



Report Summer School

“SENTINELS OF HUMAN RIGHTS”

Allumiere, 14-20 July 2025

SCUDI-School of Human Rights: strategic
litigation for the protection of migrants' rights



Project funded by the European Union's Citizens,
Equality, Rights and Values Programme

INTRO

From 14 to 20 July 2025, the 'Summer School for Human Rights Activists' was held in Allumiere (RM), at the Roma Tre La Faggeta University Residential Study and Research Centre.

The initiative was organised as part of the project 'SCUDI - SCUola di Diritti umani: il contenzioso strategico per la tutela dei diritti dei migranti' (School of Human Rights: strategic litigation for the protection of migrants' rights), launched jointly in March 2024 by Cittadinanzattiva and CILD and funded by the European Commission through the CERV programme. The project aims to strengthen the protection of migrants' rights in Italy through strategic litigation, combating discriminatory policies and promoting the use of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights.

An intensive one-week training experience for **20 young volunteers and human rights activists**, in a collective context of discussion and active participation: a fundamental step in the SCUDI project, which gave rise to the **'Sentinels human rights' Network**, a group of young people working in the field, with the aim of supporting the development of their skills to **act strategically, challenge, transform**, creating a network of protection to overcome the fragmentation of initiatives, share resources and information, and build a common front for action.

The days were organised and coordinated by Cittadinanzattiva, in collaboration with CILD and the Cittadinanzattiva Civic School of Higher Education.



TEAM



Laura Liberto, National Coordinator of Justice for Rights at Cittadinanzattiva



Valentina Ceccarelli, SCUDI Project Manager, Justice for Rights at Cittadinanzattiva



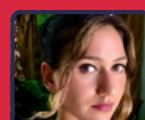
Martina Lalli, Justice for Rights at Cittadinanzattiva



Valentina Muglia, Program Officer CILD



Daniela Mondatore, Director of SCAF Cittadinanzattiva



Chara Tommasini, Project Manager SCAF Cittadinanzattiva

THE WORKSHOP PROCESS

DISCUSSION, DIALOGUE AND SHARING

The Summer School was designed as a place of training and transformation, where learning became action and sharing became network building.

During the week, **classroom-based and interactive training activities** were held, thanks to the participation of speakers and teachers who are experts in SCUDI's areas of expertise and intervention. These included practical workshops, case study analyses, opportunities for discussion and team building, as well as book presentations with the author, documentary screenings, testimonials and educational outings, **creating a space for learning and mutual sharing.**

 Summer School 14 -20 luglio 2025 Centro Residenziale Studi e Ricerche Università Roma Tre "La Faggeta" - Allumiere (RM)							
Ore	Lunedì 14	Martedì 15	Mercoledì 16	Giovedì 17	Venerdì 18	Sabato 19	Domenica 20
9.00			Colazione e sistemazione degli spazi				
10.00 - 12.00	Arrivo e accoglienza	"Diritto di Cittadinanza" Activist Lab Avv. Gennaro Santoro Avv. Federica Remiddi	"Asilo e protezione internazionale" Luoghi di primo arrivo, procedure e accoglienza Rachele Giorgi - Sea Watch Marta Pilotto - CIR	"Asilo e protezione internazionale" Activist Lab Vanessa Donaggio, Psicologa	"Detenzione amministrativa" Focus monitoraggio CPR Valentina Muglia-CILD Avv. Bianca Maurizi	"Accesso alla giustizia, diritto di difesa e detenzione in carcere" Activist Lab Avv. Paolo Oddi	Costruzione del Network
12.00 - 13.30							
13.30 - 16.00			Pranzo e tempo libero				
16.00 - 18.00	Saluti da Cittadinanzattiva, CILD e Commissione Europea	Case Studies Avv. Gennaro Santoro Avv. Federica Remiddi	Case Studies Marta Pilotto - CIR	Case Studies: Focus stranieri in carcere Rachele Stroppa - Antigone	Case studies Valentina Muglia-CILD Avv. Bianca Maurizi	Focus prospettiva di genere Escursione guidata al Faggeto di Allumiere	Partenze e saluti
18.00 - 20.00	Conosciamoci: presentazione dei partecipanti e delle attività	Voci R-esistenti Marianneheinfurzen	Aperitivo Voci R-esistenti Don Mattia Ferrari - Medterranee				
20.00 - 21.30			Cena				
21.30 - 23.00	Tempo libero	Presentazione libro "Bisconfinare" Stefano Gallani	Tempo libero	Tempo libero	Proiezione documentario "La prodigiosa trasformazione della chiesa operaia in abitazioni"	Cena finale	



AREAS OF STUDY AND IN-DEPTH ANALYSIS

RIGHT TO
CITIZENSHIP

1

2

ASYLUM AND
INTERNATIONAL
PROTECTION

ADMINISTRATIVE
DETENTION AND CPR

3

4

ACCESS TO JUSTICE,
RIGHT TO DEFENCE AND
IMPRISONMENT

GENDER DISCRIMINATION
AND THE
VULNERABILITY OF
MIGRANT WOMEN

5

DAY 1

GETTING TO KNOW EACH OTHER. WHO WE ARE AND OUR EXPERIENCES IN THE NETWORK

THE START OF ACTIVITIES

The first day began with institutional greetings from the European Commission Project Officer, Serena Ianniello, and the Secretary General of Cittadinanzattiva, Anna Lisa Mandorino.

