



 **openpolis**

The foundation

impact report
July 2019

WHO WE ARE

Presentation

The mission of the openpolis foundation is to promote free access to data and information, in order to improve the culture of transparency and democratic participation, and therefore empower citizens. This mission means collecting relevant data concerning democracy and society, in order to build a freely accessible data repository capable of producing and distributing data-based information.

We analyze data regarding power, politics, economy, territories and local communities. We believe in increasing public awareness on data use, in order to create data-knowledgeable communities. We see technology and data as digital commons. We monitor political power, analyzing traditional institutions and new actors. We think, design, develop and manage data-based ICT platforms in order to produce information, tell stories, carry out investigations and improve public awareness on specific matters.

Founders:

Vittorio Alvino, Ettore Di Cesare, Guglielmo Celata, Vincenzo Smaldore.

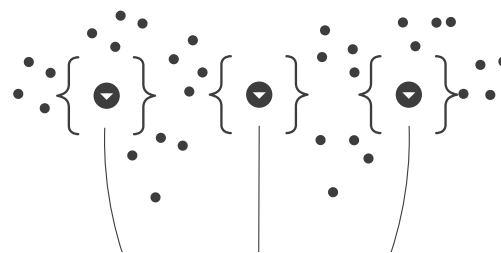
Cofounders:

Fondazione per il Cambiamento, Gran Sasso Science Institute, Associazione di Promozione Sociale ETIPUBLICA, Matteo Fago.

Information regarding the foundation is available on the website.

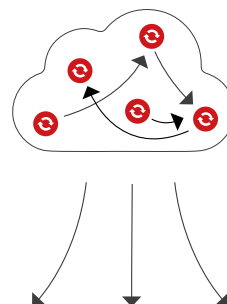
The structure - The budget

We extract data from different sources

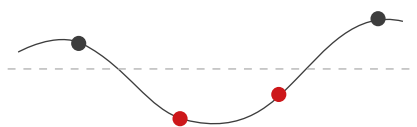


Gathering it into a single infrastructure

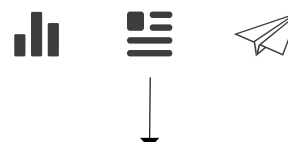
We connect the data, and update it



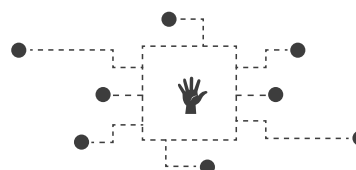
We analyze and monitor social and political phenomena



We produce and distribute articles and investigations



We foster democratic and civic participation





WHAT WE DO

In over 10 years of activities, before as an association and now as a foundation, openpolis carried out a number of initiatives and activities. Our several fields of action allowed us to become experts in many areas.

Data driven web applications

Different expertise make up the team behind the openpolis foundation: computer engineers, project managers, journalists and researchers. Therefore, the foundation designs, develops,

creates and manages platforms for the visualization of data. This means gathering, cleaning, managing and distributing data through a number of applications in order to make them comprehensible and explorable to citizens.

Data journalism and investigative journalism.

Throughout the years we decided that our contribution should not have been limited to the distribution of data. It was necessary to go beyond, and become not only data suppliers, but data analysts. A journey that developed in two different phases. Initially our various partnerships with newspapers and news agencies allowed us to write several data journalism reports and dossiers. Then we developed the online magazine of the openpolis foundation. We use data to tell stories and carry out data journalism investigations of public interest.

