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EPPO and EU Law

(Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence – EPPONFI)

June Steering Committee meeting

CHAIR: Benedetta Ubertazzi

VICE-CHAIR: Federica Gentilini, Giulia Varisco, Marta Ramat



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1. Editorial Committee

CHAIR: CESARE MONTAGNA, MICHELE MONOPOLI, FRANCESCA VENINI

VICE-CHAIR: GIULIA VARISCO

COMMUNICATION AND MARKETING MANAGER: SOFIA MAZZA



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GENERAL UPDATE



FROM 1/05/2025 TO 12/06/2025

WE HAVE PUBLISHED

26 ARTICLES

19 ARTICLES WERE PUBLISHED IN MAY

The editorial committee periodically updates itself to better plan the numerous articles.

In the months of June and July, the high school students' papers will be published



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**Perché non c'è una
commissione antimafia al
Parlamento Europeo?**

Mag 26, 2025 | Investigations & Activities
Committee

Author: Corrado Rossitto Committee:

**A REALLY
INTERESTING
ARTICLE**

<https://www.steppo-eulaw.com/>



**Roberto Saviano incontra De
Lucas Martín: dentro i
meccanismi dell'EPPO tra
sfide e opportunità**

Giu 1, 2025 | Create Subcommittee



**Steppo Al Coordinamento
Provinciale Di Libera**

Mag 19, 2025 | Steppo-Libera: The Civil
Society Role Committee

Author: Alessandro Fumagalli



**Cybersecurity and European
Defence: The EPPO's Emerging
Role in the Digital Era**

Mag 18, 2025 | Cybersecurity strategic
Committee

Author: Matteo Luigi Rosada Referee:



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We are pleased to announce that the Editorial Committee is currently evaluating the best published blog. The winning blog will receive the award dedicated to Dr. Fortarezza

For those who will create the most interesting blog about the European Public Prosecutor in the fight against the crime





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2. Audit Committee

CHAIR: Cesare Montagna

VICE-CHAIR: Marzia Catino

MEMBER:

Marzia Catino

Mattia Rossi





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We are pleased to announce the creation of a new master's program organized by Veda Formazione, under the scientific direction of Cesare Montagna, in anti-money laundering, aimed at providing an in-depth study of specific topics. The program has been established in memory of Dr. Fortarezza.

Master Antiriciclaggio Antonio Fortarezza



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New blog



COOPERATION WITH HIGH SCHOOL

The Committee is working with high-school students to write two new blogs, which students will create as a part of the PCTO project of STEPPO COURSE:

AUTORE: LICEO CLASSICO CARDUCCI

DATA:16/06/2025

TITOLO: “SEGNALAZIONI DI OPERAZIONI SOSPETTE: IL CUORE DEL SISTEMA DI ANTI-RICICLAGGIO ITALIANO”

Suspicious Transaction Reports (STRs) are used to detect potential money laundering or terrorist financing. They are mandatory for various financial operators and analyzed by the Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU). In 2024, they increased by 20%, uncovering fraud involving public funds and illicit use of cryptocurrencies.



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New blog

COOPERATION WITH HIGH SCHOOL

**TITOLO: “LE INDICAZIONI DI ANOMALIA IN
MATERIA DI ANTI-RICICLAGGIO”**

DATA: 18/07/2025

AUTORE: LICEO GANDHI

In recent years, the fight against money laundering and terrorist financing has become crucial, with regulations like Legislative Decree 231/2007 requiring financial operators to perform checks and report suspicious activities. Anomalies can be objective or subjective and are identified using risk indicators. A risk-based approach and a strong culture of compliance are essential for a safe and transparent financial system.





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3. PROSECUTORS COMMITTEE

CHAIR: PIETRO SUCHAN
SUPPORT: CORRADO ROSSITTO

General update



Abbiamo scritto e mandato in
pubblicazione la decisione
della Corte di Giustizia
dell'Unione Europea dell'8
aprile 2025



La sentenza della corte di giustizia dell'Unione Europea dell'8 aprile 2025

Con la sentenza dell'8 aprile 2025, la Corte di giustizia dell'UE ha affermato che gli atti procedurali della Procura Europea, come la citazione di testimoni, devono poter essere soggetti a controllo giurisdizionale nazionale se incidono sui diritti delle persone coinvolte. Ha escluso la compatibilità con il diritto dell'UE di normative nazionali che ne impediscano l'impugnazione, richiamando i principi di equivalenza, effettività e tutela dei diritti fondamentali.





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4. Forensic Experts Committee

CHAIR: Fabrizia Bemer;

CO-CHAIR: Angela Scala

SUPPORT: Francesca Zucca

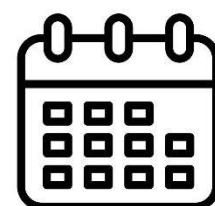
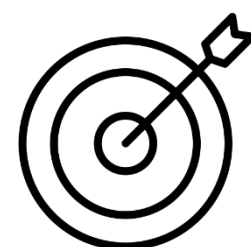
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Next Steps



- * Lancio di uno studio comparato sugli esperti nei paesi aderenti alla cooperazione rafforzata –
- * Blog di presentazione di EEI _ European Expertise and Experts Institute con video intervista al Presidente
- * Blog su AICEF – Associazione Italiana Consulenti Esperti Forensi
- * Studio di fattibilità per partecipazione del Centro d'Eccellenza a possibili collaborazioni con EEI.



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5. Media Committee

CHAIR: Roberto Saviano

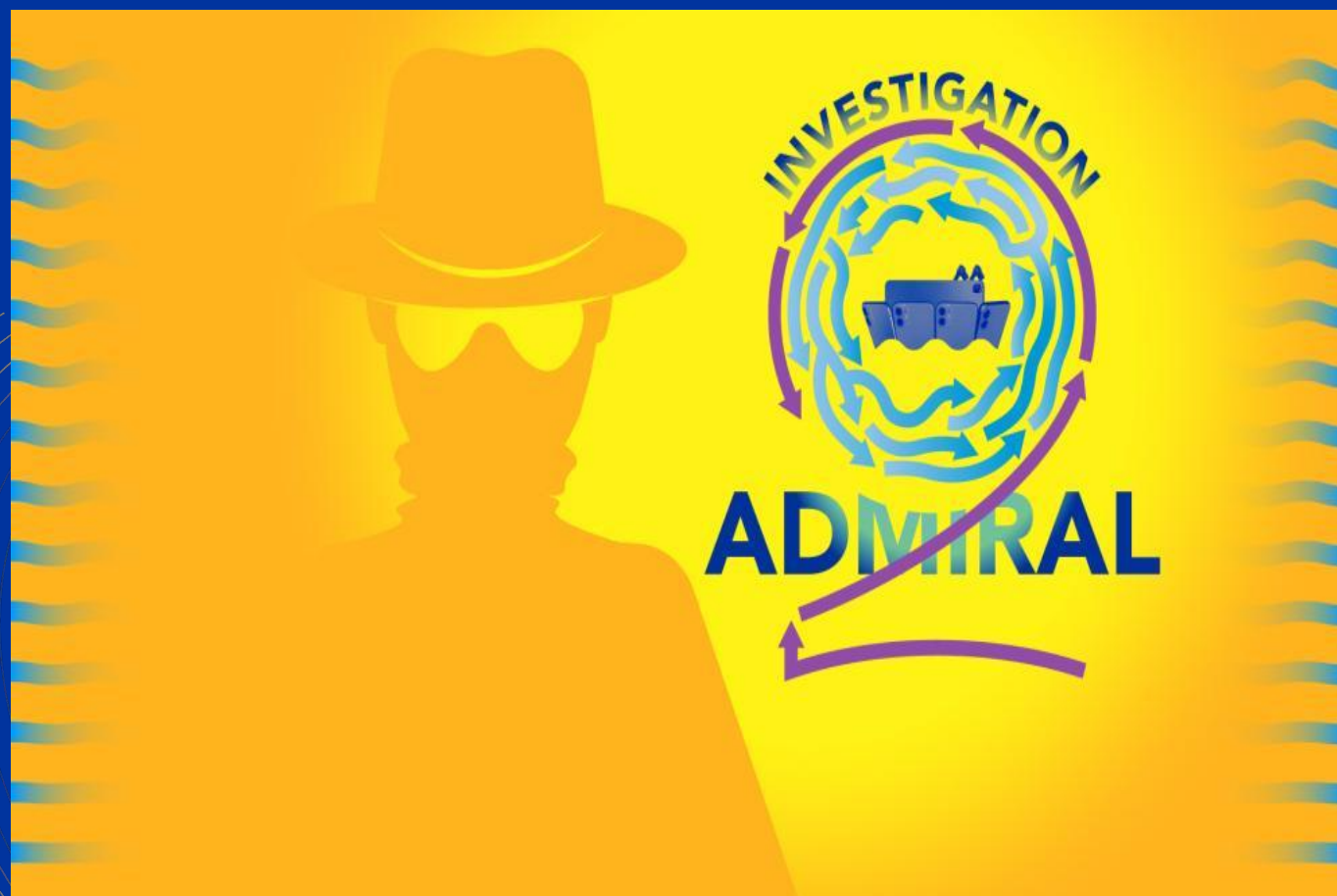
VICE-CHAIR: Sofia Mazza

SUPPORT: Serena Perini

This Month:

EPPO–il caso Admiral e le condanne in Portogallo

Author: Serena Perini



During May Serena Perini has written a blog post that explains the first sentences to some of the authors of the biggest financial fraud against EU, which caused a damage of 2,9 billions of euros.



