

Interview with Fulvio Grimaldi on the Eritrea of Cesare Sprouts. Introduction

BY [FRANCESCO CECCHINI](#)

JULY 29, 2017



FULVIO GRIMALDI IN ERITREA

INTRODUCTION.

The name Eritrea comes from the Greek erythros meaning red, in relation to the Red Sea. The name was then taken up by Italian colonialists. Today the word, erythros, red can emblematically assume another meaning. In fact, Eritrea and a red spot on the African continent. Eritrea, the plateau and Asmara capital, Dankalia, volcanoes and salt lake, a coast of hundreds of miles along the Red Sea, Massawa, a tropical port across from the Dahalak Islands,. An Africa that deserves to be

visited and seen. Africa, Eritrea, still fighting in 2017 for its own independent presence in the world against UN sanctions against invasion attempts, Against isolation and interference, and for a free Horn of Africa free from imperialist intrusion. The cause, far away from this situation, is also Fascist colonialism, its crimes, which we will list, and its mistakes such as, for example, the boundaries with Ethiopia left indefinite, which still today are the cause of Tensions and wars. A sign, albeit limited, of breaking insulation can be the conferral of Asmara capital of the UNESCO World Heritage List.

Fulvio Grimaldi is an independent journalist and documentary of great value. He has worked for radio, BBC London, among other things, for various news headlines Country Sera, New Days-New, Abc, Continuous Fight and from 1986 to RAI. He has the merit, among others, of telling Eritrea from the liberation war to our day. His last docufilm is **ERITREA, A STAR IN THE NIGHT OF AFRICA**, which tells the multiethnic liberation struggle of the Eritrean people from Ethiopian rule, supported at various stages first by the United States, then by the USSR and Cuba, and the Eritrean affair from ' Independence, is sanctioned by referendum today.

The link with the docufilm trailer is as follows:

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/cBSU8HKHYS8?feature=embed&wmode=opaque>

INTERVIEW.

'Let's help them at home', the magic formula waved by the political forces in turn trying to throw water on fire when it comes to daily immigration.

Nothing to complain about the course, of course, whose bottom rightness is almost lapalissian. However, some doubts can arise when trying to understand how this line should be followed, but

here too we remain in the unpublished field of ideas not accompanied by concrete plans.

And if we find out that not only are we doing little to promote economic and social progress in Africa, but on the contrary we are working in the opposite direction, what should we think?

This seems to emerge when listening to the testimony of Fulvio Grimaldi, Journalist and warlord for RAI and BBC, then an independent documentary who, after a recent visit to Eritrea, made Sandra Paganini 'Eritrea a star in the night of Africa', a docufilm that tells a different truth about what today Is Africa's most demonized country.

So we talked with him about the relations between our country and the former of its former colonies, whose authorities are hoping to intensify relations with Italy, but they are never heard.

Let us therefore go beyond the surface and understand what is really behind a different situation from how we can imagine it, and how it has been told. He created with Sandra Paganini 'Eritrea a star in Africa's night', a docufilm that tells a different truth about what is today the most demonized country in Africa. So we talked with him about the relationship between our country and the former of its former colonies, whose authorities are hoping to intensify relations with Italy, but they are never heard. Let us therefore go beyond the surface and understand what is really behind a different situation from how we can imagine it, and how it has been told. He created with Sandra Paganini 'Eritrea a star in Africa's night', a docufilm that tells a different truth about what is today the most demonized country in Africa. So we talked with him about the relationship between our country and the former of its former colonies, whose authorities are hoping to intensify relations with Italy, but they are never heard. Let us therefore go beyond the surface and understand what is really behind a different situation from how

we can imagine it, and how it has been told. Whose authorities want an intensification of relations with Italy, but it is never heard. Let us therefore go beyond the surface and understand what is really behind a different situation from how we can imagine it, and how it has been told. Whose authorities want an intensification of relations with Italy, but it is never heard. Let us therefore go beyond the surface and understand what is really behind a different situation from how we can imagine it, and how it has been told.

Q: What is the specificity of Eritrea in the African context, particularly in relations with the West?

Fulvio Grimaldi: First of all, the question of Eritrea should always be tackled in the context of the African continent, which at this moment is definitely under a massive attack by many powers who have realized that there is a future made of great economic potential and therefore enrichment invaluable. And that there are conditions, also from the point of social and political view, to intervene and take advantage of it, given the presence of a series of corrupt governments who have opened to new colonialism doors, substantially carried out by the same colonial powers of a time, The more the US now in the front row, but with renewed vigor.

