

## Special Representative on Combating Organized Crime Zoffili: "Committed to the fight against Mafias for a future of legality"

COMO, 11 March 2024 – 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.

