Preface

The Italian economy is innovative, knowledge-intense and globalised. Numerous Italian industries produce high-quality products that are highly valued and in demand around the world. These features are the hallmarks of a modern, dynamic economy; however, they also make Italy vulnerable to the global risks of counterfeiting and piracy.

To deal with these risks in an effective way, we need more information on their scale, scope and impact. This study assesses the effects of trade in counterfeit goods on the Italian industry, government and consumers. It does so from two perspectives: first, it examines the scale of counterfeit and pirated products smuggled into Italy; second, it looks at the scale and effects of global trade in counterfeit goods that infringe on the rights of Italian trademark holders.

We are confident this report will contribute to a better understanding of the risk that counterfeiting poses for Italy, and will assist policy makers in formulating effective solutions to combat this scourge.

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