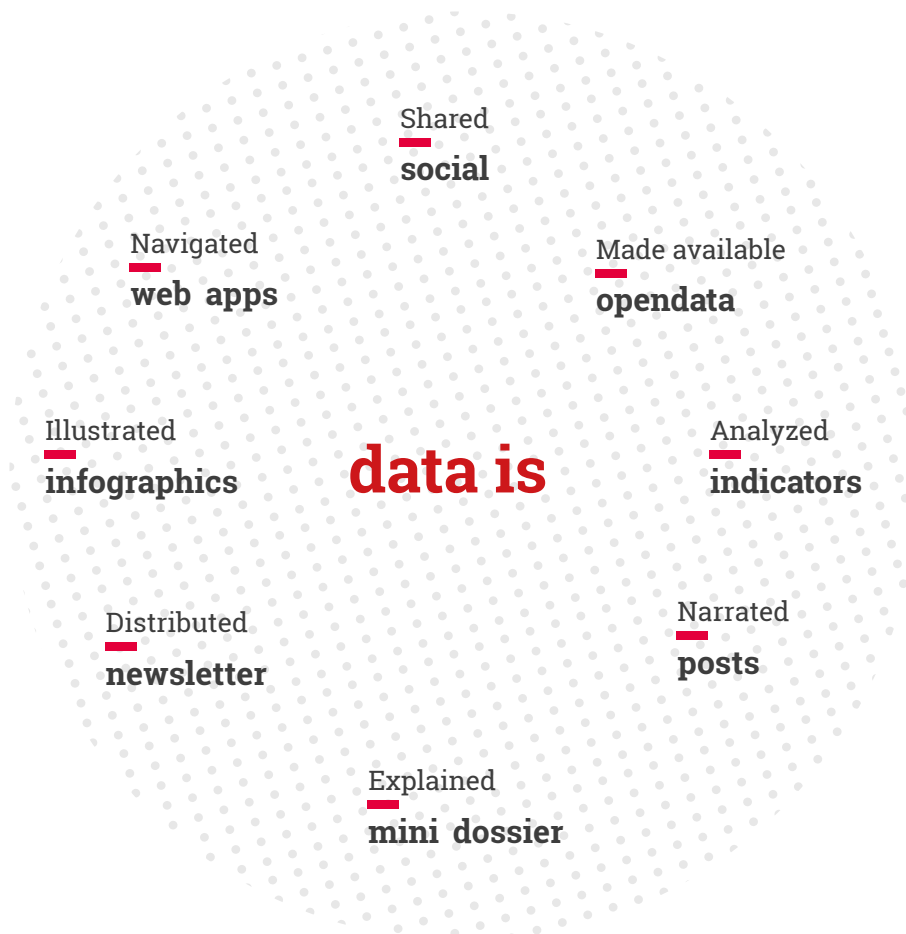
Data literacy

Data is a fundamental aspect of our life and our society. A fact that has a growing amount of consequences on the quality of our democracy. We believe in increasing public awareness and consciousness on the functioning of data in today's world, and what the use of our data by online digital companies implies. We give our contribution through publications, campaigns and events to highlight the problems and the possibilities of the "data era".

Watchdog campaigns and data activism

Being independent and autonomous allowed our credibility to become an important asset to our work. We therefore became a watchdog of Italian political institutions, surveilling on the rules of our democracy. In our ongoing analysis of political power, we carry out transparency campaigns in order to improve the comprehension of political decisions and public institutions. We do this by engaging and mobilizing citizens through civic actions and data activism initiatives.

All of our activities have to do with data: we collect it, analyze it, visualize it and give it back to citizens.



Since 2018

Community engagement

352

interactions

50

the researches and university students that we've helped with data and explanations for academic researches and analyses

