

## Presentation

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The history of humankind is marked by the longing for travelling: whether it is a yearning for freedom, a choice or even a need, since humans inhabit the earth they have been travelling, people have migrated, blending themselves into new and unprecedented solutions, moving from one continent to another, often like birds in the sky, which have always chased the seasons, leaving a mark on the culture of entire populations.

These movements across space, cultures and time can be regarded as the key issue of this sixth edition of «Ammentu», a journal that has already been published for five years now, having usually proposed some reflections on important issues to its readers, which have also been included this time in a Dossier and two separate focus sections: American cultures, migration, Anti-Fascist fight for freedom and democracy.

In the first case, the dossier titled *América: entre crónica y volatín de plumas [America: between the chronicles and birds with feathers]* gives us an opportunity to rediscover the encounter between the Ancient World in Europe and the New World in America, through the original contributions ranging from the analysis of the astonishment of Europeans when they saw the colourful birds existing in America and realised their influence on indigenous cultures, to the biographical profiles of two men in particular: Jerónimo de Aguilar, a controversial Spanish conqueror, and Bartolomeo de Las Casas, the first true protector of the populations devastated by the Hispanic conquest of the new continent.

The focus section devoted to Italian migration in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries is closer to us in time and space: *L'emigrazione capraiese a Puerto Rico nel XIX secolo e l'emigrazione italiana nel secondo dopoguerra: il caso dei flussi cilentano e sardo in Belgio e quello di Golfo Aranci attraverso le fonti comunali [19<sup>th</sup> century migration from the Capraia island to Puerto Rico and Italian migration in the post-World War II era: the case of migration flows from Cilento and Sardinia to Belgium and the case of Golfo Aranci through municipal sources]*. The articles included herein show some realities of Sardinia and Italy, which are rather significant due to the completeness of the sources and the dynamics of this phenomenon, such as the case of the migration areas from Cilento to Sardinia following the Second World War, often driven towards the mines of Belgium, with the tragic unfolding of events in the mining accident of Marcinelle. Included herein are the migration experiences of the municipalities of Luogosanto and Golfo Aranci, in the region of Gallura, analysed through the study of municipal sources, and a reflection on the history of migration from the Capraia island to Puerto Rico, which is the opening article of the focus section.

Finally, the focus section titled *L'antifascismo in Sardegna e fuori dall'isola: il caso di Iglesias e dei guspinesi Cornelio Martis e Pio Degioannis [Anti-fascism in Sardinia and out of the island, the case of Iglesias and the citizens of Guspinese, Cornelio Martis and Pio Degioannis]*, includes three contributions that outline the political effort and the persecutions suffered –to death– by some activists of the South-West mining area of Sardinia, starting with the sequence of events experienced by the citizens of Guspini, Pio Degioannis and Cornelio Martis, to join the Anti-Fascist groups

registered at the municipality of Iglesias and the victims of the Nazi massacre of Sutri.