

LET'S TELL  
*the good*



## THE PRACTICES OF SOCIAL REUSE OF CONFISCATED ASSETS FROM MAFIAS

NUMBERS, EXPERIENCES,  
AND PROPOSALS

Edited by

**Libera. Associazioni, nomi e numeri contro le mafie aps**

*Confiscated assets department*

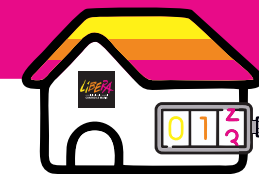
Thanks to Libera's international department for the collaboration and review of data in Europe and Latin America.

Institutional data were collected from the website [www.openregio.anbisc.it](http://www.openregio.anbisc.it) and are updated up to February 22, 2024.

Data on social reuse were collected from Libera's network and updated as of February 22, 2024.

**Graphic design** and layout by Francesco Iandolo

**Printed** by Multiprint, Rome



# A 28-YEAR-LONG REVOLUTION AND THE ROAD AHEAD WILL TAKE US FAR

**“One million signatures to support the social reuse of assets confiscated from the mafia”** - “Collect one million signatures by the summer: this is the goal of the first national campaign promoted by Libera to demand the social use of confiscated assets from mafiosi.” This is how the article published on June 30, 1995, in 27 newspapers by Luigi Ciotti begins, aiming to return the illicitly accumulated wealth of mafias to the citizens.

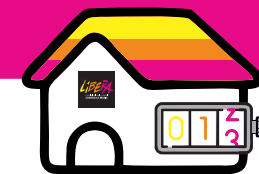
Today, 28 years after the approval of Law 109/96 for the social reuse of confiscated assets, with **1065 civil society organizations** managing them, we can confidently say that the first objective has been achieved: confiscated assets, once symbols of mafia power, have been transformed into common goods, into tools serving communities. More than 500 various types of associations and over 30 schools are using confiscated assets as educational tools, and five labor cooperatives are reflecting on the reuse of confiscated businesses. These 1065 experiences impact the local fabric daily and build a fair economy that can radically change our lives. Enhancing regular labor, supporting the most vulnerable workers and providing welfare services where the State seems absent, is a message to Italy that it is possible to react to the mafia presence and proudly reclaim its spaces.

The path Libera is promoting on confiscated assets started in January 2023 and led to the presentation of a manifesto, **“Raccontiamo il bene. Per un rinnovato impegno sui beni confiscati alle mafie,”** (Let's tell the Good: for a renewed commitment on confiscated assets from the mafias) with over 100 endorsements from anti-mafia movements, groups, NGOs and unions. This document is discussed by communities all over Italy, gathering new insights. We feel a strong responsibility to be supportive protagonists in the rebirth of our communities, hence we wrote there the commitments that we can uphold. By sharing daily achievements, partnering with educational agencies and economic and social partnerships, and continuing dialogue with local authorities, we aim to present our requests to institutions and politi-

cians to strengthen the social reuse of confiscated assets and overcome encountered challenges.

We note concerning signals from the political world, such as constant attacks on preventive measures, attempts to privatize confiscated assets, and a rather disorganized management of dedicated resources. We cannot accept any steps backward in this regard. Preventive measures have proven to be one of the most important tools in the fight against mafias and corruption, as they immediately impact the economic and social control with which criminal groups suffocate people.

Taking up the same words that guided Libera's action in 1995 and remain central to our actions today: ***“We want the State to seize and confiscate all assets of illicit origin, both from mafiosi and corrupt. We want confiscated movable and immovable assets to be quickly transferred through the State and municipalities to the community to create jobs, schools, services, security, and combat hardship.”***



# LET'S TELL THE GOOD - FOR A RENEWED COMMITMENT TO CONFISCATED ASSETS FROM MAFIAS

**Raccontiamo il Bene - Let's Tell the Good** - is a path that began in January 2023, with a call for action to all NGOs, cooperatives, groups and networks that has supported Libera over the years in promoting the social reuse of confiscated assets. The goal is to protect the instrument of social reuse presenting all experiences that have demonstrated its solidity and sustainability over time. We want to significantly amplify the messages around the stories of regeneration of confiscated assets, thus preserving the confiscation as a tool to compensate communities from the presence of organized crime.

## our commitments

FOR THE SOCIAL REUSE OF CONFISCATED ASSETS TO MAFIOSI AND CORRUPTED

- 1 THE ASSET TO WHICH WE GIVE VOICE**
- 2 IN DIALOGUE WITH POLITICS:** WHEN STRATEGIC ALLIANCES ARE CREATED
- 3 WORKING WITH LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES:** HOW TO ACTIVATE A CULTURAL WORK
- 4 THE NETWORK:** STARTING FROM THE TERRITORY, TO WEAVE NEW CONNECTIONS
- 5 THE SOCIAL IMPACT:** LET'S LEARN TO MEASURE THE PUBLIC AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT OF CONFISCATED ASSETS

## the Territory

CENTRAL HUB FOR THE (RE)GENERATION OF VALUE

- 1 THE REGIONAL REGULATION ON PUBLIC AND SOCIAL REUSE:** FROM RENOVATION TO MANAGEMENT, WITH A FOCUS ON CITIZENSHIP
- 2 IF THE WORLD OF INSTITUTIONS AND THE THIRD SECTOR MEET:** PARTICIPATORY PLANNING

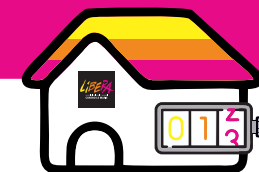
## the Country System

TO TRACE A JOINT PATH FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF CONFISCATED ASSETS AND COMPANIES

- 1 MANAGING CONFISCATED ASSETS:** PRACTICING COMMUNITY POLITICS
  - 2 MANAGEMENT DURING THE SEIZURE PHASE AND THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE DIFFERENT PARTIES INVOLVED IN THE CONFISCATION CHAIN:** AN OPPORTUNITY NOT TO BE WASTED
  - 3 THE ROLE OF ANBSC - NATIONAL AGENCY FOR THE ADMINISTRATION AND ALLOCATION OF SEIZED AND CONFISCATED ASSETS FROM ORGANIZED CRIME** FROM THE PROVISIONAL ASSIGNMENT OF ASSETS TO THE MANAGEMENT OF COMPANIES, FOR THE ACTIVATION OF A CONSTANT DIALOGUE
  - 4 ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES:** THE FUG (UNIQUE JUSTICE FUND) AND EUROPEAN AND NATIONAL FUNDS FOR THE ENHANCEMENT OF CONFISCATED ASSETS
  - 5 THE SALE AND PRIVATIZATION OF CONFISCATED ASSETS:** A RISK OF A REALITY THAT IS BECOMING CURRENT
- 3 THE CARE OF THE COMMON GOOD:** THE MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION AS A CENTRAL ELEMENT OF THE TERRITORY
  - 4 TRAINING ALSO FOR LOCAL PUBLIC AUTHORITIES:** BUILDING PATHWAYS OF POLITICAL AWARENESS
  - 5 THE MANAGEMENT OF A CONFISCATED SPACE:** OFFERING A LONG-TERM PERSPECTIVE AND A GUARANTEE OF CONTINUITY



You can download the entire document by scanning this QR code.



# THE DATA OF ANBSC

National agency for the administration and allocation of seized and confiscated assets from organized crime

From the moment of seizure until the assignment to local authorities, confiscated assets follow a very complex bureaucratic process, during which they receive different classifications depending on the phase:

## ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT

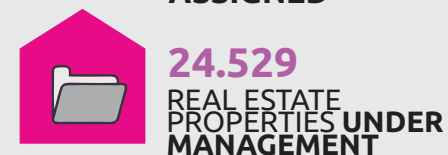
These are assets under the control of the ANBSC. They can be divided into two categories: the first one deals with assets that are still awaiting judgment following an appeal or recourse, so that the confiscation is not yet definitive; the second one regards the assets of the second-degree confiscation, when they are under the direct management of the National Agency. Until then, they are managed by a judicial administrator appointed by the Court.

## ASSIGNED ASSETS

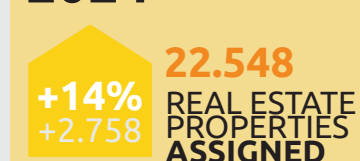
This category includes assets that have reached the end of the legislative process, from confiscation to assignment. This category includes assets transferred to other state administrations for institutional purposes or government use, or to Municipalities (or Regions, Metropolitan Cities, or Provinces) for social purposes. The assignment does not automatically imply that the social reuse has occurred. Unfortunately, it is common for Local Authorities, even though the assets have been transferred to their unavailable assets, to struggle to ensure timely reuse for social purposes.