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Next Activities

Journalist and environmental physicist Marta Abba' contacted the editorial team to ask for information about a blog written by Chiara Milano, which explains the Greek Scandal involving fraud in EU agricultural funds.

Also, on 18th June will be published Sofia Mazza's blog about STEPPO's activity during the year



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6. Lawyers Committee

CHAIR: Federico Mamoli, Elena Tieghi

VICE-CHAIR: Wisal Tayebi



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Activities of the month...

European Lawyers
Association meeting in
Oporto.

&

‘Talk to the future’ week.

We published one blog written
by high school’s students
about the EPPO final
conference.

We are still encouraging
the participation of
university students in court
hearings.



Key Activities | May–June 2025

- Federico Iacopo Mamoli, as Chair of the Steppo Civil Lawyers Committee, represented the committee at the ELA Annual General Meeting (Oporto, May 29–June 1).
- Took part in a legal conference on AI regulation and its legal impact.
- EPPO's role in fighting commercial fraud was emphasized, with strong results noted over its 4 years.

Next steps: strengthen ties with legal professionals and institutions to explore EPPO-related themes over the summer.



'Talk to the future'

Since early May, the "Talk to the Future" week highlighted AI's role in law, noting that even prosecutors use it to speed up investigations—relevant for EPPO.



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Published blogs...

Students from the 'Gandhi' Institute blogged about expanding EPPO's role in environmental crimes—more blogs from other schools coming soon.



Court hearings

In June, Avv. Guarnaschelli took university students to criminal hearings, offering valuable experience and showing his commitment to legal mentorship.

7. Judicial Bodies Committee

CHAIR: Arturo Iadecola

General Update → The Committee highlights:

- **Two new judgments on breaches of legal obligations and principles:**



Corte dei Conti Umbria, sentenza
n. 31/2025



Corte dei conti Lazio, sentenza n.
66/2025

- **A new blog on the importance of the role of the Court of Auditors in the last years**

Corte dei Conti Umbria, sentenza n. 31/2025



- An entrepreneur was ordered to repay **€88,041.24** for **undue receipt of EU and national agricultural funds (FEAGA, 2016–2020)**.
- Shel had applied for subsidies claiming ownership of **30 hectares of land**, but had failed to disclose that a **court ruling had annulled the sale contract** → she no longer possessed the land
- The **omission misled AGEA** thu the Court found **wilful misconduct** and allocated the repayment as follows:
 - **€41,236.48** to the EU
 - **€46,407.93** to the State
 - **€396.83** to the Umbria Region

→ The judgment also includes **direct compensation to the EU**.





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Corte dei conti Lazio, sentenza n. 66/2025

The case



- Members of the **Lazio Regional Council** were sentenced to repay **€93,791.60 and interest** for **damages linked to the mismanagement of ERDF funds**.
- The Council had **failed to comply with the funding deadline**, and instead adopted a regional decision that led to a **financial correction by the European Commission**.
- The Region recovered the amount via offsetting, which triggered **compensation proceedings** under **Article 43 of Law 234/2012**.

Legal Principle

- The Court emphasized that **a regional administrative act cannot override national or EU law**, nor depart from previous decisions by national or EU authorities. The ruling clarifies that **accounting judges may assess how an administrative measure is implemented**, especially when it lacks **efficiency and compliance**.

8. LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES COMMITTEE

CHAIR: FLAVIA NDRIOLLARI

MEMBERS:

- Pietro Frisone
- Roberto Lupo
- Maria Raffaella Stellato
- Giulia Pagani
- Salvatore della Ragione
- Erica Bongiorno
- Teresa Scialla
- Gianluca di Biasi
- Andrea Sarra Fiore
- Luigi Vinciguerra
- Lukas Kuhl
- Pierangelo Seri
- Francesca Zucca
- Francesco Vitali
- Ferdinando Sorbilli

Latest news on EPPO results:

Maxi-fraud on EU agricultural funds uncovered in May



The fraud

The investigation, led by the Italian financial police (Guardia di Finanza of Mondragone) and coordinated by the EPPO Office in Naples, uncovered a new fraud into EU agricultural funds perpetrated by a criminal organisation based in Salerno.

The operating method

the criminal association, through several companies based in Campania, used false documents to simulate the existence of a so called “Producers’ Organisation” (PO) in order to obtain funding from the *Common Agricultural Policy* (CAP).

This company allegedly deceived the Campania Region, the Agency for Agricultural Disbursements (AGEA) and the EU.



Producer organisations (PO) are associations formed on the initiative of producers in a specific sector to strengthen their position on the market and defend their own interests. POs are eligible for public funding to support their activities, including funding under the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP).



The charges

The suspects are charged with **aggravated fraud for obtaining public funds** (art. 640-*bis* c.p.) and **criminal association** (art. 416 c.p.)

The numbers of operation

- **67 individuals and 27 companies** are currently under investigation
- **12.5 million euros** was allegedly misappropriated by the criminal association between 2018 and 2022
- **12 individuals are currently under house arrest**
- **9.6 million euro seized**





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9. Interview Committee

CHAIR: Serena Cacciatore

Activities of the month...

On May 24, the blog related to the interview with Dr. Riccardo Bianchi - Intern at the Prosecutor's Office in Milan - was published.

Intervista Riccardo Bianchi – Tirocinante Presso La Procura Di Milano

Mag 24, 2025 | Interviews Subcommittee



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Author: Aleksandra Lombardo
Committee: Interviews Committee
Date: 24/05/2025

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siano numerosi collegamenti con le tematiche trattate dall'EPPO. Questo permette di comprendere l'accoglienza di questo nuovo strumento da parte degli operatori del diritto. Il dott. Bianchi esprime una valutazione favorevole, sottolineando che, per affrontare reati di natura transnazionale, sia necessario un apparato adeguato e che la Procura europea rappresenti un passo importante in tal senso. Tuttavia, precisa che la positività non esclude la presenza di critiche, soprattutto riguardo alle questioni di competenza e agli atti d'indagine.

2. Quali reati previsti dalla Direttiva PIF sono maggiormente riscontrati nella prassi giudiziaria nel contesto geografico in cui svolge la sua attività?

I reati individuati dalla Direttiva PIF sono effettivamente riscontrabili nell'ambito della pratica giudiziaria milanese.

3. Quali problemi solleva la disciplina sulla competenza delineata dal Regolamento (UE) 1939/2017 e dal rinvio che questo fa alla Direttiva (UE) 1371/2017?

Secondo il dott. Bianchi, uno degli aspetti critici del Regolamento EPPO è il rinvio alle normative nazionali, come nel caso specifico della competenza, che si rimanda alla Direttiva PIF, la quale, a sua volta, richiede una implementazione nazionale. Questo crea incertezze, poiché le normative penali sostanziali e procedurali presentano differenze tra i vari Stati membri, complicando così l'individuazione della competenza dell'EPPO. Tuttavia, il dott. Bianchi rileva che tale problematica è in parte inevitabile, dato che l'Unione Europea non ha competenza in materia di norme penali sostanziali. Quello su cui si può intervenire è il livello di specificità delle norme europee, aspetto che manca, per esempio, nella Direttiva PIF.

4. Le norme in materia di indagini transnazionali rappresentano un valore aggiunto rispetto agli strumenti di cooperazione internazionale già esistenti?

do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the
held responsible for them.

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For the next months...

The chair of the Committee, Dr. Serena Cacciatore, has written a contribution for Giappichelli titled "The Impact of the Court of Justice's Ruling on the EPPO in Italy and Spain," which is being published in section part II on judicial cooperation in criminal matters.



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The contribution is the
result of participation in
a doctoral seminar in
Florence, entitled
«Current Challenges and
Future Trends in
European Criminal
Procedural Law»



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**Thank you
for the
attention**

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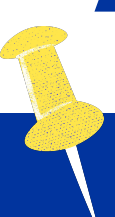
EPPO and EU Law

10. EU INSTITUTIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

CHAIR: PETR KLEMENT, FLORIN-RĂZVAN RADU

MEMBERS: MIRIAM TESTA, GIULIA VARISCO

EPPO'S NEW WORKING ARRANGEMENTS



The EPPO is signing new working arrangements with Ibero-American Association of Public Prosecutors and six counterparts in Latin America.



LAST MONTH'S ACTIVITIES

New Blog

20th May 2025: “The International Recognition of the EPPO: Challenges and Solutions in Cooperation with Third Countries. The Case of SPAK in



New Blog

18th June 2025: “An important working arrangement between EPPO and HMRC of United Kingdom”



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11. Connect com INSIGHTS SOCIAL MEDIA

CHAIRS: Carlotta Eleni, Dimitri Eleni

MEMBERS: Beatrice Pellegrino, Wisal Tayebi

Insight

14 mag - 12 giu

Visualizzazioni

↗ 5488 >

Interazioni

↗ 120 >

Nuovi follower

↗ 9 >

Contenuti che hai condiviso

34 >

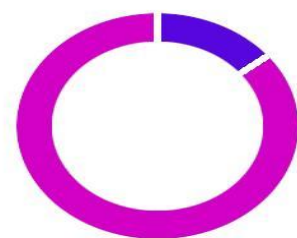
Ultimi 30 giorni ▾

14 mag - 12 giu

5,488

Visualizzazioni

85,7%
Follower ●



14,3%
● Non follower

Account raggiunti

806
+138,5%

INSTAGRAM

PROBLEMI

La pubblicazione dei blog non avviene in modo regolare, con uscite spesso troppo ravvicinate tra loro: questo compromette la chiarezza e l'efficacia della comunicazione sui canali social

SOLUZIONI

Per gestire al meglio i contenuti e non sovrapporre le uscite, sono stati creati **due calendari editoriali**: uno per i **blog PCTO** e uno per le pubblicazioni degli altri comitati. Una scelta che ci ha aiutato a dare **ordine e maggiore visibilità** alla comunicazione social.

