

## Mayors and Local Politicians at risk in the EU

Threats and intimidations against local politicians.  
Presentation of the report of the association *Avviso Pubblico*



Bruxelles, 29th January 2019, h. 16,00-18,00  
European Parliament - Room A3H1

#### Speakers

**Elly Schlein** Member of the European Parliament,  
Co-chair of the Intergroup "Integrity, Transparency, Corruption, Organized Crime"

**Claudio Forleo** Co-author of the Report

**Roberto Montà** President of Avviso Pubblico

**Michelo Abbaticchio** Mayor of Bitonto

#### Moderator

**Pierpaolo Romani** General Director of Avviso Pubblico

*The event is hosted by Elly Schlein*



Group of the Progressive Alliance of  
**Socialists & Democrats**  
in the European Parliament

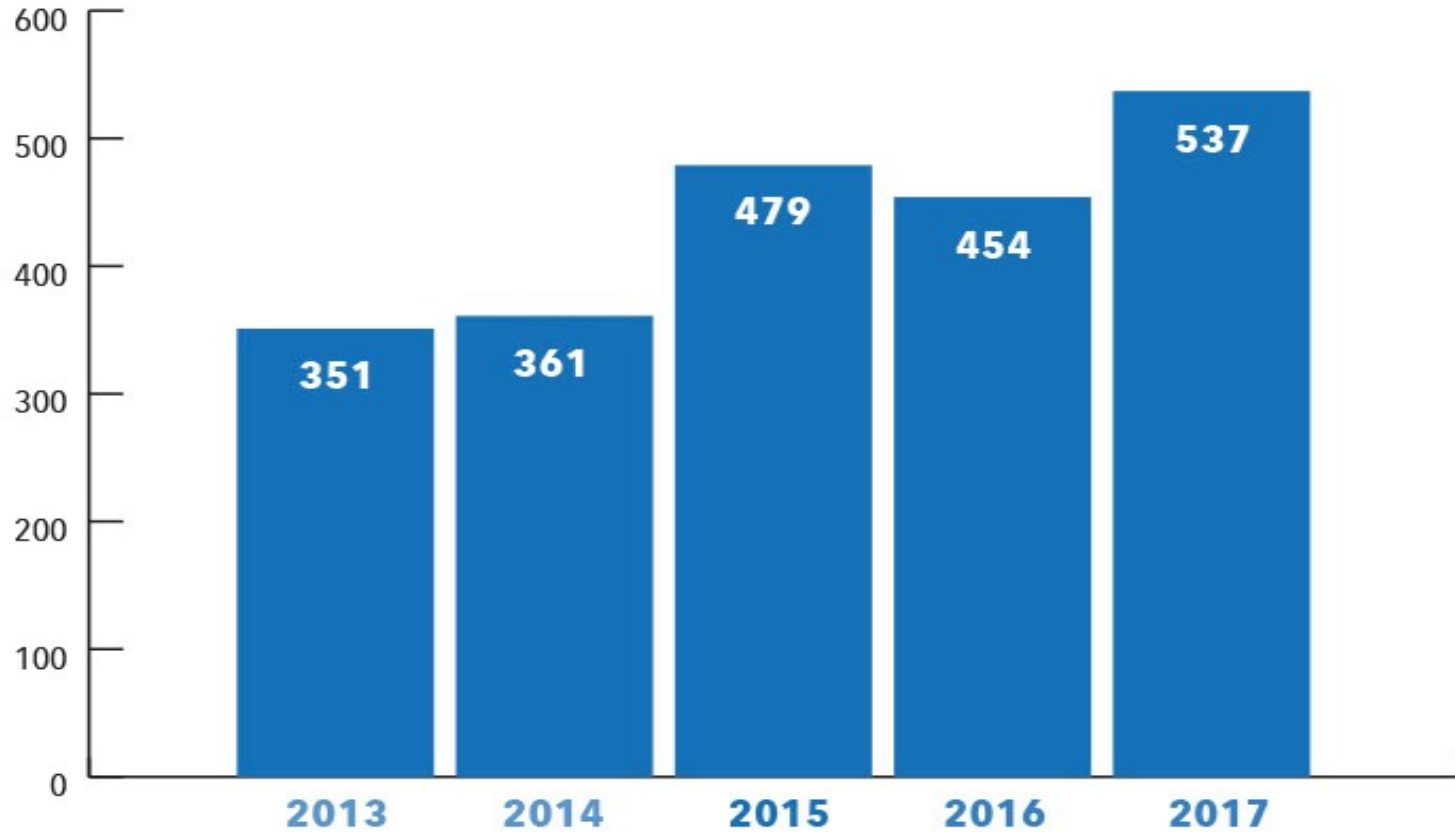


# 2.182 INTIMIDATIONS FROM 2013

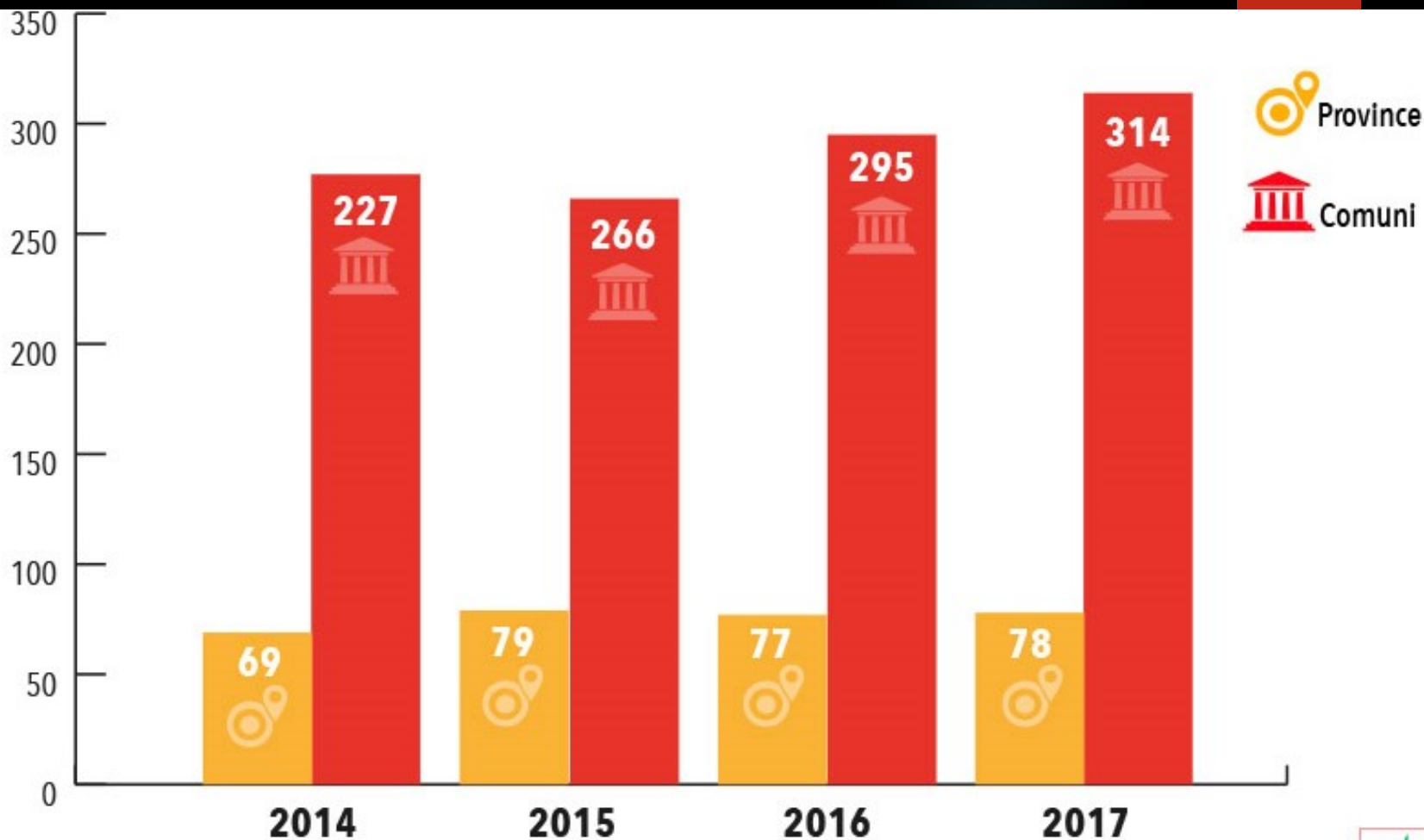
