

Trafficking in Human Beings





Definition of trafficking in human beings according to Palermo Protocol 2000

- Recruiting, transporting, transferring, sheltering and receiving persons
- Using threatening, force or any other form of coercion, fraud or deceiving
- For exploitation (prostitution, sexual exploitation, forced labor, slavery, human organs)



**Trafficking is the
modern form of Slavery**

Why do Churches care ?

- Trafficking is an unacceptable human rights violation, based on the biblical conviction that 1 Corinthians 12: 26-27 says that: “if one part of the body suffers all the other parts of the body suffer with it – all of you then are Christ’s body and each one is a part of it”
- Human beings are created in the image of God, and not for sale

Trafficking is not identical with:

Smuggling of migrants :

Ensuring the illegal crossing of the border for a person who is neither citizen, or permanent resident of that country, in order to obtain, directly or not, a certain financial or material good.

- Unlike THB, it requires the acceptance of those crossing the border illegally and the payment of a sum of money for the guide

Prostitution :

- Various forms of exploitation are important (Domestic labour, agriculture, sweatshops)
- Prostitution does not necessarily involve direct coercion/force

Forced labor

- Any form of labor or service carried out under threatening, meaning that the worker did not offer his labor power voluntarily

Characteristics:

- The existence of any form of coercion against a person
- The absence of the freedom of movement

WITNESS: THE AFRICAN EXPERIENCE



Trafficking in human beings

- Trafficking in human beings turns a person into a slave, into a merchandise whose price is not the equivalent of its worth, but the profit that the trafficker can make by “using” it
- Trafficking in human beings depersonalizes someone, touching its physical and spiritual integrity, making its resemblance to God impossible.

Supply and Demand

■ **Source country**

Supply

- of potential victims
- economical reasons

■ **Destination country**

Demand

- on the sexual services market
- on the labor market
- on the adoption market

Trafficking process

■ Recruiting

- Personal contacts
- Agencies
- Advertising / Internet
- Kidnapping / threatening or violence

■ Transport

- Legal or illegal crossing of the borders

■ Exploitation and circulation

- Exploitation
- Forced labor
- Illegal adoptions
- Marital arrangements



Who is affected

VIDEO

- young, under 25
- looking to work abroad, but with no professional training
- easily accepting to travel abroad, legally or illegally
- being sold repeatedly until reaches destination
- often suffering from physical and emotional abuses



Trafficker's business

■ Traffickers

- Low investments
- No necessary expertise, low penalties

■ Potential victims

- Economic reasons
- Great expectations
- False promises



What re the consequences

- Physical, material or moral abuses as consequences of trafficking
- Destruction of personality/trauma

VIDEO



International legal framework for combating THB

- **The UN** – International Convention Against Trans-national Organised Crime and three additional international legal protocols. (Palermo2000).
- **The ILO** –
 - Forced Labour Convention of 1930
 - Convention Against The Worst Forms of Child Labour in 1999.

Church can be: part of the problem

- By reproducing structures in society which deny women/girls or minorities access to education or jobs
- By labelling certain groups (e.g. single mothers, minorities) as bad persons
- By disregarding the ambition, particularly of young persons, for a better life
- By seeing trafficking as “one of those western European women’ s issues“
- By uncritically supporting the existence of families, even if they breed abuse and violence
- By labelling returning survivors as bad thieves or sinful prostitutes or seeing them as object of own work

Or part of a solution:

- Civil society plays an important role in the struggle against trafficking in human beings. :
- Often the first direct contact with trafficked persons, as present where persons seeks different kinds of help (pastoral care, general social assistance institutions, health services).
- Often NGOs known “in the field”, church present where no other institution exists
- Civil society, in particular church, enjoy a higher degree of trust among trafficked persons that state institutions such as the police might often not have.
- > Chances for Churches & NGOs and their work, but also gives NGOs a high degree of responsibility.
- NGOs can give trafficked women a clear and understandable information about the assistance which they can get, and about the options which are open to them.
- NGOs can also refer women to specialised services, but



Part of a solution

PREVENTION:

- By taking the desire for a better life seriously and offering alternatives at home, but also hints to minimise migratory risks
- To create a sense of inclusive communities at home
- Overcoming gender inequality in its own ranks and society
- To educate young people to be modest, but self-confident, self-respecting persons realising their potential with unalienable rights
- By addressing violence, abuse in families and society at large

