The commitment of Libera

For a future free from mafia and corruption
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<td>1993</td>
<td>• First issue of the magazine <em>Narcomafie</em>, edited by the Abele Group</td>
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| 1994 | • First conference of the newly formed Libera Association with Don Luigi Ciotti and the presidents of the main National Associations. A petition is launched to ask for the social use of the confiscated goods from mafias.  
• Creation of the National Antiamafia Caravan, with ARCI |
| 1995 | • On the 25h of March, «Libera, Associations, names and numbers against Mafias» is officially formed.  
• First Antimafia Education Camp in Manduria (Ta) |
| 1996 | • The law proposal, derived from popular initiative and promoted by Libera which gathered more than a million signatures, is officially adopted by the Parliament and becomes the Law 109/96 - Dispositions regarding management and destination of seized and confiscated goods from organized criminality.  
• First Day of Memory and Commitment for mafias innocent victims in Rome |
| 1997 | • Public Hearing of Libera at the European Parliament in Bruxelles in October, in the context of the « Action Plan to combat organized crime » |
| 1998 | • Creation of LaviaLibera, the bi-annual newspaper of Libera, directed by Gianmario Missaglia, president of Uisp (Italian Union Sport for All) |
| 1999 | • A Memorandum of Understanding is signed between Libera and the Ministry of Education on the subject of education to legality. |
| 2001 | • Creation of the first Libera Terra Cooperative in Sicilia, with a public call, and dedicated to Placido Rizzotto. |
| 2002 | • «Strada Facendo», the first appointment on social policies is held in Turin, in collaboration with CNCA and Gruppo Abele |
| 2003 | • The Race for Peace and Rights, promoted by Libera through 25 Italian cities and a few cities abroad such as Buenos ireds, Kabul, Baghdad, and Gran Bassan (Ivory Coast), is held. |
| 2004 | • First Albachiara Camp in Montecatini Terme (PT), promoted by Abele Group and Libera |
| 2005 | • Libera is given the confiscated property of Banda della Magliana in via IV Novembre in Rome: it becomes the association’s national headquarters.  
• In Turin, the first convention between Libera and the University of Turin is signed, creating two masters dealing with mafia crime  
• I Campi della legalità - Progetto Libera Terra, the first volunteer education camps about confiscated goods organized by Libera and Legambiante go to Sicilia and Calabria. |
| 2006 | • Creation of the agency «Cooperare con Libera Terra», for the development of cooperation activities and legality.  
• Creation of Libera Cinema in Libera Terra, a project aiming to set up screening venues and collective movie viewing on confiscated lands  
• First edition of the Prize Regoliamoci in collaboration with the MIUR (Ministry of Education, Universities and Research)  
• First edition of Contromafie, the States General of the Antimafia in Roma |
| 2007 | • First edition of «Abitare i margini» («Living on the Edge»), a formation program for teachers on the education to citizenship, in collaboration with the Ministry of Public Education  
• Creation of the Libera Foundation For Information. |
| 2008 | • Creation of the Consortium Libera Mediterranean |
| 2009 | • Following a status modification, Libera can associate in a court action with public prosecutor in the context of Mafia trials. |
| 2010 | • Creation of the ALAS network - The Latin American Social Alternative  
• Launch of the « Corrotti» (The Corrupted) campaign, gathering of signatures for the confiscation and the reuse of confiscated goods  
• Creation, in Reggio Calabria, of the the first supportive network against « pizzo » (protection money, blackmail money), Reggio Libera Reggio. |
2011
- Launch of the project «Libera la Natura» (Free the nature) in collaboration with the Sportive Group of the State Forestry Department
- Creation of the Roberto Morroni Journalist Award devoted to the memory, and the civil and professional engagement of the Rai journalist, founder of RaiNews24 and of Libera Information.

2012
- Libera and the Department for Juvenile Justice promote the «Amuni» project. In the following years, other projects for young in the penal area will be created in other Italian regions such as Anemmù, Gnamo, Andemm, Memoria e Impegno, Radici di memoria, Contaminazioni...

