



SOVEREIGN HOSPITALLER ORDER
OF SAINT JOHN OF JERUSALEM, RHODES AND MALTA

Ambassador To Monitor and Combat Trafficking In Persons

**Contribution of the Sovereign Order of Malta
for the report to the United Nations General Assembly 2022
Ms. Mama Fatima Singhateh, Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of
children, including child prostitution, child pornography and other sexual abuse material**

**"Addressing the vulnerabilities of children to sale and sexual exploitation in the
framework of the Sustainable Development Goals."**

The [Sovereign Hospitaller Order of Malta](#) is increasing its efforts to prevent and combat contemporary slavery, including the sale and sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, child pornography, and other forms of sexual violence against children through awareness-raising and training measures using the following approaches:

- **Operational support** of the Order of Malta and Malteser International to mothers and children in Ukraine ([material aid and psycho-social support as well as a specific program for children with autism](#)) and in neighboring countries: reception and accommodation of refugees at the borders and in railway stations to put them in "quiet zones", humanitarian and medical aid; [distribution of posters in Ukrainian, Polish and English to warn women and children of the risks of being victims of traffickers](#);
- [Reception and rehabilitation of mothers and young children victims of human trafficking in the Bakhita House in Lagos](#); awareness program in schools for students and teachers to encourage them to continue their studies and not fall into the trap of a "better life abroad" that traffickers would offer them;
- **Interventions at each session of the Human Rights Council, at the UN General Assembly, and participation in UNODC and OSCE meetings on human trafficking**
- [Creation of free online courses - in French and English - on trafficking both from a practical point of view for caregivers and a course on legal aspects for teachers, students, civil servants, judges, police officers active in the fight against trafficking \(\[www.cuhd.org\]\(http://www.cuhd.org\)\)](#).
- Regularly posting best **practices** and resources to prevent and combat trafficking online: (www.christusliberat.org)
- **Partnerships with universities** for conferences, courses and research: Webster (Geneva) and the Institute for Peace and Development of the University of Côte d'Azur (Nice).
- **Partnerships with secular and religious [organizations](#)** active in combating trafficking and rehabilitating victims.

Michel Veuthey
Pierre-Longue 14 - CH-1212 Geneva Switzerland
Email: m.veuthey@orderofmalta.int
<https://nohumantrafficking.orderofmalta.int>



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- Organization, since October 2020, of [webinars on human trafficking \(18 to date\)](#) in English with the participation of 70 international experts on trafficking, with the aim of raising awareness, deepening reflection and research, as well as promoting action at all levels, (available on <https://nohumantrafficking.orderofmalta.int/en/>, [Vimeo](#) and [YouTube](#) with subtitles in seven languages: Chinese, English, French, German, Italian, Russian, Spanish).

The above resources are continually accessed by a significant number of people from over 180 countries (a few thousand for our online courses and webinars and tens of thousands for our best practices site).

In relation to “the sale and sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, child pornography, and other forms of sexual abuse of children”, our webinars have explored and highlighted the following issues:

- **The use of modern means of communication to exploit children:**

The Internet and [social media](#) are now used to recruit and exploit children for sexual exploitation, [organ trafficking](#) and [forced labor](#)¹. The sale and exploitation of children for sexual purposes is on the rise, especially since the COVID-19 pandemic: online distribution and marketing systems for child pornography and sexual abuse, use of technology to advertise the sale and exploitation of children, and the [largely unregulated meta-virtual space](#) can pose serious risks of online child sexual abuse.

In this virtual territory that is difficult to control, the commodification of victims of human trafficking² is amplified: the human person is not only an object, but becomes a quantity of data, videos and images that are transferable, and the virtual abuse can be perpetrated an exponential number of times in different parts of the world.

Traffickers are thus multiplying their profits, thanks to the opportunities offered by the Internet, which increases the scope, speed and ease of transactions while benefiting from anonymity and virtual impunity.

