian governments of the last 30 years are equally responsible. As a result of our membership in NATO, military bases continue to proliferate (Sicily, Campania, Sardinia). New nuclear bombs have been installed in Ghedi and Aviano. Weapons production has increased, as have military expenditure and the number of military missions abroad, as part of both NATO operations and of the nascent European army. While the Italian government continues to cut social expenditure, it spends an average of 800 million euros per year on military missions and weapons. It spends over 500 million euros a year for the maintenance of 50,000 soldiers in US and NATO military bases and 80 million euros a day for general military expenses.

If we are to prevent Italy's involvement in the imperialist wars of the twenty-first century, we must exit all military treaties. This is also necessary if we are to be able to substantially reduce military spending, dismantle our nuclear weapons and military bases, and adhere to a policy of disarmament, neutrality and international cooperation.

We are committed to:

- breaking the bond of subordination that binds us to NATO as well as the termination of all military treaties;
- ratification of the "UN Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons" of 7 July 2017, in line with Article 11 of the Constitution;
- the withdrawal of all military missions abroad;
- the cancellation of the F35 and other military programmes as well as the conversion of the military industry to civil functions;
- the cancellation of the MUOS in Sicily, the dismantling of military bases throughout the country, the removal of nuclear bombs from Italian territory, and the return to civilian use of land, a problem that has had particularly grave consequences in Sardinia.

4. For workers' rights and for the right to work

We are now being repeatedly told that the worst is over, that work employment rate is now as it was before the crisis and that this was possible thanks to structural reforms and the Jobs Act.

But this is a lie. If we take into account working hours rather than jobs, it becomes evident that 1 million jobs have been lost since the crisis, and in fact the increase in the number of people in work is thanks

purely to the proliferation of precarious contracts, compulsory part-time work and other forms of underemployment.

The Renzi and Gentiloni governments gave away 40 billion euros in hand outs to business over the last 3 years, yet they at the same time they have removed protections against unfair dismissal, devalued labour, introduced video surveillance, significantly expanded precarious work, both for employees and for the self-employed (who are often merely workers with none of the autonomy implied by self-employment, and all of the low wages and lack of protections this categorisation can allow).

But this attack on workers' rights did not begin in the last few years. From the Treu packet of reforms passed in 1997 to the Jobs Act of 2014, precarious working conditions and an absence of protections have long been the standard. Salaries are low, and as such, wealth has shifted from workers to the capitalists and the landlords. And if you are a woman you are harder hit; your work will cost less and be even more precarious than the average. If you are young, you may now even have to work for free in the form of unpaid internships or even compulsory school-age work experience.

Emigration levels are reaching an all-time high. This is not a case of brain drain but rather a real mass exodus, more people are leaving than are arriving, in search of work and a salary they can survive on.

And people continue to die at work of work-related disease, due to a deregulation of health and safety in the work place. Workplace democracy is under continuous attack, as is the right to strike.

We are committed to:

abolishing the Jobs Act, the Fornero law concerning retirement age, abolishing all legislation that place obstacles on our right to a stable and secure job;

- abolishing all forms of work that are not regulated by a permanent contract, starting from the contract that can be ended "without a cause" and from vouchers;
- banning unpaid work performed in any capacity;
- combatting gang-master labour, all forms of modern slavery, and informal or unregulated labour;
- eliminating Article 8 of law number 148/2011 which granted employers the possibility to opt out of the nationally negotiated minimum wages, and eliminating the so-called "Collegato Lavoro";
- the abolition of protectionist professional associations, the introduction of fixed and fair rates of pay for self-employed workers, and the extension the self-employed of the same social securities that exist for the employed;
- restoring the original Article 18 of the Workers' Statute and extending it to businesses employing less than 15 workers;
- restoring the sliding wage scale to keep wages in line with inflation;
- putting an end to gender-based discriminations and the pay gap;
- instituting effective workplace health and safety regulations, increasing funding and resources for workplace inspectors;
- re-instituting and defending the right to strike through a modification of the 146/90 law;
- instituting workplace democracy to ensure that everybody is able to freely choose their trade union representation. It must be possible to elect members of unions who did not sign collective agreements;
- **putting an end to the mass emigration of young people and to reaffirming the right to work. For this end we propose a Work Plan based on the following elements:**

