



**ITALIAN MP  
EUGENIO  
ZOFFILI**

**SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE  
ON COMBATING  
ORGANIZED CRIME**



**REPORT**  
*September 2023*  
*June 2024*



**ITALY**



PARLAMENTO  
ITALIANO

**OSCE PA**

Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe  
PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY



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# OSCE PA

Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe  
PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY



## BIOGRAPHY

OSCE PA President Pia Kauma (Finland) appointed Eugenio Zoffili (Italy) as Special Representative on Combating Organized Crime in September 2023.

Engaged in politics since his youth, Eugenio Zoffili has been a member of the Lega-Salvini Premier group in the Chamber of Deputies since 2018. He is currently a member of the Chamber's Defence Committee and of the Committee on Elections. Since 2018, he has been the Chairperson of the Italian section of the Italy-Japan IPU Friendship Group. Additionally, Eugenio Zoffili serves as the Head of the delegation of Italy to the OSCE PA. Former Chairperson of the Parliamentary Committee for monitoring the implementation of the Schengen Agreement, overseeing Europol's activities, monitoring and supervising immigration, he was also a Member of the Committee on Foreign and EU Affairs.

I am a staunch believer in multilateralism, our Organisation, its initiatives and its role aimed at achieving Peace and upholding the values of democracy:

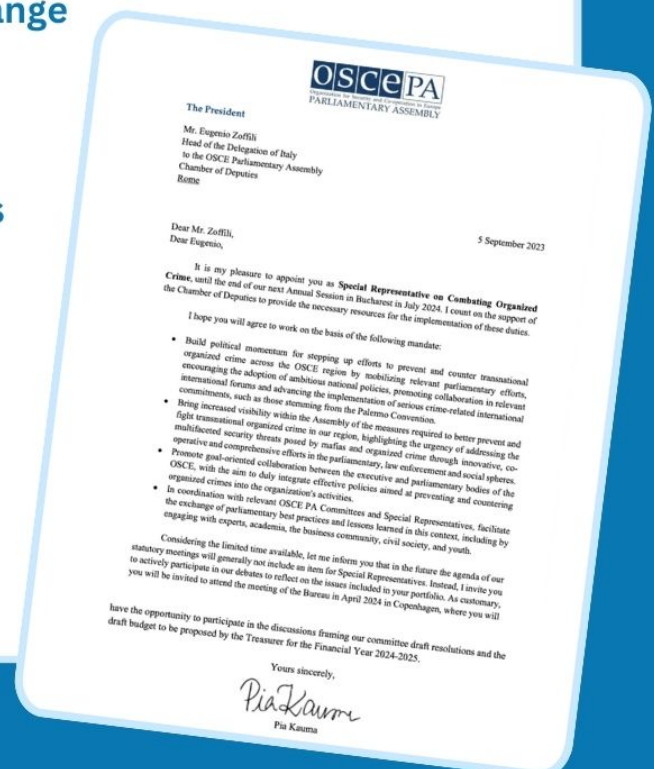
- to support the position of Ukraine as the victim of unjustifiable Russian aggression;
- to support a negotiation process aiming at a two-state solution in the sensitive Middle East scenario;
- to counter the despicable trafficking of human beings that is fuelling migration flows and which, together with the traffic in drugs and illegal substances, is the very lifeblood of the mafias and criminal organisations that are making immense profits from it;
- to put the Mediterranean question, too, at the heart of the debate.

*Eugenio Zoffili*



# MANDATE OF THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE

- Build political momentum for stepping up efforts to prevent and counter transnational organized crime across the OSCE region by mobilizing relevant parliamentary efforts, encouraging the adoption of ambitious national policies, promoting collaboration in relevant international forums and advancing the implementation of serious crime-related international commitments, such as those stemming from the Palermo Convention.
- Bring increased visibility within the Assembly of the measures required to better prevent and fight transnational organized crime in our region, highlighting the urgency of addressing the multifaceted security threats posed by mafias and organized crime through innovative, co-operative and comprehensive efforts in the parliamentary, law enforcement and social spheres.
- Promote goal-oriented collaboration between the executive and parliamentary bodies of the OSCE, with the aim to duly integrate effective policies aimed at preventing and countering organized crimes into the organization's activities.
- In co-ordination with relevant OSCE PA Committees and Special Representatives, facilitate the exchange of parliamentary best practices and lessons learned in this context, including by engaging with experts, academia, the business community, civil society, and youth.



