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The other illicit traffics in the Mediterranean area

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Italian cannabis legislation and legalization hypothesis

Old and new mafias derive huge resources from drug trafficking that provide them with vast social consensus, leading to the pollution of the country's democratic and economic fabric.

Since the last century, Italy has chosen a prohibitionist approach even for so-called soft drugs, alternating punishability and non-punishability of possession of modest quantities for personal consumption.

An attempt will be made to analyze the difficulties encountered by the Legislature in its attempt to reform the rules governing the matter, in the perspective of a change invoked by many parties. With regard to cannabis consumption, reference will also be made to a constant tendency of jurisprudence to exclude criminal consequences for facts characterized by minimal social dangerousness.

Between the prohibitionist and anti-prohibitionist extremes, there is an intermediate model that does not prosecute the production, trade and consumption of so-called soft drugs and over time has been enriched by decisive reflections about the possibility of diverting resources from the mafias, allocating tax revenues from the sale of legal substances to the state and using public resources more efficiently for the purpose of combating organized crime.

A different cultural and legal approach to the issue is needed.

The Constitutional Court has restored the distinction between "soft" and "hard" drugs.