

# Glossary

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**Article 41 bis** of the Italian Prison Administration Act provides for ‘hard prison’ terms (long periods of solitary confinement, etc.) for mafiosi placed under this incarceration regime

**Article 416 bis** Italian Penal Code defines mafia as follows: ‘Mafia-type unlawful association is said to exist when the participants take advantage of the intimidating power of the association and of the resulting conditions of submission and silence to commit criminal offences, to manage or in any way control, either directly or indirectly, economic activities, concessions, authorizations, public contracts and services, or to obtain unlawful profits or advantages for themselves or for any other persons, or with a view to prevent or limit the freedom to vote, or to get votes for themselves or for other persons on the occasion of an election’ (translation: Turone n/d)

**Capobastone** the highest rank in a ‘Ndrina (‘Ndrangheta clan)

**Capomandamento** boss of a set of families or Sicilian districts controlled by Cosa Nostra (see **mandamento**)

**Carabinieri** Italian national military police

**Cosca/cosche** clans, subgroups of mafias, especially Cosa Nostra and ‘Ndrangheta

**Cupola or Regional Commission** Cosa Nostra’s main decision-making, regulatory and administrative body, composed of top mafia representatives from the various Sicilian provinces

**Direzione Investigativa Antimafia (DIA)** Anti-Mafia Investigative Directorate

**Direzione Nazionale Antimafia (DNA)** National Anti-Mafia and Anti-Terrorism Directorate

**Eurojust** European Union agency that deals with judicial cooperation in criminal matters

**Europol** European Union’s law enforcement agency

**Guardia di Finanza** Italian financial police

**Locale/i** grouping of the most powerful 'Ndrangheta clans from a given area

**Magliaro/i** door-to-door salesman/men of textiles and often counterfeit goods

**Mandamento** a set of families or districts within which Cosa Nostra control is divided

**Maxi processo** a trial involving large numbers of defendants. Originally used to refer to the unprecedentedly high number of Cosa Nostra defendants put on trial in Palermo in 1986, its use has now extended to apply to other extensive anti-mafia court cases

**'Ndrina/e** the basic local units (clans) which make up the Calabrian 'Ndrangheta, usually based on kinship ties

**Nuova Camorra Organizzata** alliance of Camorra clans led by Raffaele Cutolo

**Nuova Famiglia** Camorra alliance that countered the NCO. Made up of many different groups, close to Cosa Nostra

**Omertà** code of silence

**Pentito** criminal turned state's witness

**Pizzino/i** hand-delivered notes or letters used for communication within Cosa Nostra under Bernardo Provenzano

**Pizzo** extortion/protection fee

**Polizia di Stato** Italian National Police