

Editorial

The theme of the dossier that comprises great part of this issue of ESTUDOS AVANÇADOS could not be more inflaming or opportune. Organized Crime is, nowadays, a reality and a menace to civil society and to the State, inside and outside national frontiers. Despite the obviousness of this observation, we are still distant from vigorously facing it, and increasingly insecure as to a successful strategic outcome in the struggle for its extinction.

In face of such a serious and complex problem, there was a need for the editors to supply an array of information and points-of-view that would be able to shed some light on its multiple and controversial aspects. The journal met experts from several areas, who brought up objective data and clarifying approaches; many of which are openly polemic.

On the following pages, the reader will find sociological reflections on organized criminality in prisons, focusing on the actions of the PCC; globalizing political interpretations; the work of the Intelligence, which tries to give a rational statute to traffic combating; and presuppositions of the current National Public Security Policy. In short, they will find hands-on testimonies from police chiefs, lawyers, prosecutors, judges, and Prison Ministry's agents. Among the witnesses, the voice of a convicted robber (which many will consider odd) will also be present, reflecting upon his own conditions and the blemishes of a prison routine. Also, nothing can be more alive and provocative than thinking about the representation of violence as it is being projected in some stunning national documentaries.

The problems of education in Brazil are resumed in this issue, as a prolongation of the debates and essays published in the previous one (ESTUDOS AVANÇADOS, 60).

As already announced, the current issue and all previous ones can also be freely accessed in their electronic version.