How does the Italian law on the social use of confiscated mafia assets enable citizen participation?

**Keywords**
Solution journalism | Political Science | Civil society | Fighting organised crime

**OBJECTIVES**
- Gather information on the social reuse of confiscated assets
- Produce an journalistic article and a research paper
- Introduce the Italian law and its measures to a French and European audience

**COLLABORATION BETWEEN**
Fabrice Rizzoli, researcher, specialist in organised crime and anti-mafia issues, anti-mafia activist and Mathilde Dorcadie, independent journalist working for CaféBabel, Reporterre, Editor at Equal Times

**FIELDWORK**
15 interviews and 3 focus groups in 2 weeks on fieldwork, with citizens and experts involved in the use of confiscated properties.

First fieldwork: South of Italy, Campania, province of Caserte | July 2021

Second fieldwork: North of Italy, Liguria, Genova | November 2021

**STORYTELLING THE COMMON RESEARCH**
Mathilde Dorcadie’s series of articles for CaféBabel
Three episodes reachable through this >

Fabrice Rizzoli’s scientific paper (coming out soon) relates on the citizens/institutions relationship and the gains for the Social Economy.

Hypotheses blog (in French) > usbc.hypotheses.org

**CHALLENGES**
- Fieldwork access: far from the journalist and researcher’s homes so they faced logistical issues - transport/travel/interviews organisation - due to COVID restrictions in 2021.
- Combining the researcher and journalist needs for collecting information
- Linguistic challenge because Mathilde did not speak Italian so Fabrice had to interpret during the interviews.
- Representativeness of the interviewees. They reached experts involved in the social reuse of