

## **Forum:**

United Nation Human Rights Office Of The High Commissioner (UNHRC)

## **Issue:**

Preventing organized cross-nation human trafficking activities in less developed countries.

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## **Overview**

Despite the increasing effort in promoting human right and security of many organizations in the pass two centuries, cross-nation human trafficking remains a severe global issue that leads to aggressive human right violation such as commercial sexual exploitation and forced labour. An estimated 700,000 people are trafficked each year, making it the fastest-growing business among organized crime (UNHRC).

Data released by the International Labour Organization (ILO) shows that 49.6 million people were victims of modern slavery, of which 27.6 million were in forced labour. Of this 27.6 million victims 12% were children, more than half of them were in commercial sexual exploitation (ILO). According to a report by the Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons, victims of human trafficking may suffer severe physical and psychological , such as food deprivation, beatings, and sexual abuse etc. Eliminating human right abuse in such form is essential in the development of a society of equality and security, and it's UNHRC's top priority to put a stop to such crime.

## **Sustainable Development Goal**

The United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery hosted a Panel Discussion regarding and Target 8.7 of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals On 28 November 2019. The discussion will view four major areas of characterized by the

Thematic Action Groups of the Alliance 8.7, which were rule of law & governance, supply chains, migration, and conflicts & humanitarian crisis and their role in victim-centered strategies for planning and assisting aid to survivors of slavery. Currently, 22 countries join partnerships in Alliance 8.7.

Target 8.7 of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals calls to “Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking (by 2030) and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms.” It promote international partnerships between multiple cross-nation organizations and institutions in order to achieve such target.

The following were objectives of the panel discussion:

- Call for attention to the connections between slavery and supply chains, migration, conflicts and humanitarian crisis;
- Presenting past involvement of the e UN Slavery Fund’s grantees relating to the support and empowerment of the survivors of slavery;
- Illustrating the importance and display the best practices of the victim-centred approach in the methodologies of support and its multidimensional impact;
- Affirm the importance of the rule pf law and the need to combat ongoing impunity and ensure secure the consequences of the practice of slavery.

## **Organ Harvesting**

Human trafficking for organ removal is common in less-developed countries in Africa and Asia, due to the sizable profit cause by low supply and high demand in organ (INTERPOL). A report by the Global Financial Integrity in 2017 estimated that in 2014 approximately 12,000 illegal transplantations were performed throughout the globe (GFI). Such activity was detected in 25 countries, mainly in North Africa and the Middle East, between 2003 and 2016 (UNODC).

In 2003 U.N. Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the U.N. Convention against Transnational Organized Crime declared the removal of organs” as a type of exploitation in order to strike

illegal organ trafficking activity and eliminate human trafficking for the purpose of organ harvesting (International Organ Trafficking: In Brief). The Declaration of Istanbul on Organ Trafficking and Transplant Tourism pronounced that if trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal or trafficking in human organs were involved, travel for organ transplant will be defined as transplant tourism, and therefore unethical.

## **Forced Labor**

One of the most common purpose of human trafficking in less developed countries. In 2016 59% of the trafficked population were victims of forced labor, making it the most detected form of exploitation. Southeast Asia and most regions in Africa were severely afflicted areas of such form of human trafficking (UNODC).

The International Labour Organization estimated that approximately 27.6 million people were in forced labor, of which 15.1 million were found in Asia and the Pacific region. According to UNODC, more than 50% of human trafficking in South Asia was for forced labor. At least three in every 1000 people in Asia-Pacific are in forced labor, trapped in the situation of being coerced or deceived and which they cannot leave. In West Africa, East Africa, and Southern Africa, the ratio of forced labor against other form of exploitation was 78%, 71%, 69%, respectively. The majority of the detected victims are adult men, while adult Women accounts for approximately one-fourth, and children account for one than one-third.

Labor trafficking in Europe has shown to be a severe issue. Out of the total number of 880,000 forced laborers in European Union Member States, 270,000 (30%) are estimated to be victims of forced sexual exploitation, and 610,000 (70%) are victims of forced labor exploitation. Women constitute the clear majority of victims (58%). Labor trafficking in Poland has the highest rate among all kinds of human trafficking. The National Intervention-Consultation Center for Victims of Trafficking (KCIK) provided assistance to 226 potential victims in 2019; 154 were victims of forced labor, 39 of sex trafficking, three of domestic slavery, two of degrading treatment, two of forced criminality, and 26 of other types of exploitation.