## NATIONAL AGENCY'S DATA

FEBRUARY 17  
2023

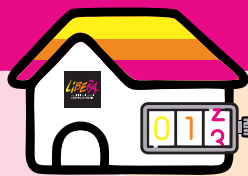


FEBRUARY 22  
2024

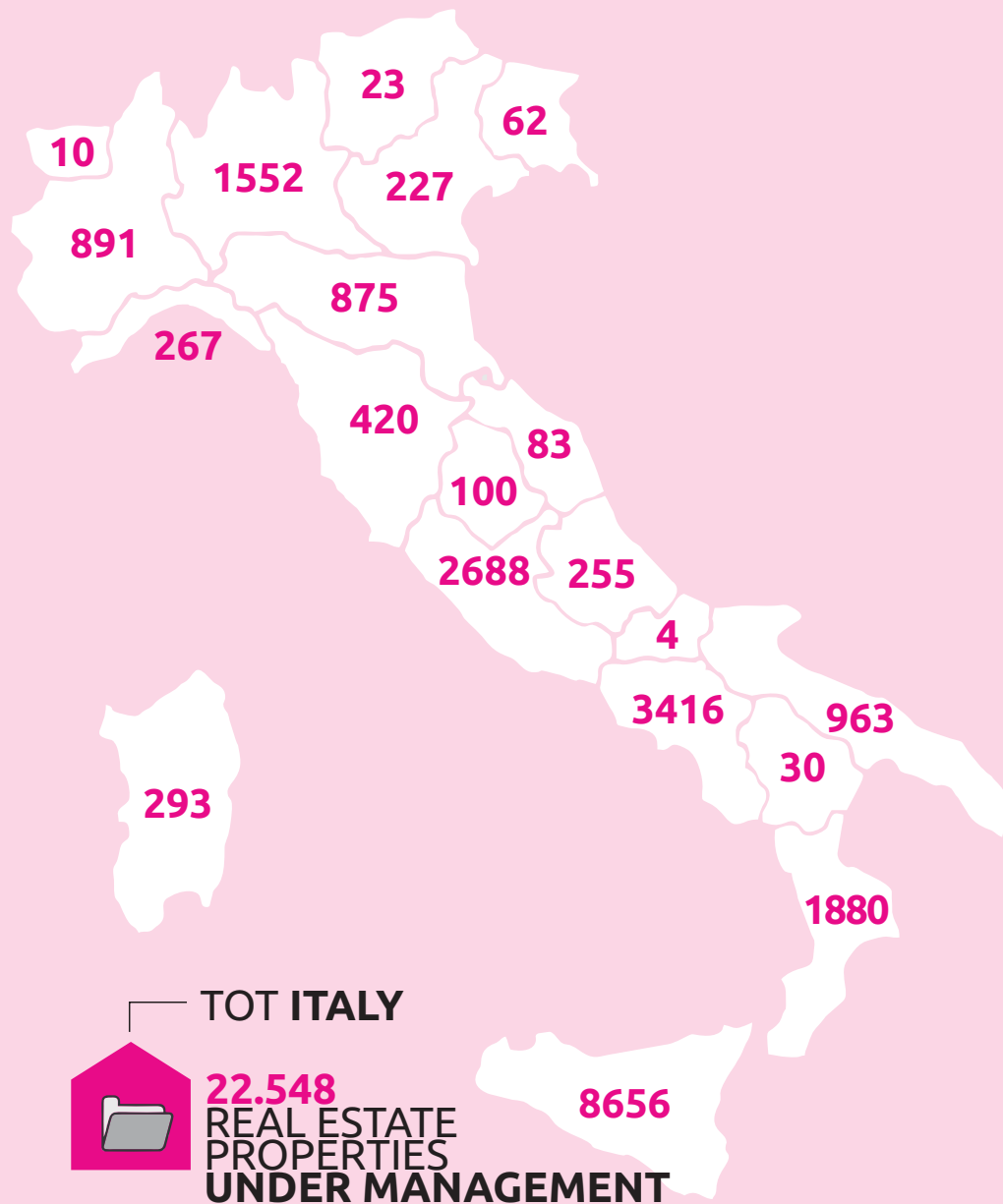


Data collection from February 17, 2023, to February 22, 2024 Source [openregio.anbsc.it](https://openregio.anbsc.it)

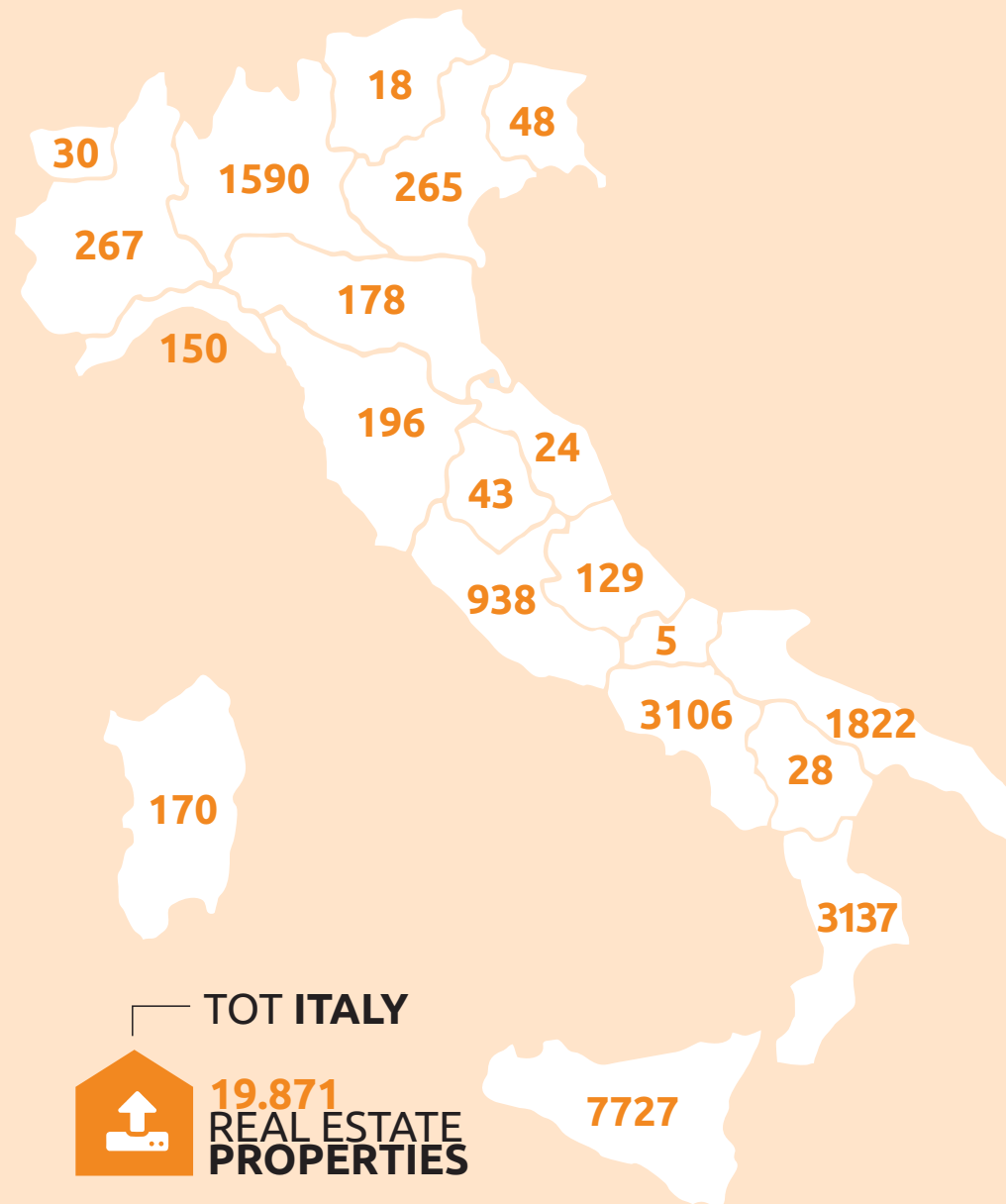
These data refer to individual cadastral parcels and not to the entire asset or real estate unit. In most cases, a piece of land or an apartment consists of multiple parcels, which represent more confiscated assets for the ANBSC. Additionally, here the numbers represent historical data starting from 1982 following the approval of Law No. 646, Rognoni - La Torre.

