



AFRICA IN MOVIMENTO / AFRICA ON THE MOVE

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**TITLE: TRADE RELATIONS OF ITALY WITH THE NORTH AND SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA IN 2008-2013:
COMPARISON AND PROSPECTS**

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ABSTRACT: Traditionally Italy has very strong economic connections with North African countries. It is stipulated by geographical position and economical reasons. For example, Libya is very important supplier of oil and gas for Italy. Five countries of the North Africa (Libya, Egypt, Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia) keep much more, than half of trading volume with the whole Africa.

But period from 2008 to 2013 was very saturated. During this period happened a lot of shocks, like world economic crisis 2008-2009 and the Arab spring. These developments could change traditional imbalance in Italian commerce with African countries, but they also could enlarge it.

Therefore it is very interesting to analyze economic statistics for these years and find out, are some countries or even regions of sub-Saharan Africa ready to become the same important trade partners of Italy, like North African countries.

With the help of data, for example, from the National Institute for Statistics (Istat) (Italy) and other sources of trade and economic data, I will try to answer this question.

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