1Cases collected by UNODC demonstrated exploitation pattern of different industry in terms of victim profile. According to the Global Report on Trafficking in Persons (GLOTIP), the trafficking flows of forced labor were mainly short distance trafficking. Some of the most common economic sectors involved in forced labor were domestic work, agriculture, and construction (GLOTIP).

## **Sexual Exploitation**

Sex trafficking is a type of human trafficking that contains serious public health problem and has a detrimental impact on the well-being of people, families, and communities. Sex trafficking is defined by the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 as “the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, obtaining, patronizing, or soliciting of a person for a commercial sex act.” Victims of sex trafficking are abducted or coerced into prostitution, marriages, or pregnancies. They are being threatened, as well as physically and mentally assaulted.

It is the world's fastest-growing criminal enterprise, worth almost \$99 billion every year. According to the UNODC, sexual trafficking occurs in women and girls disproportionately-- 94% of the victims are young girls and adult women. Belarus is one of the countries containing a high rate of sex trafficking, forced prostitution is common in trafficking. The majority of Belarusian victims identified were females coerced into prostitution overseas, notably in Russia, Germany, Poland, other European nations, Turkey, Israel, Lebanon, and the United Arab Emirates. There contain a great proportion of women from low-income families in Belarus' countryside that were coerced into prostitution in Minsk. According to the data on human trafficking in Belarus this year, of the 244 confirmed victims, 241 were exploited in sex trafficking; 118 were children.

## **Key Terms**

### **Human Trafficking**

The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of people through force, fraud or deception, with the aim of exploiting them for profit

## **Labor Trafficking**

The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage or slavery

## **Slavery**

Situations of exploitation that a person cannot refuse or leave because of threats, violence, coercion, deception, and/or abuse of power

## **Victim-Centred Approach**

Victim-Centred Approach is a way of engaging with victims that prioritizes listening, avoids re-traumatization, and systematically focuses on their safety, rights, well-being, expressed needs and choices.

## **Important Events/Timelines**

### **2006**

UNHRC was founded in 15 March 2006 by the United Nations General Assembly by resolution 60/251

### **2011**

UNHRC established the Task Force on Secretariat services, accessibility and use of information technology

### **2021**

UNHRC introduce innovations, break boundaries and set new human rights standards in response to the disturbance of people's livelihood caused by the COVID-19 pandemic

## **Major Nations/Organizations**

### **United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC)**

The United Nations Human Rights developed principles and guidelines that aim to support anti-trafficking activities to fully promote human right.

### **The International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL)**

The International Criminal Police Organization enables police from 194 member countries to work together to combat cross-nation organized human trafficking activities.

## **The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)**

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime established the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children in 2010 within the UN Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons.

## **Important Documents/Passed Solutions**

1. Impact of the coronavirus disease pandemic on contemporary forms of slavery and slavery-like practices-Report of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences (October 2020)
2. Resolution adopted by the Human Rights Council on 26 September 2019-Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences (September 2019)
3. Current and emerging forms of slavery-Report of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences (September 2019)

## **Possible Solutions**

One of the greatest obstacles in eliminating human trafficking in less-developed countries is the lack of effective government system to strictly prevent, track, and prosecute such crime. Many cases of human trafficking remained undocumented, making it impossible to implement policies and strategies that target this issue. UNHRC as an UN committee that aims to promote human right globally was obligated to develop a solution addressing cross-nation human trafficking and its aftermath. Delegates should consider the source of this dilemma as it pertains to various regions of the world and develop a coherent, comprehensive solution based on the positions of the nation they are representing. Delegates can develop your solution on various viewpoints based on distinctive situation in different region.

Cooperation between countries were the key in combating cross-nation human trafficking. International organizations such as the INTERPOL enables experts from different countries to joint force in battling organized criminal actions, wherewith local governments should take the responsibility in tracking missing person and share information in order to prevent potential human

trafficking activities. Delegates should assess each country's current situation and difficulties, such as lack in technical support or funds for police activities, and craft a plausible resolution that best addresses its circumstances. Delegates should also consider various unique circumstances when negotiating and collaborating with other countries.

Furthermore, the process of persecution should not be ignored when developing a resolution targeting human trafficking. It is essential to ensure accountability for such practice in order to prevent future criminal activities. The resolution should address issue such as the effectiveness of current laws and policies and government corruption intervening the implementation of proper punishment to one who committed such crime.