2013
- Libera launches two essential campaigns: «Illuminiamo la salute» («We illuminate health») and «Miseria ladra» (that deals with legality and the fight against poverty)
- Libera joins the campaign «Io riattivo il lavoro» (I reactivate work) that proposes a law protecting the workers of mafias confiscated companies.

2014
- 2 years after the Rognoni-La Torre law on the confiscation of goods from Italian mafiosi, the European Parliament approved the 25/02/2014 directive of the European Parliament and the Council of Europe, relative to the freezing and the seizure of crime revenue in the European Union
- National conference in Roma called «Le mafie restituiscono il malinteso» (mafias give back ill-gotten gains) about the social reuse of confiscated goods for legality, the sustainable development and social cohesion.
- Pope Francis meets the families of mafias victims in San Gregorio VII church in Rome

2015
- Venti Liberi: twenty year anniversary of Libera

2016
- Creation of the network «Numeri Pari» (Even Numbers)
- National meeting of Youth Libera in Cecina
- «Libera le idee» (free the ideas) is presented during the National Assembly of Libera in Rimini

AWARDS

2014
- European Citizenship Award - European Parliament
- Libera is accredited of the Consultative Status in the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), thanks to whom Libera takes part as an observer to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) activities.
- Fontamara International Award, in the context of the Ignazio Silone Award at the Misera Ladra campaign.

2013
- Cataldo Agostinelli e Angiola Gili Agostinelli Award
- The National Academy of Lincei awarded Libera as an Italian organization of high moral and humanitarian value

2012
- Landscape Award of the Council of Europe for the «revival of the region of Haut-Belice Corleonese from lands confiscated from Mafia organisations».
- Named as one of the top 100 global NGOs in 2012 by The Global Journal.

2009
- Awarded by the European Economic and Social Committee (CESE) as one the best experience of civil society.
ASSOCIATIONS
Libera is a network of associations, social cooperatives, movements and schools, trade unions, dioceses and parishes, scout groups, involved in a fight not only « against » mafias, corruption and criminal phenomena, but also deeply « for » : for social justice, for the quest of truth, for the protection of rights, for a political transparency, for a profound democratic legality founded on equality, for a living and shared memory, for a citizenship that keeps up with the spirit and hopes of the Constitution.

NAMES
For Libera, it is essential to always remember mafias innocent victims and to keep their memory alive : men, women and children who lost their life to mafia violences, whereas they were defending our liberty and our democracy. It is important to maintain a shared and responsible memory thanks to the testimony of the innocent victims’ families, who get involved in order to keep alive the dreams and ideals of those who left. Every year, on the 21st of March, the first day of spring, for the Day of Memory and Commitment for mafias innocent victims, all the names of mafias innocent victims are read throughout the country and abroad. A long list, recited as an endless civil prayer, in order to keep them alive, to never let them die again. From the 21st of March and throughout the other 364 days of the year, because we make of memory an instrument of commitment and responsibility, the seed of hope seems to be growing again.

AGAINST MAFIA
Born in 1995, Libera has maintained faith in practical and ethical orientations. The first of them is continuity : having great starting ideas is good, but they will only come true with tenacity and everyday engagement. The second is proposition : the fight against mafias and corruption can not only be based on indignation, it must follow propositions and projects in order to expand. The third is « us » : in other words, sharing, but also shared responsibility. Mafias and corruption are not only a criminal issue but also a social and cultural one, that we can only tackle if we join forces.

NUMBERS
Libera is a network reuniting more than 1.6000 national and local associations, movements and groups, cooperatives, and 20.000 members, active citizens and promoters of democratic legality and shared responsibility. Libera is present throughout the Italian territory in 20 regional and provincial organisations, and in 278 local associations. 80 international organisations from 35 different countries in Europe, Latin America and Africa are members of Libera International network. 4000 young are taking part, every summer, in the engagement and education camps about confiscated goods, and around 1000 of them are managing projects of environmental protection, in collaboration with the Italian Police specialized in Forestry. Over 5000 schools and universities are involved together with Libera in the realization of an educative path which would teach democratic legality, with the involvement of thousands of students and hundreds of teachers and academics. Over 350 000 persons spread over 2000 cities have participated in the XXI Day of Memory and Commitment for mafias innocent victims that took place this year in Messina. Libera has realized a first census of the positives experiences on the social use of confiscated goods, following a law for which it promoted a petition in 1995 that collected a million of signatures. There are 650 associations and cooperatives working on those confiscated assets, who also take care of social inclusion, re-employment projects, training and youth inclusion, urban and cultural regeneration, and of accompanying victims and their families.
The international initiative of Libera has been set up as a response to the globalisation of organised crime with a twofold mission: monitoring the cross-cutting dimension of these criminal activities and enforcing transnational strategies for human rights defense and promotion of social justice.