PUNTI DI FORZA

Crescita significativa nell'ultimo mese: 5.488 visualizzazioni, 85,7% provenienti dai follower (segno di una community attiva e coinvolta) e il 14,3% da non follower (indicando una buona esposizione verso nuovi utenti). I 34 contenuti pubblicati hanno sostenuto l'attività del profilo, contribuendo anche all'acquisizione di 9 nuovi follower.



STEPPPO EU law

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Milano, Lombardia, Italia

Università degli Studi di Milano-Bic...

51 visitatori del profilo

343 impressioni del post

Analisi

343

Impressioni del post

565

Follower

LINKDIN

SOLUZIONI

Rendere il profilo più dinamico,
diversificando i contenuti pubblicati:
non limitarsi ai post testuali o con
immagine statica, ma includere anche i
video già presenti su Instagram.

PROBLEMI

Engagement limitato rispetto al
numero di follower: nonostante una
community di oltre 560 follower, le
interazioni sui post rimangono
contenute, segnalando la necessità di
contenuti più stimolanti o meglio

PUNTI DI FORZA

Contiamo 343 impressioni solo nell'ultimo
periodo, con 51 visite al profilo. Cresce
l'interesse attorno al progetto, segno che i
contenuti pubblicati stanno attirando
l'attenzione di professionisti e studenti nel
settore legale ed europeo.

FACEBOOK

2453 Visualizzazioni ⓘ

↑60% dal giorno Nei 28 giorni precedenti



Negli ultimi 28 giorni la nostra pagina Facebook ha totalizzato 2.453 visualizzazioni, registrando un +60% rispetto al periodo precedente. I due picchi principali, tra fine maggio e inizio giugno, indicano momenti di forte interesse. L'andamento conferma una tendenza positiva e costante.



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Il post che ha ottenuto il maggior numero di visualizzazioni è “Steppo e Libera: Uniti per la Memoria delle vittime di Mafia” con 54 visualizzazioni.

Problemi:

1. È il social meno utilizzato dagli utenti;
2. A volte vengono condivise troppe slide che non si adattano alle specificità della piattaforma.

Soluzioni:

1. Ridurre il numero di slide
2. Utilizzare foto coinvolgenti che attirino l'attenzione degli utenti.





Steppo_eulaw:
intervento di Roberto
Saviano presso l'U...
5462 visualizzazioni · 1 m...



The full video of the
closing conference:
EPPO and THE RU...
514 visualizzazioni · 2 mes...

SPOTIFY E YOUTUBE

Problemi:

1. I dati mostrano una chiara riduzione dell'engagement dopo la pubblicazione dei primi video, a causa della mancanza di una programmazione regolare e di contenuti nuovi.

Soluzioni:

1. Pubblicare anche su YouTube, non solo su Instagram, i video «Le Chicche della Settimana» creati dal Create Com.



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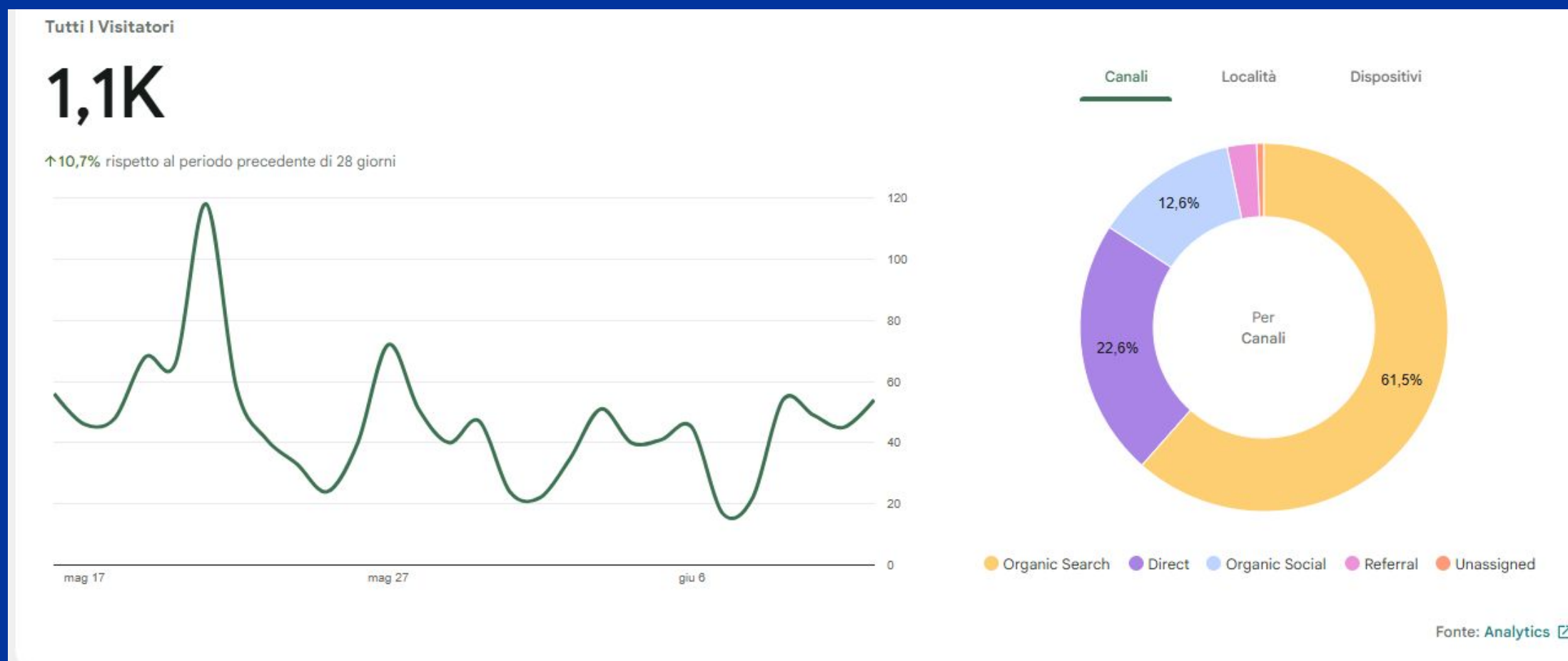


Steppo EuLaw

@steppoeulaw

122 iscritti · 21 video

SITO WEB



Abbiamo osservato un incremento delle visite al sito, attribuibile alla costante pubblicazione di nuovi contenuti. Ci aspettiamo un'ulteriore crescita del traffico, soprattutto in vista della pubblicazione dei blog relativi al PCTO.



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12. CREATE COMMITTEE

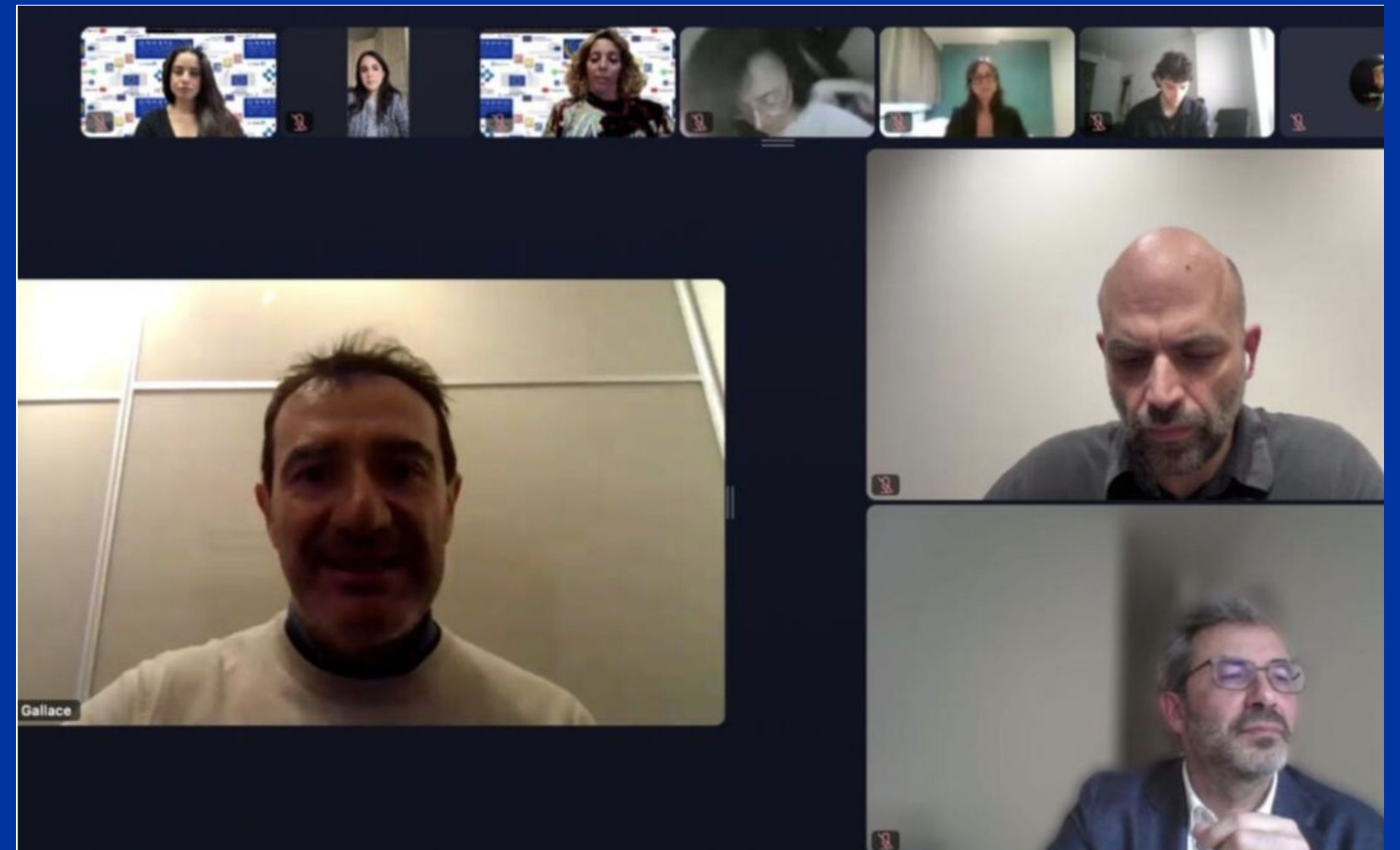
CHAIR: Iman Khodri, Veronica Carbone

VICE-CHAIR: Adriana Valladares, Chiara Milano, Annalisa Trabbia,
Francesca Fragrassi

