



FREEDOM LEGALITY AND RIGHTS IN EUROPE

FLARE NETWORK

OVERVIEW

FLARE - Freedom, Legality And Rights in Europe - is a network made of civil society organisations for the social struggle against mafias and transnational organised crime. Conceived by the associations "Libera, associations names and numbers against mafias" and "Terra del Fuoco", and founded on June 10, 2008, at the European Parliament in Brussels, the FLARE Network is made of associations and NGOs from 27 countries.

The FLARE Network is composed by 50 non-governmental organisations. FLARE members come from the areas of Europe, Mediterranean basin, Russian Federation, Caucasus and Balkans.

Born over the assumption that organised crime has long become a transnational phenomenon able to operate within territories and with people extremely different from each other, FLARE intends to represent an alternative way to counter-attack organised crime in Europe and the neighbouring territories by promoting an alternative – however complementary – *modus operandi* than the one implemented by national institutions for the fight against transnational organised crime.

Through the efforts of its members on their territories, FLARE is able to put in motion people from many countries. They represent an outstanding tool through which assigning the European civil society a leading role in the fight against transnational organised crime.

FLARE Network's fields of work are:

::: COMMUNICATION & INFORMATION

News-observatory: the news-observatory intends to give a global overview of the organised crime phenomenon in Europe and surrounding areas. The observatory gathers a number of news available on third parties news websites. FLARE monitors a number of websites and publish those news that are relevant for the user to understand what is going on in specific territories: Western Europe, Balkans, Eastern Europe, Caucasus, former Soviet Union countries, Mediterranean Sea, Americas and Asia.

Online magazine: "Bright" (www.brightmag.org) intends to become a point of reference for journalists, "wannabe" journalists, politicians, researchers and students who are interested in the topic of organised crime. Through the collaboration and the joint commitment of professional journalists, the online magazine gives a more analytical and in-depth analysis of organised crime with a focus on Europe and surrounding territories.

New media: through the creation of user-friendly, catchy and interactive web tools, FLARE wants to reach a target of users otherwise unreachable in order to stimulate interest on topics related to organised crime and their effects on territories: a Virtual Museum and the game "Confiscopolis" are just a few tools to be implemented.

::: FLARE21

FLARE gives youth civil society a crucial role and dedicates good part of its resources, projects and expectations to develop a plan involving younger generations for the accomplishment of its aims and priorities. In order to promote legality as a fundamental value that guarantees democracy, justice and equality to citizens in terms of rights and freedom, FLARE is implementing a youth platform committed to the development of this ethic principles as a common basis.



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::: MEMORY

The Memory department aims at creating a network of families whose beloved fell victims – either physically or by loss of properties or work positions – of organised crime. This sector intends to offer moral support to such families, to tell their stories and to understand at what degree – if any – they are supported by their governments.

::: STUDY CENTRE

We believe the system of confiscation and social reuse of properties confiscated to organised crime syndicates is an extraordinary tool capable to hit criminals where it hurts them the most: their pocket, their economical power. It is a clear sign that the State is present and it comes out as winner from the fight. With an efficient procedure of confiscation and then of social reuse entire “families” (or clans) are deprived of making profits or of enjoying their assets. Their properties become people’s properties, those people who most of the times are submissive actors of illegal activities perpetrated by the gangs themselves.

FLARE intends to export the model of confiscation and social reuse of properties confiscated to organised crime syndicates to a European level.

Round Table: a group of professionals who analyse the Italian laws and system of confiscation of criminal assets and their social re-use in order to draw a European Directive to be handed to European and national institutions, with the aim of exporting a very efficient tool for countering transnational organised crime.

Scientific Committee: composed by university professors, phd students and researchers, the aim is to produce an index and a report concerning the juridical countermeasures carried out by the 27 countries of the European Union against organised crime.

::: REGIONAL DESKS

Turin, Italy (headquarter)
Brussels, Belgium
Nis, Serbia
Kiev, Ukraine



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