



Draft project

To develop youth exchanges

in the region dominated by camorra:

An open university to fight organised crime at European level.

a) Context and purposes

Mafia groups are not only involved in illegal trade and money laundering, but have been successfully infiltrating economic and political structures of quite a few Member States of the European Union. In some places they have managed to take control of the economic development and thus succeeded to influence policy choices. As a matter of fact, mafia groups are increasingly controlling non-Italian territories in the European Union.

In Italy, it became very clear that, in order to fight against the organised crime, it was necessary to address the relationship between economic power and illegal activities and to draw the line between the two terms.

The illicit economy represents nearly 120 billion euros each year, or almost 1% of European GDP.

The exchanges of youth between different European regions will help to raise awareness on a phenomenon that puts in danger our democracy, destroys all social links in our society and imposes a culture based on abuse, silence and violence.

In this phase, it is important to give a strong message to camorra and to citizens living in areas dominated by these organisations: confiscated premises are used for social purposes and European youth demonstrates its strong solidarity in this fight.



It is also important to restore confidence that citizens can have in the role of cooperatives and other social economy enterprises that base their activities on the values of participation, transparency and democracy, and fight against the supremacy of organized crime.

The use of assets confiscated from mafia for social finalities is a strong message: mafia can be defeated.

Furthermore, it is a constructive lesson for young people coming from other regions: they get to know the subtle methods used by organised crime to penetrate the economy and the society.

It is a clear way to express solidarity in a world increasingly dominated by selfishness.

In conclusion, this action is to be considered as a training for youth, like an open university to fight organised crime at European level.

Finally this action would promote and develop close political, economical and cultural ties between social economy bodies, institutions and/or European territories, on the one hand, and local operators in Campania, on the other.

b) Targets

This action has the following targets :

- young people (18-25 years) coming from all the European Union' regions excepted (at least for the testing phase case) those of the South of Italy;
- associations/cooperatives/other structures managing premises confiscated from camorra in Naples' region.

c) Actors



The actors potentially involved are all structures that represent these two categories of targets, especially associations, cooperatives, small businesses or public authorities

The “don Peppe Diana” Committee (<http://www.dongiuseppediana.com/>) could be the coordinator in Naples’ Region and, starting from the methodology already used by the association VISITERRE (www.visiterre.it/index.php/en/), could propose different kind of interships, trips and workshops in the confiscated premises to better understand the working methods and stories of people that work there.

d) Calendar

The calendar has to be established in cooperation with the structures grouping young people and taking into account the planning of cultural and/ or productive activities in the region.

Therefore the members of the “Cultura contro camorra” in Naples’ Region, interested in this action, will suggest activities related to their own programmes/associations.

These proposals will be submitted to associations/schools/universities grouping young people outside the Naples’ region.

A final calendar will be defined.

e) Methodology (including an anti-camorra rule)

All the phases of this action must be based on our principles: participation, transparency and democracy.

Therefore we have to involve all the actors; especially the “Cultura contro camorra” members from the beginning.



Once this draft is ready, we will send it to all our members for discussion and suggestions.

We will establish also the costs for these internships and/or trips.

On this basis we, all together, will

- decide on the most appropriate program (costs, length, activities, trips, etc.) with the available actors in loco,
- finalize the project and
- launch a call for interest.

In the same time, we will explore the possibility to receive financial supports from public authorities (EU, national, regional, etc.)

We also have to elaborate an “anti-camorra” rule to be sure that all subjects participating to this action are “camorra free”.