# SUPPLEMENTARY ITEM ON “FENTANYL”



The fight against drug trafficking, which is the lifeblood of mafias and organised crime, is one of my priorities. Therefore I have submitted a Supplementary Item on this issue, so as to raise the awareness of our Assembly on the danger of new drugs, notably Fentanyl, which must be combated and prevented.



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## SUPPLEMENTARY ITEM

DRAFT RESOLUTION

ON

“COUNTERING THE PROLIFERATION OF DRUGS,  
PARTICULARLY FENTANYL AND OTHER SYNTHETIC OPIOIDS,  
AS WELL AS MAFIAS AND CRIMINAL ORGANIZATIONS  
INVOLVED IN TRAFFICKING THEM”

PRINCIPAL SPONSOR  
Mr. Eugenio Zoffili  
Italy

BUCHAREST, 29 JUNE – 3 JULY 2024

*Eugenio Zoffili*



# REPORT OF THE ACTIVITIES

## Eugenio Zoffili has met Interior Minister Piantedosi and has introduced the fight against drugs and mafias into the OSCE debate

October 6 2023

"Yesterday I met the Italian Minister of the Interior, Matteo Piantedosi, at the Ministry, where we discussed several topics in relation to my work at the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, notably in my capacity as Special Representative on combating transnational organised crime and mafias. I am in total agreement with the Minister on all fronts, especially on combating drug-trafficking, which is one of the main sources of finance for criminal gangs. Drugs not only undermine public security but are also ready cash and a source of revenue for mafia-style gangs; crushing these criminal activities means shutting off the taps that are draining rivers of money into the coffers of these criminal gangs. This is why, as I explained to Interior Minister Piantedosi, I have decided to fully execute the remit entrusted to me by President Pia Kauma by bringing the war on drugs into the OSCE debate, which is a fundamental and indispensable tool for stopping organised crime and mafias."



# Online meeting with Pia Kauma, President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, and the other Special Representatives. At work to ensure safety and combat all forms of crime.



October 20 2023

OSCE PA Special Representatives met on 20 October with future activities to promote peace and co-operation in the OSCE area. Ten Special Representatives took part in the online meeting, discussing work on issues including human trafficking, organized crime, climate change, and fighting corruption. Special Representatives focusing on regions such as South East



Europe, Eastern Europe, the Mediterranean and the South Caucasus also participated in the discussion, highlighting their priorities in the work ahead.

The meeting served as an opportunity to promote synergy in the work of the Special Representatives and to minimize duplication, as well as how to best complement the work of the PA's committees.



# In Vienna, OSCE PA Special Representative Zoffili builds new partnerships to fight organized crime

January 30 2024

VIENNA - OSCE Parliamentary Assembly Special Representative on Combating Organized Crime Eugenio Zoffili (Italy) is in Vienna this week, holding two days of meetings at the OSCE Secretariat and the Office of the United Nations against Drugs and Crime (UNODC). The visit has been an opportunity to assess the current level of threat from organized crime and



identify emerging trends and challenges that demand particular attention. Zoffili, who also serves as Head of the Italian Delegation to the OSCE PA, has met with Permanent Representative of Italy to the OSCE, Ambassador Stefano Baldi, and the Permanent Representative of Italy to International Organizations, Ambassador Debora Lepre, as well as a wide range of officials from the OSCE Secretariat and UNODC.

“Building political momentum and promoting international collaboration is essential to effectively combat the scourge of transnational organized crime”, Zoffili said. “This is why I am working to reinforce relationships and promote synergy between the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, the OSCE executive structures, and relevant UN bodies at both the operational and political levels.”

At the UNODC today, Special Representative Zoffili discussed the latest drug and human trafficking trends with experts. He talked with UNODC officials about the links between trafficking and terrorism, and learned more about the regional impacts organized crime on Eastern Europe and Central Asia. Underlining the importance of UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime’s new review mechanism, he stressed the key role of parliaments in fighting serious crime.

In discussions, Zoffili underlined the importance of the fight against drug trafficking, in particular, in combating all criminal activities, as it provides criminal organizations to access large amounts of money. Today, he noted, synthetic drugs are easily marketable and are spreading devastating social problems throughout the OSCE area.