Last month's activities

- New blog about the interview with the European Prosecutor **Ignacio De Lucas Martín** and the journalist and author **Roberto Saviano**, written by Adriana Maria Valladares.

<https://www.steppo-eulaw.com/2025/06/01/roberto-saviano-incontra-de-lucas-martin-dentro-i-meccanismi-delle-ppo-tra-sfide-e-opportunita/>



Last month's activities

Evaluation Survey of the 4th cycle of lectures of the Jean Monnet Module "EPPO and EU Law: a Step Forward in Integration"



The screenshot shows a survey form titled "Evaluation Survey of the 4th cycle of lectures of the Jean Monnet Module 'Eppo and EU Law: a Step Forward in Integration'". It includes logos for STEPPO, Jean Monnet European Union Centre of Excellence, and the University of Milan Bicocca. The form contains a consent statement, a mandatory question indicator, and a profession/occupation selection section.

Evaluation Survey of the 4th cycle of lectures of the Jean Monnet Module "Eppo and EU Law: a Step Forward in Integration".

Non condiviso

* Indica una domanda obbligatoria

I consent to the processing of my personal data in accordance with EU Regulation no. 2016/679 (GDPR) *

☐ I consent.

Profession/ occupation *

☐ Professor, Researcher, Research Fellow

☐ PhD student

☐ Student at the University of Milan Bicocca

- **Target audience:** Professors, Researchers, Research Fellows, PhD students, Students at the University of Milan Bicocca, University students (other universities), PCTO Students, PNRR Students, Lawyers, Accountants,...
- **Purpose:** understanding students' opinions regarding the strengths and critical aspects of the course.
- **Subject:** student engagement, genuine interest, teaching quality, suggestions for new activities,...
- **Sharing:** we have **shared the questionnaire** across various social media platforms in order to collect as many responses as possible. **Stay tuned to find out the survey results!**



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In the upcoming months we
will be working on
strengthening our strategy
with and bettering our
formats:

the debates

the social media
videos for «chicche
della settimana»

the surveys

Next Activities



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13. Collaborate Committee

CHAIR: Lorenzo Salazar

VICE-CHAIR: Veronica Carbone



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Activities of the month...



Blog: 17 application have been received
for the position of European Chief
Prosecutor.

Official Journal of the European Union



Call for applications...

The call for applications for the European Chief Prosecutor was published on 28 April, with 17 applications received by the 28 May deadline. Eligibility screening is set for July, followed by interviews in the autumn.

Collaborate Committee will also
address this topic in a dedicated blog



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14. Game Committee

CHAIR: Fabrizia Bemmer; Veronica Carbone; Iman Khodri

SUPPORT: Francesca Fragassi



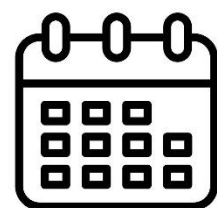
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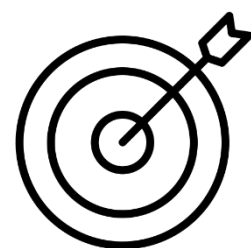
Next Steps



Strengthening institutional relations with the
Guardia di Finanza



Presentation of the following up of the project to
Mr. Petr Klement, Deputy European Chief
Prosecutor scheduled for October



Goal: consolidate the collaboration and
share the potential of the new platform



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Launch of a new study



implementation of a
new phase with an
upgraded virtual reality
technique

15. Banking, insurance and financial authorities subcommittee

CHAIR: Daniele Alessandro Luison

VICE-CHAIR: Matteo Ianni, Nicoletta Ordonselli

Eppo and Modern Tools

Lawyer Daniele Alessandro Luison participated as a panelist in a roundtable on the role of artificial intelligence in criminal investigations, discussing the impact of new technologies on investigative work, ethical challenges, and opportunities for cooperation between law, technology, and justice.



NEWS: 1.1 million seizure for illegally obtained European agricultural funds.

- Investigation by the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) and Naples Carabinieri (2022-2024).
- 14 people indicted for criminal association, fraud, corruption, and forgery.
- Involvement of public officials and agricultural technicians from the Campania Region.
- Funds obtained through false documents and illicit agreements.
- A former law enforcement officer facilitated investigations' obstruction and provided illegal consultancy.



16. HIGH SCHOOL COMMITTEE



CHAIRS

ALESSANDRO FUMAGALLI: Civil lawyer and former headmaster of several middle and high schools

MICHELE MONOPOLI: Former Dean of Beccaria High School Milan

ANTONELLA IANNASCOLI: Mathematics and physics teacher at the Liceo

Classico Cesare Beccaria in Milan

VERONICA CARBONE: law student

MEMBERS

ALESSANDRO COLOMBO, EGLE CONCINA, SAMUELE DI MARTINO, ARIANNA DUZ,

BEATRICE QUAGLIA, SAMANTHA NICOLE DE GUZMAN, MARIA CHIARA CAPPELLI,

FRANCESCA FRAGASSI, ADELE MINICHELLO, SONIA M'GAYEDI, NICOLO' ELENi,

GIULIA PAGANI, ANGELO SALIMBENI (support)



IPM CESARE BECCARIA

Si è concluso lo scorso 20 maggio il progetto del comitato High School, in collaborazione con la fondazione F. Rava, presso il carcere minorile di Milano C. Beccaria.

In totale 8 incontri durante i quali si sono alternati momenti di convivialità a momenti di riflessione e confronto coi giovani detenuti, col risultato di aver intrapreso tutti insieme un percorso profondo e arricchente.



L'invito da parte della fondazione F. Rava è di partecipare, in ultimo, al campus sportivo che si terrà presso il penitenziario minorile dal 7 al 11 luglio, occasione per incontrare nuovamente i giovani detenuti.

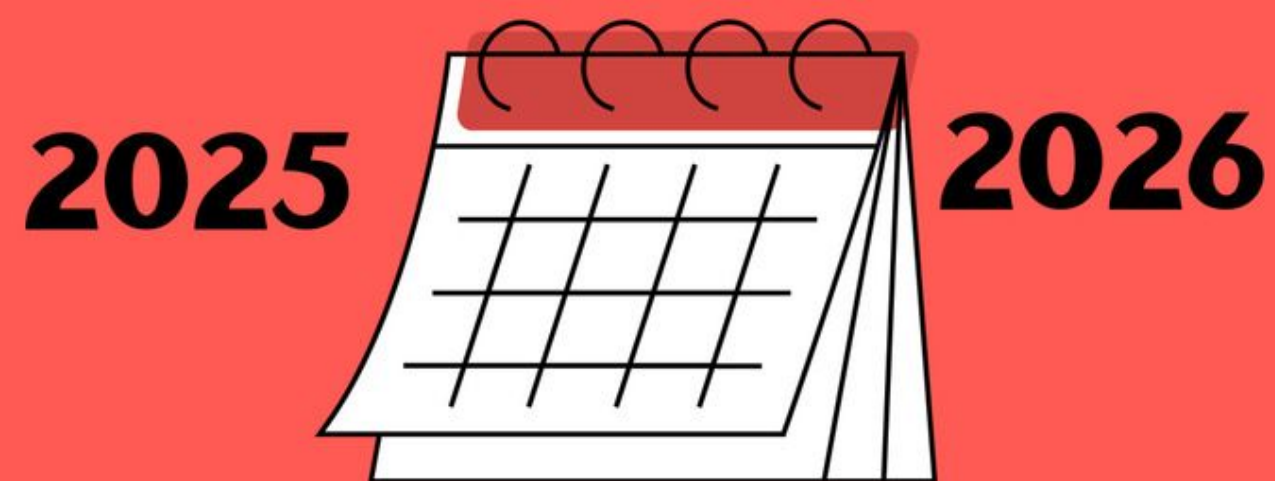


PCTO E PNRR



Si è definitivamente concluso il percorso **PCTO** per circa 150 studenti delle scuole superiori di Milano, che hanno partecipato al corso *Steppo: a step forward in integration* ed elaborato, a conclusione, un **blog** inerente la Procura Europea col supporto dei chairs dei vari comitati.

