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FINAL REPORT - VISITING RESEARCH PROGRAM

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My name is Jacopo and I am a PhD candidate in Sociology and Political Studies at the University of Turin (Department of Cultures, Politics and Society), where I work on corruption and illicit networks. I have spent three months in Montreal, completing an extremely interesting and useful Visiting Research Program at the *Centre International de Criminologie Comparée (CICC)*. In these three months, I have had the great opportunity to work with Prof. Carlo Morselli and to receive his suggestions and advices on the elaboration of my PhD dissertation. I'm grateful to him and to the CICC to have hosted me. When I first planned my travel in Montreal (at the beginning of this year), I had some main goals: to improve my knowledge and skills in using specific technics and methods, and specifically Social Network Analysis; to apply in a concrete and effective way these technics and methods to my research field; to increase the capacity of my thesis to empirically and scientifically analyze a hidden phenomena such as corruption. During the summer of 2015, the necessity to complete my thesis become a more general goal. Time was quickly passing and I felt this huge monkey (gorilla) on my back. Well, I had no idea that I would be able to satisfy these aims in a so stimulating and concrete environment! I arrived at the CICC as a starting researcher of illicit networks; thanks to Prof. Morselli, I can say that I increased my knowledge and technical skills on the planning, preparation and realization of a network analysis. E.g., it has been almost a revolution for me to discover how much graphic representation can be defined. How naive I was! Thanks to Prof. David Décary-Héту, I had the opportunity to enter in contact with works and papers on crypto-criminality and crypto-currency implemented in the deep and dark web,. another topic that I discovered here and that I want to analyze in the future with my studies! Thanks to the other Phd candidates that shared the office with me at the CICC (Dominique Laferrière, Maxime Reeves-Latour, Gabrielle Fortin, Masarah Cynthia Paquet-Clouston), I had the opportunity to compare my research on corruption in the Italian context with other works focused on similar issues. In particular, it has been very interesting to compare my research with the work of the Maxime Reeves-Latour, who is pursuing a very interesting research on corruption in the Canadian case. To conclude, I'm grateful to Prof. Morselli, who also allowed me to present my research at the Seventh Annual Illicit Networks Workshop, held in Montreal between November 16 and 17. It has been absolutely meaningful to see where network analysis is going and what are its next goals! I received a lot of input and feedbacks for my future research, which not only proved useful to better frame the analysis of corruption in the Italian case, but also to move on toward other research fields (white-collar crime, money laundering, terrorism). These are just a few of the factors that have made my time here in Montreal so great and enjoyable! I want just to say *thanks* to everyone I met here and goodbye, until the next time whether it's in Montreal or somewhere else in the world! Ciao

Dr. Jacopo Costa