

# BREAKING NEWS

## DAVID'S PANTS

Florida teacher resigns after parent complains about art lesson.



## A TRAGIC REALITY

In memory of the tragic event happened in Lampedusa on October 3th, 2013.



## ITALY IS THIRSTY

How Italy is suffering from drought



# A TRAGIC REALITY

Lampedusa, a small Italian island in the Mediterranean Sea, has become a symbol of the migration crisis in Europe thanks to its position near North Africa, which makes it a link for migrants seeking refuge in Europe. Unfortunately, the island has also witnessed numerous tragedies, as many migrants have lost their lives trying to make the dangerous journey across the sea.

The issue of migrant landings on Lampedusa is a problem that has been dragging on for years and has unfortunately become a frequent occurrence. In 2013, there was a tragic accident in which a boat carrying hundreds of migrants sank, causing the loss of more than 360 lives, considered to be the biggest tragedy to happen in that sea.



This situation highlights the need for a coordinated and compassionate response to the migration crisis in Europe, addressing the underlying reasons for migration, such as poverty, conflict, and environmental degradation, not just providing immediate aid and support to those in need.





This event sparked international discussions about **the need to provide greater support for migrants** and address the root causes of migration. Despite efforts by rescue organizations and the Italian government, **the migrant crisis on Lampedusa persists**, straining the island's limited resources and infrastructure.

The landings of migrants on Lampedusa are a tragic reality that **cannot be ignored**. The island has now become a symbol of the migration crisis in Europe, which is why it is strange to think that a few years ago it was a favourite destination for tourists from all over Europe for its beauty and tranquillity, as **nowadays hardly anyone chooses this island for their holidays because of the many migrants present**.

**Although there are no easy solutions, it is important that we all work together to address the root causes of migration and provide support** to those who need it most. Only then can we begin to build a fairer and more equitable world for all.



**End of Dreams**, the group of 48 statues by Nikolaj Bendix Skyum Larsen, temporarily placed on the seabed of Pizzo Calabro, in memory of the migrants who fell victim to the sea.  
(<https://www.africarivista.it/3-ottobre-naufragio-di-lampedusa/129688>)



# DAVID'S PANTS



Have you ever visited cities like Palermo, Florence or Rome? If yes, you've probably seen many nude statues but **nobody complains about it**, people live normally and grow up as decent human beings. **These statues are considered as art or, in some cases, masterpieces** but not everyone thinks that this kind of nudity is correct for their children.

Hope Carrasquilla, a teacher at Tallahassee Classical School in Florida, which website states that its aim is to "train the minds and improve the hearts of young people through a content-rich classical education in the liberal arts and sciences, with instruction in the principles of moral character and civic virtue", **has resigned after a parent complained that during an art lesson, in a class of students between 11 and 12 years old, photos of the David of Michelangelo and other art pieces depicting naked men and women were shown.**

**The incident has raised concerns about the power of parents over teachers in certain states of the USA.** In some states, teachers are required to notify and ask for permission from parents before showing their children potentially controversial subjects. **This means that even one parent's objection can prevent a teacher from teaching a specific lesson.**



Many have criticized the parent's objection to the art lesson, arguing that exposure to art and culture is important for a child's education and development. They also point out the hypocrisy of parents who allow their children to use social media platforms like TikTok, where sexual content is prevalent.

Despite the controversy, some believe that **the incident highlights the need for parents and teachers to work together to create a positive learning environment for children.** They argue that by encouraging open communication and mutual respect, parents and teachers can ensure that children receive a well-rounded education that prepares them for the challenges of the future.



In conclusion, the resignation of Hope Carrasquilla has sparked a debate about the role of a teacher and the importance of exposing children to art and culture. While the incident may have been avoided with better communication between the teacher and parents, **it is clear that parents and teachers must work together to create a positive learning environment for children.**





# ITALY IS THIRSTY

## What is drought?

Drought is the "**decrease in available water at a particular time and for a particular area**" (Wilhite, 1993); according to this meaning, therefore, it appears as a sporadic phenomenon that can also sound in non-arid areas. Drought is, in fact, a normal and recurring feature of the hydrological cycle and can occur in both dry and humid regions. **It differs from aridity**, which is restricted to geographical areas with little rainfall and is therefore a permanent



feature of the climate. **It originates from a shortage of precipitation over an extended period of time**, usually a season or more, and is evaluated in relation to the local balance between precipitation and evapotranspiration (evaporation + transpiration). It is also linked to the **time interval in which it occurs** (season of occurrence), to the delay in the beginning of the precipitation period, to the effectiveness of the

rains, or to their intensity and to the number of rainfall events. Other factors such as **temperature, winds and soil moisture are often associated with drought** and can contribute to its severity. An operational definition of drought must be able to identify the beginning, the consistency and the end of a drought event. This definition is usually based on the deviation of the precipitation field from the average **calculated on the last 30 years of data** (according to the World Meteorological Organization standard).

## What is the cause of the drought?

In summary: **a meteorological drought occurs due to a lack of precipitation**. An agricultural or ecological drought causes plant stress as a result of evaporation and low soil moisture. A hydrological drought is related to low reservoir runoff, inflow, and storage.

## What can be done to reduce drought?

To reduce drought we can take a cool shower instead of a bath in the tub, we could save up to 1,200 liters of drinking water every year; Wash the fruit and vegetables in a bowl, avoiding running water; Immediately after, collect the washing water in a reusable container and water our plants.



