

Appendices

Research partners

Andrea - 18 years old

She is in Italy less than a year. She spent 4-5 months in Libya. She has very bad memories of her stay there. She is the youngest of 7 siblings. Her sister has been in Europe for several years. She married, had a child and got divorced. At first, she was in Spain and now she is in Germany. At first she worked as a cleaning woman in a hospital and now she works in a bar. They don't talk so much. Andrea told me that her sister sends money home only sometimes. She is often in contact with a brother of hers who arrived in Italy after her and who was placed in a reception centre in northern Italy.

Her father is a farmer. Because of poor health her mother is not working but sometimes helps her husband. She misses her parents and she watches often Nigerian series or movies on youtube. She met her boyfriend in Italy and he is originally from Nigeria as well. Her ex-boyfriend is in Libya waiting to get to Italy. She can officially have a phone and she is in possession of two phones – the second one she always borrows to someone.

Renata - 17 years old

She was devastated by the treatment in Libya and in general by the terrible journey. When she sailed toward Italy she was taken two times to a detention centre in Libya. When she sailed for the third time, rescue ship took them to Italy. She is in Italy less than a year. She arrived in Augusta and at first she stayed in another centre. She likes it more here.

She said it was her decision to come. She began the journey with other 5 friends. They got separated and now she knows only about other 2. She loves her country and thinks it's beautiful, only the politicians make it bad.

She wants to become a nurse, but she does not know if it would be possible.

Regina - 18 years old

She is in the reception centre more than a year. Her position in the reception centre among the girls is a leader. She helps in a bakery/kitchen in the centre. Most of the time she didn't eat lunches and dinners when I carried out the observation. From time to time

she went to a porch to do some exercises. Most of the time I interacted with her she was doing something on a phone or called with someone (probably her boyfriend). She is the only one who has a lock and sometimes she locks her closet.

Clara - 17 years old

She is in Italy already one year and two months. Before she left Nigeria, she was living with her aunt, who was a cook in a school cafeteria. She said that from that time, she keeps habit of waking up early in a morning.

She waited in Libya 5 months for a vessel. At first, she was in a different reception structure. She likes it more here.

She is working in a bakery/kitchen of the reception centre and she is making biscuits and other things. Her guardian is very active. She came for her and went with her out when during the two weeks I spent in the reception centre. She also took her for Christmas and New Year's Eve to her home.

Sometimes I saw her praying before meals and I have noticed she is a bit excluded from the group. She watched Italian cartoon in TV very often and her level of Italian language was very good.

Olivia - 17 years old

I interacted with her mainly by mimics and gestures. Her level of English and Italian language was poor and we could not communicate that much. She had strong temperament and got upset easily. Once we were in a conflict situation. She didn't want to let me to lock the common room where TV was. Other girls solved this argument and made her leave the room. I had a chance to go with her to an ethnical psychologist.

In the last day we become friends and she gifted me a waist necklace. She told me she wants to become a dancer and said that she knows someone who is having this job in Germany. She was the only one who didn't talk badly about Libya. She stayed there just a short time and they were treating her nicely. During my stay she sent some money to her family.

Tiffany - 17 years old

She arrived in Italy in June 2017. She arrived in the reception centre just a day before me. At first, she was in another centre where she wasn't happy. She was supposed to be in this centre just for few weeks until she turns 18. Later she should go another centre

for adults. She had an urge to talk about her previous life and the journey a lot. She spoke mostly in Nigerian, but she could speak also Italian and English. She was dominant in conversations.

She told me that her mother is selling clothes and she has a brother and sister. Father left them when she was a child. All of them are in Nigeria. She came to Europe because she wants to have a better life. She emphasized a lot that in Italy there is no money and she wants to get to Germany where there is money. She complains a lot about many things. During my stay I had spent more time with her because she did not go to school (she was new in the centre and the transition process wasn't finished).

Zara 16 - years old

She arrived in Italy in August 2017. She arrived from another centre in the second half of my stay in the centre. At first, she was quiet but later she got comfortable. She immediately started to communicate with Regina and become dominant. Her level of English was very good and she didn't speak Italian so much. She told me she doesn't know how to read because her family didn't have money for the education. She was upset about the rule that minors cannot have phones. We had problematic relationship and I never got to know her that well.

Dakota - 17 years old

She arrived in Italy in June 2017. She also arrived with Tina from another structure in the second half of my stay. Mostly she was following Tina. I asked which structure she likes more and she told me that she needs time to compare. It was hard to understand her when she was speaking and I never got to know her well.

Ursula – Social Worker

Ursula had been working in the structure for few years. She always came in the morning around 8 and woke up the girls. She was taking care of paper work and did not stay with the girls as much as Ima and Kate. She was responsible for the issues connected with the legal procedures and medical issues (documentations, appointments for medical check ups etc).

Ima – Cultural Mediator

Ima had been employed in the centre for many (10+) years. She was born in Nigeria but she had been living in Italy for more than 20 years. She came in morning around 8 to 9 and left around 3 to 4 in the afternoon. She had various duties in the structure. She was taking care of laundry and distributing lunches. She was also communicating with the Nigerian girls, talked with them in their language or in Italian. She spoke perfectly Italian and the girls call her “mama”.

Kate – Educator

Kate had been working in the centre less than a year. She usually came to the care home around lunch time and stayed until 8:30 in the evening. She was communicating with a school, which the girls attended in the afternoon. She helped the girls to cook dinner and over all she spent time with them. I perceived her role like an older sister.