Migrant smuggling and human trafficking is also a top priority, he stressed.



## Visit of the OSCE PA Special Representative on Combating Organized Crime to the OSCE Secretariat and United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in Vienna

January 29-30 2024

On 29-30 January 2024, the OSCE PA Special Representative (SR) on Combating Organized Crime, Hon. Eugenio Zoffili, conducted an official visit to the OSCE Secretariat and the United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime (UNODC). Joined by the Secretary of the Italian delegation and staff from the OSCE PA Vienna Office, SR Zoffili exchanged views with over 20 experts from both organizations. Ultimately, **the visit proved instrumental in (1) introducing the new mandate of the SR, (2) learning more about the latest organized crime trends and, (3) fostering collaborative efforts among key international actors in the fight against all forms of mafias across the OSCE region.**

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At the OSCE Secretariat, discussions with key departments delved into the comprehensive policy frameworks and coordination mechanisms required to address the complex challenges posed by organized crime. Meetings with the Special Representative on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings and counterparts from the Transnational Threats Department and Office of the Coordinator of Economic and Environmental Activities allowed for in-depth exchanges on a wide range of organized crime-related challenges and projects.

Meetings in UNODC with the Organized Crime and Illicit Trafficking Branch, Research and Trend Analysis Branch, and Terrorism Prevention Branch provided a comprehensive overview of the evolving landscape of organized crime. The dialogue encompassed discussions on emerging trends, persisting threats and innovative strategies for prevention and repression.

Throughout these interactions, SR Zoffili explored avenues for enhanced co-operation with the aim to **foster effective responses to organized crime** through coherent policies and operational efforts. Emphasis was placed on boosting **policy alignment and information sharing** at international level, as well as promoting targeted joint initiatives addressing human and drugs trafficking, money laundering and migrant smuggling at regional level.

The multifaceted interplay between transnational criminal and terrorist networks was also in focus.

Finally, SR Zoffili actively sought ways to **integrate parliamentary perspectives into the broader strategy**, stressing the pivotal role of legislative bodies in addressing

complex challenges associated with organized crime. Deliberations centered around legislative **frameworks, parliamentary engagement, and the role of lawmakers** in reinforcing the international response against organized crime.

The visit concluded with a **debriefing at the OSCE PA** Vienna Office, where the SR had also the opportunity to briefly meet local staff.



## Major Organized Crime Trends

Organized crime trends continue to evolve in response to societal changes, technological advancements, and shifts in global dynamics. The illicit drug trade remains a significant driver of organized crime, contributing to the financial strength and operational resilience of criminal organizations worldwide. According to the UNODC 2023 World Drug Report, recent



trends indicate a growing concern, particularly in the realms of Cocaine and synthetic drugs. Particularly alarming is the fact that the production of synthetic drugs is relatively inexpensive, facilitating their widespread availability in illicit markets and subsequently contributing to a surge in demand across the globe.

**Money laundering** remains a major concern worldwide, with criminal groups always seizing new opportunities to legitimize their unlawful gains. As financial systems become increasingly globalized, the fight against money laundering becomes crucial in disrupting the financial backbone of organized criminal enterprises, emphasizing the need for law enforcement and international organizations to adopt comprehensive and coordinated strategies. **Trafficking in cultural property** is also becoming an important source for the laundering of the proceeds of crime and has been identified as a possible source of financing for terrorist groups.



One significant global trend is the increasing sophistication of organized crime groups, utilizing advanced technology and global networks to facilitate their illicit activities. The convergence of various criminal activities, illustrating a trend where organized crime groups engage in a wide array of illicit enterprises simultaneously, is another prominent trend. Hotspots such as the **Balkan and the Mediterranean regions** are of particular concern, with organized crime exploiting these areas for the trafficking of migrants, drugs, and other

illicit goods. In the Mediterranean region, the convergence of different routes raises significant challenges. Notably, migrant smuggling routes often overlap with drug trafficking routes. Major drug trafficking routes such as those originating from South America and flowing through West Africa into Europe also play a significant role in facilitating the global movement of illicit substances, contributing to the pervasive influence of organized crime.

