

Conference Session 606: Changes in the Mediterranean Model of Immigration.
Chair: Salvatore Strozza (Italy)

Title of the presentation: **Immigration and foreigner presence in the Southern European Countries: the role of the south-north flows**

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Background and Purpose of the research:

The migratory phenomenon interesting Southern Europe has assumed, in the years, peculiar characteristics and specific features so to induce the scientific community to talk about a “Mediterranean model” of immigration.

At the beginning this model was identified after all the changes happened in the outline of international migrations, but it manifested itself inside the specific context of social-economical development – regarding the most recent years – of the southern European countries.

Among these countries, Italy, Spain and Greece, have in common transformation processes which have turned them become in the years, immigration areas instead of emigration ones, such as they have been for the entire 20th century.

Data and Methods which were used:

The primary purpose will be to furnish a picture about the density, the demography and the social-economic characteristics, and the territorial distribution of the immigrant population in the four host countries we have considered (including France). In order to do that, during the description phase, we will use all the “stock and stream” information given us by the national statistics institutes of each country

Comparing the different Mediterranean ways of acceptance of immigration will help us place and “read” each phenomenon in a complementary outline, and will help us confront the different national experiences.

At last we’ll dwell on specific aspects (such as integration, economic behaviour, etc.) about the presence of some foreign communities in our countries, according to the statistic information about these last past years.

Main results and Conclusions:

The first flows towards the Southern European countries, mostly considered as intermediate step towards other North European destinations, started around the second half of the seventies. Our research will focus on the last 15 years, starting from the beginning of the nineties, when the foreigner presence in these countries started revealing itself through processes of definite allocation with important consequences for the social and economical integration aspects. It would be interesting to understand with which strategies of migration policy the countries of Mediterranean Europe have reacted, in there double roll of “way in” and “host countries”, while respecting the laws of the European Community. In this outline we will also analyze the French situation, being France a country with a very ancient migratory tradition, in order to confront times and ways of inclusion dynamics and processes.