- the reduction of working time to 32 hours per week, which becomes ever more necessary as the rate of automation in the production process increases;
- public investments in industrial policies and environmental conversion of the economy;
- increased employment in the public sector so as to strengthen state welfare (the percentage of civil servants in relation to the population is the lowest in Europe: 5,2%, compared with 8,5% in France, 7,9% in the UK, 6,4% in Spain and 5,7% in Germany);
- the reduction of hours worked in a lifetime, through the elimination of Fornero Law.

5. Welfare

Over the past few decades we have witnessed a systematic attack on working people. The attack was directed against the unemployed and against the workers who, after a lifetime of labour, have seen their right to a secure and decent retirement wiped out.

The last set of welfare reforms, from the Dini reform to the Maroni law, and lastly with the Fornero pension reform, have drastically reduced pension payments whilst increasing retirement age.

The effects of the Fornero law have been particularly grave. They have been grave for factory workers, who are forced to continue doing manual labour even at an old age. They have been grave for women, who bear the double load of productive and reproductive labour. And it has been grave for young people whose access to employment is blocked by the forced permanence of older people in their positions. In the last three years the number of employees aged over 50 has increased by more than a million, and the number of temporary contracts increased by half a million.

These pension reforms have been justified by the threat of a failing retirement system. However, the ratio between contributions made and pensions paid out, after tax and other deductions, has been positive since 1996, due mainly to the fact that many salaried workers pay in more in contributions than they take out in pensions.

We are committed to:

- abolishing the Fornero pension reform;
- A decent retirement policy, proportional to the last salary collected;
- defending the right to retire at 60 or after 35 years of contributions;
- tying pension payments to the cost of living;
- defending the right to a basic pension of anyone who has 15 years of contribution, so as not to convict to poverty those who have worked precariously or discontinuously;
- introducing a cap on gross retirement income of 5000 euros per month.
- suppressing private pension funds and restoring INPS's managing authority over the pension funds of the workers belonging to professional associations;
- separating welfare from assistance.

6. Economy, finance and wealth redistribution

The governments of the past thirty years have made many decisions in violation of Article 3 of the Constitution. We call for the abolition of the clause recently inserted in the constitution that forces governments to keep to a balanced budget. We also called for disobedience of the European Union's Fiscal Compact. We believe that measures must be enacted to transfer wealth from landlords and capitalists to workers. We believe in the democratic control of the economy as a weapon against mass unemployment, job insecurity and poverty. We believe that it is of utmost importance to combat the fiscal evasion that

subtracts 110 billion from salaries and social expenditure every year. We are fighting for the redistribution of wealth from those who are becoming ever richer to those who are becoming ever poorer.

We are committed to:

- a tax on excessive wealth: the richest 1% of Italians owns 25% of the national wealth and 415 times more than the poorest 20% of the population;
- the reinstatement of a progressive tax system, in line with Art. 53 of the Constitution. Income tax (IRPEF), when it was first introduced, used to be based on 32 tax brackets with rates ranging from 10% to 72%. Nowadays, income tax is based only on 5 brackets with rates going from 23% to 43%;
- fighting tax evasion, beginning with the large multinationals such as Google, Amazon, and Apple;
- ending the transfer of public money to business and the continuous reduction of tax on profit;
- reclaiming illegal incomes;
- combatting the use of tax havens by Italian firms;
- ending privatisation and externalisation. We propose a blockade on the sale of the means of production and the re-nationalization of formerly public factories and strategic infrastructure;
- setting a maximum income and a cap on the severance pay of top bosses;
- nationalising the Italian Central Bank and creating a public finance company beginning with the nationalisation of the savings and credit organisations, in order to help local businesses to carry out projects of public relevance. We are calling for the nationalisation of the principal banks;
- the restoration of the distinction between saving and investment banks;
- the creation of a public debt auditing commission, aimed at restructuring and reorganising public debt, and aiming to cancel public debt owned by the speculative market. State debt exists not because we are “living beyond our means”: the ratio between state expenditure and revenue has been positive for the last 25 years (672 billion between 1980 and 2012) but we went into ever more debt to pay usurious interest rates to private finance (2.23 trillion).

