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„Entrepreneurs d'une Europe de Demain “



Dibattito parlamentare europeo

How to solve the problem of illegal immigration?

Mrs. **Maria Gagliano**: THE PRESIDENT: Every year thousands of immigrants land on Italian shores in search of a better life, fleeing from wars and misery. Political parties are called upon to give answers on an issue that could become crucial to the future of our country: i.e. (that is) migration influx.

Therefore we invite the members of Parliament to express their opinions. We give the floor to Mr. **Richiard Aiello** of the Democratic Party.

Hon. **Richard Aiello**: "Ladies and gentlemen having to face the emergency in progress I want to recall that our education policy is one that until now has perhaps demonstrated the greatest attention to the question. Our President Matteo Renzi dedicated one point of his program to "diversity as enrichment." According to our party the "Europe of integration and solidarity, must pass first through a "true joint management" of European external borders. According to our intentions the current European operation called Triton, which disclosed with little success Mare Nostrum, should become a European Corps of border guards, able to assist Italy in emergency management. The recent tragic events in Tunis, in Paris and London show how the cooperation with the Maghreb countries is still very crucial. The Democratic Party is called for such cooperation both in terms of security and countering terrorism, both as regards the fight against illegal immigration and border control. So the European Union should handle "directly and better people's mobility policies, setting principles and common conditions for entry of immigrants for work, study and research reasons, assuring human rights for migrants". Finally we propose "extending the access to citizenship for children born in Europe from foreign parents or for long term residents", that is, in other words, a European *ius soli*.

The President: Mr **Vincent Palmeri** of the **North League Party** , the floor is yours

Mr. Vincent Palmeri: Dear colleagues we strongly disagree with Mr. Aiello. The Northern League has always maintained that the "European solidarity" on the issue of migration flows is nothing but "a big lie to gullible". "We believe that the future in immigration management will exist if there is a closer cooperation between police forces and units involved in preventing illegal immigration in the Member States that are at the forefront and that are the most affected by this problem, but without the interference of Brussels ". In our opinion, the necessity of autonomy of individual States is indisputable in the legislation on extra-community immigration. It is absolutely necessary that there be the creation of a constant control of terrestrial and maritime borders, even with pushback actions to prevent security problems arising. How can you place in the foreground the rights of migrants by granting them free access to our territories and by preparing a whole range of social and economic guarantees for them? Maybe are you forgetting that terrorists or criminals such as those who have shed blood, terror and death in recent weeks in Paris and Belgium could hide among immigrants? No gentlemen, we must prevent other events like Charlie Hebdo and other Bataclan deaths. "The only method that guarantees results, "is that one of" bilateral agreements with third party countries from which the major flows of irregular migrants originate ".

President: thank you. Mr. Palmeri, we give the floor to Mrs. **Arlene Rizzo** of the **Democratic Party**.

Mrs Arlene Rizzo: thank you Mr. President. The issue of terrorism is certainly a current and worrying problem, but we must not forget that not all immigrants are criminals and terrorists. It would be enough to think that in the past after the Second World War Italian people were immigrants too and that many of our ancestors have gone looking for work in Australia, Germany, Belgium ... and once there they were viewed with suspicion and yet not all of them were delinquents and at the end we were welcomed and helped. Now it is our obligation and moral duty to save lives and fulfill the dreams and hopes of each migrant. And this is not us saying it or have we to remember the occasion of the refusal of African refugees at sea by the then Interior Minister Maroni (Berlusconi IV Cabinet); the actions of Italy were condemned in 2012 by the European Court of human rights in Strasbourg. Facing unrelenting landings, which could, it is true, now hide the danger of terrorist infiltration, the Governments of various countries rather than repel migrants should work together with Europe to minimize risks and at the same time not betray their duty to welcome as the Constitution prescribes.

President: I give the floor to Mrs. **Noemi Favuzza** of the party **Brothers of Italy**.

Mrs. Noemi Favuzza : Honourable Members of the Parliament across the burning question of immigrants I think it must not be neglected to examine some statistics to have a real view of the scale of the problem that particularly affects our country: Italy. The foreign population in Italy currently represents 8.1% of the total population and is constantly growing: in 2014 there were 64,600 migrants searching asylum; they were pleading for work or family accommodation but many of the immigrants were illegal migrants. It would not be productive to accommodate all migrants who continue to arrive in ascending order because according to the existing economic crisis they steal jobs from the Italian population and so they would alter the balance in the labour market. Migrants drain the resources of social protection in a country like ours that has already so many problems.