Similarly, Hotspots such as the **Balkan and the Mediterranean regions** are of particular concern, with organized crime exploiting these areas for the trafficking of migrants, drugs, and other illicit goods. In the Mediterranean region, the convergence of different routes raises significant challenges. Notably, migrant smuggling routes often overlap with drug trafficking routes. Major drug trafficking routes such as those originating from **South America** and flowing through West Africa into Europe also play a significant role in facilitating the global movement of illicit substances, contributing to the pervasive influence of organized crime. Similarly, the opium production in **Afghanistan** fuels another major drug route, with heroin and other opiates trafficked through various channels, including Central Asia and the Middle East, before reaching global markets. These regions, especially the Middle East and certain parts of Asia, are not only central hubs for drug trafficking but also exhibit known links between organized crime and terrorism financing.

It was highlighted that the **nexus between conflict and organized crime** represents a complex and dynamic relationship that demands closer examination. In many instances, conflict zones provide fertile ground for organized crime to flourish, taking advantage of the chaotic environments, weakened governance structures, and the breakdown of social order. The intricate interplay between these two phenomena requires further research to comprehensively understand the mechanisms, dynamics, and impacts on both conflict and crime.

Finally, the growing significance of cybercrime is a major component of organized criminal activities. The digital realm provides criminals with new opportunities to exploit vulnerabilities, conduct financial fraud, and engage in cyber-enabled crimes. This shift towards digital platforms poses unique challenges for traditional law enforcement methods, necessitating the development of advanced technological solutions and international collaboration.

## Intersection with Terrorism

The complex nexus between organized crime and terrorist networks was also duly explored during the two-day visit. The discussions delved into the nuanced intersections of this connection that incorporates elements such as financing, operational methodologies and interlinked routes.

### **Terrorist organizations often engage in organized crime to finance their activities.**

Both OSCE and UNODC recognized the importance of disrupting the financial networks supporting terrorism. Collaborative efforts focus on tracking and preventing money laundering, enhancing financial intelligence, and strengthening legal frameworks to counter the convergence of organized crime and terrorism.

The link between terrorism and organized crime is very prominent in Africa, as well as in Afghanistan. UNODC's engagement in the Sahel region extends to comprehensive threat assessments, emphasizing the need for multi-dimensional strategies to prevent violent extremism and enhance the capacities of criminal justice sectors. A critical challenge highlighted was the collection of **battlefield evidence**, an impediment to prosecuting Foreign Terrorist Fighters. While these individuals can be arrested, the lack of sufficient evidence hampers successful prosecutions. Efforts are underway to strengthen the work of different agencies, addressing this challenge and enhancing collaboration between investigators and prosecutors on terrorism and organized crime.

Another notable concern is the **exploitation of trafficking routes by Foreign Terrorist Fighters**, mirroring the patterns observed in the illicit trade of firearms. The interplay between **far-right extremists** and individuals involved in criminal organized groups was also underlined. Additionally, links between **organized crime groups and active sports groups** were discussed, underscoring the need for comprehensive strategies to disrupt these connections.



Through workshops, training programs, and technical assistance, both organizations work to enhance the skills of security personnel and strengthen legal frameworks to counter these converging threats. Raising awareness among youth and engaging with civil society are also crucial components of an effective strategy to prevent serious crime.

## Key International Efforts

Recent trends and developments in the organized crime landscape have prompted the United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to intensify its efforts in understanding and combating various facets of criminal activities.

The Research and Trend Analysis Branch of UNODC conducts research work related to the trends and developments in the organized crime and illicit markets field. In order to monitor global drug cultivation, the UNODC utilizes satellite imagery for data collection. The collation of data on drug use and trafficking enables the construction of a global picture, which results in the annual World Drug Report, providing in-depth analysis of key developments and emerging trends in selected drug markets, including in countries currently experiencing conflict.

UNODC Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling Section reviews the impact of organized crime on vulnerable populations, with a particular focus on human trafficking and migrant smuggling.

The exploitation of individuals for forced labor, sexual exploitation, and other criminal purposes remains a grave concern, necessitating concerted efforts to strengthen legal frameworks and enhance international collaboration to combat these crimes. The Branch produces a Global Report on Trafficking in Persons every two years since 2009, utilizing the largest existing database (2). Interviews with migrants in countries of origin and transit, amounting to 10,000 interviews, offer insights into motivations and roots for migration, contributing valuable information for policy responses.

