

The press, persuasion and prejudice.

*The challenging and re-enforcing of mechanisms of
cultural inclusion and exclusion of migrants in Italy and
Britain in recent newspaper coverage.*

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Introduction



Hungarian soldiers clearing up a barbed wire fence on the Slovenian-Hungarian border.
Source: The Guardian



Perception percentage of immigrants

Italy: perception 30%; reality 7%

UK: perception 24%, reality 13%

Source: Ipos-Mori, 2014

Degree of confidence about EU

Italy: 27.4%

UK: 28%

Source: Demos & Pi, 2015



Inter-relationship between immigration and Euroscepticism

- ✓ EU migration (mainly UK issue)
- ✓ EU responses to the migration crises (UK and Italy)
- ✓ Hard Euroscepticism (UK)
- ✓ Soft Euroscepticism (ITALY)

- ✓ Cameron demanding restriction of free movement within the EU (and UK's renegotiation)
- ✓ Intransigence of Cameron regarding Syrians refugees
- ✓ Renzi's fury at the lack of help from EU at Lampedusa's crisis
- ✓ Renzi's attack on other EU Prime Ministers concerning immigrants-quota
- ✓ Both of the national responses to the picture of the dead boy on a Turkish coast

Right-leaning

The Guardian (UK)

La Repubblica (I)

Anti-immigration agenda,
sensationalist headlines
and copy

Left-leaning

The Daily Express (UK)

Il Giornale (I)

Less defensive and more
sensitised to issues of
migration

Some findings

A new surge of illegal immigrants threatens the European Union. Six rowing boats and a further 16 dinghies are steering towards Italy

(Il Giornale, 22 August 2015)

Italy's coastguard has successfully coordinated the rescue of about 3,000 migrants in the Mediterranean, after receiving distress calls from more than 20 overcrowded vessels drifting in waters off Libya

(The Guardian, 22 August 2015)