

The struggle of women and migrant workers defeats Yoox!

Yoox workers have won their fight. On December 31, the Court of Bologna issued a ruling that found in favour of them, recognizing that the shifts imposed by Lis Group are unmanageable, recognizing that going to work at 5:30 am or finishing at 11:30 pm makes it impossible to take care of one's children, and clearly stating that the central shift must be restored for all workers with children under 12 years of age.

The ruling of the Court of Bologna states that all it takes is a little "common sense", to realize the discriminatory effects of the hours imposed by Lis Group and Yoox. On the contrary, for the company common sense means taking advantage of maternity leave to get rid of permanent workers who are troublesome because they have already been fighting for their rights in the past. For Yoox, common sense means using racism to humiliate women migrant workers who are fighting to improve their conditions, even if losing their jobs would mean losing their residence permits. Furthermore, there is the common sense of the confederal unions that played, at the expense of Yoox workers, their competition with SiCobas, which supported the struggle. A year ago the confederal unions declared that the demands of those women workers were unfounded and concerned very few women, and on the symbolic date of March 8 they decided to sign an agreement with the company that did not change the working hours but allowed them to praise Yoox for its advanced policies in favor of gender equality. Let's not forget the common sense of the Municipality of Bologna as well, that in order to continue to boast of Yoox as the flagship of e-commerce in Emilia-Romagna has set in motion a ridiculous investigation, which in the end took the company's side. Now a judge's ruling has proved them all wrong, saying that Yoox workers are right.

For us, Women's Assembly of the Migrant Coordination, for our comrades who work at Yoox and who have fought courageously to obtain this result, it is clear that the common sense of this society uses racism and sexism to exploit us more and then dismiss us when we are no longer needed. Yet, we refused to accept this. We refused to be humiliated or beaten down. And with our struggle, with a strike that was immediately feminist and as such was embraced by Non Una di Meno, we managed to make our voices heard publicly. In spite of the power of Yoox, which keeps its real warehouse conditions far hidden from its glittering social networks, we have obtained a result that should not apply only to us, but to all. It is possible to win, even if our living and working conditions have become even more precarious because of the pandemic. We managed to gain what we are entitled to and now Yoox will have to recognize it by implementing the sentence, whether it likes it or not.