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REGGIO CALABRIA



Università degli Studi  
Mediterranea  
di Reggio Calabria

## The Effect of Organized Crime on Firm Technical Efficiency and R&D Investments

PRIN2022 PNRR

Final Conference

February 26, 2026

University of Messina,  
Department of Economics  
Aula Magna 2

### 11:00 | Institutional greetings

**Prof. Gustavo Barresi**, Director, Department of Economics,  
University of Messina

**Dr. Salvatore La Rosa**, Questore (Provincial Police Chief) of  
Messina

**Col. Lucio Arcidiacono**, Provincial Commander of the  
Carabinieri of Messina

**Col. Gerolamo Franchetti**, Provincial Commander of the  
Guardia di Finanza of Messina

**Lt. Col. Vincenzo Letizia**, Section Head of the Anti-Mafia  
Investigative Directorate (DIA) of Messina

**Prof. Antonio Del Pozzo** (Chair), University of Messina

### 11:30 | Session 1

**The Hidden Costs of Organized Crime: Quantifying Impacts  
on Firms, Credit, and Innovation.** Chair: Prof. Carlo  
Migliardo

**Carlo Migliardo** – University of Messina

*The Mafia's Economic Grip: Firm Efficiency and a Composite  
Indicator of Organized Crime (with A. F. Forgione)*

**Antonio F. Forgione** – University of Messina

*Crime and Credit: Analyzing the Impact of Organized Crime  
Perceptions on Loan Restrictions (with C. Migliardo)*

**Marco Spadaro** – University of Messina

*The Silent Stranglehold: Quantifying Organized Crime's Chilling  
Effect on Firm Efficiency and R&D (with A. F. Forgione and C.  
Migliardo)*

**Salvatore Loprevite** – University for Foreigners "Dante  
Alighieri" of Reggio Calabria

*Response or Adaptation? The Control Paradox of Italian SMEs  
in Organized Crime Contexts (with R. Mavilia)*

**Domenico Nicolò** – Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria  
*Organized Crime and Resilience in Family Firms: Insights from  
a Natural Experiment in Judicial Administration (with A. F.  
Forgione and C. Migliardo)*

### 13:30 | Light lunch

Contacts:

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Project website: <https://ocindex.unime.it/en/home-english/>

Online participation (MS Teams): Link available on the project website



### 14:30 | Session 2

**The Economics of Organized Crime: Market Frictions,  
Detection, and Institutional Responses.** Chair: Prof. Salvatore  
Loprevite

**Monica Milasi** – University of Messina

*Organized Crime and Market Distortions: A General  
Equilibrium Analysis with Quasi-Variational Inequalities (with  
A. F. Forgione and C. Migliardo)*

**Paolo Mustica** – University of Messina

*Unmasking the Mafia: Decoding Italy's Criminal Networks  
Using a Dual Toolbox of Text Mining and Data-Driven Crime  
Indices (with A. F. Forgione and C. Migliardo)*

**Giulia Cattafi** – University of Catanzaro

*Information Asymmetries and Certification: Evidence from the  
Italian Legality Rating Program (with A. Del Pozzo, A. F.  
Forgione and C. Migliardo)*

### 15:30 | Coffee break

### 16:00 | Session 3

**Defending Institutions: Tackling Organized Crime through  
Public Administration and Law Enforcement.** Chair: Prof.  
Antonio Fabio Forgione

**Vincenza Caracciolo La Grotteria** – Mediterranean University  
of Reggio Calabria

*The Impact of Organised Crime on Public Administration  
Activities*

**Ettore Squillaci** – Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria

*Prevention and Punishment in the Fight against Illegal  
Economy*

### 16:40 | Roundtable

**From Theory to Action: Civil Society and Economic Actors  
in the Fight for Legality**

Moderator: Prof. **Antonio Del Pozzo**, University of Messina

Panelists: **Libera Association, Padre Pino Puglisi  
Foundation, Confindustria Messina (Sicindustria), and  
Trade Unions**



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