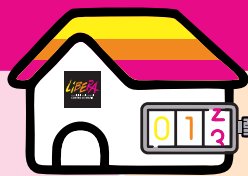


## REAL ESTATE PROPERTIES UNDER MANAGEMENT

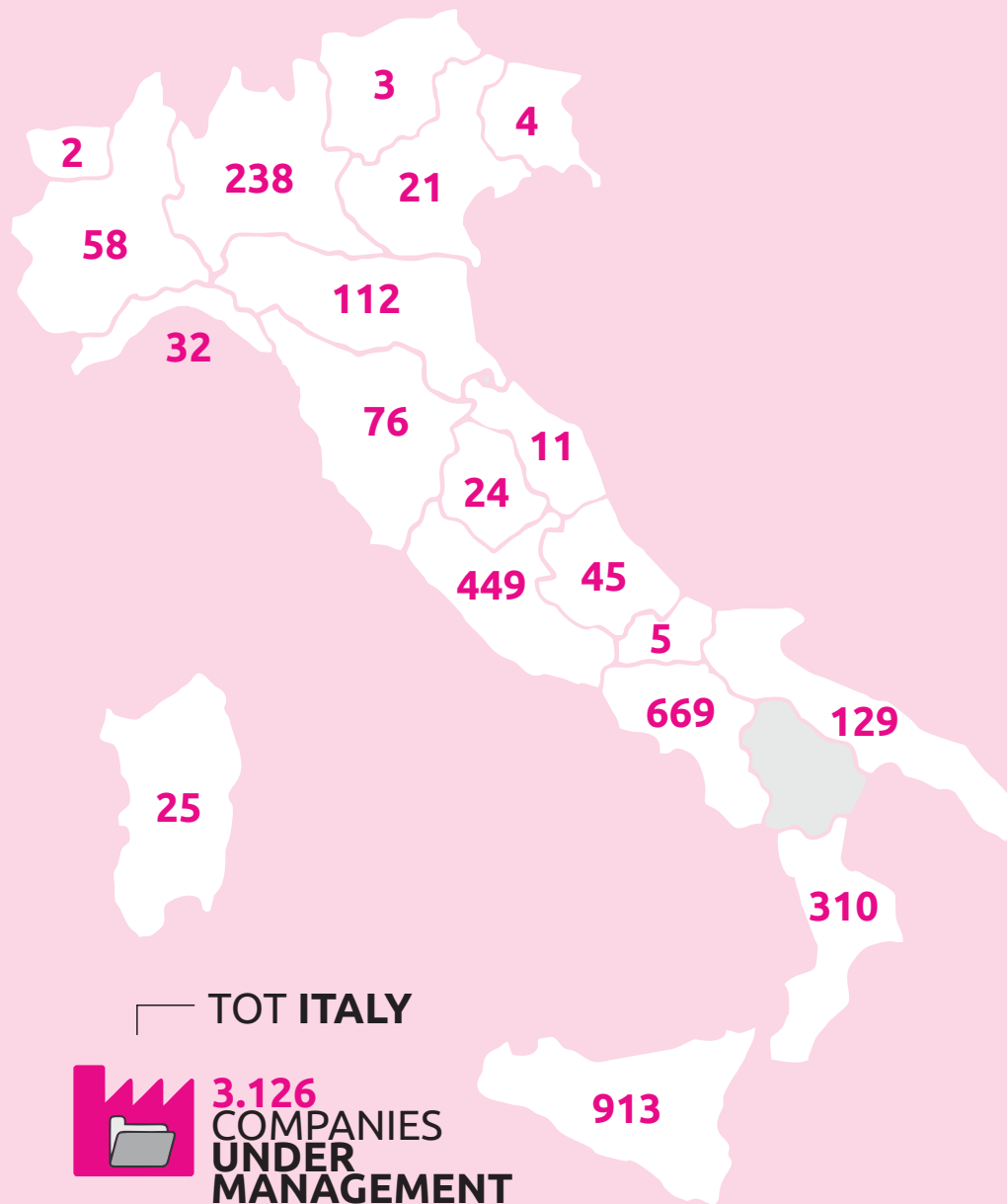


## CONFISCATED AND ASSIGNED REAL ESTATE PROPERTIES

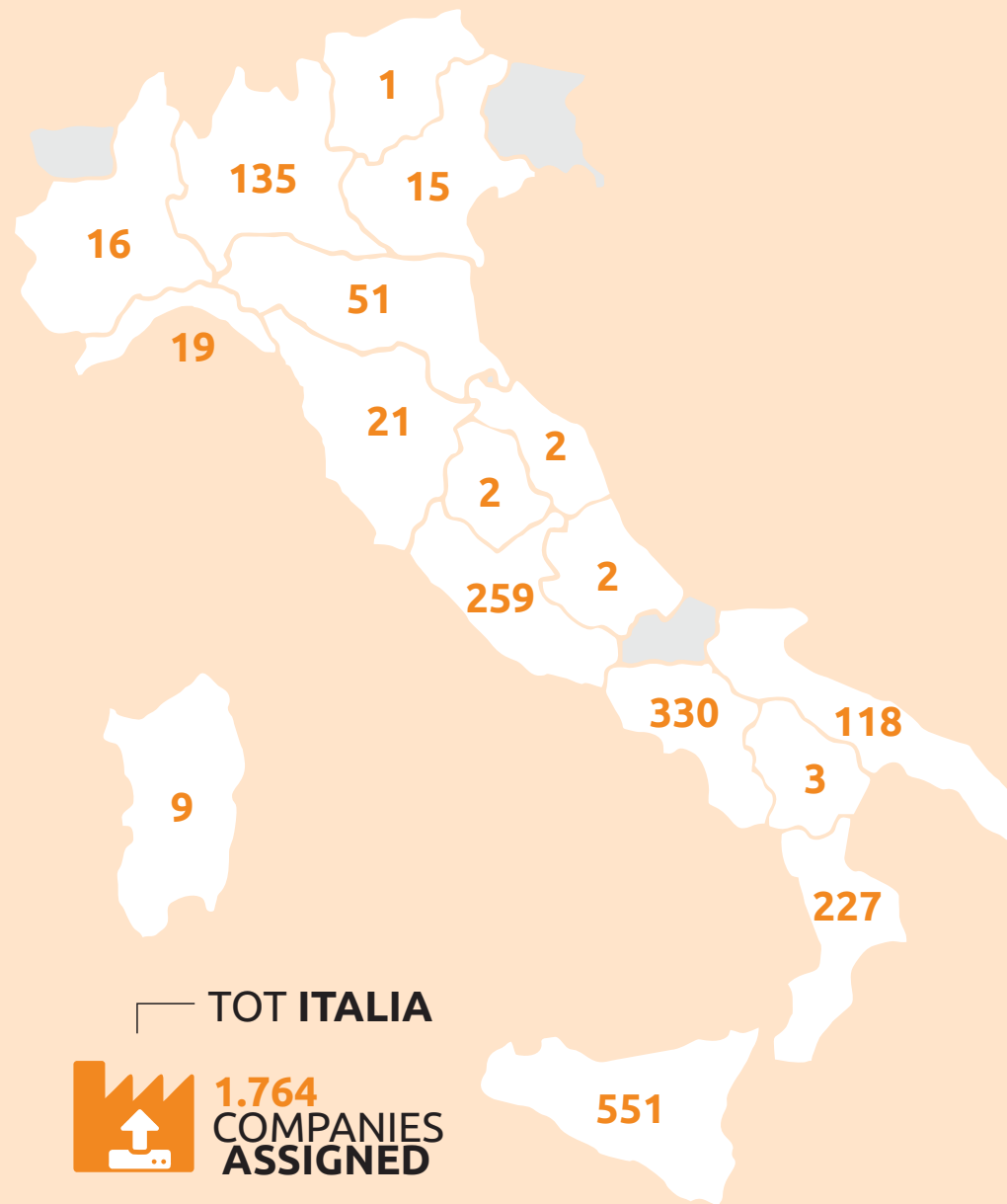


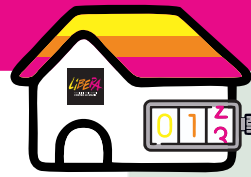


## COMPANIES UNDER MANAGEMENT



## CONFISCATED AND ASSIGNED COMPANIES



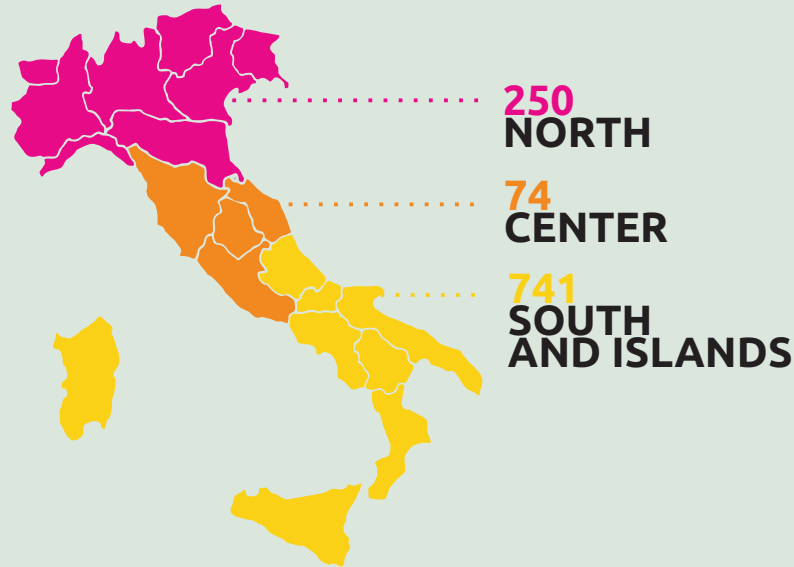


## MANAGEMENT BY NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

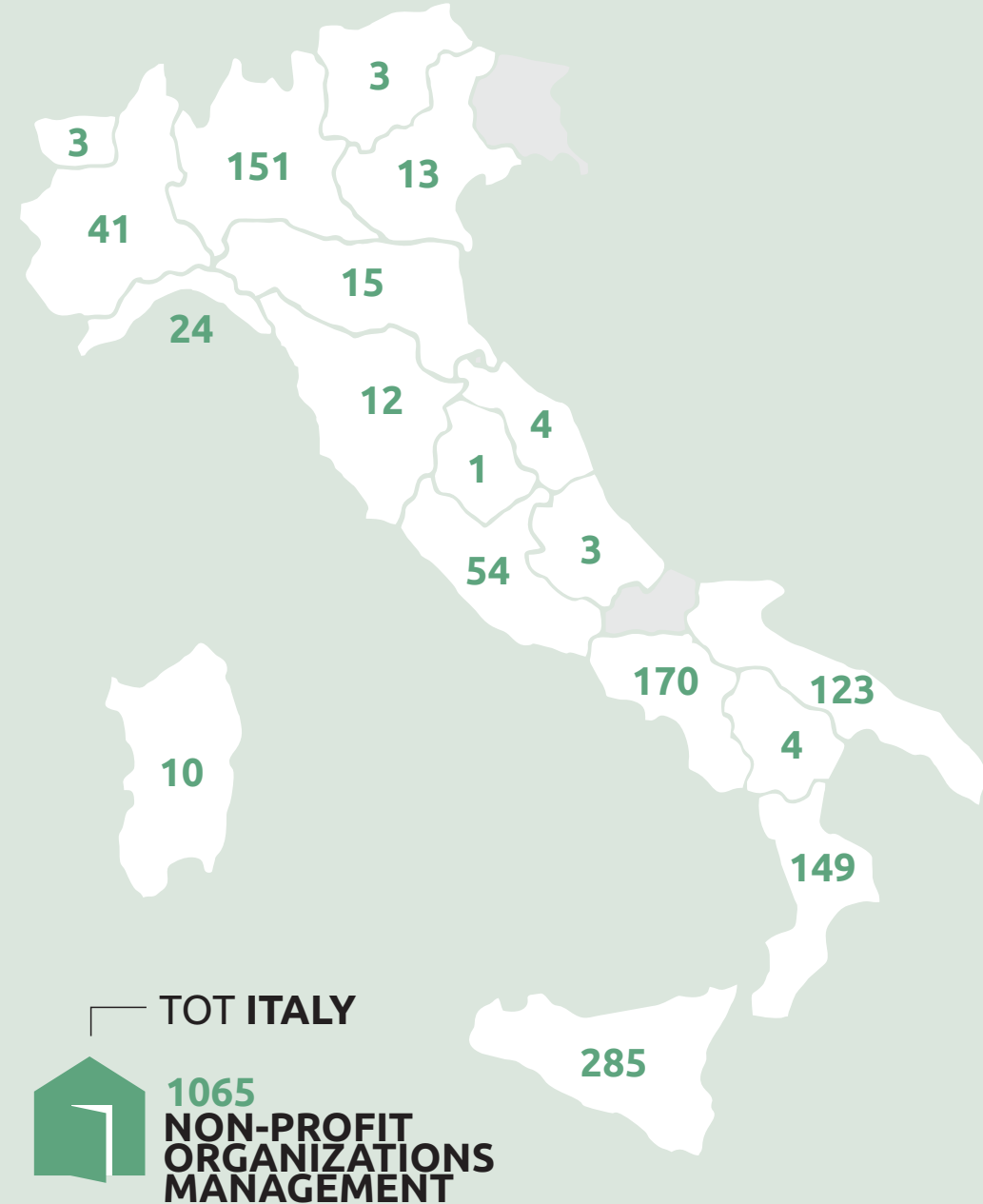
# MAPPING OF NON-PROFIT ENTITIES

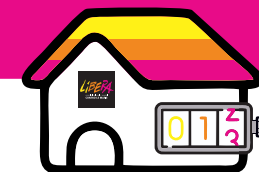
To date, we have counted **1,065** different organizations engaged in the reuse of real estate properties confiscated from organized crime, granted by local entities, in 18 out of 20 regions, across 383 municipali-

## THIRD SECTOR MANAGEMENT ENTITIES



In 2020, the ANBSC initiated a public procedure for the direct assignment of over 1,000 confiscated properties to Third Sector entities, pursuant to Article 48, paragraph 3, letter c bis of the Anti-mafia Code. In recent months, the phase of handing over the properties to the assignees is nearing completion, many of whom are not included in the 1,065 managers recorded in this report. Simultaneously, in December 2023, the Agency published a new call, currently underway, for the direct assignment of an additional 83 lots.

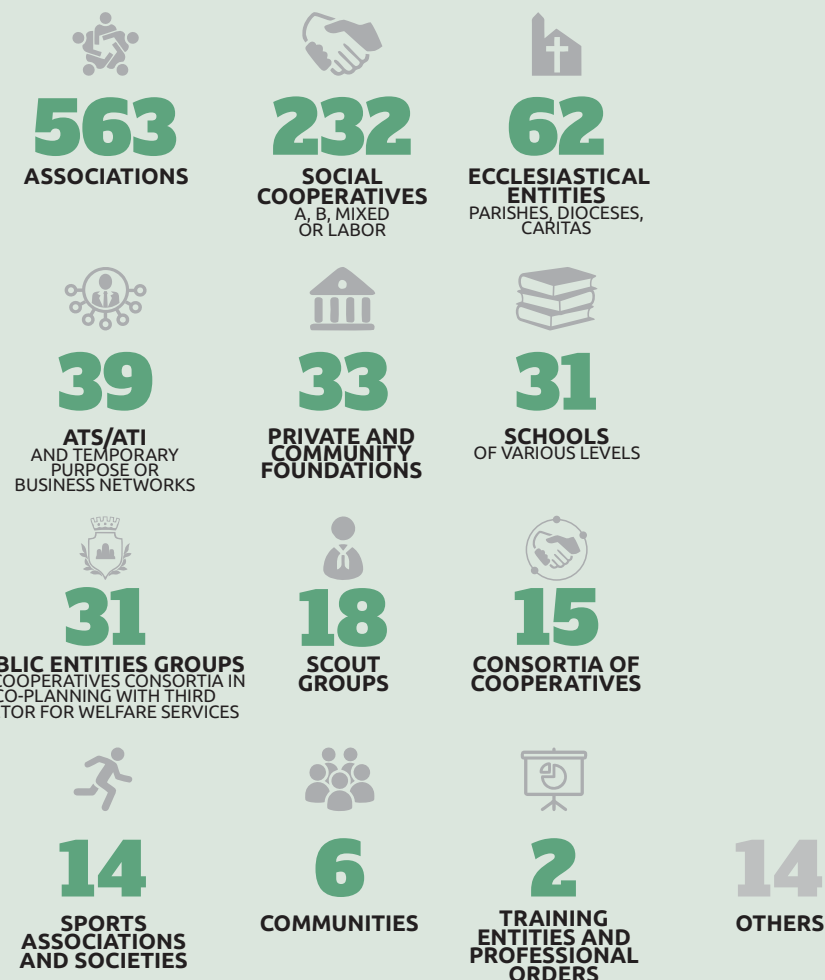


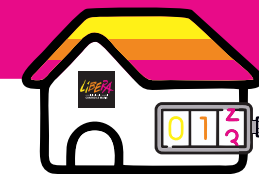


# MANAGEMENT BY NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS IN REUSING CONFISCATED PROPERTIES

The data collected by Libera network shows that more than half of the social entities are composed of various types of associations (563), while social cooperatives are 232; additionally, there are 5 social cooperatives. Among other third sector management entities, there are 14 amateur sports associations, 31 public entities (including healthcare companies, park authorities, and consortia of municipalities offering subsidiary welfare services managed by third sector entities), 39 temporary purpose associations or networks of associations, 62 religious organizations (dioceses, parishes, and Caritas), 33 private and community foundations, 18 scouting groups, and finally 31 educational institutions of various levels. The census does not include real estate properties directly reused for institutional purposes by state and local administrations.