22 gli articoli che in totale sono stati scritti, dei quali nei prossimi mesi seguirà la pubblicazione sul sito di Steppo.



Confermato anche per l'anno accademico **2025/26** il **modulo PNRR** elaborato dal centro di eccellenza Steppo «La lotta alla criminalità nell'Unione Europea».



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(Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence -EPPONFI)

Real Estate Transaction Committee

CHAIR: Marina Palmulli



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Real Estate Transaction Committee



CHAIR:

Marina Palmulli

MEMBERS

Paolo Maiolino,
Alessandra Parisi (Support)



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LAST MONTHS' ACTIVITIES

In May, the Real Estate transaction Committee collaborated with the students of Liceo Carducci in an engaging educational experience, which culminated in the creation of a blog marking the conclusion of their PCTO program. The project focused on a highly relevant topic: the role of cadastral verification and the identification of the beneficial owner in preventing fraud involving European funds. Starting from a role-play activity, the students explored real-world scenarios, turning theory and simulation into practical awareness and concrete skills.



OTHER ACTIVITIES

In recent months, three articles have been published with contributions from university students, focusing on concrete cases of fraud involving European funds and the role of the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO).



Resilient Crime: Come il Mattone Nascondeva una Maxi Frode da 600 Milioni

Author Pasquale Cinieri: an operation carried out by the Guardia di Finanza and coordinated by the EPPO, which uncovered a transnational fraud involving PNRR funds and implicating the real estate sector.





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BLOG 2 & 3



The EPPO Strikes Back: Exposing EU Fund Abuse And Real Estate Money Laundering

Author Aurora Fontan: a consultancy firm obtained €1.6 million in EU funds for fictitious projects, reinvesting the money in real estate abroad through an international network.



When illicit money finds a home: The EPPO and the European fight against real estate laundering

Author Giulia Maino: Operation "No Name": a criminal organization based in China, responsible for tax fraud and real estate laundering across Europe, was dismantled thanks to the cooperation between the EPPO offices in Milan and Bologna.



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Future Prospects

Looking ahead, we hope to initiate a collaboration with the Media Committee, aware of the challenges encountered in finding reliable and up-to-date information about the real estate sector. A dialogue between different areas of expertise could enrich the students' work, promoting more effective communication and a deeper understanding of the topics addressed.



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18. ART AND CULTURAL HERITAGE CRIMES COMMITTEE

CHAIR: Andrzej Jakubowski, Lucas Ixinski, Alicja Jagielska-Burduk
Benedetta Ubertaini

MEMBERS: Sherine Al Shallah, Francesca Marasi, Dimitri Eleni, Elisa
Mazzilli

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LAST MONTH'S ACTIVITIES

An intersessional meeting of the Committee on **Safeguarding Cultural Heritage in Armed Conflict** was held in **Seoul** from **26 to 30 May**.

Dr **Jakubowski**, the rapporteur of this committee and co-chair of **STEPPPO's Arts and Cultural Heritage**, presented the contribution of the Milan team to the work of this important international body. The focus was on the trafficking of cultural materials.



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During the last month, our committee worked with Carducci high school and Gandhi high school for the PCTO project on two new blogs, about:

1. A fraudulent involvement in the construction of a museum, funded by the Eu: Petrich, Bulgaria
2. An investigation into attempted fraud involving solar power plants on the protected heritage area

The blogs will be published on STEPPO website on:



23/06/2025

SLOVENIA:
TENTATA TRUFFA SU IMPIANTI FOTOVOLTAICI CON FONDI UE⁽¹⁾



Authors: Michelle Molteni, Chiara Trezzi (Scuola Gandhi)
Committee: Art and Cultural Heritage committee, High School Committee
Date: 23/06/2025

Sotto Chiave:
Il Mistero del Museo di Petrič e le Accuse al Sindaco



Authors: Marta Fumagalli, Guido Galli, Edoardo Hilmanov Maxim, Mattia Straini, Mina Veronese
Committee: Art and Cultural Heritage crimes committee, High school Committee
Date: 28/07/2025



28/07/2025

Visiting PhD Student – Erasmus+ Mobility

Kazi Ashraf Uddin

- Home University: University of New South Wales (UNSW), Sydney
- PhD Topic: Investigating the impact of British colonial law in shaping the legal framework concerning transgender legal rights in Bangladesh
- Contribution to *Steppo* blogpost:
- I aim to contribute a brief note exploring -
 - how the EU's external humanitarian aid—particularly in the context of the Rohingya refugee crisis in Bangladesh—reflects its legal commitments to human rights and non-discrimination.
 - adopting an intersectional lens, I argue that EU rights discourses and diplomacy can more effectively address the compounded vulnerabilities of transgender Rohingya refugees, enriching the EU's rights discourse and humanitarian practice





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19. Agricultural and environmental frauds committee

CHAIR: Esther Muniz Espada

VICE-CHAIR: Samuel Bolis



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Agricultural and environmental frauds Committee

MEMBERS:

CHAIR:

Dra. Esther Muñoz Espada

Universidad de Valladolid

VICE-CHAIR:

Avv. Samuel Bolis

Ph.D. in European Criminal
Law, Lawyer and former Lt.
Colonel at Guardia di
Finanza

MEMBERS:

- **Nicola Prota**, Confederazioni Italiana Agricoltori
- **Rocho Perteguer**, vocal de medioambiente del Colegio Nacional de Registradores
 - **Tarikwa Lanzara**, PhD candidate
- **Natalia Andrea Rossi Raggio**, Law student
 - **Angelo Salimbeni**, Law student
 - **Chiara Milano**, Law student
 - **Alessia Satta**, Law student
 - **Giulia Varisco**, Law student
 - **Anthony Zhilkin**, Law student

NEW BLOG POSTS UPLOADED



<https://www.steppo-eulaw.com/2025/06/06/il-ruolo-di-eppo-nel-contrasto-alle-frodi-pac-nella-relazione-2025-del-parlamento-europeo-sulla-tutela-degli-interessi-finanziari/>

Cooperation with high school students (PCTO project of the STEPPO course)

TITLE: The Role of the EPPO in combating CAP fraud in the **European Parliament's 2025 Report** on the protection of the EU's financial interests.

AUTHORS: Moratti Anna, Viscardi Luca
(Salesiani Don Bosco-Treviglio)

UPCOMING BLOG POSTS

Cooperation with high school students (PCTO project of the STEPPO course)



On **July 4, 2025**, the second blog created by high school students in collaboration with the Committee will be published.

TITLE: The Role of the EPPO in combating CAP fraud in the **European Commission's 35th annual report** on the protection of the EU's financial interests, addressed to the Council and the European Parliament.

AUTHORS: Cinci Andrea, Pipitone Maria, Pontelli Giorgia, Gandini Tommaso, Pelliccioli Camilla
(Liceo Scientifico Statale Donatelli-Pascal)

NEXT ACTIVITIES

The Committee will collaborate with the journalist and environmental physicist **Marta Abbà**, who contacted the editorial team to ask some information about the blog, written by Chiara Milano, about the Greek Scandal involving CAP fraud, published on 31/03/2025.





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20. Investigations and activities committee

CHAIR: Filip Siroky

VICE-CHAIR: Samuel Bolis



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Investigations and Activities Committee

MEMBERS:

CHAIR:

Dr. Filip Siroky:

expert investigator at the
European Public Prosecutor's
Office in Luxemburg.

VICE-CHAIR:

PhD Samuel Bolis:

Ph.D. in European Criminal Law,
Lawyer and former Lt. Colonel at
Guardia di Finanza.

MEMBERS:

- **Iman Khodri:** Law student
- **Sandra Grabmeier:** Law student
- **Annalisa Trabbia:** Law student

ACTIVITIES OF THE MONTH:



Corrado Rossitto published a new blog: **“Perché non c’è una Commissione antimafia al Parlamento Europeo?”**.

The article looks at why the European Parliament still doesn’t have a dedicated Anti-Mafia Commission, what we can learn from the Italian approach, and why urgent, joint reforms are needed to defend democracy, justice, and the rule of law across the EU.

<https://www.steppo-eulaw.com/2025/05/26/perche-non-ce-una-commissione-antimafia-al-parlamento-europeo/>

The committee worked with high school students to write the blog that will conclude their PCTO.

1. Scuola Donatelli Pascal → **“EPPO e la lotta alle Mafie: i risultati conseguiti dopo il discorso programmatico della Procuratrice Europea del 2021”**

1. Scuola Marie Curie → **“Ricucire la Brexit: i nuovi rapporti tra EPPO e UK”**

1. Scuola Gandhi → **“EPPO – OLAF – EUROPOL – DG TAXUD: gli attori nella lotta alle frodi al Bilancio UE”**

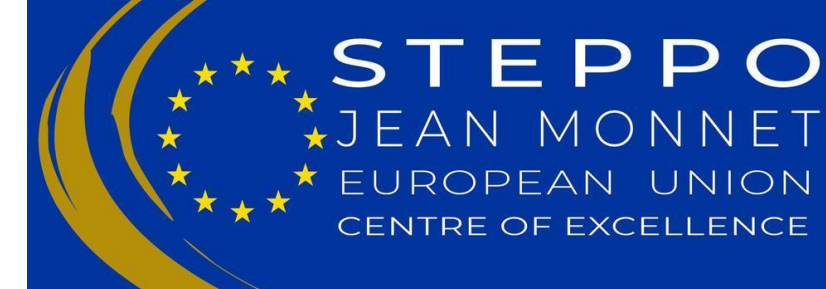
The first blog has already been published:

<https://www.steppo-eulaw.com/2025/06/02/eppo-e-la-lotta-alle-mafie-un-bilancio-dal-2021-a-oggi-unanalisi-dei-risultati-ottenuti-dalla-procura-europea-nella-lotta-contro-la-criminalita-organizzata-dopo-il-discorso-programmatico-del-2021/>





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NEXT ACTIVITIES:



EUROPEAN
PUBLIC
PROSECUTOR'S
OFFICE

- Annalisa Trabbia is writing a new blog about **how the Italian customs reform has influenced the investigative work carried out by the EPPO:** what has changed, the cross-border effects on European judicial cooperation, and the evolving relationship between the Italian Customs Agency (ADM) and the EPPO.



