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HOW CAN THE SEAFARERS DO IT? QUALITATIVE RESEARCH IN PSYCHOSOCIAL RISKS OF SOUTH ITALY'S SEAFARERS

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The psychosocial risks of seafarers are a topic poorly explored in the international and Italian literature. This study aims to explore, using the Cox, Griffith and Gonzales' guidelines (2000), the psychosocial aspects of life on board. Semi-structured interviews were conducted involving a sample of 20 seafarers from South Italy. In addition, this research presents a comparison with Carter's study focused on psychosocial risks of seafarers prior to Maritime Labour Convention (2006). The results of our research show the presence of severe psychosocial risks in the sample such as: excess of workload, lack of crewmembers, falsification of legal documentation, lack of recovery, lack of families and inability to contact or be present with them. The seafarers usually assist or being involved to traumatic events. To discover the world, passion for the work and high salary are the most common work resources. The results of this study alarms about seafarers' work and life conditions. Future studies could include the administration of a tailor-made questionnaire, to explore the psychosocial stress factors, the protective factors of seafarers and outcome of well-being and discomfort at work.