## THIRD SECTOR MANAGEMENT ENTITIES REUSING CONFISCATED PROPERTIES

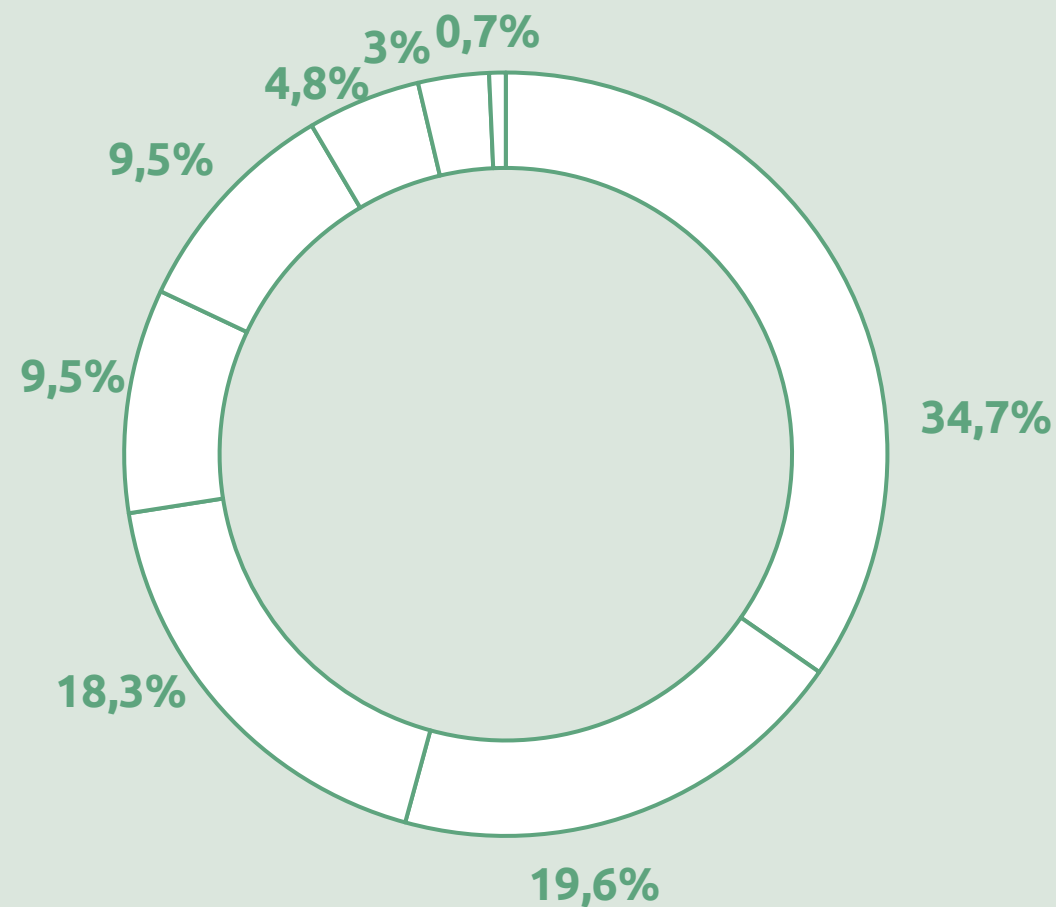


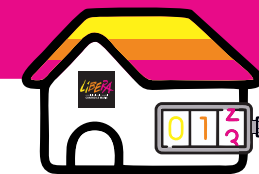


# THE TYPES OF CONFISCATED ASSETS SOCIALLY REUSED

We analyzed the types of properties managed by the organizations. In many cases, a single reuse experience includes multiple confiscated properties, even of different cadastral types, so the total of this chart will not equal the total number previous described:

- 34.7%** Apartment, independent house, property (422)
- 19.6%** Villa, multi-level buildings and various cadastral types, building (238)
- 18.3%** Agricultural, buildable, and other types of land (also with real estate appurtenances) (222)
- 9.5%** Undefined real estate unit, including boats and cars (115)
- 9.5%** Commercial or industrial premises, warehouse, storage room, shop, workshop, office (116)
- 4.8%** Box, garage, parking space, cellar (58)
- 3%** Real estate complex (36)
- 0.7%** Sports facility and tourist structure (9)





# WHAT ACTIVITIES ARE CARRIED OUT IN CONFISCATED PROPERTIES

In order to create new practices of economy and sustainable development it is important to describe in detail the stories of what happens every day within properties confiscated from the mafias, which means narrating the social changes triggered by these projects. We grouped the 1,065 management entities into macro categories of activities, which in part intertwine and overlap. The choice to include a “welfare and social policies” category does not exclude the fact that every community support action is itself an action promoting inclusion, just as our daily experience shows that all confiscated properties are carriers of real and regular jobs. Likewise, all the management entities we have contacted promote culture and knowledge, and tell a new story which produces successful experiences.

**56.8%** Welfare and social policies (660)

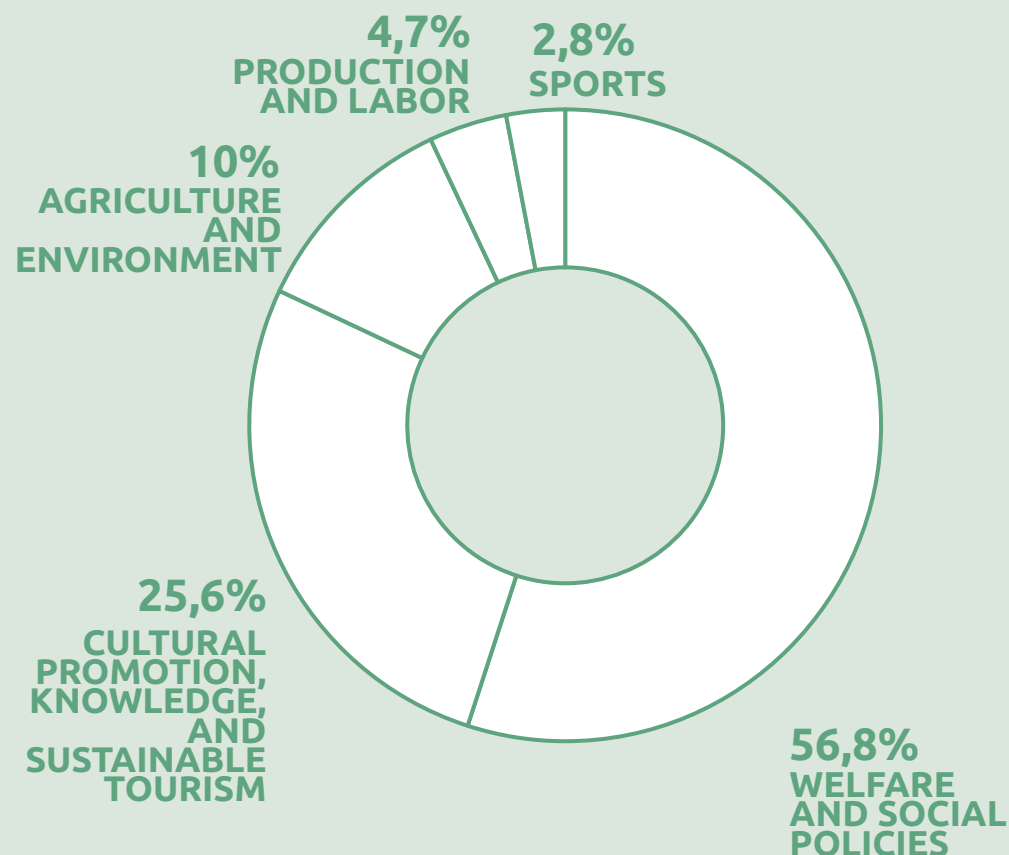
**25.6%** Cultural promotion, knowledge, and sustainable tourism (298)

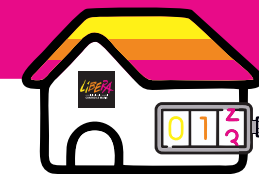
**10%** Agriculture and environment (116)

**4.7%** Production and labor (55)

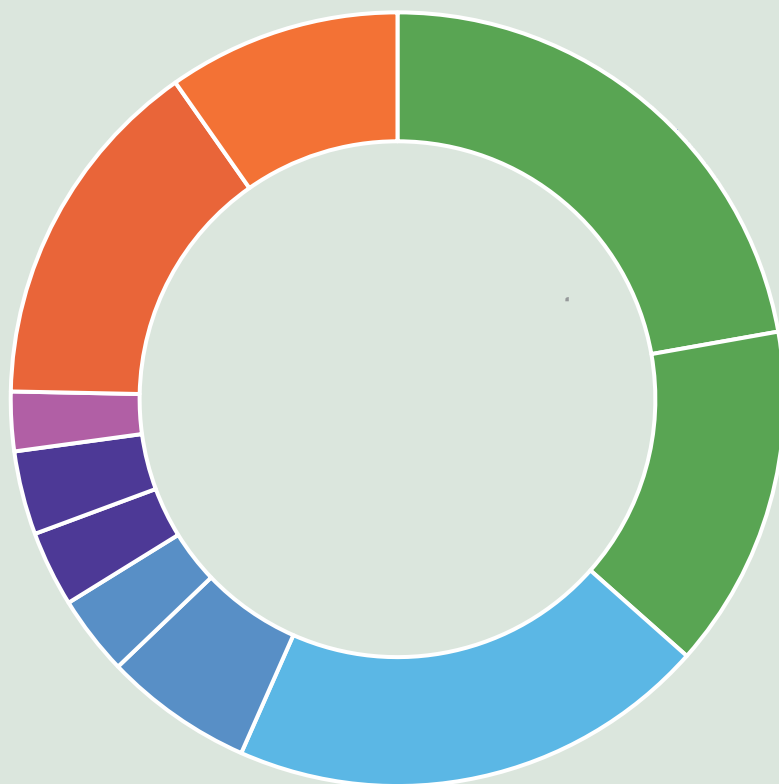
**2.8%** Sports (30)