# A THREAT EVERY 20 HOURS

**avviso pubblico** *Enti locali e Regioni  
per la formazione civile  
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# How many threats?



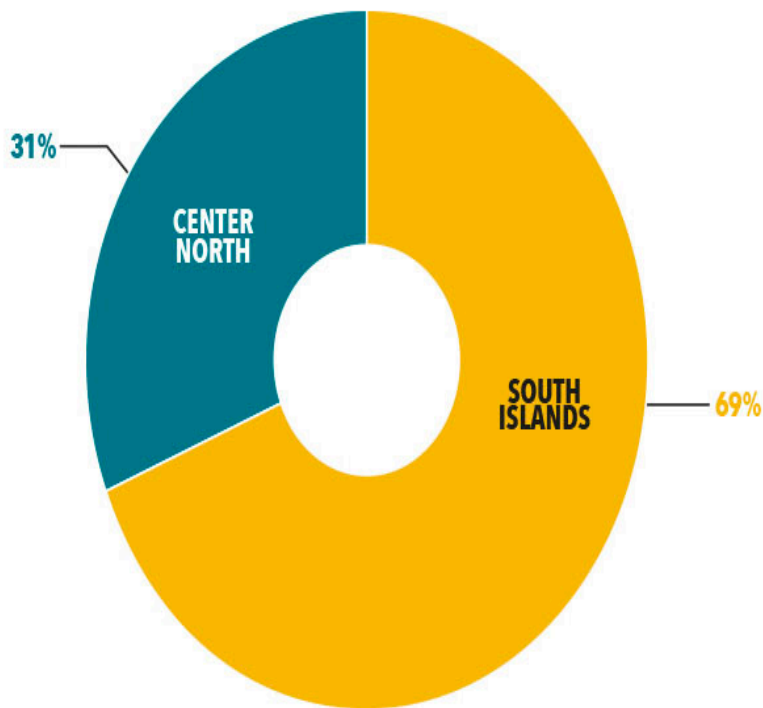
An emerging phenomenon:  
**+53%** in five years



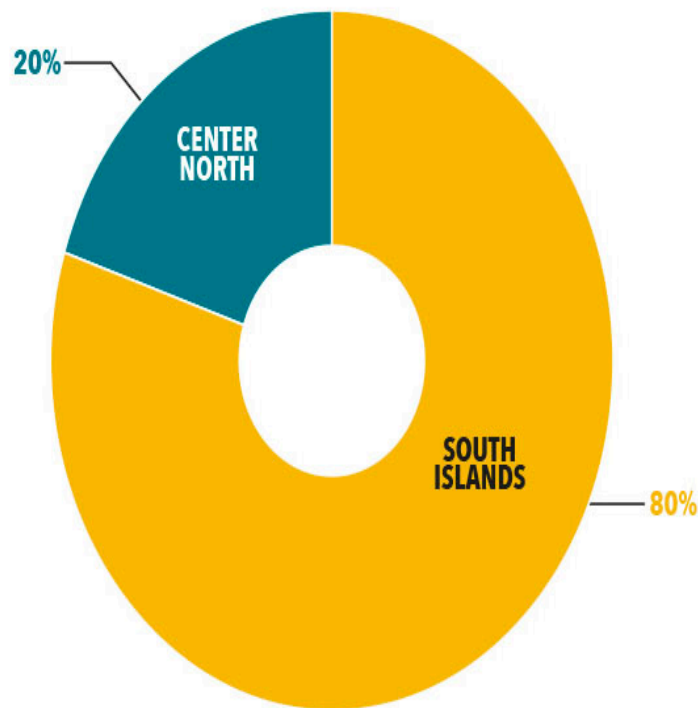
The number of municipalities involved **increased by 38%** in the last 3 years