Thanks for
your attention!



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EPPO and EU Law

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21. Cybersecurity Strategic Committee

CHAIR: Marco Bacini

VICE-CHAIR: Giordana Ambrosino, Alessio Vergnano

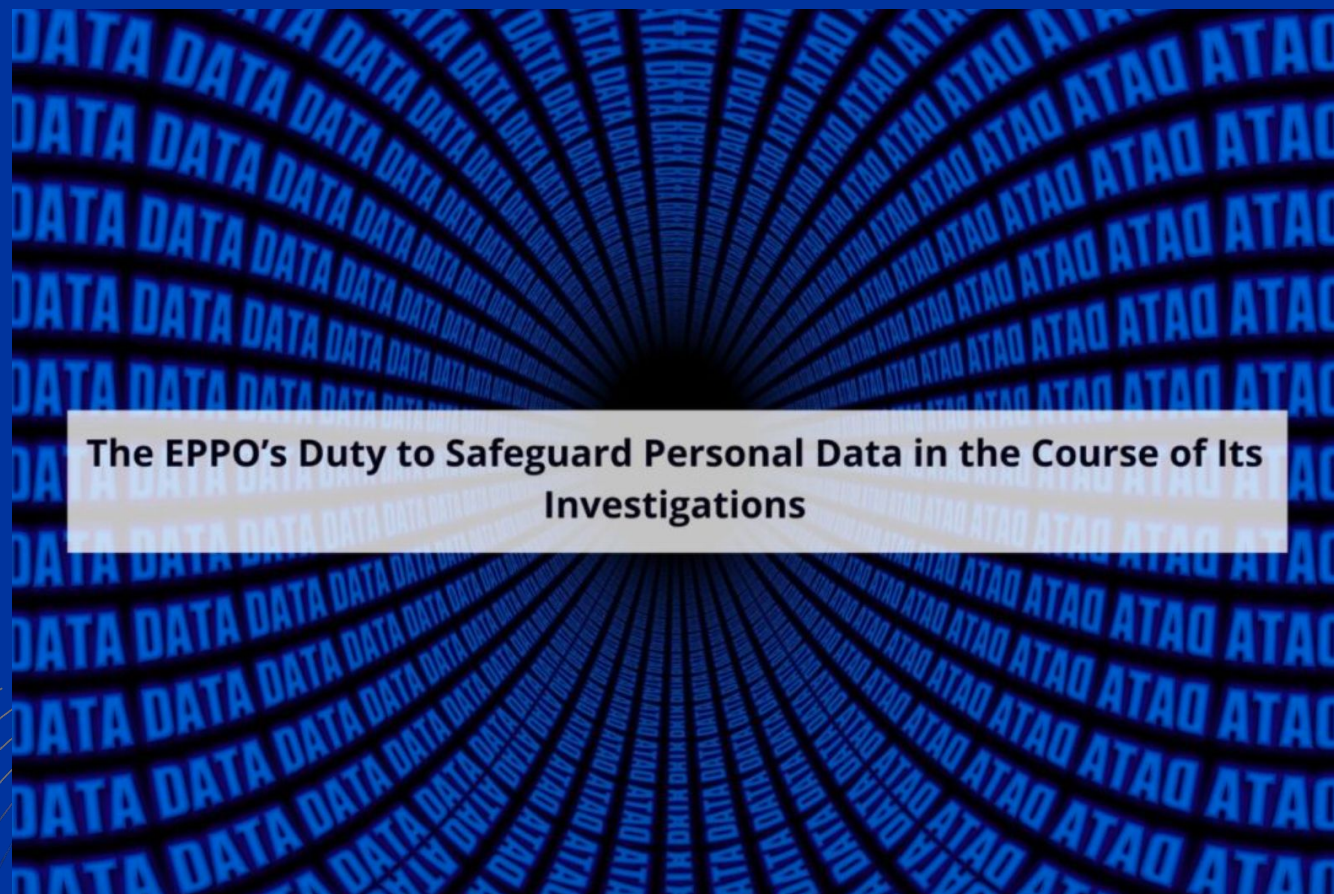
SUPPORT: Maria Giulia Mariotti

MEMBERS: Francesca Fragassi; Marzia Catino; Aleksandra Lombardo; Nadia Mangiardi; Yael Wuhl; Matteo

Presider: Giulio Civitareale

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NEW BLOG POSTS UPLOADED



TITLE: The EPPO's Duty to Safeguard Personal Data in the Course of Its Investigations

AUTHOR: Yael Wuhl

NEW BLOG POSTS UPLOADED



TITLE: Cybersecurity and European Defence:
The EPPO's Emerging Role in the Digital Era

AUTHOR: Matteo Luigi Rosada

NEW BLOG POSTS UPLOADED



TITLE: Cyberintelligence EPPO and Data Protection: **Closing conference Panel**

AUTHOR: Maria Giulia Mariotti

UPCOMING BLOG POSTS:



Cooperation with high school students

FIRST BLOG: The European Court of Auditor's opinion concerning the proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down measures to strengthen solidarity and capacities in the Union to detect, prepare for and respond to cybersecurity Threats and incidents

TITLE: La gestione dei fondi europei ed il ruolo della Procura Europea: lavorare insieme per proteggere l'Unione nell'era digitale

Author: LICEO CARDUCCI, Milano



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22. EPPO & IMMIGRATION COMMITTEE

CHAIRS:

Dr. Francesco Testa

Delegate European Public Prosecutor in Rome

Luca Ferro

Head of the Office of the Public Prosecutor in Milan

Dott.ssa Alessia Voinich

Ph.D and Lawyer

Members:

Mattia Rossi

UPCOMING BLOG POST



We are collaborating with Kazi Ashraf Uddin from Sydney, a visiting PHD fellow at Milano Bicocca Law school, member of Cultural Heritage Com, who is preparing a blog post for STEPPO.

The post will focus on the humanitarian challenges faced by Rohingya transgender refugees in Bangladesh and explore how EU External Humanitarian Fund policies might incorporate an intersectional human rights approach.

This topic'll also allow us to further explore the Committee's research line on the possible role of EPPO in protecting human rights, particularly through its oversight functions on fund management.

This contribution aims to further enrich our efforts to include diverse and interdisciplinary perspectives within the STEPPO



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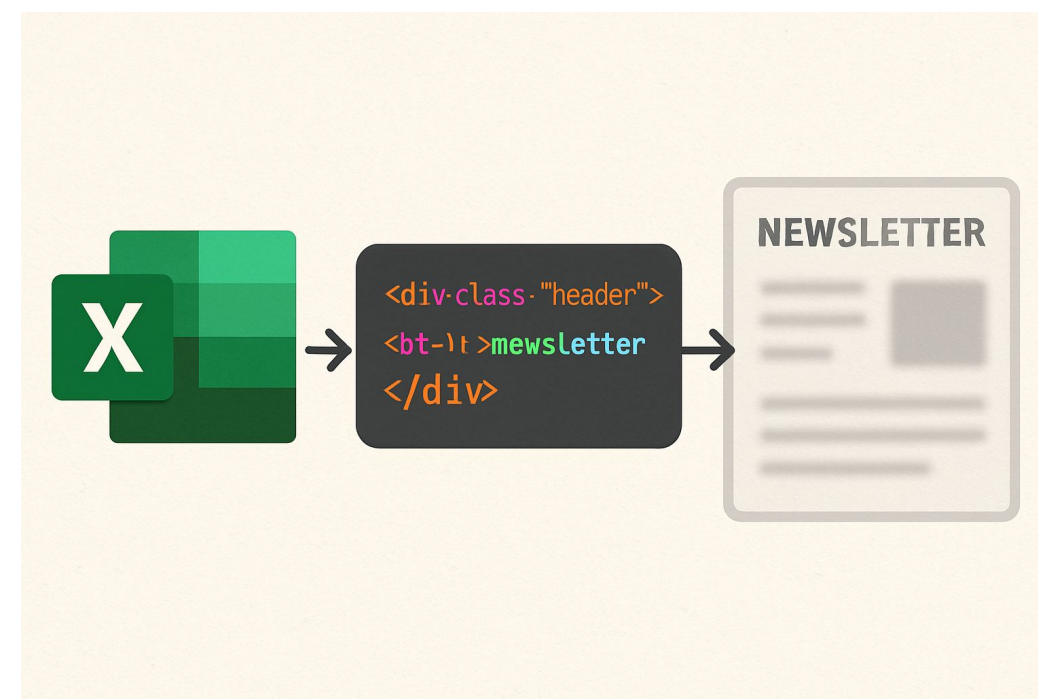
(Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence – EPPONFI)

23. Digital communication and newsletter committee

CHAIR: Paolo Maiolino

VICE-CHAIR: Luca Zappaterra

May-June report



Work done

June's edition
(16° June 2025)