Attempting to go into more detail regarding the daily activities carried out, we tried to identify some subcategories:





# WHAT ACTIVITIES ARE CARRIED OUT IN CONFISCATED PROPERTIES



## WELFARE AND SOCIAL POLICIES

**260**  
Family homes, anti-violence centers, and shelters, social housing

**178**  
Health and social services

## CULTURAL PROMOTION, KNOWLEDGE, AND SUSTAINABLE TOURISM

**235**  
Cultural and community centers/libraries

## AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

**73**  
Agricultural activities, cultivation

**39**  
Parks/social gardens

## PRODUCTION AND LABOR

**41**  
Food banks/solidarity shops, commercial activities

**37**  
Hospitality structures, tourism

## SPORT

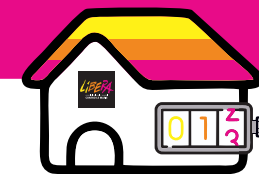
**29**  
Sports facilities/social gyms

## VENUE OF ASSOCIATIVE ACTIVITIES

**175**

## NEWLY ASSIGNED ASSETS

**114**  
under renovation or where activities have yet to start



# CONFISCATED ASSETS IN THE MEMORY TRACK

The memory of the innocent victims of the mafias has always been the reason, the drive, and the horizon of Libera's anti-mafia commitment. Confiscated assets can be a peculiar place in which promoting their memory, because they are capable of unleashing great transformative and regenerative power. In particular, on the issue it is fundamental the Day of Remembrance and Commitment in memory of the innocent victims of the mafias, which occurs every March 21st, the first day of spring.

In 2024, Libera chose Rome to organize the celebrations, to renew its promise of commitment in the name of the innocent victims, and to shine a spotlight on the presence of organized crime in the Capital and in Lazio, and to combat the dangerous and increasingly rampant normalization of mafia and corrupt phenomena.

We were in Rome alongside the families of the innocent victims, to support their demands for justice and truth, to renew collective memory, and to demonstrate our commitment to the common good together with them. We were in Rome to affirm, once again, our determination to defend and promote the value of the public and social reuse of confiscated properties, further strengthening the bridge that unites them to the memory of the victims.

Libera's educational proposal March 21st 2024 was structured into six thematic areas, all centered on the importance of remembrance as a tool to develop paths of deepening, reworking, and commitment.

In this publication, we wanted to highlight the link between memory and confiscated properties by pairing some social reuse experiences with the stories of the victims who inspired them and to whom they have been named after. A few examples, relating to only some of the six thematic areas, but which nevertheless convey the sense of a much broader, widespread, and thorough work. A work that, from the north to the south of the country, bears fruits of hope and change every day.

**ROMA**  
*città libera*

21 marzo 2024  
XXIX giornata della memoria e dell'impegno in ricordo delle vittime innocenti delle mafie

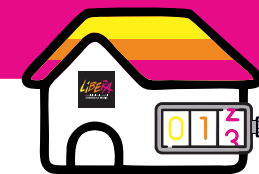
LIBERA  
2013-2014 LE VITTIME CONTRO LE MAFIE

avviso pubblico  
2024-2025 LE VITTIME CONTRO LE MAFIE

con il sostegno di  
ROMA

SOTTO L'ALTO PATRONATO DEL PRESIDENTE DELLA REPUBBLICA

con il patrocinio Rai



## THEMATIC AREA 1 GRAY AREA, ENTREPRENEURSHIP, AND CORRUPTION: THE MAFIAS “OUTSIDE” THE MAFIAS



The term “gray area” refers to the area in which convergences and connivances form between social, political, and entrepreneurial actors and those from the criminal and mafia world. On one side, there are unscrupulous professionals and disloyal administrators, eager to expand their businesses and influence at any cost; on the other, the clans, seeking support to consolidate their power and seize new opportunities for penetration into the legal economy. It is essential to recognize, denounce, and combat these forms of mafia power that live and draw strength from what is “outside” the mafias, avoiding convenient interpretations that have favored a normalization of illegality and corruption.

Among the names of innocent victims that Libera points out, several are those of state and institutional representatives who died because they did not succumb to corruption attempts. For instance, **Francesco Marcone**, director of the Registry Office of Foggia, who reported attempts at tax evasion and corruption involving public officials. A confiscated property in Cerignola, the **Laboratorio di Legalità Francesco Marcone** (Francesco Marcone Laboratory of Legality), managed by the Pietra di Scarto Cooperative, is named after him. The project is committed to promoting social and economic justice through the dissemination of an anti-mafia culture, the practice of sustainable agriculture, education on legality, and critical consumption, aiming to provide employment opportunities to people from fragile situations and at risk of social exclusion.

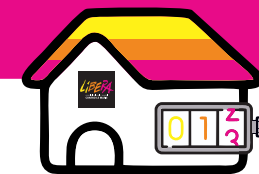
## THEMATIC AREA 2 THE IMPORTANCE OF THE “PUBLIC GOOD”



The most important institutional buildings are in Rome, hence we believe it is fundamental to affirm the great responsibility that political bodies have towards all citizens and their duty to exercise power constructively, always considering people's needs. This is what some of the innocent victims of the mafias, listed by Libera, did. They lost their lives precisely because they performed their political roles with integrity, protecting the needs of the citizens.



This is how **Pio La Torre** acted, the promoter of the law that introduced the crime of mafia association into the Penal Code and conceived the strategy of patrimonial contrast against the mafias. He conducted this battle with clarity, determination, and courage, fully aware of Italy's need to make a decisive leap forward in the fight against the mafia. Pio La Torre was assassinated, along with **Rosario Di Salvo**, on the morning of April 30, 1982, in Palermo. In his memory, the **Centro Studi e Iniziative Culturali** di Palermo (Center for Studies and Cultural Initiatives of Palermo) is dedicated, located in a confiscated apartment. Its mission is to enhance the ideal and political legacy of Pio La Torre through studies, initiatives, research, public meetings, publications, and study moments. The center also houses a library.



## THEMATIC AREA 3 INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM: RECOGNIZING THE MAFIAS TO COUNTER THEM

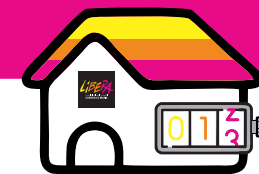


Freedom of information is one of the pillars of democracy. It allows us not only to know what is happening in the world but also to monitor the actions of public figures and institutions that exercise power delegated by the citizens, the state of rights in our communities, to expose forms of illegality and corruption, and to stimulate the creation of civic consciousness. Investigative journalism plays a crucial role in this sense, historically proving to be a real thorn in the side of mafias and corrupt powers, and at the same time, a valuable tool in the search for truth. It is not surprising, therefore, that in the long list of innocent victims maintained by Libera, there are journalists and information workers killed in Italy and abroad.

In this context, the story of **Peppino Impastato** is emblematic. He was assassinated in Cinisi on May 9, 1979. From a strip of land in the Palermo province, his story has transcended space and time, transforming him into the paradigm of the anti-mafia activist, the journalist in love with the truth, and the politician thirsty for social justice. Peppino was all of these, but above all, he was a young man of value, honest and courageous, determined to turn his dream of change into a concrete path of commitment. He pursued this dream all his life, without fear, immersed in a land and family of mafia. That mafia thought it could silence his dream with explosives. But in vain, because Peppino is more alive than ever.

The **Collina della Pace** (Hill of Peace) is named after Peppino. It is a place confiscated and regenerated in the heart of the Finocchio

district in Rome. In 2001, the entire area was confiscated from the Banda della Magliana (a criminal organization based in Rome during the 70s until the 90s) and assigned to the Municipality of Rome for social use. On April 23, 2016, the Biblioteca Collina della Pace (Hill of Peace Library), one of the most beautiful and modern libraries in Rome, was inaugurated, with a book collection that includes several volumes donated by the Emeritus President Giorgio Napolitano. Every summer, participants of E!State Liberi, the *campi di Impegno e Formazione sui beni confiscati alle mafie* (commitment and training camps on confiscated assets from the mafias), stay in the Peppino Impastato park. The volunteers, coming from all over Italy, perform maintenance, gardening, and painting of the walls surrounding the structure. In 2019, on the occasion of an E!State Liberi! camp, the Rose Garden of Legality, dedicated to innocent victims of the mafias, was planted.



## THEMATIC AREA 4 STORIES OF WOMEN INNOCENT VICTIMS OF MAFIAS AND FEMICIDE: FROM VIOLENCE TO COMMITMENT



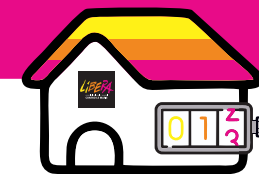
Violence against women is a social phenomenon that can emerge in different cultural contexts but consistently originates from similar roots in the concepts of dominance and possession that men exercise over women. This mindset is a product of an education that has been ingrained for centuries, where the control of women's bodies and

lives is seen as a visible sign of power and social recognition. The stories of some women, innocent victims whose names are on Libera's list, are also testimonies of struggle, emancipation, and liberation from criminal environments. In some cases, these have led to important choices for radical change and hope.

One such story is that of **Rita Atria**, an innocent victim of the mafias who denounced mafia members, whose life unfolds between Partanna, in the province of Trapani, and Rome. Born into a mafia family, after losing her brother, she courageously decided to distance herself from that world, overcoming the cultural constraints of her upbringing and choosing to foster justice. This long and complex journey led her to live in Rome under protection. The anti-mafia judge Paolo Borsellino personally supported her. However, after the bombing in Via D'Amelio where Borsellino died, she was unable to bear the loss and just a few days after, seventeen-year-old Rita took her own life by jumping from the balcony of her residence in Via Amelia, Rome.

**Cascina Arzilla** in Volvera, in the countryside near Turin, is named after Rita. Its reuse is strongly linked to the issues of environmental and human exploitation: eco-crimes and agricultural labor,

both migrant and non-migrant, are sources of profit for mafias and represent the enormous damage they cause to the community and people's rights. Respect for the environment and agricultural workers are also key elements in the challenge for a more just and sustainable future. The estate hosts classes engaged in education on legality, as well as Libera's summer commitment and training camps. In **Calendasco** (in the province of Piacenza), a warehouse named after Rita was transformed in 2018 into a depot for municipal vehicles, offices for Civil Protection, a house of legality and culture, and the headquarters of the Libera Piacenza Anti-mafia Observatory. This place is also lively with activities promoting legality that involve local schools.



## THEMATIC AREA 5 POVERTY AND INEQUALITIES: WHEN THE MAFIAS HAVE AN EASY GAME



It is on the denial of rights that mafias and criminality act to legitimize and strengthen their power, especially in certain areas of our country and in some neighborhoods where institutions are unable to meet people's concrete needs, creating a perverse dynamic that generates consensus and subjugation to mafias.

