Mediterranean Tourism: Between Decent and Not Decent Work

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Abstract:
In recent years, some critical studies (e.g. Bianchi, Gibson) have begun to shed light on issues related to work in the tourism sector. In continuity with these studies, our work focuses on working conditions in the labor market in the tourism industry, particularly in highly frequented areas such as southern Italy.

Starting from this horizon, our research is based on statistical data, theoretical analysis on the transformation of work in this phase, and on a series of interviews with privileged interlocutors—e.g. immigrants, young people and women engaged in work activities in the tourism sector, union members, etc. In particular, qualitative analysis and in-depth interviews allowed us to outline some interesting aspects on the forms of exploitation and resistance of workers. The conclusions to which the work comes are not rosy, but we hope they can contribute to adding a little piece on the question of decent and not decent work in tourism.