52

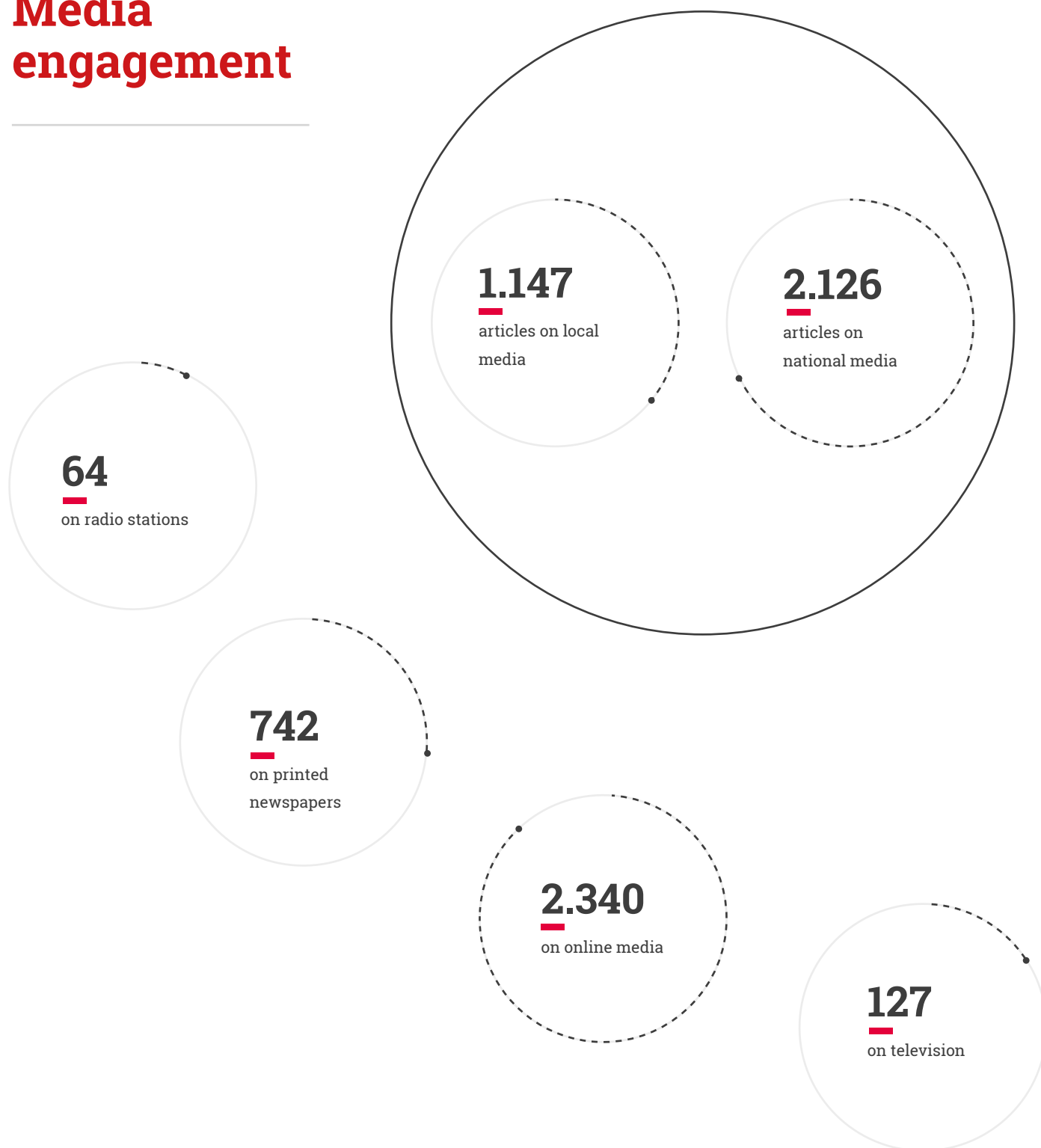
the journalists that have contacted us for clarifications and advices

250

the requests and questions from citizens by mail or social media that we received

Since 2018

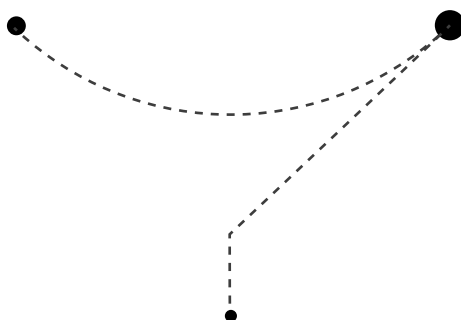
Media engagement





Choose openpolis!

donate



It is very important to assure the independence of our project, therefore we decided to become a non-profit. You can contribute to our activities and initiatives on government accountability and citizen participation through a **donation** or your **5x1000**.



OUR IMPACT

For us impact means understanding what we are doing, the results we produce, what changes we bring to the community and how can evaluate and communicate all of this.

3.286

bills

14.197

non legislative
acts

50.227

amendments

Open parlamento

Context.

The observation of trends that change our parliament, from internal power dynamics to its relationship with government, is fundamental to understand how political representation and the quality of our democracy are varying. Unfortunately, the quality and the quantity of the information that is being published by institutional websites do not allow citizens, researchers and activists to fully understand and comprehend these dynamics. A problem that needed an open approach in order to be resolved.

Activity.

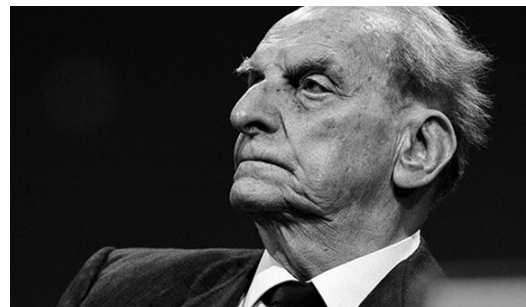
Since 2008 openparlamento allows citizens, activists and researchers to track the activity of deputies and senators. The platform is the most comprehensive source of information and data regarding everything that happens in parliament, allowing to constantly monitor the functioning of the institution in all its aspects: attendance to meetings, party switches and much more.

Open parlamento Impact.

We have been investigating the functioning of parliament for the past three legislatures, its evolutions and involutions.

From the problem of absenteeism (openparlamento continues to be the only platforms in which it is possible to track MP's attendance on a daily basis), to deputies and senators continuously changing political group, an issue that emerged thanks to our work.

The index of parliamentary productivity, furthermore, allows to evaluate the work of MPs through the use of data, in an objective way.



