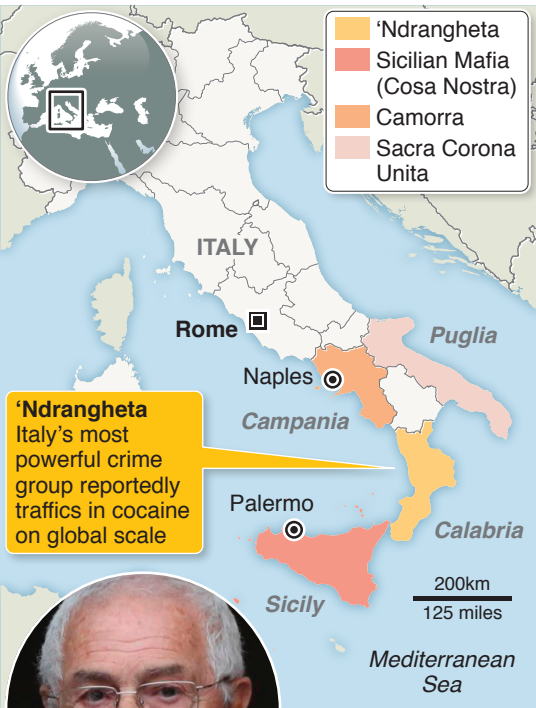


European police crackdown on Italian mafia

Dozens of suspected members of Italy's 'Ndrangheta organised crime syndicate have been arrested in a series of carefully coordinated police raids across Europe and in Latin America

ITALIAN ORGANISED CRIME GROUPS

DEC 5 RAIDS (arrests)



Italy (41): Most arrests in Calabria, according to **Eurojust** – EU judicial cooperation body involved

Germany (21)
Focus on states of North Rhine-Westphalia and Bavaria

Belgium (14)
Concentrated in eastern Limburg province

Netherlands (5)
Investigation dates back to 2014, when Dutch authorities referred probe into two Italian restaurants to Eurojust

Luxembourg (2)

Suriname (1)

Drugs and money seized by police
3,000kg of cocaine,
140kg of ecstasy pills,
2 million euros in cash



*Raids came one day after Italian authorities said they had dismantled upper echelons of Sicilian Mafia in Palermo by arresting 46 people, including **Settimo Mineo** (left) – man presumed to have taken over as provincial kingpin*