Libera International also acts as a bridge between consolidated Libera home initiatives and abroad, outward looking, projects. In Italy, Libera International focuses on educating about overlapping aspects of capitalism and organised crime, to promote a "borderless" consciousness; while abroad, we support and coordinate civil society networks in Latin America (ALAS), Europe, Maghreb, Middle East and soon in some Sub-Saharan countries.

### ALAS

The involvement of ALAS (Latin America Social Alternative - the Latin American network of Libera composed of over 50 organisations from 11 countries in Central and South America) was achieved with the implementation of 18 local projects initiated with 30 Latin American partners. Simultaneously, ALAS is following the 4 national anti-mafia networks (RETONO in Mexico, BRASALAS in Brasile, RED POR ARGENTINA SIN MAFIAS and ALAS BOLIVIA).

### EUROPE

At the European level, Libera is currently working for the reactivation of a network along with associations, local groups, and universities. The main goal is to create a common path and a common project through a new « Libera in Europe Agenda », aiming to implement its action at a political and institutional level to promote the social use of confiscated goods in Europe, and to protect both victims of organized crime and whistleblowers.

### MEDITERRANEAN / AFRICA

Libera’s network opened up to the Mediterranean thanks to the creation of a network in Maghreb and Middle East, that started with the Memoria Mediterranean project in Tunisia and with the collaboration of associations against corruption in Lebanon. From these events, a new Sub-Saharan Africa path was created, aiming to construct grassroots networks and thus, to create an alternative, giving voice to those without one on a continent plagued by global interest wars and media isolation.

### INITIATIVES AND CAMPAIGNS

- Mediterraneo Downtown Festival, on the 12th of November in Prato
- UNODC (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime), eighth session of the Climate Change Conference from the 17th to the 21st of October in Vienna.
- Day of Memory and Commitment Abroad
- International camps: E!State Liberi! for groups from abroad
- I. Laboratory: thematics and geographic focus, and composed by Libera volunteers.
- Fifth Globe-Trotter Edition, the Travels of Memory and Commitment: experiences of international volunteering
INTERNATIONAL NETWORKS

LATIN AMERICA

Honduras CCOPIH - Consejo Cívico de Organizaciones Populares e Indígenas de Honduras
Mexico Cauce Ciudadano, a strong collaboration built throughout the years on constant exchange of good practices, knowledge and reciprocal trust, leads Cauce Ciudadano to be Libera’s partner in the sensibilisation campaign « Peace for Mexico » lead ALAS and TERENO.
Guatemala Movimiento de Jovenes de Calle
El Salvador Movimiento de Mujeres Salvadoreñas
Nicaragua Coordinadora Civil
Argentina Fundacion La Alameda
Bolivia Casa Collectiva
Colombia MOVICE - Movimiento de Víctimas de Crímenes de Estado
Ecuador Kimirina
Brazil Instituto Beneficent Conceicao Macedo
Peru Centro de Investigation Drogas Y Derechos Humanos

EUROPE

Great-Britain Middlesex University
Germany Mafia ? Nein Danke!
Italy Soleterre
Romania : Center for Legal Resources (CLR)
France (Strasbourg) The European Association for Legal Democracy (ALDA)
Spain Fundacion Baltazar Garzon ; Universidad Rey Juan Carlos de Madrid

Since 2016, Libera increased its international outreach sharpening its perspective on transnational criminal activities which are spreading globally throughout illegal and legal markets. Hence, the need for Libera to broaden its international network to tackle complex challenges which require complex solutions that can only be found with a responsible and inclusive international collaboration.