COUNTRIES OF DESTINATION

- Sensitise public and social services for the problem
- To argue for/enable a decent treatment and compensation of victims and choices
- Spreading empathy and not moral rejection towards victims
- Questioning the demand side in the country of destination
- Opening up the choice for a victim if and when to return or stay (residence titles)
- Assisting with a safe return and new start back home (if wanted)
- By enhancing inclusive development in countries of origin
- By arguing for legal migration possibilities



Strategy against Trafficking in Human Beings - THB

- Police: creating specialized investigation units
- Strengthening the international cooperation (investigations /data bases)
- Creating victims' protection programs
- Improving victims' protection and assistance services
- Raising the level of cooperation between law applying systems /judicial authorities /immigration offices /NGOs
- Pursuing and confiscating criminals' property
- Developing raising awareness campaigns in source countries (future victims) and in destination countries (future clients)

Christian programs for preventing and combating THB

■ The **CAT** program (since 2002)

- Development of a network of Christian organisations in Europe (Origin-, source- and Transit-countries) active in awareness-raising, prevention, assistance
- Cooperation of Churches, NGOs, public partners (e.g. police)
- Operational Cooperation, Training of staff/volunteers, regular exchange of Information
- Linking awareness-raising with practical cooperation and political advocacy
- Summary of results in publication - > dissemination of results
- Coordination by CCME, Cooperation with CCME-Members, Caritas, secular NGOs, public authorities - involvement of WCC and CEC
- Currently co-financed by EU Commission and WCC Diakonia and Solidarity Team (start-up funding from Finnchurchaid, Kerkinactie and EKD)
- Phase II Nov.2003-March 2005: quality standards, cross-sectoral cooperation (“doing SOMETHING is not good enough !”)



Christian programs for preventing and combating THB

- The campaign initiated by the Ecumenical Association of Churches in Romania - AIDRom within the **SENSE** program

Editing educational materials, leaflets, guides, CDs, promotional objects

Dissemination of information: guides, leaflets and video materials.

Regional trainings in high risk regions, uncovered in previous programs (Rep. of Moldova)

On going meetings with IOM representatives in Romania and Police officials (for up dating the new developments in the anti-trafficking activities in the region)

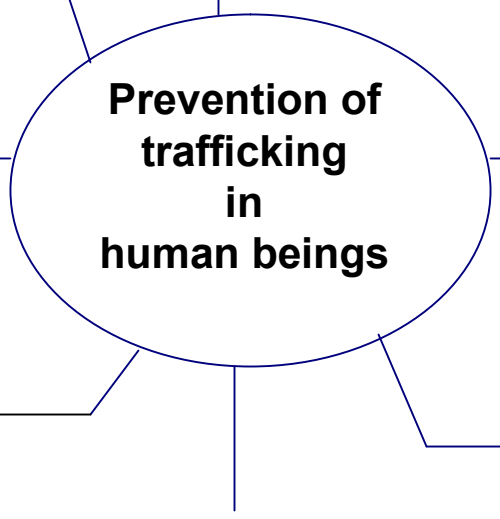
International seminar on Prevention of Trafficking in Human Beings – Bucharest

TOT seminars

Empowering and vocational training for victims – individual and group counselling (ADPARE)

Developing the website www.sens.org.ro

Participation in national and international meetings on the issue



Prevention of trafficking in human beings

Strengthening the regional and European network

Establishing a focal informational point in Bucharest at the AIDRom Conference Center; the information is gathered from all the network, processed and sent to all members, an interactive continuous dialogue is promoted to ensure a mutual help and exchange of experience among network members



Concrete actions of the Church against trafficking in human beings

- Good practice models – Churches together with IOM and NGOs developed a complex program against trafficking in human beings from 2002 to 2005. The program consisted in:
 1. Raising awareness over the trafficking phenomenon campaign
 2. Educational program among archbishoprics
 3. Educational program in schools and high schools
 4. Working groups - representatives of the Police Department, of the Church and of the Ministry of Education

Concrete actions of the Romanian Orthodox Church against trafficking in human beings

- Materials promoted by The Romanian Orthodox Church, edited and published in cooperation with IOM
Pastoral and methodic guide book for teaching activities during religion courses “Preventing and combating trafficking in human beings”
- Materials promoted by AIDRom and UNICEF, edited and published in cooperation with the Institute for Research and Prevention of Criminality and partner organisation
The guide book for preventing trafficking in human beings



To sum up:

The work has just begun!!!