After the presentation of the organisations, the day focused on introducing the programme and activities to the participants and getting to know each other.



WHY BECOME A “SENTINEL OF HUMAN RIGHTS”?

It is a commitment of great responsibility and ethical depth, a role that requires empathy, courage and determination in denouncing injustice, promoting equality and working to ensure that every individual, regardless of their origin or condition, has access to fundamental rights.



Taking an active role in the social fabric



Deep awareness of the challenges and injustices that migrants face on a daily basis



Ability to act for change

In strategic litigation, **activists are co-protagonists**.

They do not replace lawyers or limit themselves to a supporting role.

Instead, they are crucial actors in giving shape, substance and social impact to action that aims not only to resolve a single case, but to transform the power structures and regulatory systems that generate inequality and discrimination. Their action integrates law, human proximity, political awareness and a **collective vision of change**.

DAY 2

RIGHT TO CITIZENSHIP

The process of obtaining Italian citizenship is marked by profound bureaucratic and legal difficulties, which make the path slow and uncertain. Bureaucracy becomes a labyrinth, with unpredictable timelines, rigid requirements and inconsistent practices.

In this context, it is essential to act proactively to guarantee rights, countering inertia and irregularities in the administration, playing a central role: they become a **voice, a bridge and a driver of change**, making injustices visible, raising public awareness, putting pressure on institutions and offering concrete support to those trapped in the complexities of the system.



LECTURERS:



GENNARO SANTORO

Lawyer, legal advisor,
expert in human rights,
ASGI Association



FEDERICA REMIDDI

Lawyer, legal advisor,
expert in immigration law,
international protection,
anti-discrimination law and
family law



R-ESISTENT VOICES

The R-esistenti voices that accompanied the Summer School stem from the direct experience of those who experience, defend and claim human rights in the most complex contexts. They are not just stories, but actions and contributions that intertwine experience and critical reflection.

CITIZENSHIP, DIGITAL COMMUNICATION AND GENDER DISCRIMINATION



MARIANNA KALONDA OKASSAKA

MARIANNA THE INFLUENZA,
Social media manager, second-
generation Italian.



THE VOICES AND STORIES OF MIGRANT WOMEN WHO HAVE DECIDED, HOWEVER AND WHEREVER, TO BE FREE



STEFANO GALIENI

Anti-racism activist, journalist,
president of ADIF

Presentation of the book "RiSconfinate" at the
Council Chamber of the Municipality of
Allumiere

DAY 3

RIGHT TO ASYLUM AND INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION. FIRST POINTS OF ARRIVAL, PROCEDURES AND RECEPTION

LECTURERS:



RACHELE GIORGI

Advocacy & Legal Officer
SEA-WATCH e.V. - ITALY



MARTA PILOTTO

CIR - Italian Council for
Refugees

The right to asylum and international protection are essential pillars of European and Italian law, but the reality of places of first arrival reveals a system that often betrays these principles.

In ports, hotspots and border identification centres, summary procedures, lack of transparency and inadequate conditions expose migrants to **real risks of violation of their fundamental rights**, and the reception system appears uneven. In these fragile contexts, activists play a crucial role: **they become the first line of defence for rights, filling institutional gaps at the most vulnerable moments of arrival**, offering a listening ear, mediation, and human and material support.

Their constant presence allows them **to shed light on what often remains invisible**, documenting abuses, illegal rejections and degrading conditions, collecting testimonies that become tools for reporting and public pressure, also for the purposes of strategic actions aimed at protecting rights.

"We can all be sentinels, listening for the echo of the tree falling in the forest, hearing its sound and taking action."



DAY 4

THE IMPORTANCE AND MANAGEMENT OF RELATIONSHIPS IN SITUATIONS OF VULNERABILITY

LECTURERS:

**VANESSA DONAGGIO**

Psychologist and
Psychotherapist, EMDR
Practitioner

The places of first arrival take on a crucial relational significance: they are places where migrants arrive in conditions of extreme vulnerability, often marked by trauma and dangerous journeys.

Here, **the quality of relationships** — listening, recognition, trust — can determine the very possibility **of starting a process of protection and reconstruction.**

The contribution of activists is therefore essential to compensate for the shortcomings of institutional systems and to play a supervisory and monitoring role, reporting abuses, degrading conditions or illegal rejections. Through the relationships built with new arrivals, they collect testimonies and travel stories that become tools for protection, visibility and political pressure.