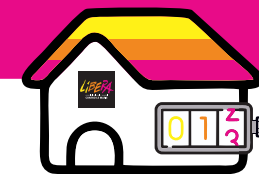


Therefore, a paradigm shift is essential concerning the currently dominant social and economic models, which are based on and perpetuate inequalities. In fact, it is necessary to respond to the needs of every individual and community, ensuring dignity and rights for all.



This was the horizon of commitment for many innocent victims. Like **Father Pino Puglisi**, the first mafia victim recognized as a martyr by the Catholic Church, killed in Palermo on September 15, 1993, and beatified on May 25, 2013. Or like **Placido Rizzotto**, who, from a very young age, joined the partisan resistance, then returned to Sicily to lead the peasant movement, demanding rightful claims for many Sicilian laborers. He was assassinated in Corleone on March 10, 1948. Or, finally, like **Antonio Esposito Ferraioli**, a cook in the kitchens of Fatme, a large multinational factory in Pagani, in the province of Salerno. Very active in the union world, he denounced the management of sub-supplies for the canteen and organized political activities in the factory. He was killed by a Camorra (criminal structure based in Napoli area) commando at just 27 years old, on August 30, 1978.

The **Centro La Bussola** (Compass Center) in Bovalino, in the province of Reggio Calabria, in Locride, is named after Father Pino, and its activities are aimed at young people in vulnerable situations. Placido's name is given to the first of the nine Libera Terra cooperatives, established in 2001 to manage and make productive some confiscated assets in Alto Belice Corleonese. Finally, the **Social Market** managed by the **Nonna Roma** association in San Lorenzo and the **Masseria Antonio Esposito Ferraioli in Afragola**, near Naples, are dedicated to Antonio. Among other things, about 300 urban gardens have been created on its 120,000 square meters. The estate also has a rural building, destined to become a shelter for women victims of violence.



# PUBLIC AND SOCIAL REUSE IN EUROPE

*“Our CHANCE for a new political agenda against organized crime and corruption in Europe”* refers to the initiative promoted by Libera in synergy with **CHANCE - Civil Hub Against Organised Crime in Europe** - and plays a fundamental role in countering transnational mafia and corrupt systems, through the inclusion of civil society.

Mafias aim to conquer and increase their economic capital through their businesses. But not only that. They aim to organize and manage the territory according to their structures and needs, achieving a higher social position and thus “social capital”. Organized crime benefits from the absence of the State and the resulting power vacuum. Large sums of laundered money are invested to impose new rules and perpetuate distorted social networks, with fake job positions, thereby maintaining control over the territory in the long term. Control over the territory, understood as the geographical space and the communities living there, must be taken away from organized crime groups through confiscation. We must plant new seeds to develop a new societal capital and a new economic model capable of providing jobs, dignity, and services to people.

The social reuse of confiscated assets is a powerful tool to pursue these goals: it allows the State and social enterprises to join forces to repair damaged social fabric, create cohesion, virtuous economic circuits, and enable social inclusion, thereby strengthening the democratic system.

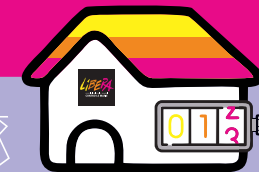
In order to create and strengthen mechanisms for the public and social reuse of confiscated assets from organized crime and mafias,

## **We call on the EU to:**

- > Make measures for the social reuse of confiscated assets binding alongside other asset management forms in the new proposal for a directive on asset recovery and confiscation;
- > Review mechanisms for participation in inter-institutional meetings on confiscated asset management to ensure adequate involvement and dialogue with CSOs;

## **And we call on the EU and Member States to:**

- > Establish a special fund to support civil society projects involving confiscated assets.



# PUBLIC AND SOCIAL REUSE IN EUROPE

## 19 EUROPEAN MEMBER STATES WITH NATIONAL LEGISLATION

Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Germany, Greece, Spain, France, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia

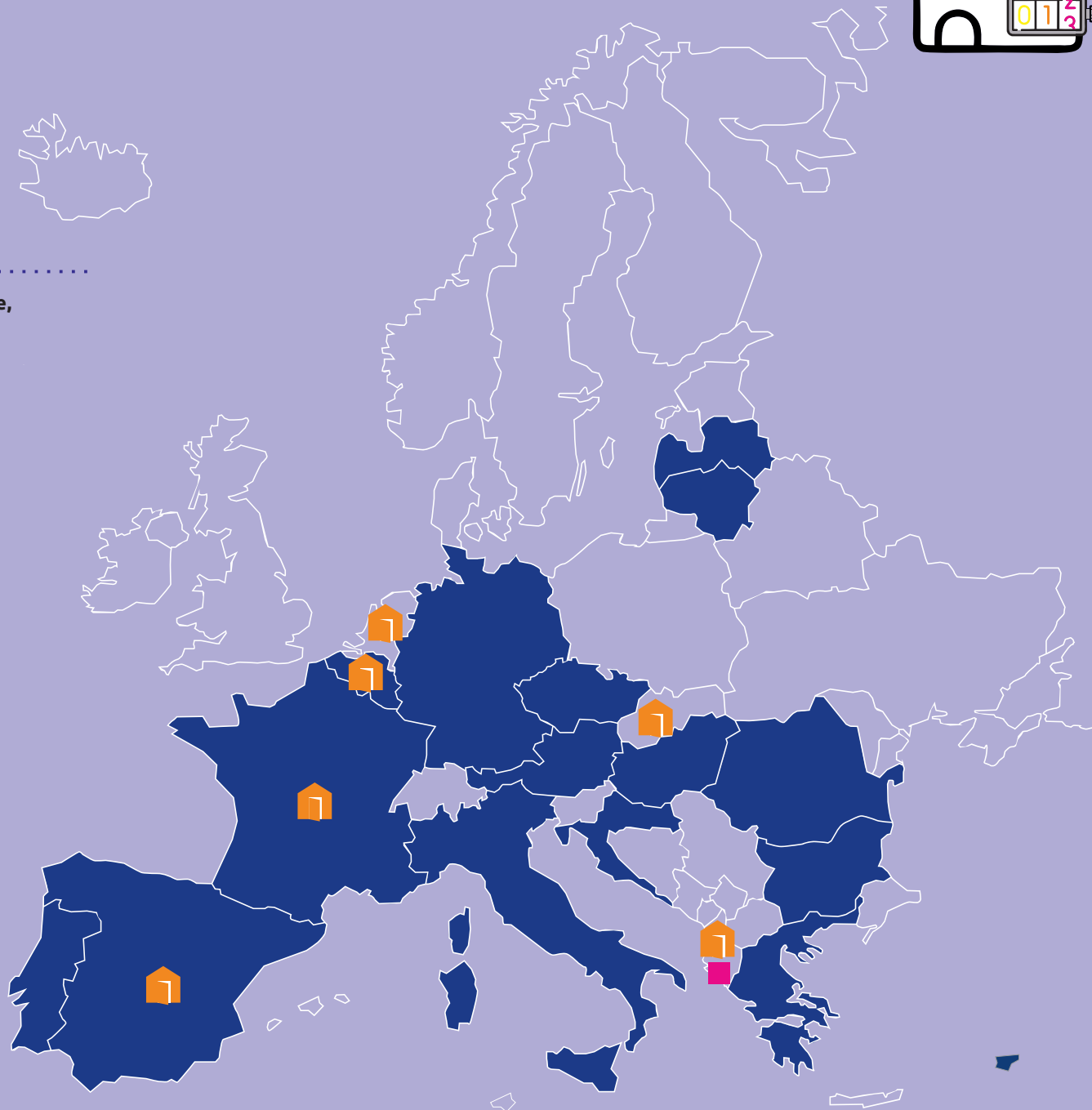
### 7 EUROPEAN MEMBER STATES WITH CONCRETE CASES OF PUBLIC AND/OR SOCIAL REUSE

Spain, Italy, Netherlands, France, Belgium, Bulgaria, Romania

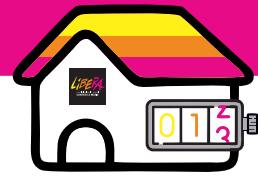
### 17 EXPERIENCES OF PUBLIC AND SOCIAL REUSE

### 1 EU CANDIDATE COUNTRY WITH CONCRETE CASES OF PUBLIC AND/OR SOCIAL REUSE

Albania



# PUBLIC AND SOCIAL REUSE IN EUROPE



## ALBANIA

In Albania, the reuse of confiscated assets plays a crucial role in combating organized crime and supporting local communities. Initiatives such as **CAUSE** - Confiscated Assets Used for Social Experimentation - and the **TWIST** project aim to encourage civil society involvement in Albania by creating a network of solidarity and resilience focused on the social reuse of confiscated assets.

### TWIST - Towards a New Model of Social Entrepreneurship

#### Introduction and key points

Libera, together with Partners Albania for Change and Development and the Municipality of Tirana, is involved in the organization and promotion of the TWIST initiative. This initiative aims to increase the involvement of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in national and local decision-making processes, encouraging social entrepreneurship on confiscated assets as a measure to counter local, national, and European organized crime. By including Albanian citizens, especially those from more at-risk groups, CSOs will be able to breathe new life into resources and territories taken from organized crime.

Thanks to the adoption of Law No. 10192/2009, Albania has already initiated social reuse activities, converting confiscated assets into public goods and directing public spending towards more effective outcomes for citizens. Additionally, the project can benefit from the experience of CAUSE, the first initiative in Albania that established social enterprises in five confiscated assets in the country and the Western Balkans region.

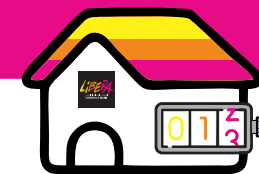
#### Practical case of social use

The “New Art and Activism Center” is one of the social enterprises supported by the TWIST project, created on a confiscated property in Durres by the organization “Durresi Aktiv.” Founded in Durres in 2019, Durresi Aktiv aims to inspire and empower citizens towards activism through increased involvement in civic initiatives. The main objective of “Durresi Aktiv” is to enhance democratic standards, active citizenship, strengthen communities, and ensure equal opportunities for vulnerable groups.

The Center, a small 67-square-meter apartment located by the sea in Durres, promotes artistic creativity through various cultural events and the development of civic skills, hosting artists and professionals to showcase their work. The Center functions as a gallery to exhibit various artworks, including paintings, sculptures, and crafts, open to all artists in Durres, helping to connect young artists, institutions, and citizens. The proceeds from the sale of art and crafts contribute to the economic empowerment of their producers and the sustainability of the social enterprise.

Among the main actions supported by Durresi Aktiv is the revitalization and conservation of Durres’ cultural heritage through exhibitions and cultural activities that promote strong social engagement. Furthermore, the creation of community spaces and moments is the foundational principle not only of the center but also of the organization itself, aiming to promote social unity and commitment through platforms for volunteering like Jamvullnetar.al.