# Where Majors and Local politicians have been threatened?

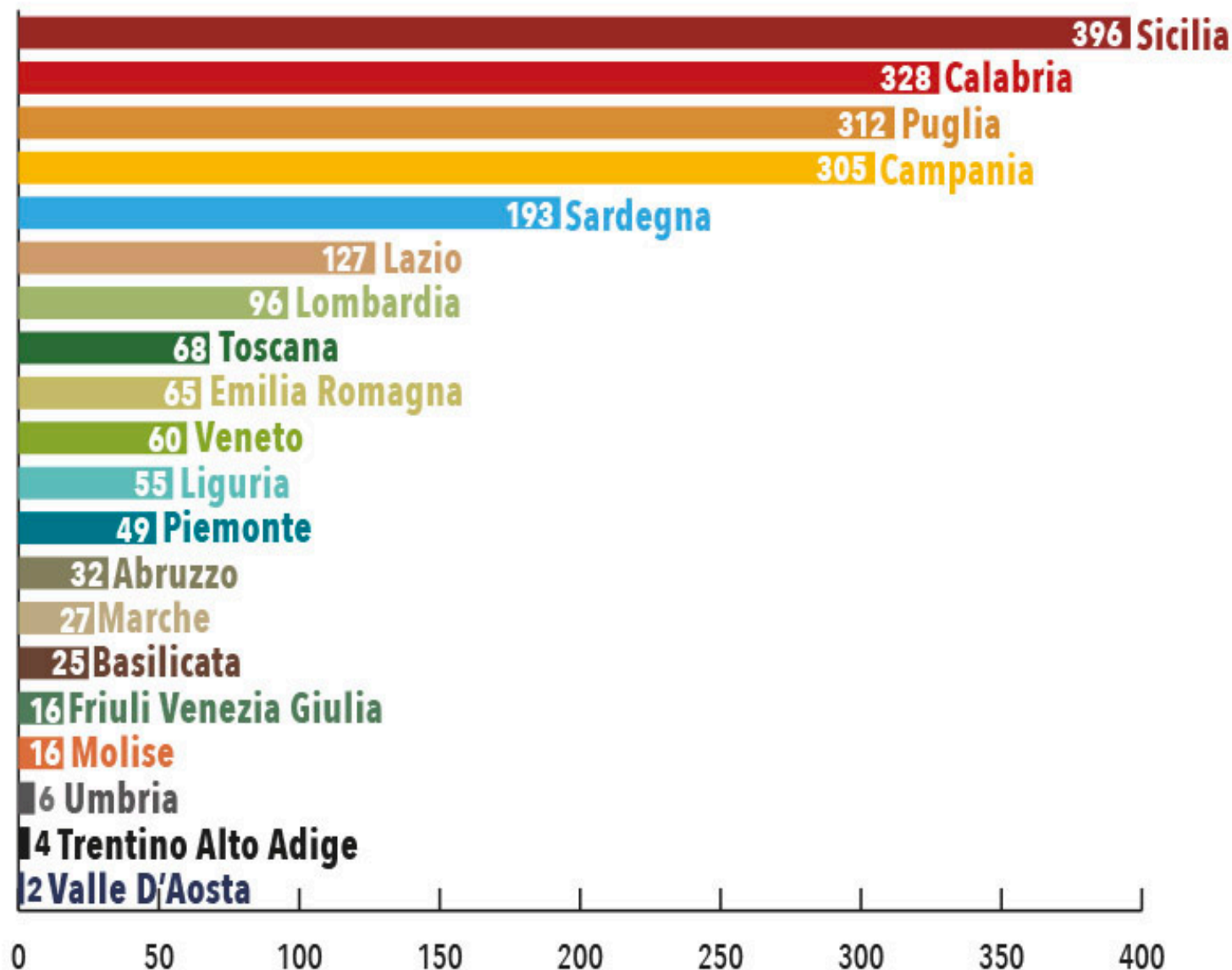
THREATS AND INTIMIDATIONS. GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS. YEAR 2017