7. Education

The school and university education systems and the system of public research have been destroyed by the neoliberal axe. Cuts to funding and attacks to freedom of teaching and research, casualisation of employment and salary freezes have been the norm for decades.

We believe that education is a pillar of democracy, and therefore we want a public, high-quality education system, aimed at the acquisition of critical knowledge and not of mere competences functional to market logics; an education system which is free up to the highest level, secular and open to everyone. We want public, free higher education, to guarantee the right to education for those who don't have the means to pay and we want research in our country to be free from private interests and economic pressures, able to develop autonomously and independently, supported solely by public funding and serving the collectivity.

In this sense, we take the citizens legislative proposal titled ‘The school of the Constitution’ www.lipscuola.it as the starting basis for a broader project that can signal a radical discontinuity with the education policies of the last 30 years; whilst recognising the full autonomy of the collective and plural subject that has given birth to the project and that animates its journey.

We are committed to:

- the abolition of Law 107/15 and of all the other reforms that have impoverished the school system, university education and research, putting them solely at the service of business and the market;
- the full coverage of public nursery and infant state school places to make them free for all;
- relaunching the principles of shared participation in management and democratic practices in the school system, with the abolition of the figure of the 'principal-manager';
- the introduction of a maximum limit of 20 pupils per classroom, the generalisation of full time schooling (40 hrs per week) for primary schooling, and the raising of the leaving age for compulsory education (and not only 'training') to 18;
- the abolition of the compulsory school-age work experience introduced by Renzi;
- the abolition of the INVALSI tests (standardised tests similar to the OECD PISA tests);
- the defence of state education, with the abolition of any state funding to private schools;
- substantial wage increases / equalisation for all teaching and non-teaching staff at all grades and levels; the hiring of all precarious staff with 36 months of service and the cancellation of precarious employment in the education system for the future;
- making public university and post-university education free;
- the compulsory remuneration of PhD students and of any type of work in university departments;
- the abolition of ANVUR (body dedicated to the evaluation of research quality in universities);
- a consistent increase in the share of GDP dedicated to education; in the funds available to each school; and in the ordinary financing funds for universities, on the basis of the number of students and not of merit-based criteria;
- a serious public policy of support to research, the gratuity of textbooks and the certainty of the right to education up to the highest levels, with equal conditions over the entirety of the national territory;
- an extraordinary programme of schools building, with specific attention to anti-seismic safety and security.

8. Information, communication and the arts

With the last governments, investment in culture has fallen to 0.7% of GDP. The laws passed have reduced culture to a mere commodity and instead of serious long term plan, they have preferred to focus on showy one-off events. The public radio and television service was put back under the direct control of the government, and public funding has been cut for independent, or cooperatively produced, cultural and scientific research.

For us, culture and communication are a public good, belonging to all and thus must be safe from privatisation and non-marketable. They are fundamental and inalienable rights. Only public intervention can guarantee genuine pluralism and independence of cultural production and news reporting from logic of the market. Today inequality is also measured through access to information. There is an inequality not only between the haves and have-nots, but also between those with knowledge and those without.

