ABSTRACT 2023 IPERICO REPORT

In continuity with the previous editions, the 2023 **IPERICO Report** presents the results of the counterfeiting activity. The objective is to obtain a homogeneous and integrated picture of the enforcement action of the different National Enforcement Authorities, enhancing their available assets information . This allows the creation of specific elaborations on particular sectoral, territorial and temporal dimensions, with the final aim of making possible a continuous process of observation, monitoring and quantitative and qualitative analysis of the counterfeiting phenomenon in Italy.

The main findings that emerged based on the data collected for 2022 are the following:

- 15.425 seizures made in Italy, up 1,116 (+8%) from the previous year,
- 13.5 million pieces seized (down 56% from 2021),
- 57.6 million euro (+2% compared to 2021) the estimated economic value of the goods seized.

The paper analyzes the aggregate data relating to the counterfeit seizures by the Customs and Monopolies Agency and the Guardia di Finanza, net of their jointly conducted intervention operations. Four specific commodity categories: Tobacco, Food Products, Alcoholic Beverages and Medicines are excluded from the analysis of IPERICO data due to specific regulatory requirements of other Administrations.

Overall during the year, the merchandise categories most seized for Counterfeiting were Apparel (37.7 percent), Clothing Accessories (24.1 percent) and Footwear (11.6 percent), all product categories historically affected by illicit business and which represent some of the sectors of excellence of the Italian manufacturing.

The most counterfeited items intercepted by the Guardia di Finanza and the Customs and Monopolies Agency were toys (figurines/game cards and electronic games), paper products (school products, gadgets), packaging and labeling material for products, personal protective equipment (masks, gloves and sanitizers), knitwear clothing and its accessories (bags), hygiene and personal care products, and telephone accessories.

The anti-counterfeiting actions occurred above all in Lombardy, the region with the highest number of seizures in 2022 (3,091 equal to 20 percent of the annual total seized), and in Latium the region with the largest amount of goods seized (about 4 million items equal to 29.8 percent of the annual total seized) and the highest estimated economic value of goods seized (about 21 million euros the estimated economic value equal to 37.6 percent of the estimated annual total).

As for the provenance of counterfeit articles, based on the observation of the volumes reported by the Authorities, China seems to prevail, followed by Turkey, Morocco and Bulgaria. Furthermore, China is also the predominant country of origin for the majority of the number of items seized (more than 7 million items seized in 2022 alone) and the category most subject to seizure is toys.

Between 2008 and 2022, there were nearly 223 thousand seizures and 631 million seized counterfeit goods for an estimated economic value of the goods seized of more than 5.96 billion euros removed from the illicit circuit. These are some of the data from the 2023 IPERICO Report prepared by the General Directorate for Industrial Property - Italian Patent and Trademark Office of the Ministry of Enterprises and Made in Italy - MIMIT.

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