



G7 Foreign Affairs, Lucca

## **A “crisis meeting” for G7 Foreign Affairs: and development?**

The G7 Ministers of Foreign Affairs meeting has been focused mainly on the effort to identify common guidelines to manage the worsening of the conflict in Syria. As a result, the Communiqué does not mention even once the word poverty. The Global Coalition to call against Poverty - GCAP Italy is calling on G7 countries to commit to participate on the Geneva negotiations towards a peace agreement. Furthermore **GCAP Italy asks G7 Ministers to act today to guarantee that the more than 640.000 of internally displaced in Syria could receive the help they need and to increase their reception efforts towards the hosting of the 5 millions of refugees now located in the neighbouring countries.** Security issues and fight against terrorism cannot be reasons for closing the doors in front of women, children and men who are fleeing from war and human rights abuses.

The G7 Foreign Affairs ministers spoke also about the **Mediterranean area**: a crossroad of populations, and an excellent resource in finding sustainable solutions to the major global challenges. Nevertheless bilateral agreements between G7 countries and MENA countries must be built upon peace dialogues and not only in the framework of protection of the European borders. **GCAP asks for an engagement of the G7 countries for a real social, economic and human, to contribute to a real democratisation process.** *“Agreements with countries like Libya must have as primary objective the creation of development policies, besides any conditionalities in terms of refugees returns”* says **Livia Zoli**, ActionAid Italia, representing GCAP Italy

**GCAP is disappointed about the fact that the G7 Foreign Ministers agenda did not include issues related to development and fight against global poverty, despite the importance of a global engagement in the promotion of SDGs and Agenda 2030.** *“A strong commitment from G7 countries is needed today more than ever to tackle severe food crisis, such as the ones in South Sudan, Yemen, Somalia and Nigeria. We call on the G7 leaders to convene in Taormina and address the issue of global food security as well as other issues related to development, such as global health and the fight against poverty and inequality, declares **Elisa Bacciotti**, Oxfam Italy, representing GCAP Italy.*

**GCAP - Global Coalition to call Against Poverty is the world`s LARGEST CIVIL SOCIETY MOVEMENT calling for an END to POVERTY & INEQUALITY.** Launched at the World Social Forum in 2005, GCAP has mobilised hundreds of millions of people and co-organised the world's largest issues-based mobilisation, as certified by Guinness World Records. Over the past several years, and through consultations in 39 countries, GCAP has insisted on the centrality of addressing inequalities and guaranteeing the active participation of people in the Agenda 2030.

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