In order to enhance the effective implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) and its Protocols, the State Parties have recently adopted a new Review Mechanism (3) which is a comprehensive and collaborative peer review process, emphasizing transparency, efficiency, inclusivity, and impartiality. Over the course of ten-year timeframe, the process aims to thoroughly assess all articles of the Organized Crime.

Convention and its Protocols, which have been divided into four thematic clusters: Criminalization and Jurisdiction; International Cooperation, Mutual Legal Assistance and Confiscation; Law Enforcement and Judicial System; Prevention, Technical Assistance, Protection Measures and Other Measures. Each state is reviewed for each instrument to which it is party by two other States. Reviewing states provide written feedback, engage in a dialogue with the reviewed state, and collaboratively prepare a list of observations, including gaps, challenges, best practices, suggestions, and technical assistance needs in the organized crime field.



In close co-operation with UNODC, the OSCE is also actively engaged in strengthening the fight against transnational organized crime. The main focus is on enhancing the capabilities of its participating States in combating transnational criminal activities and promoting regional co-operation. These efforts encompass various areas, including law enforcement, judiciary, and border management.

For instance, the OSCE-led extra-budgetary project on “Innovative policy solutions to mitigate money-laundering risks of virtual assets” is designed to support the governments of Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine in building the capacity of national authorities to mitigate criminal risks related to virtual assets and cryptocurrencies with the help of analytical tracing software. Furthermore, the extra-budgetary project on “Strengthening the fight against transnational organized crime in South-Eastern Europe” aimed at improving regional co-operation in the context of the seizure, confiscation, management and social re-use of assets of criminal organizations.

The organization also supports police forces across its region. It maintains a network of police advisers in its field operations and provides assessments, expert advice, and assistance to participating States to help them develop accountable policing services that protect their citizens.



1 World Drug Report 2023. UNODC. [https://www.unodc.org/res/WDR-2023/WDR23\\_Exsum\\_fin\\_SP.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/res/WDR-2023/WDR23_Exsum_fin_SP.pdf)

2 More information on the Global Report on Trafficking in Persons:  
<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/global-report-on-trafficking-in-persons.html>

3 More information on the UNTOC Review Mechanism:  
<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/organized-crime/intro/review-mechanism-untoc/overview.html>

# Visiting Rome and Lampedusa, high-level OSCE PA delegation stresses need to support Italy's migration efforts and combat human trafficking

March 8 2024



LAMPEDUSA – OSCE Parliamentary Assembly President Pia Kauma (Finland) joined members of the OSCE PA's Ad Hoc Committee on Migration, chaired by Vice-President Daniela De Ridder (Germany), and Special Representative on Combating Organized Crime Eugenio Zoffili (Italy) on an official visit to Rome and Lampedusa this week to witness first-hand the challenges faced by Italy in dealing with irregular migration.

With the Central Mediterranean route from Africa to Europe once again the most active – and deadliest – route for migrants entering the European Union irregularly, and with Lampedusa at the front line due to its proximity to North Africa, the OSCE PA delegation noted that Italy deserves continued support for managing the migration flows, and that the international community must do more to jointly address irregular migration as well as drivers of migration.

“Migration is a global phenomenon that requires a co-ordinated approach,” President Kauma said. “The efforts of Italy and the EU to address irregular arrivals seem to be bearing fruit, with numbers so far down by 70 per cent in 2024 compared to last year. We must continue to learn from this experience and to work together to ensure that we are better prepared to meet the challenges ahead. OSCE parliamentarians can furthermore contribute by ensuring that our legislative frameworks support sustainable migration governance.”

President Kauma's participation underscored the significance of migration on the OSCE PA's agenda and the importance that the PA attaches to the challenges faced by Italy, she stressed. In Rome, she held a bilateral meeting with Lorenzo Fontana, President of the Chamber of Deputies, in which the sides discussed a range of issues facing the OSCE area, including migration, as well as Italy's support for the PA's activities.



