

Solidarity crimes podcast. Call for episodes

Throughout the last decade, a multiplicity of civil and penal law sanctions has been applied to contrast solidarity to migrants in any kind of geographic context. This happened both to individuals and organizations providing help to migrants at sea or in the mountains, either to migrants entering the EU from a third country or to migrants attempting to reach a third country from an EU state; either to migrants shifting from an EU state to another or moving from a non-EU country to another.

In a report published in 2020, whose ironic title is “Punishing Compassion. Solidarity on Trial in Fortress Europe”, Amnesty International attested a huge number of cases of criminalization of solidarity across Italy, France, Spain, Greece, UK, Croatia, Malta and Switzerland. And the current situation is going worse and worse.

As a matter of fact, the systematic attempt to punish solidarity acts, perpetrated by many EU governments, contributes to the de-humanization of migrants and to the transformation of a humanitarian crisis into a national security issue.

Yet, the current situation is producing long term effects on different levels, suggesting the rise of incisive and long-term societal changes.

The pursuing of solidarity crimes, directly affecting solidarity networks and subjects delivering acts of direct help to migrants (regarding basic needs, such as health, shelter, etc.), on one hand put thousands and thousands of lives at risk, on the other seems to foster an “*homo homini lupus*” idea of society, where each solidarity act is considered within an exceptional, and deviant, frame.

Moreover, the punishment of solidarity hindering the possibility to carry on research on borders, on migrants on the move and on all illegal phenomenon, significantly restricts the freedom of research and it suggests that research can take place only if it is “embedded” within an institutional frame.

Finally, the news coverage and the social media diffusion of sanctions against individuals or organizations delivering solidarity to migrants, is going to produce a wider and wider societal cleavage.

Accordingly, we want to highlight the consequences of the criminalization of solidarity is going to produce in the EU states, as well as in the lives of many people (migrants, solidarity actors, researchers, citizens).

For this reason, the Visual Sociology Research Group is launching a new collaborative podcast series focused on solidarity crimes and has opened this call for episodes.

The Visual Sociology Research Group will produce at least 3 episodes of the podcast on its own.

Submission rules

Proposals choose one of the following thematic lines:

- Line 1. Juridical aspects, contradictions and tensions regarding the institutionalisation of solidarity crimes
- Line 2. Solidarity crimes as practice of de-humanization of migrants
- Line 3. Solidarity crimes and their effects on position and legitimation of social research and social researchers on migrations and other critical subjects (e.g.: police violence, civil rights, etc.)
- Line 4. Solidarity crimes as a crucial device racialize the EU democracies

Episode proposals should follow this structure:

1. Proposal author: Name, Surname, Institution, E-mail
2. Chosen thematic line
3. Title of the episode
4. Outline of the episode: max. 10 rows
5. Episode moderator (whether different from the proposal's author): Cv
6. Speakers: (max 2 people except Moderator) CVs or motivation of their choice (max 10 rows each one)
7. References: at least a list of 5 sources to deepen the case (e.g.: books, articles, newspaper articles, videos, etc.)

All episodes will be in English language and the expected duration is to be from 20 to 60 minutes.

Once the proposed will be accepted, the authors will be requested to produce the episode, according timing and technical requirements which will be agreed with Visual Sociology Research Group.

The LSV researchers will act as reviewers for the submitted proposals.

The episodes proposals could be accepted, rejected, modified or aggregated, according to the unquestionable decision of organizers.

There is no limit in the number of proposals each author could propose.

Deadline: 30.04.2021

Proposals should be addressed to the Visual Sociology Research Group mail – laboratoriosociologiavisuale@gmail.com – with the following object: “*Solidarity crimes. Call for episodes*”