### What happens if the drought continues?

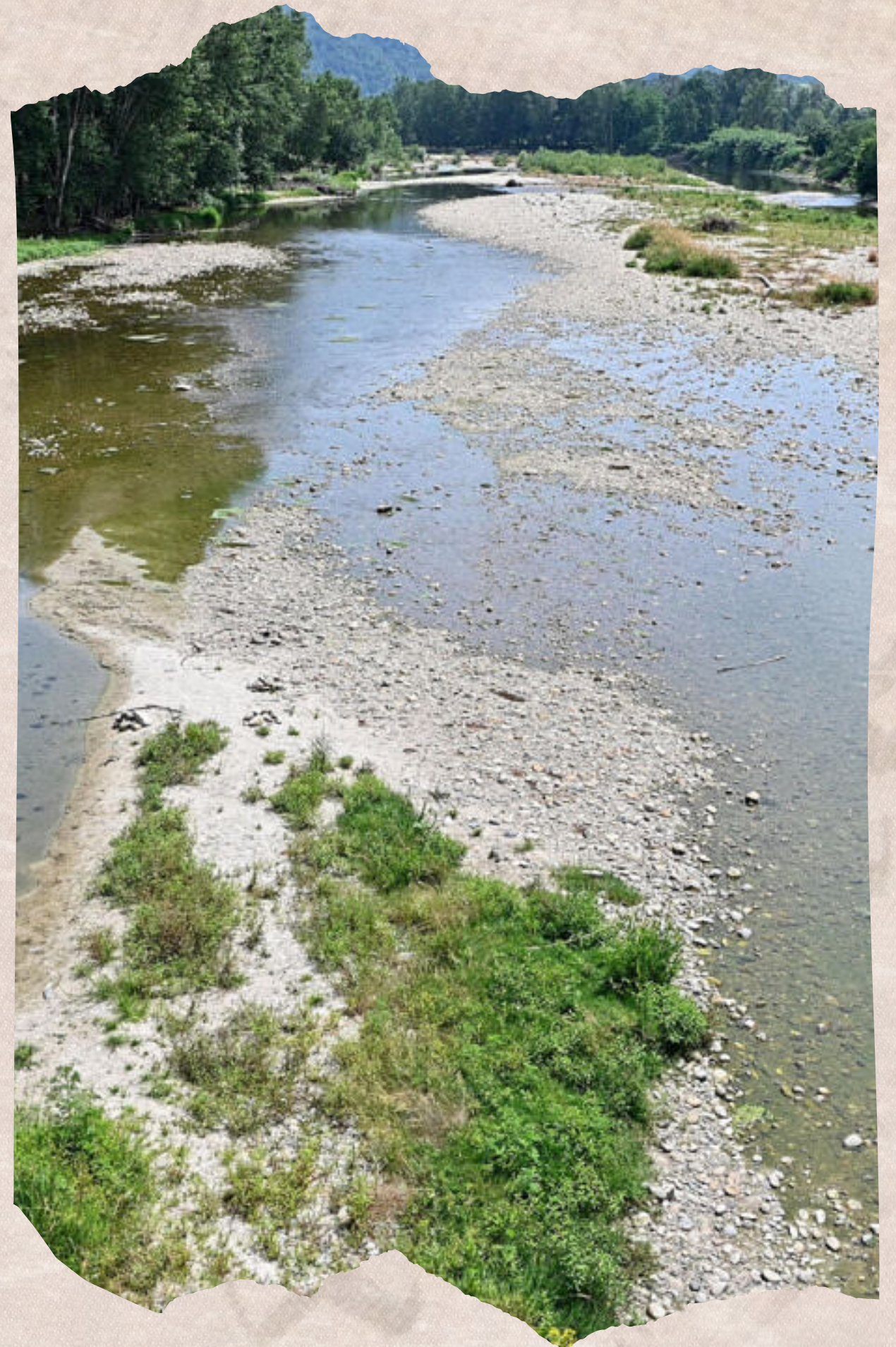
In more fragile areas and with prolonged drought, the lower availability of water can reduce the possibility of drinking potable water and using water for washing, with **an increased incidence of infections**; Problems with infrastructure and energy production.

### 1989

Change of course for Italian farmers. According to experts, **the last time Italy experienced two consecutive years of drought** was in 1989-90, but now conditions are more severe.

### Why doesn't it rain anymore in Italy 2023?

Dry rivers, very little rain. Winter 2023 will also go down in meteorological history in Italy as an extremely dry season. It rained very little and this created problems particularly in the north of the country.



### In summer 2022 the worst drought in Europe in 500 years.

The drought in Europe in summer 2022 was **the worst in 500 years**. This is indicated by data from the European Copernicus Earth observation programme, managed by the European Commission and the European Space Agency (ESA). Images from the Sentinel 2 satellite indicate that between July 1 and August 31, 2022, **large regions went from a bright green to a dry brown**. The most severe damage to vegetation is visible in south-eastern areas of Great Britain, northern France and in Germany, Poland and eastern Europe. **The data was compared with another 2014 study of the 1540 drought.**



Data obtained from the Global Drought Observatory (GDO) also indicate that **47% of Europe in August was in alarming conditions**: the most serious signals were the lack of moisture in the soil and the negative effects on vegetation.

Furthermore, the water level in rivers, including the Rhine, Danube and Po, has dropped so low that navigation has become impossible, while the exceptionally hot and dry weather has significantly increased the risk of forest fires. Drought in Europe in summer 2022, in the Sentinel 2 satellite image sequence (source: Copernicus).

The drought has been described as **the worst that Europe has experienced in 500 years**: the last major drought hit the continent in 1540. The extreme heat wave that occurred during that period was very persistent, lasting for a full 11 months, leading to about 90-95 rainy days **less than the average for western and central Europe in the 20th century**.

The hydrological drought proved equally extreme: the flow of rivers such as the Rhine and Elbe dropped by as much as 90% and the smaller waterways dried up completely.



*A sign in a town in Lombardy saying "**Fountain closed**" due to drought problems*