In this context Eritrea ranks a little 'aside, covering a very specific and different position from most African countries, as it is not under the thumb of the dictates of the international financial and political organizations. This naturally led to the enmity of Western powers, accompanied by massive hostile media propaganda, as this country comes out of the picture of what it would be like subordinate governments in the South of the world, for example, not accepting (the only African country Along with Zimbabwe) any US military presence in their territory.

This climate that has been created around Eritrea has been compounded, amongst other things, in the sanctions imposed by the UN in 2009. covering a very specific and different position from most African countries, as it is not under the thumb of the dictates of the international financial and political organizations. This naturally led to the enmity of Western powers, accompanied by massive hostile media propaganda, as this country comes out of the picture of what it would be like subordinate governments in the South of the world, for example, not accepting (the only African country Along with Zimbabwe) any US military presence in their territory. This climate that has been created around Eritrea has been compounded, amongst other things, in the sanctions imposed by the UN in 2009. covering a very specific and different position from most African countries, as it is not under the thumb of the dictates of the international financial and political organizations. This naturally led to the enmity of Western powers, accompanied by massive hostile media propaganda, as this country comes out of the picture of what it would be like subordinate governments in the South of the world, for example, not accepting (the only African country Along with Zimbabwe) any US military presence in their territory. This climate that has been created around Eritrea has been compounded, amongst other things, in the sanctions imposed by the UN in 2009. This naturally led to the enmity of Western powers, accompanied by massive hostile media propaganda, as this country comes out of the picture of what it would be like subordinate governments in the South of the world, for example, not accepting (the only African country Along with Zimbabwe) any US military presence in their territory. This climate that has been created around Eritrea has been compounded, amongst other things, in the sanctions imposed by the UN in 2009. This naturally led to the enmity of Western powers, accompanied by massive hostile media propaganda, as

this country comes out of the picture of what it would be like subordinate governments in the South of the world, for example, not accepting (the only African country Along with Zimbabwe) any US military presence in their territory. This climate that has been created around Eritrea has been compounded, amongst other things, in the sanctions imposed by the UN in 2009. For example by not accepting (the only African country along with Zimbabwe) any US military presence in their territory. This climate that has been created around Eritrea has been compounded, amongst other things, in the sanctions imposed by the UN in 2009. For example by not accepting (the only African country along with Zimbabwe) any US military presence in their territory. This climate that has been created around Eritrea has been compounded, amongst other things, in the sanctions imposed by the UN in 2009.

Q: How critical is the political and economic situation in Eritrea today?

Fulvio Grimaldi: The 2009 sanctions have certainly worsened a situation that has arisen also following the exit of Eritrea from a thirty-year liberation war because it makes it difficult to play a role as an economic partner in other countries without them coming in turn Sanctioned and isolated.

Reality is, however, different from what media propaganda wants to make for true, that is, of a hostage country of a dictatorship that is the cause of extreme poverty, from which the population would try to flee in all ways. The government's social policy is based on a fair distribution of wealth, which erases hunger and misery.

Q: What then determines the great turnout of Eritrean migrants to Europe?

Fulvio Grimaldi: In this sense, economic issues are decisive, not political ones. International sanctions have severely hampered a development that in the years following the liberation of 1991, and until the 1998-2000 Ethiopian aggression (on US mandate), had been among the major in the African continent.

I have repeatedly shot Eritrea and I have not found the conditions of extreme hunger and hunger that are found in many other continent countries. This is because of a government that has given its absolute priority to self-sufficiency, not dependence on international bodies, a policy that places the basic needs of the population in the first place and where, therefore, inequalities are minimal. This can be seen from one side of Eritrea where no extreme poverty is found despite the difficult conditions that the country has had to face, between aggression wars, economic and diplomatic isolation and the lack of trade, except with some Arab countries and which are subject to international sanctions. This isolation sabotaged labor market capacity to absorb new generation demand, generating a massive migratory flow, but inflated into statistics, and even a pull factor invented by colonialists to emit the country of its best energy. In fact, refugees from Eritrea, and only to them, are granted automatic asylum in Europe, and for this reason many refugees from neighboring countries such as Ethiopia, Djibouti, Somalia, With great ethnic, linguistic and cultural affinities, instrumentally enjoy Eritrean citizenship to enjoy the rights that they would not be granted to them. Adding to this is the natural tendency to family reunification with the first generation of Eritrean immigrants, who came to our country in particular in the 1970s, escaping from the bombing and repression of the Ethiopian regime.

Q: The Eritrean foreign minister has recently expressed great interest in intensifying political, economic and entrepreneurial relations with the former colonial Italian power, while not finding in our country listening attentively. If so, what is the occasion we are losing?

