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For a Theory of “Paramafia”. When Non-Mafiosi Act as Mafiosi

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Is it possible that people unrelated to mafia develop mafia-type organizations? This paper aims at investigating in deep how mafia *modus operandi* has spread into non-traditional areas also generating imitative processes; in particular, the focus will regard group of people who are totally extraneous from mafia contexts, such as entrepreneurs, politicians, officials, with no connection to organized crime. Studies on mafia hybridization put emphasis only on criminal groups that evolve into a mafia-type one. This research has a different focus. For 'paramafia criminality' we mean the systematic assumption of a *modus operandi* typical of mafia repertoire by organizations whose members are formally and originally unrelated to traditional mafia organizations. Members of a paramafia group are connected to each other in a lasting relationship, are hierarchically ordered according to a division of labour and aim to achieve profits and power, committing systematically crimes. The research investigates two case studies localised in Bergamo, a district in Northern Italy. The research uses qualitative methodology, mainly through with analysis of judicial documents and interviews. A paramafia phenomenon could rise when there is an extended, strict (monopolizing) relationship between a group with public functions (politicians, entrepreneurs, officials) and the social fabric in which the group is operating. The group also needs a large relationship network, and the settlement area must be relatively small – therefore, there is a high density of social relationships. The target of the research is developing an 'intermediate' model of organized crime, complementary to mafia model and economic crime.

Corporate Governance in the Contemporary Corporation

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Corporations have experienced significant transformation from the traditional model to the contemporary *modus operandi*. The term “corporate governance” has a widening of meaning; the semantic evolution of the word usage is referring to evolutions and progress in the micro and macro levels. According to this assumption, the external environment had a continuous influence on the corporate context because of the progression of the sociocultural and economic living forms. The modern corporation contributes to the health and welfare of society, recognizing its ethical responsibility to both shareholders and stakeholders. Therefore, corporate governance is about enhancing economic efficiency, financial stability, and sustainable growth. To this extent, we will make a special reference to accounting. Corporate governance should apply high ethical standards by taking into account the interests of stakeholders. In this regard, the role of corporate governance in the contemporary corporation is influential because ethical leadership values as integrity, mutual respect, and ethical behavior, create a trusting work environment and ensure transparency, corporate disclosure, and profitability. The scope of this paper is to analyze through an initial study, the quality of the relationship between stakeholders in the work environment. Primarily, we examine the quality of ethical leadership relations in the Greek corporations, based on subordinate’s perceptions. In this context, we consider the importance of ethical values as a key element for corporate responsible conduct. Greek corporations confront the challenge of global competition, in the context of corporate social responsibility. Socially responsible conduct is part of the corporate culture and of the proactive leadership that both define corporate strategic decision. This aspect of the ethical corporation will probably conduct to a competitive edge, creating a different perspective on the contemporary corporation. Keywords: corporate governance, contemporary corporation, corporate culture, ethical values, ethical responsibility, ethical leadership, work environment, strategic decision, accounting. *This work has been partly supported by the University of Piraeus Research Center.

Bond, Erik Lawrence.....	353	Braun, Simone	340
Bonerba, Giuseppina.....	453	Brereton, Bernadette.....	228
Bonfert, Bernd.....	165	Brettin, Suse.....	284
Boninu, Lorenza.....	441	Breuer, Marc.....	319, 741
Bonvin, Jean-Michel	581	Brierley-Jones, Lyn.....	373
Bonzanni, Luca	605	Brik, Tymofii.....	695
Borba, Carla.....	191	Briken, Kendra	926
Borgen, Nicolai T.	237	Brilli, Stefano.....	78, 143
Borghini, Paolo	930	Brittain, Katie	873
Borgna, Paola	548	Britton, Joanne	667
Borja, Jean-Stéphane	937	Brock, Inés	340
Börjesson, Mikael.....	253	Brockington, Dan	275
Borkowska, Magda.....	346	Brodersen, Folke.....	540
Borozdina, Ekaterina	373	Brodrick, Alison.....	373
Bortoletto, Nico.....	607	Bröer, Christian.....	490, 874
Bosi, Lorenzo	566	Brömmelhaus, Ana	225
Boskovic, Branko	584	Brons, Anke.....	119
Bosman, Myra	521	Brooks, James	413
Bosmans, Kim	927	Brooks, Rachel	635
Bosoni, Maria Letizia	327, 330	Brousseau, Sylvain	381
Bossi, Luca	742	Broustau, Nadège	444, 462
Boström, Magnus	274	Brouwers, Lilith.....	526
Botelho, Maria do Carmo	505	Brown, Nik	405
Botezatu, Mihai	844	Brown, Patrick	518
Boudes, Philippe.....	936	Brown, Phillip.....	665
Bouima, Sonia.....	150	Browne, Craig	627
Boulay, Nadine	650	Bruce, Helen	277
Boult, Jacob	216	Brückner, Meike.....	284
Boumans, Saskia.....	429	Bruegmann, Carmen.....	713
Bourabain, Dounia.....	234	Bruff, Ian	159
Bouw, Carolien	490	Brugger, Florian	210
Bowler, Anne E.	70	Brugmans, Johan	395
Bozkurt Ozturk, Basak	431	Bruni, Lorenzo.....	256
Bozukova, Katya Danielova	496	Bschaden, Andreas	128
Bożykowski, Marek.....	415	Buarque de Hollanda, Bernardo Borges	608
Bozzetti, Alessandro.....	235	Buchanan, Sascha	127
Bozzini, Emanuela	284	Buchert, Ulla	771
Bozzon, Rossella	930	Bücker, Meike	47
Bracke, Piet	293, 383, 561	Buckermann, Paul.....	73
Bradby, Hannah.....	758	Budginaite Mackine, Irma.....	864
Brade, Lovise Haj.....	494	Budžytė, Agnė.....	291, 296
Braden, Laura E.	190	Bueno, Arthur	628
Bragtvedt, Stian.....	419	Buergi, Jutta.....	231
Brahic, Benedicte	758	Buffel, Veerle.....	293
Brahy, Rachel.....	913	Bührer, Susanne.....	554
Braida, Nicole	535	Buijs, Arjen.....	287
Brajdić Vuković, Marija.....	282	Bujard, Martin.....	499
Bramley, Louise	474	Bukowski, Andrzej Wojciech.....	800
Brandalesi, Vanessa.....	381	Buler, Marta.....	313, 491
Brandl, Bernd	420	Bulumac, Lavinia	375
Brandner, Lou Therese Elisabeth	458	Bunnell, Tristan.....	255
Brandt, Kevin.....	805, 967	Burchell, Brendan	167, 437
Brandt, Martina.....	820	Burcin, Boris.....	334
Brandth, Berit	335	Burguete, Teresa.....	304
Brantl, Isabelle Marie	99	Burnay, Nathalie	68
Brathwaite, Beverley Helena.....	358	Burningham, Kate	841, 966
Bratt, Christopher.....	668, 821	Burton, Jamie.....	277