Christiana Ruggeri (RAI)

On the 7th of April we, as students of Global Governance, had the honor to held a special meeting with Cristiana Ruggeri, a famous international reporter and TV journalist. During the talk, she passionately explained us what does actually mean being an international reporter nowadays by narrating her personal career’s experiences. Christiana started explaining how her career had been shaped during the years: she studied modern literature at the university and later on, she became interested in journalism. Among all her travels around the world, she was also able to write two books: “All’ inferno si ritorna” (inspired by the Genocide of Rwanda) and “La lista di carbone” - in which she focused on the holocaust.

That Friday, the day in which she met us, was a very special moment for her because it was the 25th anniversary of the genocide in Rwanda and this made her think about that country and the people who live there. Christiana, in fact, has been able during her entire life to travel around the world and to live in numerous different places. Moreover, she had witnessed a lot of unbelievable and touching situations that have changed her life completely. She narrated us when she assisted to a street of 60 km covered by deaths bodies in Haiti and how she dreamed about all those faces for the following years. She talked about how she risked her life in Nigeria when a man armed used a Kalashnikov against her pick-up. Moreover, when she met some African guys who had been victims of rape and she literally saw in their eyes the sorrow of a child.

These and a lot more, were some of the worth-living experiences that she had the fortune and, we would say, the courage to live. Her job, in fact, has brought her in situations of deep crisis and wars where, she admitted to us, she almost felt that she could not deal with it anymore. A lot of time she happened to be in situations of real danger during her travels and more than one time she has been threaten for various reasons. But, anyway, the richness and value of her job exceeds all the difficulties that she might have faced.

The conversation, later on, shifted on the global issues that we are facing nowadays in our societies. In particular, she expressed her opinion on the current terroristic attacks since few
minutes before we met, a truck had driven deliberately into the crowd in Stockholm. According to Christiana: “Terrorism is like a virus, as a flow, you cannot give an exact definition to it. Moreover, it is in constant evolution because it always changes capabilities of aggression and ways to attack”.

She later added that in addressing the problem of terrorism the reporters own an huge responsibility: they have to be simultaneously precise and quick in reviling the news. In our current world where informations are shared on the web by everyone, it is a reporters’ duty to state the real truth of the events.

Mrs. Ruggeri really transmitted us the great value of this profession through all the powerful testimonies narrated but also in the determination that she forwards to us. She concluded her passionate speech by encouraging us to be brave and to firmly believe that if we want to change the world around us, well, we can really do it.

Francesca Scanavini and Matteo Sarcinella