We are committed to:

- increasing investment in culture to at least to 1% of GDP;

- guaranteeing public resources to support independent production and distribution and cultural associations and spaces;
- reforming all public cultural institutions and ensuring that management is entrusted to professionals of the sector accountable to the public;
- building a network of cultural public spaces in every local area run by the local community that function as meeting places for communities to come together and as places for producing and hosting cultural events, aiding cultural experimentation and training;
- extending full workers' rights to the workers in the arts and communication, ending the processes of precarization. We are committed to guaranteeing continuity of income and full worker protections, and of recognising that behind the apparent "intermittent" nature of work in these sectors lies a wealth of unpaid labour; this must be recognised as work and duly paid and protected;
- legislating for the protection, conservation and enhancement of cultural and artistic assets; an emergency plan for the maintenance of our historical, artistic and environmental heritage, including the preservation of libraries and archives and recognition of the importance of restoration and archaeology;
- making new rules on copyright that defend the right of authors to financial compensation and control over the uses of their work whilst also allowing us to download and share, though for personal use only, work of importance for human development; the current rules are unnecessarily strict and can in fact obstruct the functioning of public services, they make it difficult, for example, for libraries to lend works in digital format;
- defending net neutrality and public control over big data, over how it is stored and used;
- effective legislation for resolving conflict of interests and antitrust law;
- a reform that reiterates the centrality of a public radio and television service and that guarantees democratic, participatory, pluralist and decentralized management;
- public support for independent newspapers, cooperatives and cultural and scientific publications.

9. Tackling poverty, healthcare and social assistance.

As the effects of the crisis continue to worsen, and the population becomes ever more impoverished and as the welfare system is broken down, social exclusion has become more of a problem.

18 million people are now at risk of poverty and social exclusion, a rise on previous years, and 12 million people give up health treatment this year due to financial difficulties. The on-going attack on the national health system, for many years recognised as one of the best public health systems in the world, is particularly serious.

Today, the percentage of GDP destined to health expenditure is lower than the risk threshold indicated by the World Health Organisation and further cuts are planned.

The consequences are clear to everyone: welfare levels in free fall, length of waiting lists are growing continuously, a result of inequality in access to services, greatly exacerbated by the introduction of corporate welfare which undermines the universalism of the right to healthcare and instead ties it to employment.

Basic welfare services, such as nurseries and services for the elderly, are failing significantly to meet need. The more vulnerable in our society, including people with a disability, are being entirely neglected. Families are left to care for relatives without the necessary financial and material support, and without any

assistance towards social inclusion. We believe that everyone has the unconditional right to good health, to social welfare, to an independent and dignified life free from want.

We are committed to:

- the establishment of a guaranteed minimum income for unemployed and precariously employed people in order to fight social exclusion and the precariousness of life. This allowance, which is personal and provided as long as the conditions of need remain, is intended to keep people above the threshold of relative poverty;
- guaranteeing basic levels of social assistance provided by the national health system and a homogeneity of service throughout the country;
- eliminating prescription charges;
- cutting waiting times significantly and reforming the rules governing the *intra-moenia* system;
- job creation in public health and social welfare services and the elimination of precarious employment in these sectors, putting a stop to the high turn-over of workers;
- the exclusion of the private sector from public healthcare;
- investment to improve existing health services and to end the downsizing or closing of hospitals, and to develop a capillary network of local health services and social assistance;
- the creation of a national plan for people who cannot live self-sufficiently, focused on integrated home care;
- effectively combatting the exclusion of disabled people and vulnerable individuals from schools, employment, and social spaces, to ensure the right of all to a full life, abolishing the recent measures passed by government that have created significant obstacles to this.

10. The right to housing, the right to the city and freedom of mobility

In a country hit by lasting economic crisis, where business is always on the look-out for opportunities to get their hands on public money and to further exploit their workers, yet still are not satisfied with their earnings, homes, cities and fundamental public services become more and more appealing in the race to profit.

Despite the high number of home-owners, amongst the highest in Europe, more and more people are becoming homeless, or forcedly evicted, or have no choice but to pay unregulated rents or illegally occupy, putting themselves in an unsafe and illegal situation due to desperate need.

Cities are less and less tailored on people's needs, public services have suffered drastic cuts (especially public transport), leading to worse and worse quality services such as rubbish collection and public hygiene, and increasingly higher utility costs.

Historical city centres have been converted into tourist theme parks, with the less well off forced to move-out due to rising rents, or even literally excluded through the use of anti-social behaviour orders. The suburbs, on the other hand, have been transformed into ghettos, with no basic services, often abandoned to urban decline and targeted by organised crime.