¹ [UNICEF. Child labour](#). Nearly 1 in 10 children are subjected to child labour worldwide, with some forced into hazardous work through trafficking. Also see: [ILO. The worst forms of child labour](#). And the excellent ILO, OECD, IOM and UNICEF, 2019, Report: [Ending child labour, forced labour and human trafficking in global supply chains](#). See also UNICEF. [Children in a Digital World. The State of the World's Children](#), 2017.

² Mike DOTTRIDGE, [“Kids as Commodities? Child trafficking and what to do about it”](#) Lausanne, Terre des Hommes, 2004. Foreword by Graça MACHEL.

Michel Veuthey
Pierre-Longue 14 - CH-1212 Geneva Switzerland
Email: m.veuthey@orderofmalta.int
<https://nohumantrafficking.orderofmalta.int>



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Between 2014 and 2021, the [Meter Association](#) reported more than **twenty million** (23,250,123) **photos** and more than **six million** (6,530,922) **videos** of children, primarily on European and North American sites. Tens of millions of children, including a growing number of newborns, are now victims of this scourge on a global scale.

Despite the existence of other observatories, notably in Canada ([Canadian Centre for Child Protection](#) - [Centre Canadien de Protection de l'Enfance](#), which pilots [Project Arachnid](#) and the Canadian tipline for reporting the sexual abuse and exploitation of children on the Internet ([cybertip!ca](#) / <https://cybertip.ca>), in the United States ([Department of State](#) and U.S. [Department of Homeland Security](#)), international organizations such as [INTERPOL](#), [EUROPOL](#), [EUROJUST](#), and private organizations ([THORN](#)³, [Internet Watch Foundation](#) (IWF), [StopTheTraffick](#)), but also partnerships between Governments, academia, banks, industry, FBOs such as Caritas⁴, NGOs such as [Traffik Analysis Hub](#) using artificial intelligence⁵ to identify, a much more considerable effort would be required.

Governments, international organizations including [UNICEF](#) and [ITU](#), and the whole of civil society, in particular access providers, must mobilize more to limit, and ultimately eradicate, this scandalous abuse of technology to which millions of children are subjected. **It is the political will of legislators that must be mobilized to this end**⁶.

³ [Thorn](#): an organization that builds technologies to defend children against sexual abuse. Based on the observation that the Internet had facilitated the sale and exploitation of children, it works - in partnership with technology companies, governments and NGOs - to accelerate the identification of victims ([Spotlight tool](#) used by investigators) but also to help parents and caregivers through the program "[Thorn for Parents](#)" to accompany children in the discovery of sexual exploration and technology. See also [Internet Watch Foundation \(IWF\)](#).

⁴ See the "[Together Against Trafficking in Human Beings](#)" (www.contrelatraite.org) hosted by Geneviève Colas

⁵ See IBM "[Using AI to combat human trafficking](#)", and "[AI Leads the Fight Against Human Trafficking & Harassment](#)" and DELTA87 "[AI for Good: Using AI to Prevent Modern Slavery, HUmAn Trafficking and Forced and Child Labour](#)"

⁶ See in particular: Parliamentary Assembly of La Francophonie (APF), [Resolution on trafficking in human beings Abidjan \(Ivory Coast\)](#), 8-9 July 2019

See also OSCE. Office of the Special Representative and Co-Ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings. [Compendium of Anti-Trafficking Commitments adopted by the OSCE Ministerial Council](#).

A. Recommended action at the national level.

1. Criminalizing and prosecuting all forms of Trafficking in Human Beings:

01. Calls on OSCE participating States which have not already done so to consider legal measures that would allow them to prosecute their citizens for serious sexual crimes against children, even if these crimes are committed in another country

02. Urges participating States to prosecute human traffickers and perpetrators of sexual exploitation of children, including those who misuse information and communication technologies to recruit children or facilitate access to children for the purpose of subjecting them to trafficking or sexual exploitation, and impose penalties that are effective dissuasive, and proportionate to the crime; (MC Decision 7/17, para 6)

Michel Veuthey
Pierre-Longue 14 - CH-1212 Geneva Switzerland
Email: m.veuthey@orderofmalta.int
<https://nohumantrafficking.orderofmalta.int>



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- **Typical profiles of the online pedocriminal:**

Pedocriminal activities have grown considerably and are destructive to victims. On the Internet, several profiles of individuals take advantage of technology, anonymity and the vulnerability of children to satisfy their sexual fantasies, in violation of the moral rules of society⁷.