Ad Hoc Committee Chair De Ridder said that there must be closer co-operation with other frontline countries around the Mediterranean. “Offers of help are always about the dignity of the refugees and this is managed in an orderly fashion on Lampedusa”, De Ridder said. “Lampedusa is a place where tragedy and hope mix with a lot of potential. We often cannot understand the willingness to take risks of refugees who want to reach Europe by sea, but we must work more intensively on the causes of flight, especially conflict, poverty and climate change.”

One of the main focuses of the visit was understanding how organized criminal networks exploit mixed-migration flows to traffic human beings and smuggle migrants across borders. The delegation noted that criminal groups have increasingly used the Central Mediterranean route to boost their illegal operations. During their perilous journeys, many migrants and asylum seekers fall prey to unscrupulous trafficking rings, and are subsequently exploited for sexual or labor exploitation in countries of transit and destination.

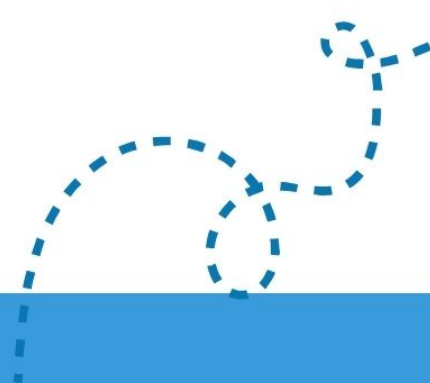
Special Representative Zoffili, who serves as Head of Italy’s OSCE PA Delegation, said that it is important to keep a strong focus on the criminal element related to irregular migration. “Migrant smuggling and human trafficking are closely related, albeit different, crimes that exploit vulnerable people for financial gain,” said Zoffili. “The organized criminal networks that profit from these crimes are usually interlinked, and often they are also involved in other dangerous criminal operations, such as drugs and weapons trafficking.



Combating these criminal cartels should be a top security priority for all of our countries. In this regard, there is much that can be learned from the Italian experience.”

In meetings with law enforcement and asylum policy officials in Rome, the OSCE PA delegation learned about the techniques that criminal networks use to evade detection, as well as the internal operations of these networks. They also heard how Italian border police authorities provide technical support to border police in Tunisia to improve their professional capacity to manage irregular sea migration and counter terrorism. Training activities also include a human rights component, the delegation heard.

Visiting Lampedusa, the delegation was briefed on the situation at the Air Force base and visited the Contrada Imbriacola ‘Hotspot’ managed by the Italian Red Cross where they met with a broad range of interlocutors including representatives of law enforcement agencies, Frontex, Europol, EU Asylum Agency and also representatives of UNHCR, IOM, and Save the Children.



Accounting for about 70 per cent of all arrivals on Italian soil in 2023, migrants arrive in Lampedusa on small boats from North Africa (Tunisia and Libya), committee members were told. Following an agreement reached with Tunisia, arrivals from Tunisia have gone down, with Libya again the main point of departure for the boats. The Mediterranean crossing continues to be the most treacherous route for migrants on record, with at least 3,129 deaths and disappearances. This is the highest death toll recorded in the Mediterranean since 2017.

Committee members also visited Favalaro Pier, where about 11,000 asylum seekers arrived over a four-day period in mid-September 2023. Meeting with Guardia di Finanza and Coast Guard officials, committee members learned about the challenges posed when an enormous influx of migrants arrives over such a short period. The remoteness of this small island of 6,000 inhabitants which is closer to Africa than to Sicily and the rest of Italy is one of the main challenges.

Italy's achievements in coping with the crisis was highlighted: migrants arriving in Lampedusa go through an efficient process, including health screenings, pre-identification and screening for vulnerabilities. The delegation also discussed lessons learned from agreements with third countries such as Libya, Tunisia and Albania, and whether there are sufficient human rights safeguards. The new EU Pact on Migration and Asylum, including accelerated border procedures as well as the proposed solidarity mechanism and their expected impact on vulnerable categories of migrants, notably unaccompanied minors, women and potential victims of trafficking, were also discussed.

In addition to President Kauma, Chair De Ridder and Special Representative Zoffili, members of the delegation included Ad Hoc Committee Vice-Chairs Kyriakos Hadjiyianni (Cyprus), Farah Karimi (Netherlands), and Gudrun Kugler (Austria), as well as committee members Alessandro Alfieri (Italy), Kristian Klinck (Germany), Malik Ben Achour (Belgium), Kemal Çelik (Türkiye), and Fabrizio Comba (Italy).