Considering the many unfulfilled promises of democracy, the most dangerous and harmful one is the transparency of power.

Norberto Bobbio, political expert and former senator for life



Read all articles
on **Parliament**



Visit the website
Openparlamento

6

years of financial
budgets

20

parliamentary
groups considered

26

parties analyzed

Political party funding

Context.

With a 2013 reform public funding to political parties has been gradually eliminated, which has historically been the main source of funding for parties. This decision, besides drastically changing the economic situation of parties, contributed to accelerating their crisis and transforming their organization. At the same time the number, and the types, of funding streams have increased, as well as the number of subjects that, in various forms, propose themselves to represent private and public interests.

Activity.

To better understand political financing it becomes necessary to put together a number of pieces of an ever-changing puzzle. Our methodology to analyze political funding has been the first, and to this day the only, that keeps together all subjects that are in the same political area: parties, parliamentary groups, think tank, political foundations and associations.

Political party funding **Impact.**

2x1000 to parties, institutional contributions to parliamentary groups, as well as private donations to political foundations, the innovation of our approach allows to see in a very clear way how the current political system is experiencing a transition. Not only because of the number of actors involved, but also because of the evolving funding infrastructure around politics.



In an ever-changing political system the issue of political party funding is critical. Actors, streams of funding, types of organizations have all increased making the subject obscure and complex. It therefore becomes very important to monitor it and understand the economic interests at stake.



Read all articles on **Political party funding**

121

—
registered structures
since 2015

3.000

—
people
intercepted

396

—
connections and
ties



Think tanks and new political actors

Context.

Through our study of the political system, we understood there was a need to expand the scope of our analysis to new actors that were emerging. Political activity, from training to debating as well as networking, was not only a prerogative of political parties. Think tank, political foundations and associations are now emerging as key players in a continuously evolving chessboard.

Activity.

To better understand all of this since 2015 we have been mapping these structures. More than 100 organizations, including think tank, political foundations and political associations, that are connected to one another through deputies, senators, members of national and regional governments. A database that we update on a daily basis, that on one side includes information on members, and their specific role in these structures, while on the other allows us to classify these organization by type and purpose.

Think tanks and new political actors

Impact.

This census has allowed us to better understand specific power dynamics, both regarding appointments and political decisions. A work at the core of the yearly publication "Cogito ergo sum", in which we use network analysis to monitor the phenomenon. Our work was also a key element in the technical review presented with the anti-corruption law approved by the Conte Government, in the section that dealt with political foundations and associations. Our census is cited as the only work carried out in Italy that allows to track the phenomenon. A law that openpolis publicly criticized, considering it too vague in its definition of political foundation and association, and with transparency requirements hardly monitorable. Critiques that forced government to further intervene on the matter during the approval of the Growth Decree, that attempted to improve the definition of political foundation and association.



“ Most political activities have now moved outside parties, and now take place in political foundations. These structures need to be completely transparent: clear, comprehensible and public budgets. Funding foundation could lead to corruption.

Raffaele Cantone, president of the Italian anti-corruption agency



Read all articles on *Think tanks and political foundations*

4

—
levels of political
representation

100

—
incompatibilities
intercepted since 2018

2.132

—
appointments
analyzed

Power hoarding, bad practices in Italian politics

Context.

To avoid conflicts of interests and an improper management of power, our legislative system has in a place a number of norms to make institutions fairer and more transparent: illegibility and incompatibility. This last one tends to be problematic as many politicians take advantage of the rules to maintain incompatible roles for too long. Furthermore, while some appointments cannot be held at the same time, some can, but some issues remain: excessive concentration of power in the same hands, conflict of interests and attempts to bypass the law.

Activity.

The matter has never received the right amount of media coverage. We systemized the analysis of political power, by creating a registry of every single person with a political appointment in Italy. We have been doing this for the past 10 years, with the most comprehensive and up to date database on the matter. This allowed us to analyze the field in a systematic way, and to intercept many circumstances of excessive concentration of power, when allowed by the law, in the hands of specific individuals. Situations in which loopholes in the norms are used to maintain incompatible appointments for too long.

Power hoarding, bad practises in Italian politics

Impact.

With the beginning of the XVIII legislature we began monitoring the issue publicly and constantly. Every single election that took place since 2018 (national, regional or European) witnessed a growing number of incompatibility cases, that through our articles ended up on national media. Our articles often lead to official appeals (see what happened with **Solinas** and **Fugatti**), or specific politicians leaving office (the **Fedriga** and **D'Alfonso** cases).

