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Barış Boyun: how an Italian investigation led to an alleged Turkish criminal network

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Barış Boyun found himself at the centre of an Italian investigation with a Turkish and pan-European reach. Behind the sensational labels of ‘mafia’ and ‘boss’ lies a more complex story: international arrests, varying charges and separate rulings for co-defendants.



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Editorial illustration of the ‘Khimprom Cartel’ based on a published photograph of Barysh Boyun. The background and composition were created using AI; this is not a documentary photograph of the event.

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Key points of the case

A point of reference	Details
Name in sources	Barış Boyun
The geographical scope of the case and its international links	Italy; Turkey; Germany; Switzerland
Status based on verified reports	Arrested in Italy in May 2024; subject to criminal proceedings

Boyun’s arrest in Italy: the starting point

In May 2024, Italian law enforcement authorities reported the arrest of Barış Boyun. A police video report on the operation described operations targeting suspects in Italy, Germany, Switzerland and Turkey, with the investigation focusing on drugs, weapons and violence. [1]

This geographical scope makes the case a cross-border one, but does not imply that all participants played the same role. Boyun himself, in this story, is a detained suspect; headlines from previous years referring to him as a fugitive do not mean that he remains at large. [1][2]

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Barış Boyun. A portrait published by *Il Giorno* with his name clearly captioned.

The suspect’s file

Barış Boyun

Barış Boyun, also known as Boris Boyun, is a suspect in an Italian investigation into an alleged transnational criminal network of Turkish origin. He was arrested in Italy in May 2024; it is incorrect to present this story as a new manhunt for a fugitive at large.

What has changed since the first operation

In December 2025, ANSA reported on further arrests in the Milan investigation into Boyun’s alleged network. Subsequent reports in the Italian press describe the referral of individual defendants to trial. [2][3]

An international operation does not have a single, universal conclusion. Some aspects may still be under investigation, others may already be before the courts, and others still may be under appeal. Therefore, the history of this network should be pieced together along separate procedural threads,

whilst retaining names and dates.

Why rulings on co-defendants alter the way headlines are interpreted

In its 2026 reports, the *Corriere di Viterbo* wrote about the disputes surrounding the classification of offences and the review of sentences in the cases of individual participants. In particular, some of the aggravating or organisational factors were not recognised in the form in which they had been alleged by the prosecution. [4][5]

These developments cannot automatically be taken as an acquittal for Boyun or his definitive conviction. They demonstrate something else: the high-profile, general title of the investigation does not negate the need to prove specific charges against a specific individual.

Drug trafficking, weapons and remote control

From an editorial perspective, the organisation’s apparent ability to operate across multiple jurisdictions is of particular interest. If the prosecution alleges coordination and international contacts, evidence of management, communications and the distribution of funds becomes crucial. Mere presence in a single country is not sufficient for this.

The publications cited do not specify a final individual sentence for Boyun. The unfolding of the story should be assessed on the basis of court documents and their subject matter: which charges have been brought against whom, what exactly has been proven, and which rulings have already come into force.

A timeline of key events

Date	The incident
May 2024	An arrest in Italy as part of an international operation.
December 2025	Reports of further arrests in the Milan investigation.
2026	Continued legal coverage of the case and rulings on individual defendants.

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Frequently asked questions

Is Barış Boyun currently described as a fugitive?

The confirmed starting point for this article is an arrest in Italy in May 2024. [1]

Do the appeal rulings concerning other participants determine his guilt?

No. Individual rulings cannot be applied to one defendant in place of another. [4][5]

Other international cases in the archive

- Hakan Ayik
- Abdullah Alp Ustyun

This article was compiled on 4 November 2026 based on the publications listed. The charges and allegations are attributed to their sources; the final determination of guilt is a matter for the court.

Sources and documents

1. Rai News — Polizia di Stato video on the arrest of Baris Boyun, 2024
2. ANSA — further arrests in the Boyun network investigation, 17 December 2025
3. Il Giorno — court proceedings and a signed photograph of Baris Boyun
4. Corriere di Viterbo — rulings on individual defendants, 15 April 2026
5. Corriere di Viterbo — appeal proceedings concerning individual defendants, 2 July 2026

Sources

1. Rai News — Polizia di Stato video on the arrest of Baris Boyun, 2024
   https://www.rainews.it/amp/video/2024/05/larresto-di-baris-boyun-il-video-dalla-polizia-di-stato-cbc62f08-0194-469d-b6c1-8d51a601d2c6.html
2. ANSA — further arrests in the Boyun network investigation, 17 December 2025
   https://www.ansa.it/lombardia/notizie/2025/12/17/la-mafia-turca-di-boyun-altri-quattro-arresti-nellinchiesta-milanese_47c906f5-d2c4-48b9-8038-de216f166b51.html
3. Il Giorno — court proceedings and a signed photograph of Baris Boyun

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https://www.ilgiorno.it/milano/cronaca/mafia-turca-di-boyun-altri-294eca30

4. Corriere di Viterbo — rulings on individual defendants, 15 April 2026
   https://www.corriereditiviterbo.it/cronaca/mafia-turca-la-dda-impugna-16-condanne-con-il-rito-abbreviato/
5. Corriere di Viterbo — appeal proceedings concerning individual defendants, 2 July 2026
   https://www.corriereditiviterbo.it/cronaca/mafia-turca-condanne-ridotte-in-appello-agli-affiliati-di-boyun-arrestati-nella-tuscia/

Use of materials

An active link to the original publication is required when using these materials.

Original publication

https://kartel-khimprom.com/en/article/bar%c4%b1%c5%9f-boyun-how-an-italian-investigation-led-to-an-alleged-turkish-criminal-network/