Different types of pedophiles exist: the closet collector, the commercial, the seducer, the cyber-pedophile, the "[pedomamas](#)" (women sexually exploiting their own children), etc. Pedophiles can be "ordinary" men and women, unsuspecting and often close to children.

- **The "Lover Boy" strategy to seduce young victims into prostitution:**

The "Lover Boy" strategy consists of identifying young women and approaching them by simulating a romantic relationship with the aim of sexually exploiting them and pushing them into prostitution. Sandra Norak, a survivor of this form of human trafficking, assures us that this is an increasingly common method of recruitment⁸. It is said to be facilitated by liberal prostitution laws in some countries, which encourage women to believe that it is legal to be sold into sexual abuse.

- **The need to intervene on the demand side⁹ to effectively combat trafficking and reverse the trend of increase:**

Many actors are warning of the [need to combat demand](#) as the primary root cause of human trafficking. In sexual exploitation, trafficking in women and children is driven by the demand for paid sexual services and the fantasies of consumers. The only solution then is to act to reduce the

⁷ [Presentation by Don Fortunato](#), Profiles of Pedophiles, May 5, 2021 Webinar: "[Root Causes of Human Trafficking - The Role of Technology](#)"

⁸ [Speech by Sandra Norak](#), Testimony of a survivor of the lover boys method, Webinar of April 13, 2021: "[Demand as the root cause of human trafficking - Sex trafficking and prostitution](#)"

⁹ See article 6 of [Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings](#) "To discourage the demand that fosters all forms of exploitation of persons, especially women and children, that leads to trafficking, each Party shall adopt or strengthen legislative, administrative, educational, social, cultural or other measures including:

a. research on best practices, methods and strategies;

b. raising awareness of the responsibility and important role of media and civil society in identifying the demand as one of the root causes of trafficking in human beings;

c. target information campaigns involving, as appropriate, inter alia, public authorities and policy makers;

d. preventive measures, including educational programmes for boys and girls during their schooling, which stress the unacceptable nature of discrimination based on sex, and its disastrous consequences, the importance of gender equality and the dignity and integrity of every human being."

Michel Veuthey

Pierre-Longue 14 - CH-1212 Geneva Switzerland

Email: m.veuthey@orderofmalta.int

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number of people who purchase such "services"¹⁰, particularly in the context of the "[Nordic Model](#)" advocating the abolition of prostitution.

- **The denunciation of a "culture of waste" that favors trafficking, and the necessary promotion of a culture of decent work¹¹:**

The current global economic system has consequences for the way people are treated, favoring the primacy of material profit, to the detriment of respect for human rights and working conditions¹². The competition on the markets and the search to reduce labor costs leave some individuals with no other choice than to accept to work in disastrous conditions that do not respect their fundamental rights. Under these conditions, slavery and indecent work proliferate. The modern era creates a "[culture of waste](#)" where profit takes precedence over people, who are no longer at the heart of the economic system and make them all the more vulnerable to human trafficking and other forms of exploitation.

PROPOSALS:

1. Increase efforts and actions in the field to prevent and combat all forms of child exploitation and develop innovative means of information and awareness raising

In the fight against the sale and sexual exploitation of children, **it is essential to raise the awareness of society and especially of groups at risk**. It is necessary to inform about the diversity and complexity of the forms of sale and sexual exploitation of children and their devastating and irreversible effects.

One example is the film "[Maisha. A New Life Outside the Mines](#)" which shows a program of the Good Shepherd Sisters to educate children out of the slavery of the mines in Kolwezi. Two other examples are the booklets and films produced by Geneviève Colas [#INVISIBLES](#) and [#DEVENIR](#).