The proof that with the appropriate pressure by civil society it is possible to create positive examples of civic activism, and most of all political good practises.



In cases of incompatibilities or excessive accumulation of power the problem isn't the possibility of two public salaries being paid. The real issue is the mistreated relationship between politicians and voters, and the disrespect towards institution.



Read all articles on
Power hoarding

2

electoral campaigns
monitored

3

platforms
analyzed

1.000

posts considered

Online political propaganda

Context.

Online political propaganda has become a central element in political campaigns. Two main problems are emerging. First of all, citizens are not fully aware of the functioning of online political ads, and how personal data is used to sell commercial products. Secondly in countries like Italy the subject is not correctly normed, and currently the laws in place for political propaganda and campaigns do not apply to online political propaganda.

Attività.

To deal with both issues with worked on two different solutions. For the 2018 Italian national elections we launched in Italy the Political Ad Collector created by ProPublica. A tool that allows to collect political ads on Facebook through the active involvement of users. This made us capable of gathering not only ads, but also the targeting information used by political parties and candidates to reach users. At the same time, we pressured Italian institutions to fill the legislative gap currently present.

Online political propaganda **Impact.**

We took part in many events and meetings across the country to explain the functioning of online political propaganda. Furthermore, **we published a number of data journalism articles** on the matter, in which we analyzed both the different communication strategies as well as targeting trends put in place.

We contributed in making the matter of public concern, **both nationally and internationally**, raising the general attention on online propaganda.



“ In our online world, the risk of interference and manipulation has never been so high. It is time to bring our election rules up to speed with the digital age to protect European democracy.

Jean-Claude Juncker, president of the European commission between 2014-2019.



Read all articles on
Online political propaganda



Visit the website
Facebook Political Ad Collector Italia

2

legislatures
considered

4

governments analyzed

2.103

implementation
decrees monitored

Implementation decrees, and the “second half” of laws

Context.

In the current political phase we are witnessing a clear disempowerment of the Italian parliament. The institution has been losing control of its legislative power, due to governments progressively stealing the show. Because of this it becomes fundamental to monitor the legislative activity of governments. This means monitoring decrees and legislative decrees (primary laws), as well as implementation decrees. They represent what we have defined the “second half” of laws, phase in which ministries have to adopt all those norms that are necessary to concretely implement the laws that are approved by government and parliament.

Activity.

In order to avoid leaving this fundamental phase of the legislative process uncovered, we have been dealing with the issue for some time now. Even though historically the information made available has been very little, we shed light on the issue: on one side by analyzing the data published by the government, while on the other by pressuring institutions for more and better data. The office for the government's program, established in the government's cabinet, has been the interlocutor for this process.

Implementation decrees, and the “second half” of laws

Impact.

In the past year every time the Conte Government published more information regarding implementation decrees it was because we intervened publicly on the matter by demanding more information. Once in office the website where historically this information was found, went offline. We therefore decided to **denounce this publicly**, which brought to the website going back online. Afterwards, for 8 consecutive months, the government did not publish a single update and, once again, after we demanded information, it was given to us. Unsatisfied by the situation, especially for the quality of the information being published, we sent an access to information request (Foia), demanding the right data, in the correct format, and with an appropriate update. Thanks to our intervention the topic has become an issue, and now has the correct coverage on national media. Furthermore, for the first time the information made available allows citizens and researches to fully monitor the implementation of laws approved by parliament.



Once a law is approved by parliament the “second half”, as we defined it, begins. The norms have to be implemented by the competent authorities, this means that more actors are involved and that the whole process gains complexity. For this reason, transparency is necessary.



Read all articles on **Implementation decrees**

4

fields of analysis

350

datasets

7.912

municipalities
considered

Educational poverty in Italy

Context.

One of the main challenges when attempting to analyze territorial social-economic dynamics is the shortage of quality data. A problem that also regards the issue of educational poverty, in which most researches and investigations are carried out from a national or regional perspective. A data deficit which results in a significant information and knowledge gap in the comprehension of the phenomenon. Only by analyzing the matter from a municipal or sub-municipal perspective (hyper local), the real differences emerge, and a true understanding of the context can take place.

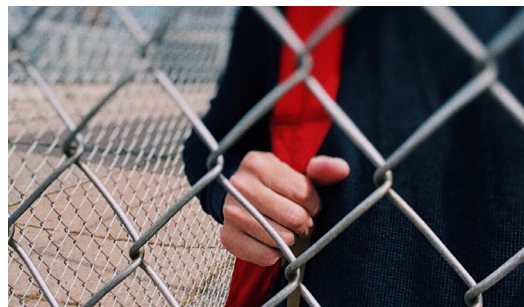
Activity.

