Organized crime in Europe

The ‘mafia method’

Vincenzo Ruggiero
Middlesex University
London (UK)
Criminal Hubs

• North West
• North East
• South East
• Southern
• South West
Characteristics

• Increasingly diverse in methods
• Highly mobile and flexible groups
• Operating in multiple jurisdiction and sectors
• Poly-commodity
• Cooperation among groups
• Recruitment of disadvantaged individuals
• The role of specialists
Activities

- Drugs: heroin, cocaine, synthetic drugs
- Illegal migration
- VAT fraud
- Cigarette smuggling
- Currency and commodity countefeiting
- Weapons
- Money laundering
National independent research

- Collaboration
- Intra-ethnic partnerships
- Gate-keeping
- Dismissed market sectors
- Providing criminal labour
- Transnationalism and localism
- Experts and consortia
The ‘mafia method’

- A culture of the fittest
- The liquidity of the law
- He state has to adapt to economic conduct
- Private initiative cannot be restrained
- Deviation and innovation
- Benefitting the disadvantaged
- The cost of prosecuting is higher than the damage caused