¹⁰ [Brian Iselin's presentation](#), April 13, 2021 Webinar: "[Demand as the root cause of human trafficking - Sex trafficking and prostitution](#)", April 20, 2021 Webinar: "[Demand as a Root Cause of Human Trafficking - Forced Labor. Consumer Empowerment](#)"

¹¹ See ILO. [Decent work and the 2030 agenda for sustainable development](#)

¹² Intervention by [Andrea Marchesani](#), Webinar on June 22, 2021: [Modern slavery and decent work](#)

Michel Veuthey

Pierre-Longue 14 - CH-1212 Geneva Switzerland

Email: m.veuthey@orderofmalta.int

<https://nohumantrafficking.orderofmalta.int>



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In the context of armed conflict and migration movements, [families](#) and children need to be aware of the risks and preferred behaviors. While some offers - of transportation, accompaniment, accommodation - can lead to exploitative situations, unaccompanied families and children must remain extremely vigilant.

In addition to traditional measures such as the distribution of flyers, poster campaigns, etc., new means of information and awareness must be devised and developed.

In the past, innovative tools have been created to circulate information:

- [Apps](#), [posters](#), [comics](#), inscriptions on humanitarian aid packages,
- Songs with warning and prevention lyrics by regional singers in local languages.
Example: the ICRC project¹³ to reach child soldiers in Africa: *Woza Africa 'Music goes to war'*¹⁴.
- Radio stations broadcasting prevention programs (e.g., [Together We Can End Human Trafficking Radio Spots](#)¹⁵) or programs that counteract messages of hate and entrapment for children and their parents (e.g., [Fondation Hironnelle](#)¹⁶).

On this basis, many means of information and awareness, both traditional and new, can be put in place:

- To inform children and their parents by approaching them and attracting their attention through subjects that interest them, such as music, theater, sports, etc.

¹³ [ICRC Annual Report](#), 1997, p. 278

¹⁴ See Kole OMOTOSO. *Woza Africa! Music Goes to War. Foreword by Nelson Mandela*. Johannesburg: Jonathan Ball Publishers, 1997. K. OMOTOSO. *Woza Africa. When Music Defies War*. Paris, Jaguar, 1997.

¹⁵ The Communication Initiative Network, [Together We Can End Human Trafficking Radio Spots](#), 11 March 2011
3 spots with short dramatic scenes have been produced that address various aspects of human trafficking:

- False Promises - Her dream job in the big city becomes a nightmare when a young woman is forced into prostitution.
- Cab Driver - A cab driver realizes that he did nothing to prevent a young woman from being trafficked and vows to never let it happen again.
- Not for sale! - Two young women recognize a human trafficker in their midst, thanks to information provided to them through community outreach.

The spots were produced in English, Zulu, SeSotho, Afrikaans and Siswati, and distributed to 120 community radio stations in all 9 provinces of South Africa. Supported by Oxfam GB, the spots were also translated into: Portuguese, French, Changaan, Nyanja, Chichewa, Setswana and Shona, and distributed to stations across Southern Africa.

¹⁶ [Fondation Hironnelle](#): "Created in 1995 by three Swiss journalists, the Hironnelle Foundation took under its wing Radio Agatashya ("swallow" in Kinyarwanda), launched by Reporters Without Borders in the aftermath of the genocide "so that Rwandans would have an alternative to the media of hatred. From the outset, the Lausanne-based organization has consistently set up radio stations in African countries in situations of armed conflict, post-conflict and endemic social crisis, "where access to non-partisan information is difficult.

Michel Veuthey
Pierre-Longue 14 - CH-1212 Geneva Switzerland
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<https://nohumantrafficking.orderofmalta.int>



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- Broadcasting information on shortwave (international radios) and ultra-shortwave ([local radios in local languages](#))
- Use television news channels¹⁷, including news [reports](#) and [cartoons](#), and [Internet providers](#) to raise awareness about the sale and sexual exploitation of children
- Use actors close to the communities to raise awareness of the risks in the local language (e.g., [traveling circus](#), African story-tellers, *griots*).