The importance of territorial data to understand territories is therefore undeniable. It was therefore decided to collect into a single database demographic, social and economic data from different public datasets. An important normalization and data-cleaning challenge that brought us to the creation of a tool that can be the starting point for the generation of a high number of relevant local stories.

Educational poverty in Italy

Impact.

The observatory on educational poverty created with Con i bambini produces data, reports and reflections that activate the production and creation of local stories, involving in a direct way local newsrooms. The data that we give to local journalists are often the beginning of a chain that leads to the creation of original locally relevant investigations. Analyses that often become part of the public local debate, enriching it with original datasets.



“ It is monitoring that makes possible evidence-based policy, political accountability, informed advocacy and the cost-effective use of limited public resources. The availability of timely data is therefore in itself an indicator of whether the commitment to protecting children is being taken seriously or not.

Measuring child poverty, Unicef - 2012



Read all articles on
Educational poverty

10

indicators created

12

years of municipal
budgets

7.912

municipalities
considered

Open budgets, how do municipalities spend their money

Context.

Municipalities are the political body closest to citizens. For this reason, it is very important to understand how they spend their money. We are talking about municipal budgets, a topic that historically has always been inaccessible and most of all incomprehensible.

Activity.

With openbilanci, a platform that brings into a single place all data regarding Italian municipalities, budgets become accessible even for non-insiders. Since 2014 citizens, journalists and associations can visualize, compare, comprehend and download data on municipal budgets in an easy and efficient way. In 2018 we relaunched the platform, adapting it to the new structure of budgets introduced by a State reform (harmonized budgets), and since 2019 openbilanci is capable of handling all updates from 2016, the year of the reform.

Open budgets, how do municipalities spend their money

Impact.

By introducing the harmonized budgets system we were capable of continuing our investigations and analyses of how municipalities spend their money. A number of data journalism articles, that besides investigating various aspects of municipal budgets, currently allow local journalists to freely reuse the data to further investigate local dynamics. Furthermore, by upgrading the platform to harmonized budgets, openbilanci continues to be the only platform where data on municipal budgets is made available for free, in an accessible and comprehensible format.



Municipalities are the closest government body to citizens, and exactly for this reason citizens have to right to have instruments and tools to better understand the management of municipal budgets



Read all articles on
Municipal budgets



Visit the website
Openbilanci

8

years compared

30

donor countries
analyzed

48

recipient countries
considered

Development aid, better information for a better discussion

Context.

The development field, as well as the issue of migrants and refugees, is one of the most controversial currently in Italy and in Europe. Often however the tendency is to focus on the emergency, rather than analyzing the phenomenon, and this makes it very difficult to open a constructive discussion on the matter.

Activity.

The data regarding Italy's expense on official development assistance is public. We therefore decided to begin a collaboration with Oxfam in order to monitor how and where Italy finances projects to fight poverty, but also to control borders and manage migrants and refugees.

Development aid, better information for a better discussion

Impact.

Through our data journalism work on development assistance we contributed on raising many questions, that were missing in the public debate. First of all, we exposed the issue of how this money is being spent: if on one side the money allocated to development assistance has increased in recent years, on the other this was caused by an excessive amount of money being spent on the management of refugees in Italy. Funds that in all actuality never left the country. We can use the same argument for border control, activity in which Italy, as well as other EU countries, has been investing more and more money. Often this happens at the expense of essential services: food and water, health and education. Key elements to combat hunger and the true causes of forced migrations.



“ In an era of fake news and alternative facts, good data are even more vital. All citizens have the right to true, reliable and accessible information. This is particularly important in the development field.

Angel Gurría, Oecd Secretary-General



Read all articles on
Development aid

110

—
prefectures involved

21.101

—
call for tenders
imported

12.715

—
public contracts
analyzed

Refugee reception facilities in Italy

Context.

Immigration is of the most crucial and controversial issues in this historical phase. A true comprehension of the matter is made complicated by an informative confusion and most of all a shortage of reliable information. More specifically, the lack of verified data characterized the debate on the refugee reception system for years now: its cost, the economic interests at stake and the management of the facilities.

Activity.

We therefore decided, with ActionAid Italy, to begin a transparency action. Through an agreement with the Italian anti-corruption agency we gathered and analyzed data on public contracts and procurements regarding the refugee reception system. We then began collecting information on reception facilities. By using Foia we made more than 100 requests to Italian prefectures all over the country. In April of 2019 a second Foia request was necessary, this time towards the Ministry of Interior.