Fulvio Grimaldi: This is certainly the case. This is a great historic shame in Italy that has a giant debt to Eritrea. We have been a robbery and predatory colony, fairly ruthless and with similar characters to South African apartheid. Certainly we have also contributed to a country's development in urban, agricultural and light industry, but always and above all for the benefit of Italian colonizing bourgeois classes. Indigenous people were not allowed access to higher education, they did not have to go beyond the fourth grade, they were confined to their ghettos with access to only humble jobs. All post-war governments are responsible for the refusal of a worthwhile and even fruitful relationship of friendship and collaboration. Self-help policy, Given the great geostrategic and geoeconomic potential offered by Eritrea for its crucial strategic position on the Red Sea and the Straits of Bab-el-Mandeb, which, opening to the East, is a kind of bridge between the Middle East, Asia, Europe and Africa; As well as being a country rich in natural resources.

We did not have the courage and courage to take advantage of this condition of potential privileged partnership with a key country in the horn of Africa and this to subordinate to the interests of multinationals and Western power centers. These are the same dynamics that led to Gaddafi's collapse in Libya, another country with which Italy enjoyed privileged economic and energy relations in particular. In fact, in adhering to the extermination war launched by France, the United States, Born, we definitely compromised, beyond the peace in our area and

the survival of a great country, our interests. Interest that has been replaced by others.

Q: An improvement in relations between Italy and Eritrea could fall into the famous paradigm of "Helping us at home"? And how could this affect the containment of migratory flows?

Fulvio Grimaldi: Even the withdrawal of economic sanctions would reduce the emigration of young people from Eritrea to a marginal phenomenon. So we should stop trying to impose our political and institutional models on other countries. History shows that with this pretext, together with the defense of human rights, the West has repeatedly caused disasters rather than solving problems. In essence, in order to help them at home, to avoid Eritrea and Africa being emptied of their younger generations, that is to say, 'from the best energies, from the future, to bare bare to the colonial plunder, with the destabilization of many European countries, it would be enough to refrain from wanting They dictate what they have to do, respect their autonomy and freedom of choice. Collaborate in this respect.

Fulvio Grimaldi



Francesco Cecchini

Rome 1946. He has classical studies, he holds a technical diploma. In Rome, he begins his political commitment, and

participates in Valle Giulia, for example. He attends sociology at Trento and Urbanistica in Treviso. He does not graduate because he is engaged in political militia, first in the Manifesto and then in the Continuous Fight. In 1978 he left militancy and decides to work and live abroad, first in shipbuilding, then in project management, contractualism and market research of infrastructure. It carries out market research in Algeria, India, Nigeria, Argentina, Poland and Morocco. Since 2012 he writes. His experience of working and living in many countries and cities of the world (Aleppo, Baghdad, Lagos, Buenos Aires, Boston, Algiers, Santiago de Chile, Tangier and Paris) is the basis of a writing project. A trilogy of novels set in Bombay, Algiers and Lagos respectively. The subject of the trilogy is violence, crime and the difficulty of living in the metropolis. He has published with his New Ipsa his first novel, Red Bombay. He wrote his second novel Red Algiers and is writing the third, Red Lagos and is completing a collection of tales, living elsewhere. Translated from the languages they know, Spanish, Portuguese, French and English, more than just writing exercise. He collaborates with news agencies Pressenza, Tesfa News, and sites with History, Stories and the House of the People of Torre di Pordenone and with the blog Still Blows the Wind. He lives now in the North East. He has published with his New Ipsa his first novel, Red Bombay. He wrote his second novel Red Algiers and is writing the third, Red Lagos and is completing a collection of tales, living elsewhere. Translated from the languages they know, Spanish, Portuguese, French and English, more than just writing exercise. He collaborates with news agencies Pressenza, Tesfa News, and sites with History, Stories and the House of the People of Torre di Pordenone and with the blog Still Blows the Wind. He lives now in the North East. He has published with his New Ipsa his first novel, Red Bombay. He wrote his second novel Red Algiers and is writing the third, Red Lagos and is completing a collection of tales,

living elsewhere. Translated from the languages they know, Spanish, Portuguese, French and English, more than just writing exercise. He collaborates with news agencies Pressenza, Tesfa News, and sites with History, Stories and the House of the People of Torre di Pordenone and with the blog Still Blows the Wind. He lives now in the North East. He collaborates with news agencies Pressenza, Tesfa News, and sites with History, Stories and the House of the People of Torre di Pordenone and with the blog Still Blows the Wind. He lives now in the North East. He collaborates with news agencies Pressenza, Tesfa News, and sites with History, Stories and the House of the People of Torre di Pordenone and with the blog Still Blows the Wind. He lives now in the North East.