It is through the combination of traditional means and the creation of new legal means acting directly on the demand that the maximum number of potential victims will be able to be aware of the risks they face - especially in situations where these risks are exacerbated - and that they will be able to protect themselves and their loved ones.

To combat the sale and sexual exploitation of children, all professionals who may come into contact with such situations must also be trained accordingly.

In times of crisis - in Ukraine and elsewhere - law enforcement officials, humanitarian actors, representatives of international and non-governmental organizations, diplomats on the ground, journalists must be informed of these issues in order to identify victims and traffickers, adopt adequate assistance and protection measures,¹⁸ [refer to the competent authorities](#), etc.

In all situations, different trades must be trained:

- **Teachers** need to be able to educate and explain to children what behaviors are acceptable and what behaviors are unsafe, especially online.
- **Social workers, medical, health and humanitarian personnel**¹⁹ must be able to [identify cases](#) of child sexual exploitation.
- **Law enforcement** officers must be trained on these forms of crime in order to recognize them and accompany the child victims. They must be given the proper training and tools.
- Judicial staff²⁰ and lawyers

¹⁷ See the CNN FREEDOM PROJECT “[Children for Sale: The Fight to End Human Trafficking](#)”

¹⁸ UNICEF (Mike DOTTRIDGE). “[Reference Guide on Protecting the Rights of Child Victims of Trafficking in Europe](#)”, Geneva, 2006, 202 p.

¹⁹ XXXIII INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT CONFERENCE, Geneva, Switzerland 9-12 December 2019, [Sexual and gender-based violence: joint action on prevention and response](#) (Resolution 3 of the XXXII International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent)

²⁰ UNODC, UN.GIFT, Anti-human trafficking manual for criminal justice practitioners, [Module 1](#) et [Module 2](#), 2009



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- **Border guards, rail, sea, road and air transport personnel**, and consular staff must be able to detect suspicious situations and identify potential victims among migrants and refugees in order to provide the necessary assistance.

2. Develop and increase the means to fight against the production and exchange of child pornography online:

→ **Adopt legislation at the national level to prohibit the storage and dissemination of child pornography data on servers**

For example, in Canada, Cybertip.ca, Canada's national tipline for reporting the sexual exploitation and abuse of children on the Internet, processes approximately 100,000 reports of child sexual exploitation per month. To date, hundreds of thousands of notices have been sent to web hosts requesting the removal of child sexual abuse images and hundreds of individuals have been arrested.

Also developed by the [Canadian Centre for Child Protection \(CCP\)](#), [Project Arachnid](#) is an innovative tool to combat child sexual abuse images on the Internet.

Launched in 2017, this victim-centric platform scans the web for images of child sexual abuse. Detection of such images or harmful or violent images of children immediately triggers a removal request to the host. Project Arachnid processes several thousand images per second and has a detection capacity far superior to the methods usually used to find and remove these images. Over the past five years, Project Arachnid's activities have resulted in the removal of six million child sexual exploitation photos and videos from over 1,000 electronic service providers in more than 100 countries.

→ **Provide more financial and human resources to establish observatories to analyze child pornography data on the Internet**

Michel Veuthey
Pierre-Longue 14 - CH-1212 Geneva Switzerland
Email: m.veuthey@orderofmalta.int
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→ **Provide more means for criminal and civil prosecution²¹ of hosts of pedocriminal data, individuals and organizations that produce and disseminate such material and the consumers of these images.**

3. Engage all stakeholders and find ways to facilitate and improve collaboration

In the context of the fight against the sale and sexual exploitation of children, all the actors concerned must be mobilized so that collective and targeted responses can be provided. In accordance with international instruments, collaboration between States and between the various actors of civil society is essential²². All must be involved in this fight and provide concrete and coordinated measures. As illegal activities against children go far beyond national borders, international and multidisciplinary actions²³ are indispensable.