Refugee reception facilities in Italy

Impact.

After having gathered, cleaned and organized data on public contracts, and more specifically regarding reception facilities in Trapani and Torino, in which we found very collaborative prefectures, we published the study "**Reception facilities in Italy**", and released the data to the public. This allowed researchers and activists to freely reuse our work.

We created a methodology, established a collaboration with key stakeholders (the Italian anti-corruption agency and prefectures), gathered and made available information, published analyses. We laid the groundwork for the creation of a national observatory on the refugee reception system that can be a key player in gathering and spreading reliable information, in order to foster an educated debate.



“ Openness, generosity and dialogue between men and women of different cultures, ethnicities and religion represent unalienable values.

Sergio Mattarella, president of the Italian republic



Read all articles on **Refugee welcoming facilities in Italy**

1

national campaign
for the introduction
of Foia

3

public institutions involved:
prefectures, ministries and
government

110

access to
information requests

Access to information - Foia

Context.

Having access to public information is a need not only of journalists, but also of analysts and researchers, and most of all citizens. It is a universal right, at the heart of our right of expression as it is the first step to a full participation as citizens to the democratic life. A right, even acknowledged by the European court of human rights, that up until 2016 did not have any legal basis in Italy.

Activity.

Up until the last legislature Italy did not have an access to information law. Together with other civil society organizations we promoted the campaign **Foia4Italy**, the national initiative that contributed to the approval of the 2016 law on the matter. An important event, that finally allowed to deal with a long-lasting problem.

Access to information - Foia Impact.

We were one of the first organizations to test the effectiveness of the law, applying it to specific investigations we were carrying out.

Contributing to the approval of a law that allowed all citizens to demand access to specific public information was not for us the final stage of a journey.

We have been using the access of information law on two different projects: one involving refugees and the reception system in Italy, while the other on data regarding implementation decrees.

VOGLIAMO UN
FREEDOM OF
INFORMATION ACT

Cittadinanza consapevole e partecipa al bene comune.



The present trend toward government secrecy could end in a dictatorship. The more information that is made available, the greater will be the nation's security.

John E. Moss 1956, first advocate for a Foia law



Read all articles on
Foia

5

—
areas covered

50

—
datasets sent to local
newsrooms

587

—
local articles
generate



Territorial data to revive local journalism

Context.

Many of our projects made us understand the importance of local journalism. A fundamental sector, especially for the quality of our democracy, and for the accountability of the institution closest to citizens: municipalities. A sector however that is living a strong economy crisis, which is not only a problem for journalism, but also a cultural loss. A problem for the control and accountability of local institutions.

Activity.

For this reason, projects like openbilanci (data on Italian municipal budgets) or the observatory on education poverty, strongly believe in the importance of giving local newsrooms: ideas to analyze territories, but most of all datasets to carry out specific investigations. A challenge that we dealt with successfully, considering the high number of articles that use our information and data to tell original stories. On a weekly basis we send our data to local newsrooms.

Territorial data to revive local journalism

Impact.

Because of this process the power of data to understand local dynamics is strongly increasing. On a daily basis local newsrooms use our data to tell local stories, giving meaning to numbers that need contextualization and specific competencies to gain resonance.

Our work is the spark for the creation of stories, analyses and local investigations. We give back to journalists and citizens data that concerns them, in order to incentivize reuse for a better understanding of territories.



“ The quality of democracy and the quality of journalism are deeply entwined..

*Bill Moyers, White House Press Secretary
1965-1967*



OUR TOMORROW

We think it is useful to share not only what we have done and the goals we have achieved, but also what our plans for the near future are. Our intention is to gather opinions, advices and possible collaborations.

Context.

We are experiencing a political crisis in which the limits and the rules set out by the constitution are being questioned. New organizations and political actors are emerging, attempting to build alliances and a new political equilibrium. This generated the need to create a new way to properly track and investigate power in all its dimensions and relations: political, bureaucratic and economic. The question is: what is the best way to know who commands today in Italy?

The impact we are working on.

By analyzing the ties and relationships between these people and organizations it will be possible to explore and monitor in a single environment the matter in order to produce stories, investigations and research in a variety of fields. The possibility, furthermore, to analyze specific dynamics such as conflicts of interest in Italy, a project that was partially financed by **Google digital new innovation fund**. Other areas of investigations

Activity.

