



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO
DIPARTIMENTO DI STUDI INTERNAZIONALI,
GIURIDICI E STORICO-POLITICI



OSSERVATORIO SULLA CRIMINALITÀ ORGANIZZATA

University of Milan
28-29 January 2021

ONLINE EVENT

International Workshop

Qualitative Methods in the Study of Organized Crime: Perspectives, Challenges and Opportunities

For information and registration:
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Scientific Committee:
Ombretta Ingrasci | University of Milan
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[Scientific Coordination]

Federica Cabras | University of Milan
Martina Panzarasa | University of Milan
Arianna Zottarel | University of Milan

During the past twenty years, research and studies on organized crime and criminal markets have constantly grown, as confirmed by the dynamism of the scientific debate at international level, the launch of several research projects characterised by an interdisciplinary approach and the emergence of a number of specialised research centres inside and outside the academia. The rising visibility and relevance of these studies and the further articulation of this research field into a wide number of different thematic areas, however, have not been accompanied so far by a more systematic methodological reflection focussing on the tools, method and techniques used at field level.

This workshop is aimed at promoting, from an interdisciplinary perspective, an opportunity to discuss the main epistemological and methodological issues involved in a research field that for its inner characteristics – such as, inter alia, its secrecy, substantive obscurity, illegality and dangerousness – cannot be directly ‘observed’, is often overwhelmed with misleading stereotypes and is largely affected by social representations which heavily rely on the institutional perspective.

From one side, given its characteristics, this field requires the use of sources and methods which are obviously peculiar, thus challenging more traditional research techniques usually employed in the social and human sciences’ area and requiring the researcher a further effort in terms of creativity and/or adaptation. From the other, a methodological discourse strongly centred around this specific field, aimed at emphasising its peculiarities or at enhancing a mechanism of “subjugation to the object” risks to limit and further ‘sectarise’ this area, thus de facto nurturing its self-referentiality. Hence, the complexity of organized crime phenomenon, its elusive and, sometimes, contradictory traits as well as its multidimensionality pose widely shared epistemological and methodological questions to researchers, independently from their specific disciplinary perspective and/or research field.

Based on the scientific experiences accumulated by participants during their own field research on organized crime and related topics, this workshop aims at facilitating a fruitful, systematic and large-scale discussion on the processes of knowledge production around these phenomena and their wider implications. In particular, it welcomes a reflection around that group of research techniques and method usually defined in terms of “qualitative methodology” – such as, inter alia, case studies (i.e. judicial cases or community cases), biographical approach, ethnographic observation and many others - questioning around the main challenges and opportunities that the adoption of a particular gaze on the phenomena observed may pose not only at scientific, but also ethic, political and social levels.

The workshop will be held online on 28 and 29 January 2021: the first session will be on Thursday 28 January from 15.30 to 17.30 (Round Table Discussion, in English): <https://bit.ly/3nheFFQ>, the second session will be on Friday 29 January from 9.30 to 13.15 (Workshop, in Italian): <https://bit.ly/2XdEH22>

Il workshop si terrà online in due distinte giornate: la prima giovedì 28 gennaio dalle 15.30 alle 17.30 (Round Table Discussion, in inglese): <https://bit.ly/3nheFFQ>, la seconda venerdì 29 gennaio dalle 9.30 alle 13.15 (Workshop, in italiano): <https://bit.ly/2XdEH22>

THURSDAY 28 January 2021

Round Table Discussion | 15.30-17.30

15.30-15.45 | Welcome Remarks

Elio Franzini, Rector of the University of Milan

Ilaria Viarengo, Director of the Department of International,
Legal and Historical-Political Studies,
University of Milan

Nando dalla Chiesa, President of Cross, University of Milan

15.45- 16.00 | Introduction to the International Workshop

Ombretta Ingrassi, University of Milan

16.00-16.15 | Introduction to the Round Table Discussion

Monica Massari, Chair, University of Milan

16.15-17.30 | Discussion

Nick Dines, University of Milan Bicocca

Gabriella Sanchez, Danish Institute for International Studies

Dina Siegel, Utrecht University

Federico Varese, Oxford University

Working Language: English

Join the round-table at <https://bit.ly/3nheFFQ>

FRIDAY 29 January 2021

Workshop | 9.30-13.15

9.30-11.00 | Prima Sessione

Chair: **Ombretta Ingrassi**, Università di Milano

Gabriella Gribaudi, Università di Napoli Federico II
Un vicinato pericoloso. La vita accanto alla camorra

Marco Santoro, Università di Bologna
Spiriti di mafia: osservazioni (partecipanti) sulla "svolta culturale" nello studio delle mafie

Antonio Vesco, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
Criminalità immaginate. Etnografie e rappresentazioni del potere mafioso

Discussants

Luciano Brancaccio, Università di Napoli Federico II

Orsetta Giolo, Università di Ferrara

Vittorio Mete, Università di Firenze

11.00-11.30 | Break

11.30- 13.15 | Seconda Sessione

Chair: **Giuseppe Muti**, Università dell'Insubria

Vittorio Martone, Università di Torino
Tornare alle fonti. Riflessioni a partire da esperienze di ricerca su crimini e vittime

Silvio Ciappi, ricercatore indipendente, European Commission
Metodo narrativo e violenza organizzata: voci e storie di vite violente

Martina Panzarasa, Università degli Studi di Milano
Le donne, il carcere e la mafia. Rappresentazioni e pratiche a partire da una ricerca nel contesto detentivo

Maurizio Catino, Università di Milano Bicocca
L'analisi organizzativa delle mafie tra metodi qualitativi e quantitativi

Discussants

Alberto Vannucci, Università di Pisa

Carolina Castellano, Università di Napoli Federico II

Joselle Dagnes, Università di Torino

Riflessioni conclusive

Monica Massari, Università degli Studi di Milano

Working Language: Italian

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