Collaboration takes place through formal conferences and informal exchanges that will build trust between people who can share information and participate in joint actions. In October 2019, the Order of Malta had organized [a Colloquium](#) to discuss how to better fight, together, the sexual trafficking of women in West Africa and to promote their rehabilitation ("[How to better fight together, the sexual trafficking of women in West Africa and to support their rehabilitation?](#)").

²¹ See OBOKATA, Tom "Trafficking in Human Beings as a Crime Against Humanity: Some Implications for the International Legal System", *The International and Comparative Law Quarterly*, Vol. 54, No. 2 (Apr., 2005), pp. 445-457.

AMANN, Diane Marie. "The Policy on Children of the ICC Office of the Prosecutor: Toward greater accountability for crimes against and affecting children", *International Review of the Red Cross* (2019), 101 (911), 537-549.

²² OSCE. Office of the Special Representative and Co-Ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings. [Compendium of Anti-Trafficking Commitments](#) adopted by the OSCE Ministerial Council.

05.Promote dialogue and co-operation among governments, international organizations, civil society, and the private sector, including businesses, and trade unions and employers organizations as social partners, with a view to enhance efforts to prevent human trafficking, inter alia through increasing awareness of each actor's role and through facilitating the exchange of information on human trafficking among countries of origin, transit and destination, including the Partners for Co-operation, and recognizing the importance of the voice of victims of human trafficking in elaborating effective anti-trafficking strategies; (MC Decision 6/17, para 2)

²³International Labour Office, [Combating trafficking in children for labour exploitation Resource - A resource kit for Policy Makers and Practitioners](#), 2009

ILO. [Rehabilitation of the victims of child trafficking: A multidisciplinary approach \(TICSA-II\)](#) (2006).

Also see Michel J. PALMIOTTO (Ed.) [Combating Human Trafficking A Multidisciplinary Approach](#). Routledge, 2020, 333 p.

Michel Veuthey
Pierre-Longue 14 - CH-1212 Geneva Switzerland
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<https://nohumantrafficking.orderofmalta.int>



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In order to effectively fight against this phenomenon, many actors must contribute and mobilize, including:

- **Governmental actors:** Governments, Parliaments²⁴, the United Nations system, international, regional²⁵ and sub-regional organizations ([ECOWAS](#), [CBSS](#)), international law enforcement agencies ([INTERPOL](#), [EUROPOL](#), etc.).

It is essential that Governments work together nationally, regionally²⁶ and globally²⁷ to share information and promote the prosecution of traffickers. This collaboration is essential, particularly to combat the impunity of criminals who are increasing their online activities. International law enforcement agencies have a fundamental role to play in this area - sharing intelligence, setting up joint investigation teams, etc. - and must therefore be involved in this collaboration.

- **Non-governmental and [faith-based organizations](#), [media](#), [associations](#), [local communities](#) and [diasporas](#).**
- **The private sector** ([financial institutions](#) and [online platforms](#), digital access and service providers) notably through [public-private partnerships](#).
- **Victims and survivors, including children:** their participation is particularly important for the conduct of criminal and civil cases²⁸ and for their own and other survivors' rehabilitation.

²⁴ INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION : [The role of parliaments in protecting the rights of children, in particular unaccompanied migrant children, and in preventing their exploitation in situations of armed conflict](#), 20 march 2014

See also : Handbook “[Combating Child Trafficking](#)”, n°9, 2005

²⁵ COUNCIL OF EUROPE: Conference: ["Ending trafficking in children and young persons - Together, towards a future without child trafficking in Europe"](#) (4-5 May 2021) and [High-Level Launching Conference for the Strategy for the Rights of the Child \(2022-2027\)](#), 7-8 April 2022. See the [Rome Strategy “Children’s Rights in Action: from continuous implementation to joint innovation”](#).

See also : [Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings](#), 2005 : Article 32 ("General principles and measures of international cooperation") and 35 ("Cooperation with civil society").

See also the Report by Mr Vernon COAKER, United Kingdom, [Concerted action against human trafficking and the smuggling of migrants](#), Doc. 15023, 06 January 2020 and the [Resolution 2323 \(2020\)](#)

²⁶ EUROPEAN UNION : European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights. [Child trafficking in the European Union. Challenges, opportunities and good practices](#). Vienna, 2009, 188 p.