News

Our new workflow based on online data collector (via excel) and AI integration (to organize data) allows us to

Future improvements

Implementing a new system to track views of our blog via steppo website (still work in progress)

Future newsletter: website

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 **STEPPO**
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Interactive NEWSLETTER

EPPO and EU Law
(Jean Monnet Centre of
Excellence - EPPONFI)

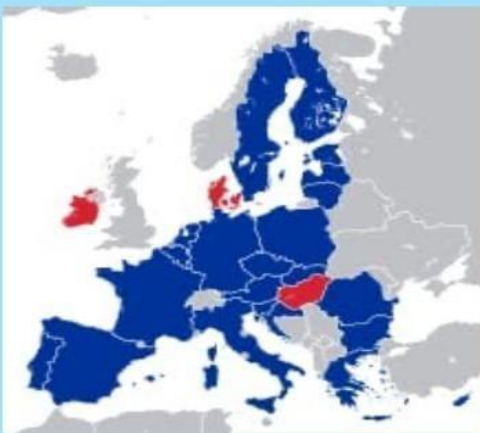
Titolo: La Procura europea contro il crimine organizzato: Roberto Saviano intervista il Procuratore europeo Ignacio De Lucas Martín
Autore: Sofia Mazza
Comitato: Media Subcommittee
Data: 12/03/2025

Titolo: 12th March lecture: Judicial Cooperation between the EPPO and authorities from non/participating Member States and third countries
Autore: Lecturer: Florin/Răzvan RADU
Principal Legal Officer, EPPO Legal Service Miriam Testa
Comitato: EU Institutions Subcommittee
Data: 12/03/2025

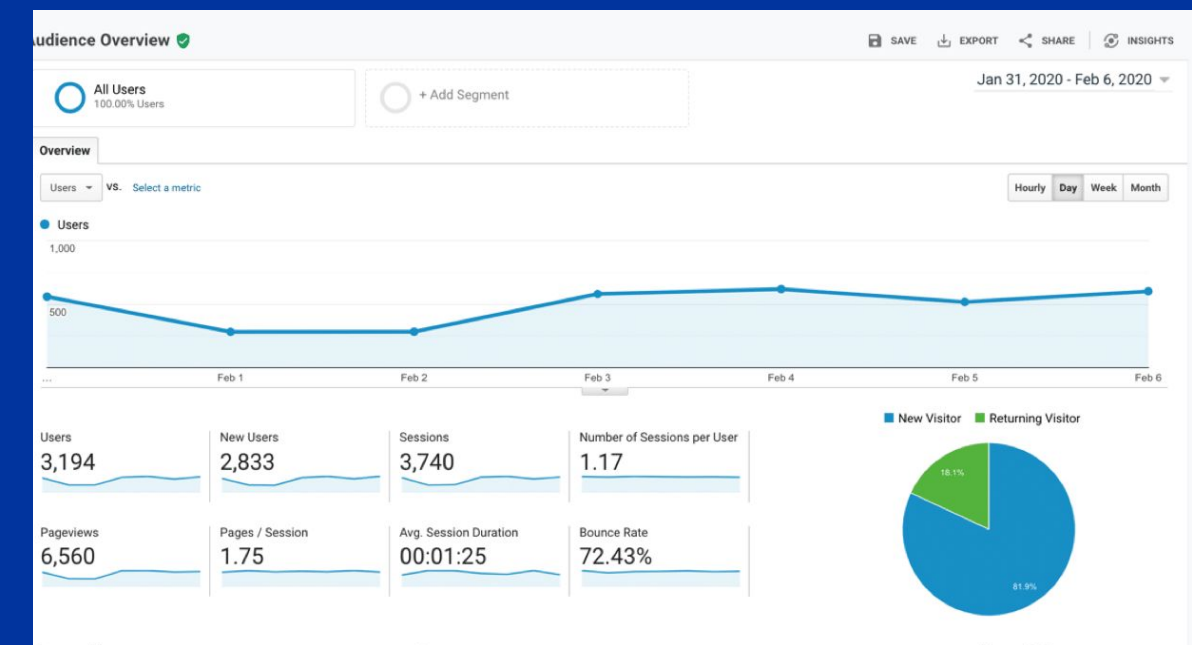
CLICCA QUI



CLICCA QUI



Hypothetical graphic interface



Graphic interface of Google Analytics

- Using the website to *publish* our newsletter allow us to:
- 1) Making the access easier and more comfortable than the traditional PDF/Email message
 - 2) Tracking visitors of our newsletter with Google analytics



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STEPPO-Libera:

24. The Civil Society Role Committee

CHAIRS: Wisal Tayebi, Beatrice Pellegrino,
Simone Rossitto, Stefano Mattacchini



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Blog pubblicati



- **Steppo Al Coordinamento Provinciale Di Libera**

Report riguardo al maxiprocesso sul “consorzio” tra clan in Lombardia.

L'importanza delle comunità monitoranti nel contesto degli appalti pubblici, come le Olimpiadi Milano-Cortina.

- **L'impegno di Steppo e il contrasto alle mafie per una società civile consapevole**

Il traffico di umani come una delle attività più redditizie delle organizzazioni internazionali.



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Prossime pubblicazioni e aggiornamenti



- Seguiremo la pubblicazione dei prossimi Report sulle Olimpiadi Milano-Cortina
- Seguiremo le prossime iniziative riguardo al riutilizzo dei beni confiscati



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25. ACADEMIC COMMITTEE

CHAIR: Alejandro Hernandez Lopez, Ilaria Sticchi, Enrico Traversa

CHAIR SUPPORT: Marta Ramat



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General update

**Closing Conference
e-book**

almost ready
for publication

**Upcoming Conference,
24 June ([programme](#))**

Criminal Justice and
International Cooperation in
the EU

Challenges and Developments
in the Age of Globalisation

Update on EPPO and criminal law cases



EPPO

- Order of the GC in T-509/24, *Research Investments and Others v EPPO*

Judicial cooperation in criminal matters

- Opinion of AG Capeta in C-215/24, *Fira*
- Opinion of AG Richard de la Tour in C-8/24, *Županijsko državno odvjetništvo*
- Judgment in C-135/25 PPU, *Kachev*
- Opinion of AG Kokott in C-219/25 PPU, *Kamekris*

Spanish case-law

- Order of the Tribunal Supremo in ATS 5219/2025 (ECLI:ES:TS:2025:5219A) – negative conflict of competence between the EPPO and ES authorities

Scholarship

E. Traversa, *Seconda importante sentenza della Corte di giustizia UE (causa C-292/23) avente ad oggetto l'interpretazione del regolamento n. 2017/1939 istitutivo della Procura europea (EPPO)*, forthcoming in Rivista di Diritto comunitario e degli scambi internazionali (DCSI)

A. Hernandez Lopez will soon send his commentary to the same judgment, written from a Spanish perspective

Latest issues and series of articles in EU criminal law:

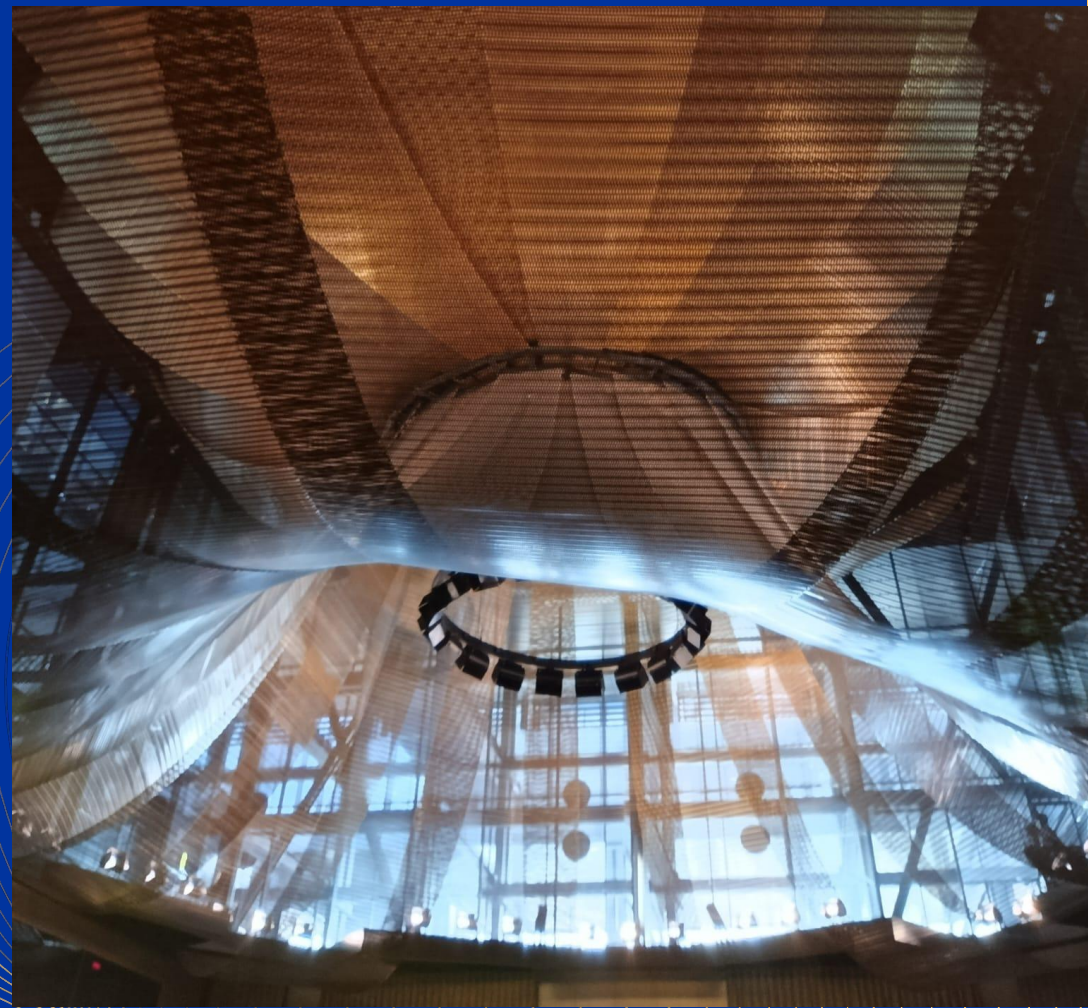
European Criminal Law Review [HERE](#)