Basic public services have become the new hunting ground for private profit: water, electricity and gas get more and more expensive and less and less guaranteed, whereas mobility and public transportation are shaped not by people's interests but by the big business's hunger for profit.

We believe everyone has the right to a safe and decent home, to a liveable urban environment, and to public and sustainable transport.

We are committed to:

- an emergency plan to deliver 1.000.000 council homes in 10 years, prioritising the re-use of existent building stock;
- the introduction of a progressive taxation on vacant buildings, the abolition of the flat-rate income tax on letting out a house or flat, and the granting to mayors of the power to requisition vacant buildings in case of a housing emergency;
- introducing rent controls that tie rents to property value;
- repealing article 5 of the Lupi law, which denies illegal occupants the right to access water, electricity and gas networks;
- implementing caps on tariffs for basic public services, securing access for all, including the least well-off;
- a moratorium on non-payment of debts where non-payment was through no fault of the person owing;
- a plan for a renewal of the suburbs, currently home to 14 million people;
- a public transportation system enhanced and accessible to all, which effectively combats privatisation and re-affirms the public nature of services and businesses, paying special attention to commuters' needs and to local transport.

11. Immigration and refugee reception

The main political parties are nurturing xenophobic and racist inclinations, singling out migrants as the principal reason of social distress: this is utterly false.

The real reason for the impoverishment of the many is the concentration of power and wealth in the hands of a few.

We need a politics that fosters solidarity and unity among the exploited in order to extend social rights to everybody, Italian citizens as well as migrants.

We need to provide hospitality and rights both to those seeking asylum since 2011 as well as to all migrant citizens who have been residing in Italy for many years.

We are committed to:

- overcoming the management of migrant hospitality as an militarized emergency; taking the SPRAR system as a model, we propose small, publicly run centres which would enable newly arrived migrants, regardless of their juridical status, to pass autonomously through a system which would include solutions for social integration, housing, and employment;

- proper recognition and dignified working conditions for professionals working in asylum support;
- repealing the Dublin III Regulation, the Minniti-Orlando bill, and all previous racist legislation;
- repealing all bilateral treaties that allow compulsory repatriation and the externalization of the frontier;
- initiating legal and protected entry corridors into the EU;
- repealing the Bossi-Fini immigration bill, derived from the Turco-Napolitano bill, which makes residency conditional on employment;
- terminating all forms of administrative detention; entrusting local authorities with the jurisdiction to issue and renew immigration documents; introducing systems for permanent residency;
- approving the Jus Soli bill, extending it to all persons who grew up in Italy; revising citizenship legislation; introducing the right to vote for all persons residing permanently in Italy.

12. The fight for self-determination and against violence and discrimination against women and LGBTQI people.

In the Gender Gap Report 2017, Italy stands in 82nd place in a list of 144 countries, while it was at the 50th in 2015. Inequalities between men and women are increasing. The double burden of productive and reproductive work is still a burden borne predominantly by women, while material and symbolic violence obstructs the paths towards self-determination and freedom.

The economic crisis has exacerbated these problems. Italy is second to last in Europe for female employment rates. Women in Italy are disproportionately affected by involuntary part-time work, job insecurity and underemployment. The cuts to the welfare system, in a society that is incapable of questioning the traditional division of labour between men and women, result in women being denied the right to free time; women spend on average over 5 hours a day on housework and care, three times more than men. Violence against women is commonplace, with incident rates of domestic violence at alarming levels, sign of a masculinity unable to cope with the assertion of autonomy and freedom of women. The issue of gender is furthermore inextricably linked with that of class, and it particularly affects the bodies of migrant women.

The discrimination in workplaces and in society in general gravely affects gay people, lesbians, trans people and the whole LGBTQI community, which faces prejudice, hate, homophobia, transphobia, and violence on a daily basis. The failure to fully recognise the relationships and families of LGBTQI people means that their lives are limited to those of individual and isolated beings. It also reifies an authoritative concept of family that puts everyone's freedom in danger.

