

Role model portrait

Fateh Hamdan

“Be honest and respect legality, no legality no existence”

Who I am



My name is Fateh Hamdan and I come from Palestine. I arrived in Palermo in 1980 and I enrolled at the University of Palermo and I studied Architecture. I fell in love with this city and I would say, I was bewitched by Palermo. I started working in many fields but at the end I chose to be a restaurant owner. I have a cultural association. I consider myself as a cultural

promoter, a political and cultural activist to support my community and help the others.

The difficulties and obstacles I faced in Italy

Maybe I also entered clandestinity and in this situation everything is dramatic, everything is nullified when you enter clandestinity, even your personality is cancelled, you cannot go out, you can not do anything, like you don't exist anymore. I had a social network here in Palermo, I started working and I got a visa thanks to Dini's government decree and from there I started a new life, a working life.

Three words to describe what you need to be successful in the job market

Only one word: legality! Being aware of the laws and follow the rules, only legality! I did many mistakes but I accept myself even with my mistakes. Your social capital is important: I was part of the students' movement in Palestine and I am proud of being a Palestinian. Here in Palermo I also connected with the students' movement in the 80s and 90s and I received a lot of support.