Mr. Alberto Accurso: Mr President I ask for the floor..

President: Please, let's give the floor to Mr. **Alberto Accurso** of the **Democratic Party**.

Mr. Alberto Accurso: Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen, we do not believe it is possible to support the thesis that migrants steal jobs and that they drain resources from social security or welfare because migrants hold those jobs that our countrymen in fact refuse and consider as degrading and prefer to starve to death rather than to practise them. The poor migrants instead have no qualms and just to survive they also do the most tiring jobs with humility. We daily observe cases of exploitation of migrants almost in conditions closely annexed to slavery conditions, not to mention the trafficking of young women induced by starting with promises of jobs and then forced into prostitution. In our society where birth rates will lower and where there is no economic safety as far as the future of upcoming retirees is concerned, thanks to their children who are born in Italy, immigrants are the only to ensure population growth and retirement pay for the Italians at the end of their working life. Immigrants are men and women who pay their taxes and for whom we must rather worry to enhance their skills because migration is a resource to promote and increase the country's GDP (GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT).

President: I give the floor to Mr. **Marco Orlando** of the **Party Brothers of Italy**.

Mr. Marco Orlando: Dear colleagues I want to focus on the difficulty of managing the controls regarding the payment of taxes and then instead reaffirm the need of an urgent action on the security situation right now. The threat of ISIS cannot overshadow our actions. We must aim for a "European cooperation to combat wild immigration". We invoke "binding mechanisms for the redistribution of asylum-seekers and refugees among European Union States" and "the review of the Dublin Regulation". For this reason we have proposed the introduction of the clause of the "most exposed nation": "Since we are a nation of frontier we have always supported and we support that Italy automatically applies the most restrictive legislation between those ones in force in the European Union. However in doing so we don't make this request only relatively non-European immigration. In fact we asked for

"the full application of the directive 38/2004, which provides for the expulsion of EU immigrants who are not be able to prove that they have a regular employment contract and legal resources sufficient for their livelihood within three months of their arrival in a Member State ".

President: Mr **Giuseppe Canale** of the **Democratic Party** the floor is yours please.

Mr. Giuseppe Canale: thank you Mr. President. We agree on the need for European cooperation to solve problems related to immigration but certainly not to repel refugees and asylum seekers. We believe instead that it is necessary to activate diplomatic interventions of various States to act on the political-social situation of the countries of origin of migrants in order to allow them a decent living within their own States. Let's remember that if many migrants sometimes commit criminal acts, the blame is often due to our own fellow citizens, as we often observe the exploitation of migrants by our organized crime, so it's rather on the latter that we should intervene. Let's be clear, colleagues and members of the Parliament, the opposition to immigration creates forms of racism that meanders among us. The sentiment of nationalism prevails rather than the feeling of cultural integration. Rather, we must be concerned with migrant children's education, we have a duty to accommodate people in need through a program, yes of migratory flows, but always give shelter especially when war, famine and human rights violations are included among its causes.

President: thank you Mr. Canale, we give the floor to Mrs. **Ilenia Rizzo of the New Centre-Right Party** who has requested it.

Mrs. Ilenia Rizzo: Mr. President, honourable members of the Parliament we can summarize the position of our party in the slogan "Less illegals, more security". We demand that the Mediterranean becomes the common border in Europe, with more resources from the Union to address the emergency. For this reason our party also proposes the establishment of an operational base of Frontex in Italy and the obligatory relocation of applicants claiming for asylum in all the Member States. Our shelters are overflowing and our Government supports large expenses for the maintenance of these centers and its guests, the tourism sector of towns that before were much visited for holidays, such as Lampedusa and the coasts of Sicily, is undergoing severe blows and the locals no longer feel safe. Most of the immigrants who arrive on our shores are actually not intending to stay but they consider Sicily and Italy as a bridge for destinations scattered across Europe for family reunions and for the prospect of more stable economic situations. Europe cannot pretend not to see, you can't close the borders, you must allow them to pass across them otherwise Italy will become a powder keg ready to explode and the consequences will be resented by all European countries.