# PUBLIC AND SOCIAL REUSE IN EUROPE



## ALBANIA

### CAUSE - Confiscated Assets Used for Social Experimentation

#### Introduction

The CAUSE project, funded by the EU Delegation in Albania - IPA ALBANIA Program, aims to promote the effective and sustainable reuse of confiscated assets from organized crime by Albanian civil society organizations. CAUSE is the first initiative in Albania that proposes a new approach to the management and activities of confiscated assets, enhancing civil society involvement, creating new social enterprises, and utilizing international best practices. CAUSE establishes itself as a valid tool to reaffirm the value of legality and citizen action against organized crime.

#### Concrete examples of social use

Through an innovative approach, CAUSE has managed to transform three confiscated assets from organized crime in three different cities in Albania into environments that offer educational opportunities, employment, and integration for marginalized groups affected by or at risk of being affected by organized crime, as well as services for citizens and socio-cultural and awareness activities for the community.

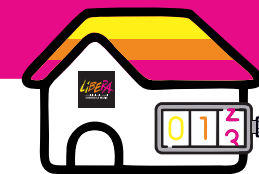
Among the various social enterprises developed through CAUSE, we find:

- **KeBuono - Social Pastry Shop** which offers a variety of pastry products, as well as numerous integration activities with parents, children, students, and women. Additionally, professional training courses are promoted for prisoners and their families. Seventy-five percent of the staff consists of women, at-risk youth, or victims of organized crime from the city of Fier. KeBuono contributes to overcoming prejudices and doubts about the possible reuse of confiscated assets.

- **Social Crafting Garage** is a workshop set up in a confiscated asset in Saranda, where women and girls who are victims or at risk of organized crime and domestic violence are trained and employed in stone craftsmanship. The workshop conveys a strong message about the significant value of social reuse and how it supports the inclusion of civil society and the local economy.

Among the various activities promoted by CAUSE, **KinFolk - Coffee Library**, a multifunctional space for young people, remains one of the social reuse activities of confiscated assets with the greatest impact in Albania, despite no longer being active.

# PUBLIC AND SOCIAL REUSE IN EUROPE



## ALBANIA

### RISE-ALB - *strengthening social entrepreneurship in Albania*

#### Introduction and key points

The **RISE-ALB** project: strengthening social entrepreneurship in Albania has the primary goal of strengthening and consolidating existing social entrepreneurship experiences in Albania. The activity focuses on the inclusion of people from the most disadvantaged segments of the population by strengthening Albanian Civil Society Organizations. The presence of social enterprises in Albania and the return of confiscated assets to civil society promote the training and employment of socially vulnerable categories. Through the recognition of existing social enterprise practices, RISE-ALB aims to encourage the creation of more social enterprises in the country, focusing on the opportunity to use confiscated assets for social purposes.

#### Practical case of social reuse

Another example of a social enterprise in Albania is the “**My Artisan Tradition**” initiative, dedicated to the preservation of Albanian cultural traditions. This initiative was proposed by the Joscelyn Foundation with the support of the OSCE and the AICS - Italian Agency for Development Cooperation, through ENGIM Internazionale, as part of the RISE-ALB project. Its purpose is to preserve the valuable tradition of Albanian craftsmanship, passing it on to new generations, particularly including women and young girls. This initiative encourages everyone, especially those in difficulty or with economic and social problems, to open up new opportunities through art and craftsmanship.



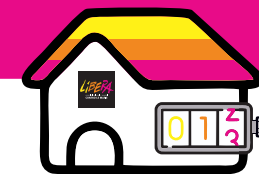
## SPAIN

The *Galicia Vela Adaptada* (**GAVEA**) project, supported by the Association for People with Disabilities of Bisbarra de Muros, a member of COGAMI (Confederacion Galega de Persoas con Discapacidades), promotes social integration experiences through the reuse of Laion, a confiscated sailboat. This initiative generates integration and synergy among crew members and all those interested in participating, promoting not only inclusion but also the enhancement of a common asset. Additionally, GAVEA helps raise awareness about disabilities through recreational activities for people with disabilities, facilitating their personal growth and integration.

**Finca el Campell** refers to a villa near Alicante, in southern Spain, confiscated in 2007 from Iberian drug trafficker Francisco Javier Martínez Sanmillán. This 12,000-square-meter villa was confiscated thanks to the Necora and Temple operations by the Spanish police against drug trafficking and is now a dependency treatment center managed by the Municipality of Pedreguer, following the approval of the Municipal Plan of Pedreguer for Drug Addiction and Other Dependency Disorders (Ayuntamiento de Pedreguer, Alicante) in 2016.

The **Troika operation**, conducted in 2008 by the Spanish Civil Guard, Customs, and National Police in collaboration with the judicial police of the United States, Germany, Russia, Switzerland, and Belgium, aimed at the arrest of members of the Tambovskaya Malyshevskaya group for crimes such as money laundering, arms trafficking, extortion, contract killings, and drug trafficking. This operation also promoted the recovery and reintegration of properties and confiscated assets from organized crime. In this context, the **Amadip Esment Foundation**, a non-profit organization, promoted initiatives for the social reuse of confiscated assets, focusing on supporting people with disabilities.

# PUBLIC AND SOCIAL REUSE IN EUROPE



## FRANCE

In France, there is an example of the reuse of a confiscated apartment in central Paris, once owned by Gioacchino Campolo, the king of video poker. As early as 2017, the Reggio Calabria prosecutor's office had directed the French authorities towards the confiscation of the property. Following the confiscation, the property was managed by the Agence de Gestion et de Recouvrement des Avoirs Saisis et Confisqués (AGRASC) and given to an association, **Amicale du Nid**, which focuses on the inclusion of women victims of violence. This initiative represents a step forward from the sale of seized and confiscated assets for economic purposes, as provided by French law, to social reuse.



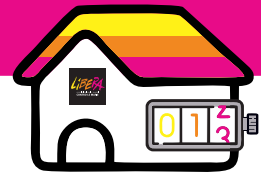
## BULGARIA

A small building confiscated in **Sliven**, Bulgaria, is just one of the cases of confiscated assets being reused by civil society in the country. This structure is used as a school, with a large playground, garden, big kitchen and dining hall, and spacious classrooms. Bulgaria is a region characterized by multiple ethnic groups, including the Roma, who are often marginalized with low integration into society and a consequent increased risk of criminality. This building aims to be a redemption opportunity for all marginalized children and young people, giving them a chance for renewal.

Many children in Bulgaria, being confined to city ghettos, have never seen the sea. In light of this, a facility near the beach in **Burgas** has been identified. Roma children in Bulgaria often do not have access to education and the same opportunities guaranteed to others; they lack the necessary tools for societal integration and are completely marginalized. This facility could be the right place for the realization of summer camps for these children, providing them with community moments and the opportunity to see the sea.

In Bulgaria, a residential property of 274 square meters in **Nessebar** (in the province of Burgas), formerly used by a well-known drug lord, was confiscated in 2010 and transferred to the Cadastre Agency in 2016.

# PUBLIC AND SOCIAL REUSE IN EUROPE



## BELGIUM

The building that currently houses “**Les Ateliers du Midi**” was once an illegal textile factory accused of exploiting workers. This property was auctioned to the Municipality of Saint Gilles in Brussels and renovated under Objective 2 of the European Social Fund. Since 2007, this center has become a place dedicated to promoting professional training and developing employment integration activities. 2,500 square meters are now available for anyone wishing to attend professional courses and find work.

In 2014, thanks to European funds, the facility was expanded to include sectors such as eco-construction and events. The collaboration between local authorities and associations was crucial for the project's success.

In Belgium, there are two other possibilities for the social reuse of confiscated assets. The first is possible until the assets are seized, after which they would be reused by the federal police. The second possibility is that confiscated assets are sold through Finmmo and Finshop. The proceeds from the sale would then go to the federal government. This could be considered more of an indirect reuse, but not necessarily social.

Additionally, for a year now in Belgium, within the Justice Committee of the Chamber of Deputies, there has been a discussion about what would be the first bill on the social reuse of confiscated assets from organized crime.



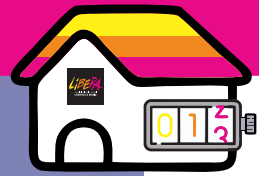
## ROMANIA

In Romania, an example of social reuse involves several properties confiscated from a criminal organization specialized in drug trafficking. In 2018, the **Ilfov** Tribunal ordered the confiscation of four properties, including the boss's house and several cars acquired from the income generated by drug trafficking activities. In fact, in 2016, these properties were the site of a cannabis cultivation operation equipped with irrigation, aeration, lighting, and ventilation systems necessary to grow the plants indoors. The properties were entrusted to an association with the aim of reusing these places to create temporary housing for vulnerable people or crime victims.

Another case of potential reuse of a confiscated asset concerns a venue in **Bucharest** previously used for money laundering. The perpetrators defrauded a computer store, using offshore and domestic companies to hide the money, concluding damaging contracts for the store and not delivering the goods. The building was then handed over to criminals, who, after transferring it to a third company, began renting office spaces to collect profits. The authorities confiscated the building, which is now under the management of the Ministry of Justice and will become the office of the National Probation Directorate.

A further case of social reuse in Romania involves a confiscated property in **Bacău** County. The Ministry of Justice, through the National Agency for the Administration of Seized Assets, proposed to the Ministry of Finance to take the necessary measures to transfer the confiscated property free of charge to the administrative-territorial unit of Comuna Traian, in Bacău County, to be transformed into a home for the elderly.

# PUBLIC AND SOCIAL REUSE IN EUROPE



## NETHERLANDS

In the Netherlands, the only example of social reuse of a confiscated asset can be observed in **Rotterdam**. This involves the ship **Sila Inua**, which was confiscated from organized crime in 2007. Originally designed for Arctic research, the ship later ended up in the hands of drug traffickers. It is now used by a nautical institute in Rotterdam for training activities. Despite this practical example of social reuse of a confiscated asset from organized crime, the Netherlands does not have national legislation regulating effective public and social reuse.

## A NEW DIRECTIVE IN EUROPE

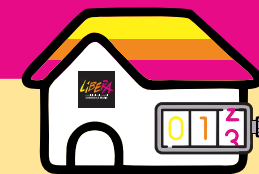
Since December 2022, discussions have been ongoing to approve a new EU directive on asset recovery and confiscation. The discussion involves the European Commission, European Parliament, and Council, with the aim of establishing minimum European standards for the tracking, identification, freezing, confiscation, and management of criminal assets.

In December 2023, an agreement was reached among the three parties on the final text, which formally passed to the European Parliament in January 2024. The vote on the Directive's text is expected to take place before the current Parliament's mandate expires in May 2024.

According to the European Commission's note, once adopted, this new directive will:

- Expand the possibilities of confiscating assets derived from a wider range of crimes, such as arms trafficking, fraud, trafficking in cultural goods, and evasion of international sanctions, once the Commission's proposal to extend the list of EU crimes is adopted.
- Allow the confiscation of "unexplained wealth" linked to activities managed by criminal groups that have managed to hide the illegal origin of their properties or assets.
- Provide Asset Recovery Offices (AROs) with the mandate to quickly trace and identify criminal groups' assets, including the urgent freezing of properties when there is a risk of assets disappearing.
- Ensure financial investigations for crimes capable of generating high profits.
- Establish Asset Management Offices (AMOs) in all EU Member States to ensure frozen assets do not lose value and allow the sale of frozen assets that are at risk or costly to maintain.
- Facilitate victims' right to compensation, allowing, if necessary, compensation through confiscated assets.
- Strengthen safeguards to ensure affected individuals have the necessary and effective remedies to protect their rights, such as the right to defense, to be informed, and to appeal judicial decisions.