# Special Representative on Combating Organized Crime

## Zoffili: "Committed to the fight against Mafias for a future of legality"



March 11 2024



COMO - On Monday, March 11, 2024, OSCE PA Special Representative on Combating Organized Crime, Eugenio Zoffili, took part in the conference on "The Response of the Institutions to Mafia Massacres: Society Starts Over Again from Legality," organized in the Italian city of Como by the Autonomous Police Union (SAP) in the presence of prestigious authorities, as well as a large audience of 650 high school students.

An important event to recall is that the fight against the Mafia is a constant and multi-faceted duty that involves institutions, civil society, and individual citizens, which is why it is necessary to promote a culture of legality and fight against the Mafia through education in schools.

On the same occasion, the shrine containing the remains of the "Quarto Savona 15" was exhibited, the car in which police officers Antonio Montinaro, Vito Schifani, and Rocco Dicillo lost their lives in Capaci, Sicily (Italy), on May 23, 1992, while escorting magistrate Giovanni Falcone, who was barbarously murdered together with his wife Francesca Morvillo in that tragic attack. It stands as a symbol of the fight against the Mafia.

The conference was attended by Ms. Tina Montinaro, the widow of Falcone's police escort officer Antonio Montinaro, whose words were an important signal of hope and commitment against the Mafia. Her testimony is a powerful tool to educate and raise awareness about the importance of fighting organized crime and defending legality.

Special Representative Zoffili thanked the Como SAP, and in particular its provincial secretary Igor Erba, for organizing the event, which allowed many young people to learn about the stories and experiences of women and men who wear their uniforms every day with honor and a high sense of State, doing their utmost to ensure the safety and security of citizens. He also assured his commitment to keeping the spotlight on mafia phenomena and sharing the good practices implemented in Italy with international interlocutors, to offer the new generations a future of security and legality.





## Special Representative on Combating Organized Crime

### Zoffili meets with senior officials of Italy's Department for Anti-Drug Policies

April 4 2024

ROME – OSCE PA Special Representative on Combating Organized Crime, Eugenio Zoffili, met on Thursday 4 April in Rome, at his offices in Palazzo San Macuto, with senior officials of the Department for Anti-Drug Policies of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers of the Italian Government: the Head of the Department, Mr. Paolo Molinari, and the Coordinator of its Technical-Scientific and General Affairs Office, Ms. Elisabetta Simeoni.



As a follow-up to his previous meetings with the Italian Minister of the Interior, Matteo Piantedosi, and with representatives of the United Nations

Office on Drugs and Crime, at the UN Headquarters in Vienna, Special Representative Zoffili has acquired new insights, which he is ready to share with his colleagues from the 57 OSCE PA participating States at upcoming international events.



The fight against drug trafficking, the main source of funding for criminal syndicates, is a challenge that can only be met by joining forces and implementing common practices, as is the case for crime. This is the focus of Special Representative's current activity, also with a view to the forthcoming Annual Session to be held in Bucharest between the end of June and the beginning of July, in full compliance with the mandate he received from the President of the Assembly, Pia Kauma.

# Special Representative Zoffili meets with Central Director of Italy's Anti-Drug Services

April 10 2024

ROME - OSCE PA Special Representative on Combating Organized Crime, Eugenio Zoffili, met on Wednesday 10 April in Rome, at his offices in Palazzo San Macuto, with Major General of Carabinieri Pierangelo Iannotti and Lieutenant Colonel of Carabinieri Salvatore Leotta, respectively Central Director and Director of the Analysis Section of the Central Direction for Anti-Drug Services, a multi-agency body of the Department of Public Security under the direction of the Chief of Police.

The Central Direction is tasked with implementing the directives issued by the Minister of the Interior in the areas of coordination of law enforcement agencies, planning and management of the law enforcement services with the aim of preventing and combating illicit traffic in drugs and psychotropic substances. Special Representative Zoffili is gathering important insights, which he is ready to share with his colleagues from the 57 OSCE PA participating States at upcoming international events. Drug trafficking is a fuel for the engine of mafias. This is why it is even more important to prevent and combat, both within individual countries and internationally, any trafficking in illicit substances, which is one of the major activities of organized crime.





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