We then set up a focus group of international experts to lead and advise our initiatives around the following three areas:

Consolidation
Following the formalisation of RED ALAS in 2015, 2016 has been a first field test for our network in Latin America: with 18 ongoing projects built in collaboration with local groups we are encouraging the defense of human rights and promoting the remembrance of innocent victims of organised crime.

Acceleration
In Europe, we started to build a network of informal groups, associations and other no-profit organisations who share principles and visions similar to those promoted by Libera. The agenda of the European network covers a wide range of topics all centered around fighting criminal models in Europe: from the social reuse of criminal properties to protection of victims.

Inception
Memoria Mediterranea
It is a project, a path, a common vision shared with Tunisian associations starting with ARDEPTE (Association for the Search of the Disappeared and the Mentoring of Tunisian Prisoners Abroad), that allowed Libera to coordinate with the families of more than 800 Tunisians that have disappeared in the Mediterranean Sea since 2011, and that are seeking truth and justice. That is why we have created Libera in Sub-Saharan Africa, which will be useful to construct new bridges of solidarity and social justice.
In 2016, the incomes have been reduced for economic causes and because the Executive Board decided to renounced to some funding opportunities and to the management of some projects in order to be consistent with the mission of the association. Such a reduction, although it balanced a reduction of the costs, has generated an operating deficit.
LIBERA IDEAS THE JOURNEY
Libera Ideas is a multi-stop journey around Italy, aiming to rewrite and renew civil engagement against mafias and corruption. It reunites individual and collective actions able to generate change. Among the first actions promoted by Libera Ideas is a national social search, conducted by the territorial network of Libera, whose objective is to share an updated reading about mafias and corruption. The analysis of the search will be returned through the different steps of the journey, throughout public meetings, and moments of sharing, to put into words the new forms of mafias and the evolution of corruption. Thereby, we will acknowledge them and we will be able to fight them in a better way. Libera Ideas is a long and articulated journey, that will give new stimuli to the commitment of each and everyone, in order to be even more efficient.

ALIVE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF MEMORY
For more than twenty-two years now, thanks to the generous testimonies of the families, Libera collects the stories of mafias innocent victims. These stories are not only individual or familial: they are the story of our territories that, altogether, narrate a piece of our country's history. Listening and acknowledging these stories, supporting the families in their effort to transform pain into commitment, seeking truth and justice for all mafias innocent victims is Libera's responsibility, in order to build altogether a public and shared memory. In this spirit was created «Vivi » (Alive) (vivi.libera.it), a multimedia archive, open and accessible to all, where we can learn about the lives and dreams of hundreds of innocent victims. « Alive », because this is how we want to remember them. « Vivi » is an in-progress project, that will grow with time thanks to each enriching story and memory shared with us.

TRAINING BEING RESPONSIBLE CITIZEN
Knowledge is the high road for change. We need, more than ever, an authentic knowledge to avoid simplifications and words of circumstance. Knowledge arises from a longing to deepen our understandings of the world that surrounds us. Libera is engaged in educational and study paths in schools, universities and juvenile prisons, in conveying a real civic education, vital tools necessary to culturally defeat mafias and corruption and to break the connection between organized crime, politics and economics. New initiatives have been launched to promote an alternative for the young people in the penal circuit, to allow training inside penitentiary institutes, and to launch a collaboration with the Juvenile Court of Reggio Calabria, in order to be able to offer them a real life, away from the familial logics of the 'Ndrangheta.

CIVIC ANTI-CORRUPTION
Corruption is the anteroom of the mafias, and a plague, that is nowadays manifesting itself in the entanglement between organized crime, politics and economics. Breaking this entanglement is not only the task of politics but also ours. Against corruption that is threatening and stealing our civic goods, Libera promotes a national campaign making available for citizens a toll-free number that will help them if they want to denounce corruption, orienting them towards competent bodies. The campaign also promotes the « community monitoranti », sentinels monitoring the territory in order to make it crime-proof, in other words, unusable for the corrupted and the mafiosi.