It is certainly positive that the text of this new directive determines the establishment of offices for the recovery and management of assets, namely AROs (Assets Recovery Offices) and AMOs (Assets Management Offices), in all Member States, as a necessary step for the acquisition of assets from criminal hands. It is also noteworthy that there is a political will to provide reparative measures to victims of organized crime through the proper management of confiscated assets. However, the directive's text still lacks the obligation for Member States to adopt measures for the management of confiscated assets that include social reuse. To date, it is still left to the discretion of individual Member States, although the adoption of laws for the social reuse of confiscated assets from mafias, modelled after Italy's Law 109/96, is recommended.



# IPUBLIC AND SOCIAL REUSE IN LATIN AMERICA

## The Latin American Situation

In the vast Central and South American region, despite abundant natural and cultural wealth, widespread poverty and a lack of economic opportunities facilitate the consolidation of organized crime, which finds fertile ground in these contexts, causing severe consequences for the most vulnerable communities.

Latin American countries have introduced measures similar to seizure and confiscation, such as "incautación" and "decomiso", since the 1980s. These measures are employed by countries including Colombia, Mexico, Argentina, Guatemala, Peru, Paraguay, and Bolivia as strategies to combat the expansion of criminal organizations.

In the absence of specific regulations that qualify the crime of "mafia-type criminal organization" and govern the confiscation of assets, in Latin America, seizure mainly applies to movable and immovable assets connected to serious crimes such as drug trafficking or human trafficking, as described by the UN Palermo Convention in 2000. After confiscation, the assets pass into the hands of the state, which can decide to demolish them, sell them at auction, or allocate them for institutional use.

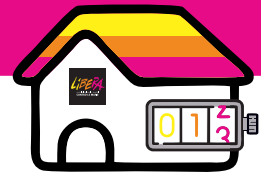
It is important to return the confiscated assets from organized crime to civil society, allowing for effective and profitable reuse, especially for the most vulnerable segments of the population.



## SEIZURE AND CONFISCATION IN LATIN AMERICA

	ARGENTINA	X	X
	BOLIVIA		
	BRAZIL	X	
	CHILE	X	
	COLOMBIA	X	X
	COSTA RICA		
	ECUADOR	X	
	LE SALVADOR		
	GUATEMALA	X	
	HONDURAS	X	
	MEXICO	X	
	PERU	X	
	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC		
LEGISLATION ON SEIZURE AND CONFISCATION		INSTITUTIONAL REUSE	EXPERIENCES OF SOCIAL REUSE

# PUBLIC AND SOCIAL REUSE IN LATIN AMERICA



## ALAS NETWORK - Key points

**ALAS** (América Latina Alternativa Social) is a network that includes 70 entities in 13 countries: Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Bolivia, Peru, Honduras, and the Dominican Republic. Their activities aim to support victims of criminal violence, to engage in political and social advocacy, to defend and promote rights and the environment, and to spread a culture of peace, legality, and social justice. ALAS, promoted by Libera, is committed in the fight against human rights violations and in preventing organized crime, promoting the social reuse of confiscated assets

In recent years, the research community has contributed to the analysis and in-depth studies on the confiscation and social reuse of confiscated assets in Latin America. In this regard, the **ALAS Network** has developed a multilingual comparative analysis, “Desde el bien incautado hasta el bien común” (“From confiscated asset to common good”), on the state of affairs in Italy and five countries in Central and South America.



## MEXICO

The introduction of the principle of the social reuse of confiscated assets from organized crime, returning them to the hands of civil society has been a significant achievement for the country. This principle is guaranteed by the Constitution of Mexico City, in force since 2018, specifically by Article 43:

*“The authorities shall adopt administrative, legislative, budgetary, and judicial measures to [...] rehabilitate victims, perpetrators, and those affected by criminal violence, dismantle the patrimonial structure of organized crime, ensure the social reuse of seized and confiscated assets through a final judgment, and safeguard and return assets to the victims.”*

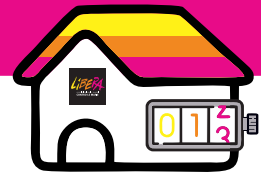


## COLOMBIA

### The new national drug policy

The government of Colombia has just launched the 2023-2033 National Drug Policy: “We sow life, we ban drug trafficking”. The priority of this new policy will be the care of life and the environment, prioritizing human rights, public health, and the consolidation of peace. This commitment does not overlook the State's efforts to curb the economic and financial capacities of criminal organizations. This working perspective is reinforced by the fact that the current national government, which took office in August 2022, has always shown great interest in the issue of social reuse and willingness to engage in dialogue with civil society entities interested in participating in this legislative process.

# PUBLIC AND SOCIAL REUSE IN LATIN AMERICA



## COLOMBIA

### Key points

This new policy aims to:

Support the transition to lawful economies and reduce the vulnerability of territories and populations (both rural and urban) that depend on and have been affected by the illegal drug market, transforming their economic, social, and cultural conditions.

In the section dedicated to the “Transition to lawful economies in rural and special management areas,” it is established that “the drug policy prioritizes that communities in the process of productive reconversion have access to the right to land for lawful economic uses that fulfill a social function,” therefore, “through provisional provisions or other legislative reform mechanisms, confiscated real estate, currently managed by SAE (Sociedad de Activos Especiales), will be given priority to rural associations. Likewise, urban properties, companies, and some movable assets (such as vehicles), will be made available for the development of circuits for the transformation and commercialization of agro-industrial products from legal supply chains”.

### Three cases of social use of confiscated assets

Despite the absence of specific legislation, there are at least three cases of social and collective reuse of confiscated assets from drug trafficking in Colombia.

- The first initiative involves the recovery by the Municipality of Cali of the historic and exclusive Club San Fernando, traditionally associated with luxury and the local elite, which will be transformed into a center for the promotion of culture and science.
- The second is an agro-ecological project on a recovered farm in the municipality of Agua de Dios, in Alta Magdalena, carried out by an organization of Afro-descendant people who are victims of the internal conflict in Colombia.
- The third initiative concerns the promotion of an artistic and youth gathering space, created in a property confiscated from drug trafficking in the “Santa Fé” neighborhood of the capital, Bogotá. This place offers a safe environment for young people and the entire community to express their creativity. The promotion of this space encourages urban regeneration and strengthens the social fabric of the neighborhood.

## COSTA RICA

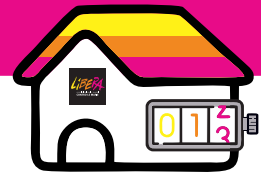
### Accompaniment for legislative reform

#### Introduction to the norm

Throughout 2023, through the *National Institute for Drugs*, the government of Costa Rica requested Libera's assistance in formulating legislative reform to introduce the reuse of confiscated assets from drug trafficking into the country's legal system. In this regard, a memorandum of understanding was signed, which also involved the cooperation program between Europe and Latin America “COPOLAD,” and a working group was established with the aim of seeing the legislative reform approved by the end of 2024.



# PUBLIC AND SOCIAL REUSE IN LATIN AMERICA



## ARGENTINA

### Introduction

**Bien Restituido - para el desmantelamiento patrimonial del crimen organizado y el fortalecimiento de la sociedad civil** (for the dismantling of the patrimonial structure of organized crime and the strengthening of civil society) - is a project coordinated by Libera, in partnership with the Argentinian associations ACIJ (Asociación por la Igualdad y la Justicia), Fundación Multipolar, and Circolo Giuridico di Argentina, part of ALAS. The project, which began in 2021 and is scheduled to last four years, is funded by the European Union Delegation in Argentina. Its main objective is to encourage the approval of legislative reform aimed at the social reuse of confiscated assets through criminal proceedings for typical organized crime offenses such as drug trafficking, money laundering, large-scale corruption, and human trafficking.

In parallel, the Bien Restituido project aims to promote political advocacy, raise public awareness, provide training, and strengthen networking between civil society organizations and the judiciary. It also aims to promote and support social and productive projects based on the reuse of confiscated assets from organized crime.

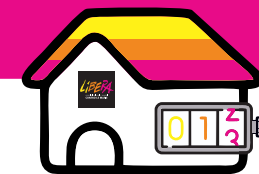
### Key points

The proposed law formulated through the Bien Restituido project was officially presented in December 2022, signed

by 20 deputies and senators from six different political parties. Unfortunately, it has not yet been discussed or approved by parliament. In addition to being the year of the presidential elections, 2023 was marked by the progressive worsening of the country's economic crisis, with an inflation rate of around 15% monthly, which created a context of strong political polarization and, consequently, a substantial blockage of parliamentary activities.

Despite the law not yet being approved, Bien Restituido has nevertheless been able to promote and support some concrete experiences of social reuse of confiscated assets. These were realized thanks to the work we have done in training and raising awareness among actors in the judicial system, as well as many civil society organizations in Argentina.

The mission we conducted in November 2023 served to meet some of the entities collaborating with Bien Restituido that have received or are receiving confiscated assets to reuse for social or productive projects. Together with the organizations we network with in Argentina, we are convinced that with the adoption of the new legislation we have presented, social reuse experiences will cease to be isolated and sporadic, becoming instead consolidated practices.



# PUBLIC AND SOCIAL REUSE IN LATIN AMERICA



## Four cases of social use of confiscated assets

- **Terzo Tempo** is a cooperative in the city of Rosario that promotes productive activities to facilitate the **socio-economic reintegration** of former convicts. With the support of Bien Restituido, Terzo Tempo received a van from the confiscated assets agency of the province of Santa Fé, which they use for deliveries from their bakery workshop. Through our project, we were also able to support the cooperative by purchasing an industrial oven, which has improved and **increased the bakery's production**.

• In Mar del Plata, Libera made contact with associations that are part of the *Table against trafficking Networking*, which after an administrative process that began in 2009, and with our support, finally received the use of the Casita Azul, a confiscated property where human trafficking for prostitution was practiced. Casita Azul will be transformed into a **memorial space** and a service center dedicated to women victims of trafficking and gender-based violence.

• In one of the precarious neighborhoods of Buenos Aires, Villa 21-24, an apartment confiscated from a drug trafficker has been given to the parish of Don Facundo, a priest who adheres to the movement of street priests known as curas villeros. The space has been transformed into a **playroom**

frequented by children from the neighborhood, who daily live in contact with situations of violence and abuse resulting from the sale and consumption of drugs.

• The **San Cayetano textile cooperative** was established in Buenos Aires to offer job opportunities to homeless people and/or those who have overcome drug addiction. The cooperative receives fabric stock confiscated by customs authorities and transforms it into clothing and accessories, which, not without difficulty, are then marketed locally. We are working to ensure that the cooperative can receive the use of a space of adequate size and characteristics, where they can settle and expand their activities, involving a greater number of worker members.



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