New Journal of European Criminal Law [HERE](#)

Eucrim [HERE](#)



Update on EPPO and criminal law cases



EPPO

- Order of the GC in T-509/24, *Research Investments and Others v EPPO*

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Latest issues and series of articles in EU criminal law:

European Criminal Law Review [HERE](#)

New Journal of European Criminal Law [HERE](#)

Eucrim [HERE](#)





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CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

National Institutions Committee

CHAIR: Claudio Palazzoni, Gabriele Liberatore

SUPPORT: Nadia Mangiardi Fontana



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Il punto della situazione sulle frodi in Europa a fine 2024.



- 2.666 indagini attive su frodi comunitarie;
- Aumento del **38%** rispetto al 2023;
- Frodi IVA: 18% delle frodi attive e 53% dei danni stimati;
- Danni stimati per **24,8 miliardi di euro**;

- Germania ed Italia con 179 (Germania) e 149 (Italia) indagini attive fanno la parte del leone;
- Fanalino di coda (in senso positivo), Cipro con una sola indagine attiva;



- Le segnalazioni EPPO sono aumentate del **56%** rispetto al 2023;
- Oltre il **70%** delle segnalazioni proviene da private;
- Quasi il **27%** proviene dalle Autorità nazionali;

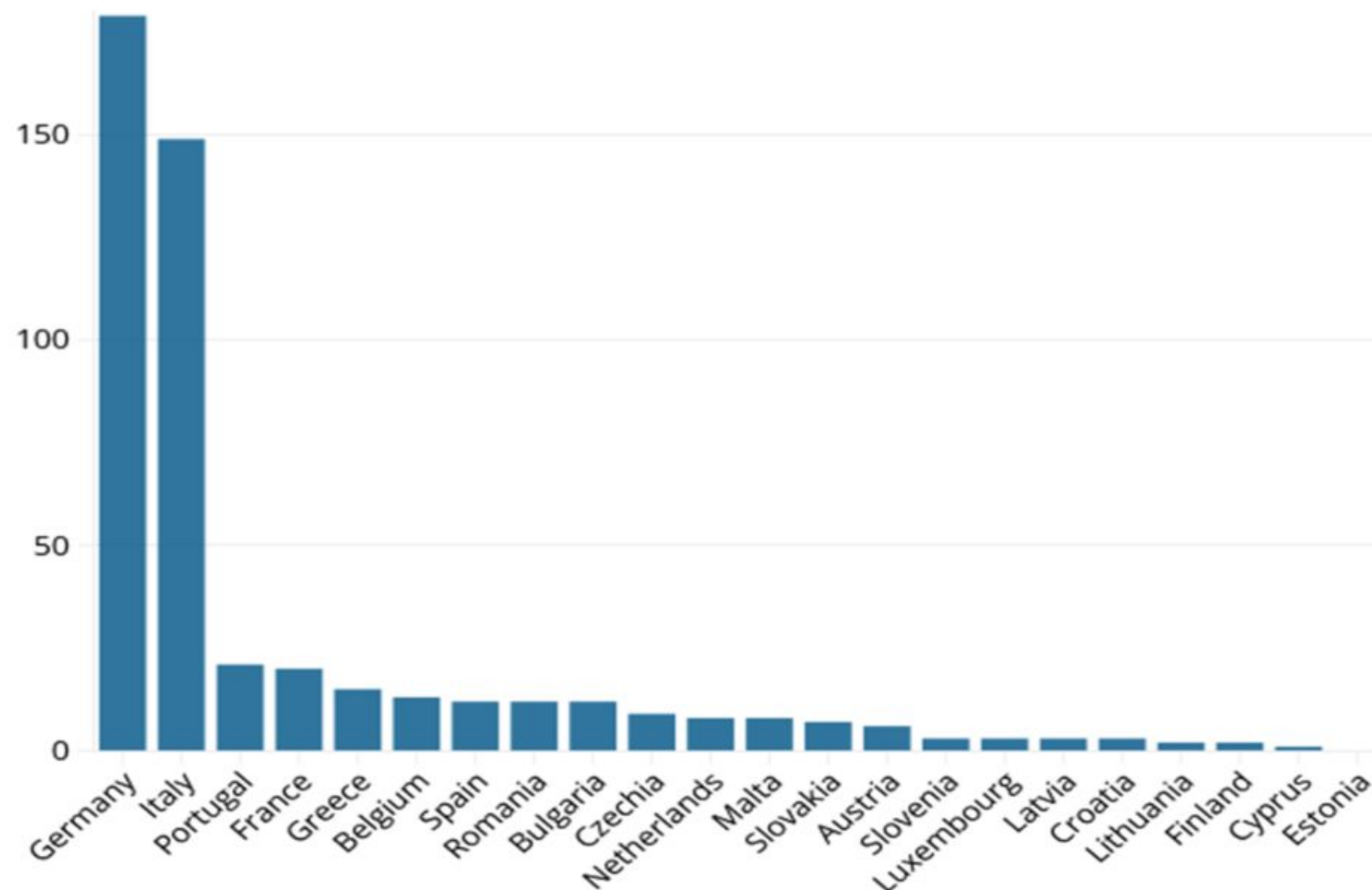


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RIEPILOGO FRODI COMUNITARIE

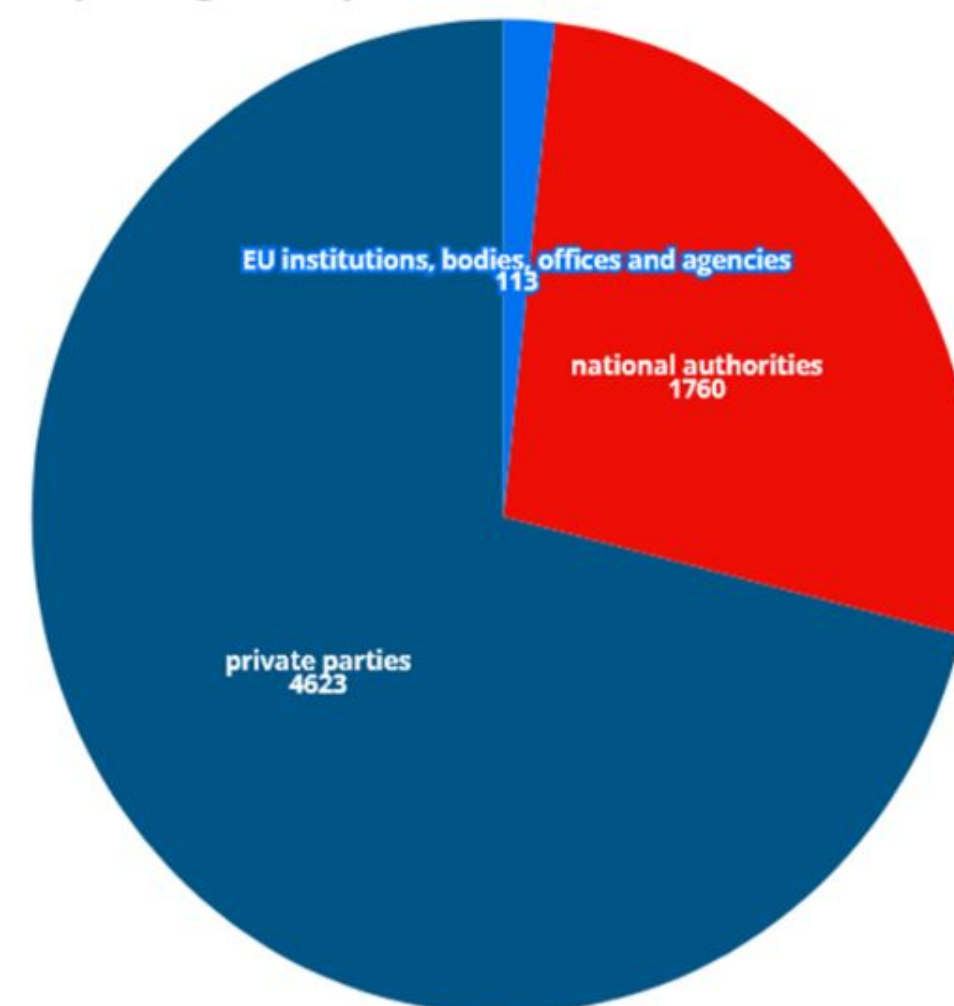
Active VAT fraud investigations



Source: [EPPO Annual Report 2024](#)



Entities reporting of suspicions of fraud to the EPPO



Source: [EPPO Annual Report 2024](#)





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Prossimo blog

Indagine Supernova: 5 giugno 2025 a cura
dell'EPPO di Francoforte e Colonia. **Stay
Tuned e grazie per l'attenzione!!!**