THREATS AND INTIMIDATIONS. GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS. YEAR 2013

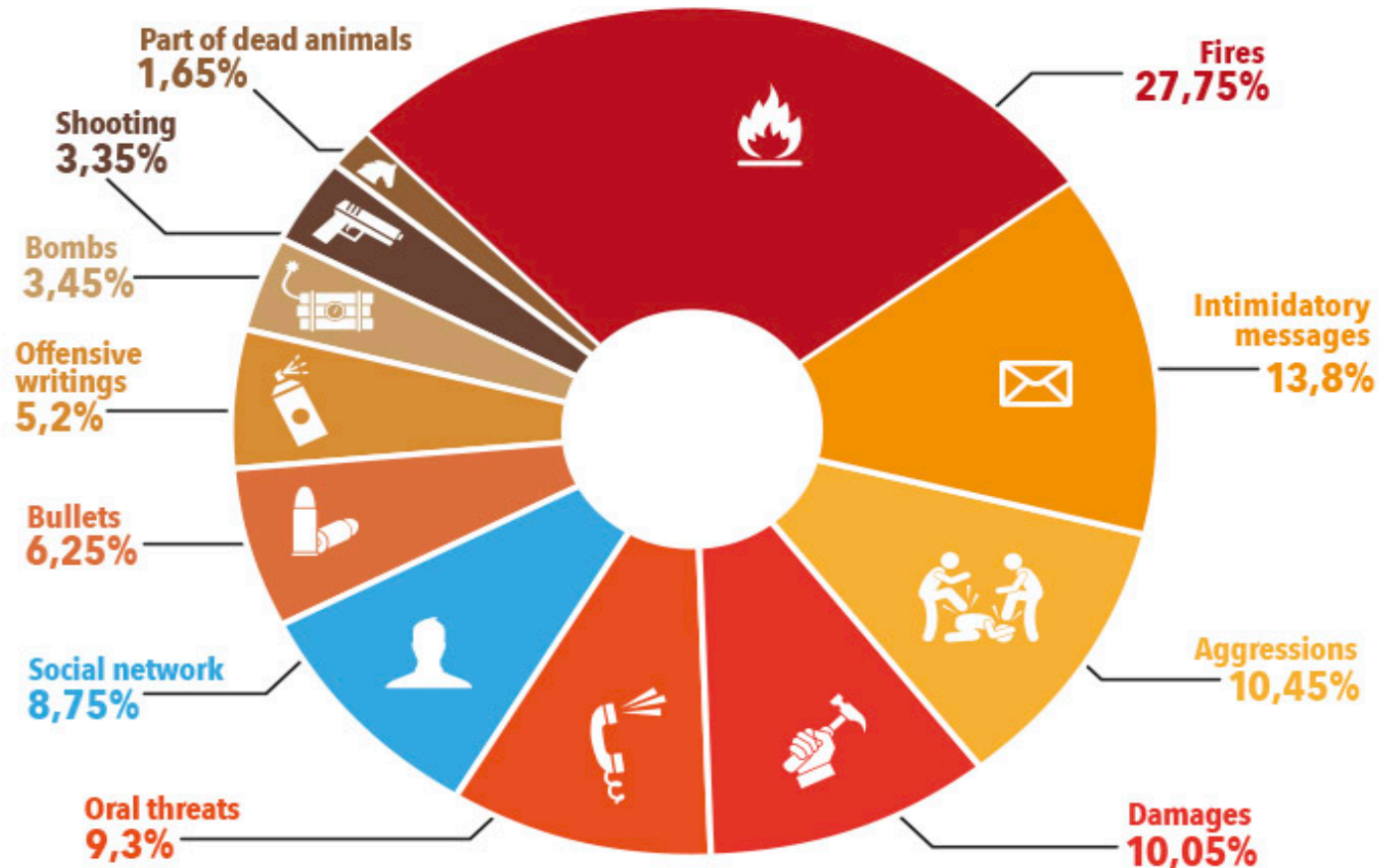


## THREATS AND INTIMIDATIONS, DISTRIBUTION