

Abstract

This final thesis attempts to provide a closer overview of specific features of the Italian political arena, which is a mutual penetration of one sphere of organized crime - mafia and politics. The first part of this thesis defines the theoretical structure of the mafia phenomenon and essays to contextualize it within organized crime. The second part begins with an excursion into the history of the mafia in Sicily from its beginnings in the 19th century until the 1970s. The deeper analysis is then devoted to the crucial period of the 1980s and 1990s. The final part of the thesis examines the period of bomb attacks (1992-1993) through the aspect of new investigations.

Key words: mafia, Cosa Nostra, politics, Italy, Palermo, organized crime.