²⁷ See Resolution A/RES/73/146 ["Trafficking in women and girls"](#) of 17 December 2018

²⁸ See the 23 February 2021 Webinar : ["International Criminal Prosecution of Human Trafficking - What can be done?"](#)
See also Thematic chapter on GRETA's 8th General Report (2019): [Assistance to victims of trafficking](#).

Michel Veuthey

Pierre-Longue 14 - CH-1212 Geneva Switzerland

Email: m.veuthey@orderofmalta.int

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4. Provide more resources to identify, shelter and rehabilitate child victims

It is essential to adopt a child victim-centered approach and to intensify efforts to effectively protect all children and accompany them towards reintegration:

- Prompt, proactive and effective identification of all victims of trafficking, especially children.
- Gender-based approach and consideration of all the specificities of the victims (age, region, social class, disability, etc.) in the implementation of protection measures.
- Protection for the best interests of the child: age assessment respecting their rights, family reunification, adapted housing and care.
- Long-term [protection with accompaniment](#)²⁹ towards [rehabilitation](#), [reintegration](#), return to their families, schooling, decent work³⁰. Use of different means of rehabilitation, in particular [music](#)³¹, art³², sport³³.
- Involve and support survivors in the rehabilitation of victims³⁴.
- [Compensation](#) for [victims](#) and their [families](#).
- Granting of visas in accordance with Article 14 of the [Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings](#) and [family reunifications](#).

We certainly have **a lot to learn from each other**, starting with the victims themselves and the organizations - religious and non-religious - that help victims.

It is **a long-term struggle**, across borders, which requires a multidimensional mobilization. It requires an interdisciplinary approach, involving different actors: we must be able to grasp the problem, adapt to local conditions, identify victims, protect them, allow them to leave the criminal

²⁹ See Jesuit Refugee Service with Joe HAMPSON, Thomas M. CREA, Rocio CALVO and Francisco ALVAREZ “The value of accompaniment” [Forced Migration Review. Faith and responses to displacement](#), November 2014 (FMR 48)

³⁰ [Child labor: Global estimates 2020, trends and the way forward](#). Published for the first time jointly by the ILO and UNICEF, as co-leaders of target 8.7 of the Sustainable Development Goals, this report provides an update on the global effort to end child labor (available in French on 15 April 2022). Original English: ILO & UNICEF. Child Labour. [Global Estimates 2020. Trends and the Road Forward](#).

³¹ FRANCE24. [Overcoming the trauma: Singing lessons help former child soldiers in Uganda](#), 26, June 2018

³² UNICEF, [Art to heal trauma](#), 7, April 2021

³³ Although sport can also be used to trap young people - and their parents - in trafficking ([Living the dream? Human Trafficking, the other organized crime problem in sports | Global Initiative](#)), sport can be used to [rehabilitate victims and reintegrate them into society](#).

³⁴ See "[La Maison de la Gare](#)" in Senegal for former "talibés".



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networks, and take the time to help them rebuild themselves medically, psychologically and professionally.

We must also [reintegrate](#) them into their host communities or [communities of origin](#), and protect them in the long term through professional training programs. And finally, we must help them to be independent, to give them back a sense of dignity, of being [children of God](#), of being able to provide for themselves and their families, and to prevent them from falling back into the traps of slavery. This will obviously require **recreating a dialogue based on mutual respect within local and national communities and "moving forward together in caring for each other and for Creation"**³⁵.

Geneva, April 12, 2022

³⁵ Pope Francis, Interfaith General Audience on the occasion of the promulgation of the Conciliar Declaration "Nostra Aetate", 28 October 2015, quoted in [Pastoral Guidelines on Trafficking in Persons](#). para 40.

Michel Veuthey
Pierre-Longue 14 - CH-1212 Geneva Switzerland
Email: m.veuthey@orderofmalta.int
<https://nohumantrafficking.orderofmalta.int>