A worldwide feminist movement has been created to oppose to the systemic violence: "*Non una di meno*" is the political force forging a path for emancipation from the dominion of class, gender, race and sexual orientation. This feminist struggle, born in Argentina, has seen hundreds of thousands of women take to the streets against every form of violence. The women's strike, from reproductive and productive labour, on International Women's Day 2017, shed light on the many forms of invisible exploitation that are part of housework and care work, and that result from the demand for constant availability and performance. In Italy, the feminist movement, continues to grow in strength and capacity.

We are committed to:

- equal rights, wages and access to the job market at all levels and for all jobs, regardless of one's gender identity or sexual orientation;
- a radical questioning of the male and female roles in social reproduction and the creation of a welfare system that gives everyone the equal right to free time;
- breaking the mono-sexual character of public spaces and politics;
- solutions to combat every form of violence (physical but also social, cultural, normative) and discrimination of women and LGBTQI people, by means of laws against homo-transphobia;
- creating an education system able to provide instruments to dismantle sexism and to educate on of the variety of differences;
- full and real freedom of choice in everything that concerns our lives and bodies, full right to sexual and reproductive healthcare, currently denied by many public institutions because doctors are able to claim conscious objection; access to fertility treatments, including sperm donation, for everyone regardless of family status; combatting HIV through the promotion of contraception, making the new prevention techniques available for everyone;
- a ban on genital mutilation on intersexual children before they can understand and develop their gender identity;
- the abolishing of all 'security packets' policies: women's safety lies in their own self-determination;
- full protection of the rights and ambitions of gay, lesbians and trans people, both as individuals and as couples, with the introduction of the egalitarian marriage, the full recognition of single parenting to protect parents, children and families and the redefinition of the adoption criteria to allow adoption to single and homosexual people and to recognise the right of everyone to be a parent.

13. The Environment

Protection of the environment is an issue that is central to social struggles across the country. It is amplified by a predatory capitalist model that is constantly provoking cracks in the relationships between the humankind and the natural world, accumulating more and more problems for future generations and the planet to bear.

The destruction of the environment is a class issue and its consequences are suffered far more by the oppressed and excluded than by the rich and privileged part. An entire continent, Africa, is dealing with not only wars, but also with droughts, desertification, pollution, whilst in the countries of the "first world" we continue to waste resources. The dominant part of the world can no longer control the damage it has caused and pollution, climate change, water crisis and forest fires are spreading to the heart of the system making a radical change in the productive system ever more imperative.

In our country we have been fighting against the destruction of land in the name of the profit for many years. We have fought against, e.g. the large-scale development works like the TAV (High Speed Train line), the TAP (Gas duct), the oil drills, the wind farms, land contamination and soil consumption. No "Green Economy" is credible if it does question the logic of profit. There is a need for democratic planning on a national and international scale that puts the defence of the environment and the remediation of the damages caused by the bad use of resources at the centre.

Even in this field the homogenization between the centre-right and centre-left policies has led to the approval of a series of "reforms" that have overturned previous conquest. We demand their immediate abolition: from the "Unblock Italy" programme to the Madia Reform that abolished the Department for

National Heritage Protection, from the devaluation of the environmental impact assessment process to the attack on our national parks, etc.

We are committed to:

- a secure and preventive protection of our land, the defence of the environment and of the commons, of our historical and architectural heritage. We are calling for a process of designing, planning and managing that is democratic and transparent and that function in the collective interest, in contrast to the environmental emergency business and the so-called “green economy” model;
- the immediate stop of the major development works, starting with the TAV in Val di Susa, the TAP in Salento, the MOSE in Veneto and the unrestricted wind farming. The money allocated for these projects must be redirected towards a large energy plan to improve protections against hydrogeological and seismic catastrophe;
- a new energy policy based on an accurate calculation of need and which radically redesigns the National Energetic Strategy. We welcome the demands of the NO TRIV movement campaigning against drilling for oil and gas in the Mediterranean and the NO EOLICO SELVAGGIO organisation that campaigns against windfarms, together with the demand for greater democracy against a centralised energy system controlled by multinational companies’ interests;
- the suspension of all new fossil fuels extraction projects and stop of all non-conventional extraction projects, the abolition of the state subsidies to fossil fuels or environmentally damaging sources (16 billion per year). This money will be redirected towards job creation in the energetic efficiency sector, in renewable energies, in research and in technological innovation;
- a ten-year program to plan for the complete exit from the use of coal for energy production, use of biomass only where derived from waste, a new plan for wind farming that takes criteria for safeguarding the natural environment into account, a stop to all major energy infrastructure projects such as the TAP and Poseidon;
- a new law to combat soil consumption, which would force local administrations to localise soil protection projects in those areas that have already been urbanized and not in “virgin” territories. The new legislation for urban areas should put an end to the deregulation that has favoured private interests, it should increase public assets (green areas, services, non-polluting transport systems), it should stop the process of concreting over our coastline and help the environmental recovery of our beaches (75.4% of Italy’s coastline has been built up to within 200 m. of the shoreline);
- a national plan to reclaim the many areas contaminated by waste pollution based on the principle of “polluters must pay” and on the constant monitoring and safeguarding of the health of the affected population;
- an investment plan for a sustainable mobility and public transport system (from the national rail system to local urban transports) based on the needs of the working-class and on respect for the environment; a plan that will overcome the dominance of road transport systems, strengthening the traffic of goods via rail and sea;
- a radical increase in the cyclability of our cities, with a policy of large public investment in this field;
- a stop to the entry of cruise ships into the Venice Lagoon, with full support to the alternative proposed by the “NO Big Ships” committee;
- a new waste management policy that will favour production/design of goods made or recycled materials and disincentivise non-recyclable and disposable products;
- a waste management system that is fully state-run, from the industrial plants responsible for recycling to the waste disposal systems, combatting waste incineration through the elimination of state subsidies, a boost in investments for separated collection, the re-use and recycling of

materials and reduction of waste, to fulfil the strategy elaborated by the “ZERO WASTE” movement;

- the re-nationalization of water, and in general of the services of public interest, starting with the refusal of private management models like Ltd., respecting the popular will expressed in the 2011 Referendum.

14. Revisiting the Southern question: geographical inequality

The economic crisis particularly affects the most disadvantaged areas of the country; the South and the Islands.

Unemployment rates in the South and the Islands are almost double the national level with youth unemployment in particular above 50%, despite the high levels of education and training.

Wages are on average lower and employment is more insecure despite the significant rise in living costs in recent years, especially in metropolitan areas.

The disinvestment of the state from strategic sectors - when it did not coincide with wholesale privatisation, as in the case of the ILVA steelworks - transformed enormous portions of territory, such as Bagnoli outside Napoli, into industrial cemeteries. These areas are prey to speculative interests, they have no prospect of development and are affected by high levels of environmental pollution.

Environmental pollution is common across Southern Italy, from Bagnoli to the area surrounding the ILVA plant, from the mega-landfill in Terzigno, to the river Sarno (in the Campania Region) and the Priolo refinery (Sicily); when territories are not polluted by industrial waste or landfills, they are occupied by wind turbines, waste-to-energy production plants, or become the territory of choice for the storage of nuclear waste, or for enlargement and construction of new military bases.

The national health system in the South functions well below the national average, and economic resources for education and training are decreasing.

In this context it is understandable the significant rise in internal emigration from South to North - sometimes involuntary as in the case of teachers – as well as emigration to foreign countries, where Southerners and Islanders are over-represented in population of Italians that leave and do not return.

As such, we believe that the southern question must once again be a central issue at national and European level.

The above-described trend must be reversed: the South and the Islands should no longer be seen as a problem but as a great opportunity for the country. thus releasing its positive energy.