BY REGION - YEARS 2013-2017



# Kind of threats and intimidations

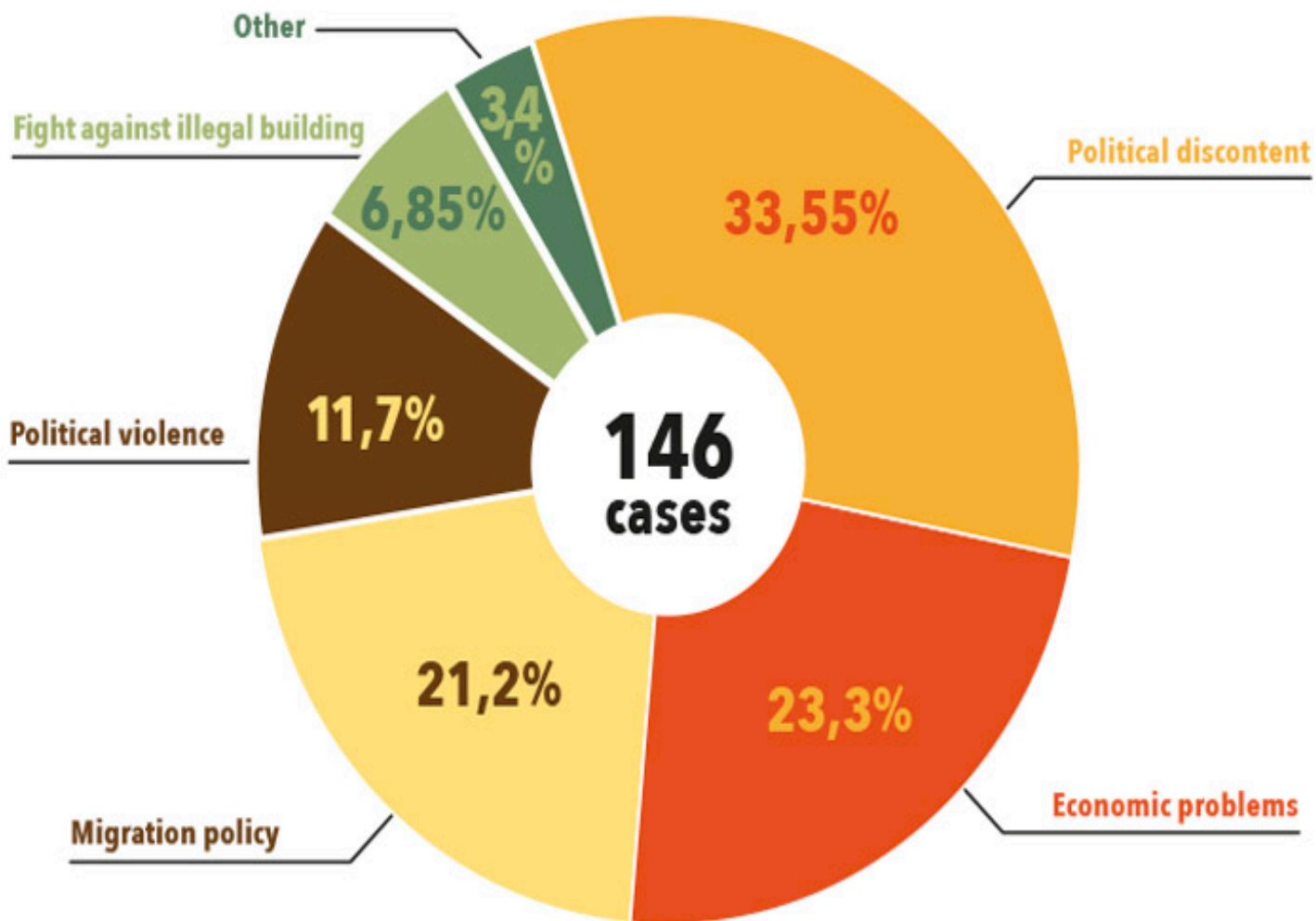
TYPE OF THREATS AND INTIMIDATIONS. YEAR 2017