The innovation we are introducing to answer this question is an empiric approach - based on data - that we want to use to analyze the dynamics of power. The starting point was our database *openpolitici*, containing every single person elected in any political office since 1984 in Italy. This database is now being enriched with more layers: all those that have a position of power in the Italian public administration system (public agencies, supervisory bodies, ministries and much more). For those that are part of these two layers, political and bureaucratic power, we are capable of adding a third layer: their economic interests, as in their appointments or shares in private companies.

might be based on issues (the media industry, who has more power in the energy market, and much more), as well as based on different territorial levels (national, regional or local level). During the next months we will give the possibility to researches, activists and citizens to access our data repository. Our intent is to make it available to the entire community for the common good, in order to attract energies, resources and ideas.



Context.

Often enough initiatives and projects based on data publishing do not reach their full potential because the data is not made available in an adequate manner. The point is to remove those technological barriers that can strongly limit the reuse and spread of information.

Activity.

The large amount of data gathered throughout the years by openpolis will be made available for reuse in different formats and standards in order to meet all needs. Besides data in table format, for non-technical practitioner, we will add an API service (**Application Programming Interface**)

that will facilitate the interrogation and extraction of data by researchers and computer engineers.

The impact we are working on.

The openpolis foundation conceives data as common goods. An approach that therefore aims at completely shifting the mentality behind any data-based project. We will share all our territorial data, at a municipal level, in order to create a common patrimony available to the community. From municipal budgets, to demographic and social data, as well as educational poverty information, we want to allow everybody to take advantage of this repository for their researches and analyses. This will also happen for the data infrastructure

created to map power in Italy, with the complete personal data of people that have had a position of power in the political and state institutions, as well as the public administration. According to the use that will be envisioned, there will be different licences for reuse. In order to make this operation even more powerful, data will be linked to other data sources, augmenting the potential benefits of the infrastructures.



Context.

Throughout the years we have had the luck of creating a very wide community of readers. A community however that never became involved actively with our work, especially as a resource to enrich our activities. A pity, considering that we live in an age where technology strongly reduced the distances between journalists/activists and readers/citizens. An opportunity that should not be limited to a better communication of what we do, but that needs to become a two-way street used to actively involve our community in our work.

The impact we are working on.

In the near future we want to put in place a multifaceted involvement of readers in our work. We have many ideas, but all go in the direction of community driven journalism. The experience of the Political Ad Collector on online political propaganda was strongly based on the involvement of our community. Our readers, by downloading and installing the plugin, actively participated in gather data on political ads made by politicians on Facebook. Our goal is

Activity.

Our readers need to become one of the many components of the openpolis foundation. Not only as readers of our final products, but also as resources to enrich them. The possibility to create a community-driven newsroom, in which readers are at the center of editorial decisions, and also become assets to improve the final product.



A community of data-activists and collaborative mapping

to transform this first experience, into a specific work methodology, especially on projects like the map of power and territorial data. Many public data sources are in fact weak, with outdated or wrong information. Data sources that we can improve, through the involvement of our community.



PARTNERSHIPS

We believe in sharing our journey and activities not only with our community and readers, but also with the other structures and civil society organizations that work in our field. Collaborations that multiply the impact of our work on more channels, countries and fields.

The international networks we are part of

🔗 European Data Journalism Network (Edjnet)

An independent platform for data-driven news on European affairs. Over 20 organizations from all over Europe, with content being produced in several languages and open source.

🔗 Global Investigative Journalism Network (Gijn)

The world's leading international association of investigative reporting organizations, now with 177 member organizations in 76 countries. Membership is open to non-profits and equivalent groups that work in support of investigative journalism.

🔗 Popolo Project

Openpolis contributes to the development and management of the Popolo Project, which is based on the definition of standards for sharing and reusing data on legislative assemblies and political representatives.

Collaborations on specific projects

Impresa sociale Con i bambini

Observatory on education poverty

Local territorial data from different public sources gathered into a single database in order to generate original, relevant and data-based analyses regarding Italian cities (social inequalities, educational poverty and much more). A weekly data journalism piece investigating educational poverty in Italy.

Oxfam Italia

Studies on official development assistance

We monitor Italy's expense on official development aid. How and where Italy's finances project to fight poverty, but also initiatives to control borders and the management of migrants and refugees.

ActionAid Italy

Analysis of the refugee welcoming facilities

We mapped the structures that currently host refugees and asylum seekers in Italy. We did this by analysing public procurements and contracts, and by quantifying the amount of public money actually being spent.

Agi

Legislative Observatory

A monthly analysis on the trends and numbers of the legislative productions of the Italian parliament. Statistics on the current situations, as well as comparisons with past governments and political majorities.

Focus Europe

Data, analyses and visualizations on European institutions, the role of Italy in Europe and the respect of EU goals.