We are committed to:

- a policy of public investments in productive sectors aimed at the development of the most disadvantaged territories, thus counteracting the current unacceptable situation of trading jobs with health and environmental protection, and because the Southern youth have the full right to study and work in their own homeland;
- national health system performances and population health levels comparable to those in the rest of the country;

- a significantly improved infrastructure system and public transport network;
- a strong investment in education and training for the Southern regions.
- the end of policies considering the South as a huge waste dump, or a mega power plant for the rest of the country;
- the protection of land from speculation, of local entrepreneurs and large multinationals;
- the promotion of an alternative economy model, which, alongside a productive industry, enhances the beauty, history, technological potential and culture of the Southern cities which have always been places of peace, a crossroads of peoples and cultures.

15. Justice

The demand for new laws that are more attentive to the needs of the economically weaker sections of society would be useless without a judicial system that can guarantee that this legislation is enforced effectively and quickly.

Justice is a common good. For this reason, we need to reaffirm the essential role of the public administration of justice as a defensive barrier, which helps to protect our rights, and reject any form of privatisation.

Thousands of people, in recent years, have been subject to criminal proceedings or police measures because they were fighting for the right to housing, work, health, study and environmental protection. In practice, as a result of corruption and of a biased portion of the press, "legality" has struck those who fought for social justice. Instead of offering political recognition of these claims, the Italian government and the judiciary system itself responded in a merely repressive manner: those who fight are tried and arrested, those who are in need or even those whose behaviour is unjustly considered deviant or dangerous, are repressed and condemned.

The obvious consequence is that prisons, as shown by statistics, are overcrowded with migrants, with the homeless and with people affected by mental disorders or by substance addiction.

Conversely, when the underprivileged demand justice, it is never granted, because of the substantial classism of our legal system. Access to administrative courts is also very expensive – not only private citizens, but also small municipalities often fail to assert their rights against stronger administrations or, worse, against private individuals with greater economic resources (e.g. a powerful corporation forcing the Trans Adriatic Pipeline project upon the dissenting local administrations in Salento).

Moreover, the cost of ordinary justice has increased due to ever-increasing court and bureaucracy fees. In addition to this, citizens are forced, in many cases to accept extrajudicial agreements relying on paid mediators or arbitrators. The hidden goal of this system is to discourage the working classes to seek justice. Hate campaigns against those who are perceived as different or deviant are carried out by some local governments and have resulted in an increase in the purchase of weapons amongst the general public. Firearms licences have thus tripled in the past ten years, reaching alarming figures – to this date, fifteen people out of a hundred own a gun or a rifle in Italy.

We are committed to:

- an amnesty for crimes related to social, trade union and environmental issues;

- the decriminalization of crimes inherited from the fascist-era Rocco Code and from the new special laws;
- the reform of certain sanctions and procedural rules (deportation order, special surveillance, oral notices);
- the repeal of the rules that have increased the power of the mayors in matters of urban safety and decorum (i.e. the so-called Urban Daspo, part of the Minniti law);
- the repeal of the state of exception laws that date back to the 70s and 80s (the Reale law);
- the legalization of class B drugs and decriminalization of substance use;
- combatting the widespread corruption and money laundering that results from organised crime, toughening penalties on these crimes and extending the limitation period for reporting money laundering and self-laundering;
- anti-mafia education, requiring local councils to comply with the duty of informing the citizens about confiscated goods, and facilitating local administration's ability to make social use of them;
- the demilitarization of the Financial Guard and its transformation into police specialising in the tackling of corruption, tax evasion and elusion;
- the introduction of identification codes for police officers on public order duties;
- the modification of the inadequate law for the crime of torture, approved by the parliament on July 2017;
- combatting the free availability of weapons;
- the abolition of the life sentence, both conditional and without parole. Life sentences are incompatible with the educational purpose of punishment, as stated in article 27 of the Italian Constitution;
- the abolition of the regime of solitary confinement known as '41 bis', identified by the UN and other international institutions as a form of torture, to be replaced with alternative control measures for mafia-related crimes that should be effective whilst also humane, in preventing contact with the outside;
- an amnesty to deal with prison over-crowding;
- a reform of sentencing and prison regulations, focusing especially on a wider use of alternative measures and of rehabilitation programmes for people with convictions;
- cutting the costs of accessing justice, in order to allow low income citizens and classes to have their rights protected.