# Trends in the last years

- The number of intimidations **in the Center-North regions** is increasing
- There's a greater number of **direct threats to public administration staff**
- The **electoral period** is the most critical during the year
- **Urban planning, garbage and social service management** are the most risk's issues
- **There is a greater sensitivity** about the subject in Italian society
- Many situations **are not linked with organised crime** but with political extremism, social rage against politics due to economic crisis, social hardship and poverty

## NOT ORGANIZED CRIME'S THREAT AND INTIMIDATION





# Mayors in Europe under attack

- ▶ **JANUARY 2019 - Danzica (Poland)**

Mayor Pawel Adamowicz has been murdered

- ▶ **JUNE 2018 - Rotterdam (Netherlands)**

Repeated death threats to Mayor Ahmed Aboutaleb

- ▶ **JUNE 2018 - Badalona (Spain)**

Threats on the walls of the city against the Mayor Alex Pastor

- ▶ **MAY 2018 - Salonico (Greece)**

Aggression against Mayor Yiannis Boutaris

- ▶ **MARCH 2018 - London (United Kingdom)**

Racist insults on the street against Mayor Sadiq Khan

- ▶ **JANUARY 2018 - Grigny (France)**

Death threats to the Mayor Philippe Rio



**ANGELO VASSALLO**

**Mayor of Pollica  
(Salerno)**

*5 settembre 2010*



**LAURA PRATI**

**Mayor of Cardano al Campo  
(Varese)**

*22 luglio 2013*

# Consequences



## ▶ **POLITICAL DIMENSION**

Administrative choices are conditioned

Some candidates have withdrawn

Resignation

Decreased space for democracy

## ▶ **PERSONAL DIMENSION**

Change the customs and lifestyle

The family is always involved

Personal isolation



On June 24th 2016, in Calabria, Avviso Pubblico organized **the first National March** to support the Majors and Local Politicians at risk

# What has changed in Italy

**2011**

AVVISO PUBBLICO  
PUBLISHES THE FIRST  
REPORT «AMMINISTRATORI  
SOTTO TIRO»

**2013**

ITALIAN SENATE DELIBERATE  
TO CREATE A COMMISSION  
OF INQUIRY ON THE TOPIC

**2017**

A PROTECTION LAW FOR  
LOCAL ADMINISTRATORS IS  
APPROVED

**2018**

THE MINISTRY OF INTERNAL  
AFFAIRS CREATES THE  
OBSERVATORY ON THREATS  
TO LOCAL ADMINISTRATORS

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But the law and Observatory  
is **just one of the steps...**

# There is not a single answer, but a set of answers

- ▶ **Give responses** to social and economic problem, fighting the inequality
- ▶ **Reconnect the relationship** between people and the policy, recovering the trust
- ▶ **Prevent and fight** organized crime and corruption
- ▶ **Telling** good politics



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**Thanks for your attention**