FOCUS ON FOREIGNERS IN PRISON

LECTURERS:



RACHELE STROPPIA

Antigone Association

The condition of foreigners in prison is marked by structural vulnerability: language barriers, limited access to legal information, opaque administrative procedures and frequent discontinuity in rehabilitation programmes.

Imprisonment often overlaps with previous experiences of marginalisation or migration trauma, **amplifying the risk of isolation and the suppression of fundamental rights**. In this context, strategic litigation is an essential tool for activists: **it allows individual cases** — often emblematic of systemic discrimination, lack of procedural protection or inadequate prison conditions — **to be transformed** into levers for regulatory and jurisprudential change.



DAY 5

ADMINISTRATIVE DETENTION AND CPR

LECTURERS:



ARTURO SALERNI

Lawyer, Progetto Diritti
onlus Association



VALENTINA MUGLIA

Program Officer CILD



BIANCA MAURIZI

Head of Administrative
Detention, APS Attiva
Diritti

Administrative detention in CPRs deprives people who have not committed any crime of their liberty, transforming a theoretically non-punitive measure into a practice that raises serious questions about its compatibility with human dignity and fundamental rights.

In this scenario, **strategic litigation becomes a decisive tool**: it allows for challenging prolonged and unjustified detentions, denouncing inhuman and degrading treatment, and pushing jurisprudence towards higher standards of protection in order to change a system that often operates at the limits of legality. Alongside this legal work, activists play **an irreplaceable role**. In CPRs, they represent **the missing eyes and voice**, documenting abuse, violence and unlawful detention, becoming an essential bridge between detainees and the outside world.



MOVIE SCREENING

"The prodigious transformation of the working class into foreigners"

by director Samir

At the time, people spoke of the working class: a collective identity, united in solidarity, with a vision for social change. Today, in everyday language, that definition seems to have disappeared, replaced by a new label: **"foreigners"**, fragmented and marginalized figures, often deprived of rights.

The documentary film explores significant themes such as **xenophobia, the dignity of work, and the search for identity** in a context of change. It invites us to reflect on the paradox of an Italy transformed from a land of emigration to a country of immigration, but still unable to recognize its own history in the new arrivals.

DISCUSSION ON THE DOCUMENTARY FILM WITH



GIANFILIPPO PEDOTE

Italian film producer



DAY 6

ACCESS TO JUSTICE, RIGHT TO DEFENCE AND IMPRISONMENT

LECTURERS:

**PAOLO ODDI**

Lawyer, trainer and consultant in immigration law and criminal law

The right to defence for migrants appears fragile and fragmented today, because it develops in a hybrid system in which criminal and administrative rules are intertwined without guaranteeing equivalent protections.

Guarantees are reduced, often only formal, while language barriers, tight deadlines and poor information make defence a right that is difficult to exercise. In this scenario, the role of activists emerges strongly: they become mediators, guarantors and guardians of rights, **capable of filling procedural gaps and transforming abstract protection into a real right.**



FOCUS ON GENDER PERSPECTIVE AND INTERSECTIONALITY

Workshop dedicated to analysing the theme of intersectionality: **when gender inequalities intersect with other forms of discrimination**, in order to understand possible areas for integration and strengthening of the gender perspective to obtain concrete suggestions for improving the future approach and strengthening the inclusion of these perspectives.



MAYA BATTISTI

Project Coordinator SCUDI,
Project Designer Cittadinanzattiva



THE EXCURSION TO THE ALLUMIERE BEECH FOREST

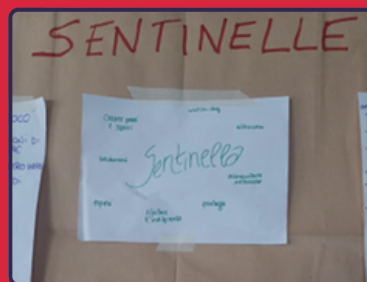


RANIERO MAGGINI

Head of Environment and
Territory Cittadinanzattiva

BUILDING THE NETWORK OF HUMAN RIGHTS SENTINELS

A protection network that works to defend the human rights of migrants; an organisational and strategic model with great potential, which creates synergies between young people from different local areas by bringing together complementary skills.



Addressing the multiple challenges related to violations of fundamental rights, overcoming the isolation of individual actors and creating **a coordinated and impactful system of intervention, contributing to structural and lasting change.**



DELIVERY OF PARTICIPATION CERTIFICATES



THE VOICE OF THE PROTAGONISTS

THE STORIES OF SENTINELS

THE STORIES OF TEACHERS

SCUDI

Produced by



Project funded by the European Union's Citizens,
Equality, Rights and Values Programme