Scirocco - Latest news from Italy

13.11. CPRs: People can now be detained even against medical advice

Piantedosi's new directive weakens medical safeguards in Italy's repatriation detention centres (CPR).
Another step towards the normalisation of violence against people on the move in Italy: On November 3 2026, Interior Minister Matteo Piantedosi issued a new directive changing the medical assessment procedures for admission to CPRs – Italy's detention centers.

Previously, medical examinations assessed a person's health condition. Records of health conditions could prevent admission. Under the new directive, however, medical examinations will primarily serve to identify health conditions and determine care needs. But the medical assessment no longer regulates whether someone can be detained. Instead, the responsibility for organising medical assistance is transferred to the centre's operator. In other words: people can now be identified as needing medical treatment and still be sent to a CPR.

Rather than addressing the well-documented structural deficiencies and inhumane conditions of the CPR facilities, the government is weakening one of the safeguards that could prevent people from being exposed to them.
What is the point of identifying someone's medical needs when access to healthcare inside CPRs is not guaranteed?

It is another development in Meloni's far-right migration politics, built on the premise that migration is a threat and that detention and deportation must take priority over human dignity.

Instead of confronting the violence of CPRs, the government is changing the procedures that make it visible. A strategy to get rid of the last troublesome witnesses.
It does not make the violence disappear – it makes it easier to deny.

CPRs are institutions of exclusion, deprivation and human rights violations. They have to be abolished.