

*L' Economist di oggi pubblica questa mia analisi sul perchè non c'è stato ancora in Italia un attentato terroristico grave.* Print edition | Letters Oct 19th 2017

It

aly's role in foreign wars

You put forward a couple of reasonable explanations for why Italy has not yet been struck by a serious terrorist attack ("Safe so far", September 30th). But one unmentioned factor is Italy's low profile during the recent wars in the Middle East. We never bombed the Syrians the way France did. The terrorist blowback, the number of Italian foreign jihadists and the resentment against Italy in the Middle East are, therefore, much more limited.

Moreover, you aired the view that the Mafia may have deterred the jihadists. There is no evidence to support this. Today's Mafia lacks both the strength and the will to care about terrorism, because it is too busy searching for ways to survive in a largely hostile environment.

What is true is that the instruments we used to defeat Cosa Nostra turned out to be very effective in tracing and neutralising, so far, a significant number of terrorist cells.

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