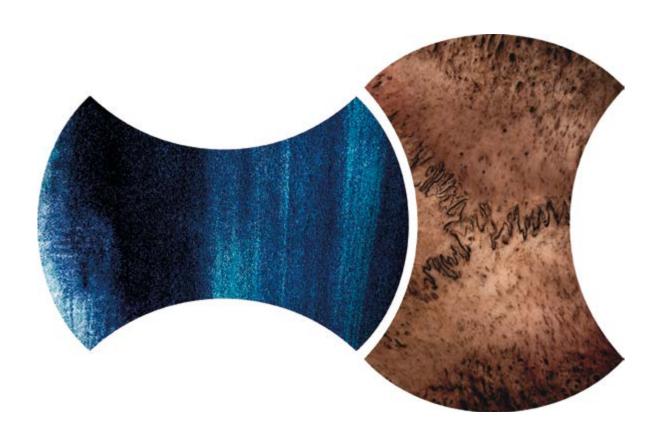
IACI GRANADA 2024

Artificial Intelligence meets Craniofacial Identification



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POSTER SESSIONS

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TITLE Collaborative Image Sharing for the Identification of Deceased and Unidentified Migrants

ABSTRACT

The working group of experts in forensic odontology and informatics, affiliated with the Medicolegal section of the University of Turin, intends to establish a humanitarian forensic sciences service for deceased and unidentified migrants and their families. A website called "migrant identiface" has been created to promote this initiative, which is linked to the Human Identification and Forensic Odontology Laboratory (LIPOF) at the University of Turin. The aim is to encourage families of migrants who have gone missing during their journey to Europe to send a photo of the missing person and any other details they deem useful for the search and identification process, through a dedicated email address.

The LIPOF will then create a database of portrait photos and personal effects images, which will be made available to the authorities and forensic operators responsible for conducting identification autopsies of deceased migrants. In this way, LIPOF becomes an additional point of contact not only for international organizations assisting migrants, but also for families who may be reluctant to share information with local police agencies, as they can contact the website and LIPOF without any negative consequences. Additionally, a computer-assisted comparison service will be provided, allowing for the comparison of received images of missing migrants with images made available by authorized forensic experts and associations of missing persons, both Italian and foreign.

This initiative, already present in other universities and television programs in Italy, is specifically focused on migrants from outside the European Union and employs multilingual support, with particular attention to the nationalities of origin of the migrants. It serves as an additional humanitarian forensic tool in the identification processes to alleviate the suffering of families. Authors propose this initiative to the forensic community as a valuable contribution to the field of migrant disaster victim identification.

KEYWORDS

Humanitarian Forensics / Deceased Migrants / Missing Persons / Migrant Disaster Victim Identification