



**Webster University Geneva 27th IHSC  
November 1, 2022**

**CALL FOR IMPROVED COOPERATION  
FOR A BETTER PROTECTION  
OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING VICTIMS**

Prof. Dr. Michel Veuthey

[m.veuthey@orderofmalta.int](mailto:m.veuthey@orderofmalta.int)

[www.christusliberat.org](http://www.christusliberat.org)

[www.orderofmalta.int](http://www.orderofmalta.int)

[www.nohumantrafficking.orderofmalta.int](http://www.nohumantrafficking.orderofmalta.int)

# 1. INTRODUCTION: 50 MILLION SLAVES

## MORE SLAVES TODAY THAN EVER ...

GENEVA, 12 September 2022 (ILO News) – **Fifty million** people were living in modern slavery in 2021, according to the latest [Global Estimates of Modern Slavery](#). Of these people, 28 million were in forced labour and 22 million were trapped in forced marriage.

The number of people in modern slavery has risen significantly in the last five years. **10 million more** people were in modern slavery in 2021 compared to 2016 global estimates. Women and children remain disproportionately vulnerable.

Modern slavery occurs in almost every country in the world, and cuts across ethnic, cultural and religious lines.

**Criminals are operating with impunity and making \$150 billion a year while 50 million people suffer.**



## 2. DEFINITION

### Human Trafficking :

In human trafficking, the focus is on the **exploitation of a human being, combined with coercion or deception.**

**This coercion can be created by physical or psychological violence.**

In most cases, however, it is physical violence.

The **different forms** of human trafficking ----->

<b>Forced labor</b>	Women, men, children, in industry, agriculture, fishing, etc.
<b>Child Recruitment</b>	Child Soldiers
<b>Forced sex</b>	Prostitution, surrogacy
<b>Purchase and theft of children</b>	For adoption or abuse
<b>Child pornography</b>	Mostly on the Internet
<b>Organ theft</b>	For transplantation
<b>Forced Crime</b>	Begging, theft, drug trafficking, terrorism

# 3. SOME DATA

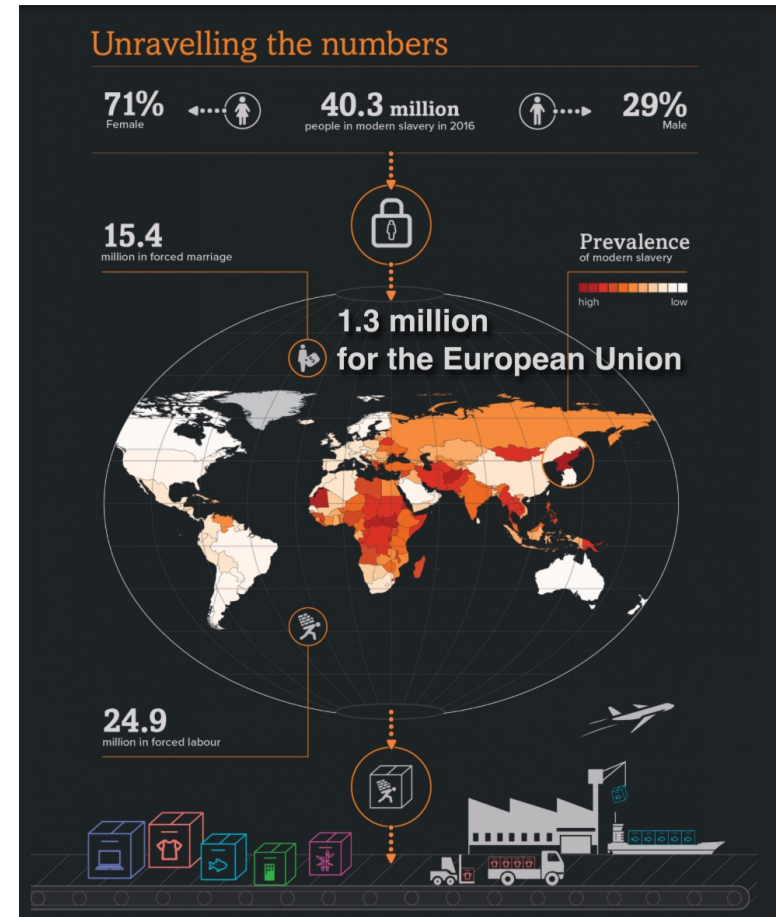
More than 50 million people are victims of human trafficking (1.3 million in Europe):  
**70% women 30% men**

- **50% Sexual exploitation**
- **40% Forced Labor**
- **6% Forced crime**

FIG. 3 Share of detected trafficking victims, by form of exploitation, 2018 (or most recent)



Source: UNODC elaboration of national data.



# INTERNATIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK

## HUMAN RIGHTS

- Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948
- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 1966
- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 1966
- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women New York, 1979
- Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, 1984
- Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1989
- International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, 1990
  
- COE, European Convention on Human Rights, 1950
- COE Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings, 2005
- UE, Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, 2000
- OAS, American Convention on Human Rights, 1969
- AU, African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, 1981
- ASEAN Human Rights Declaration, 2012

## LABOUR LAW

- Migration for Employment Convention (Revised), 1949
- Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention, 1975
  
- COE, European Convention on the Legal Status of Migrant Workers, 1977
- UE, Directive 2014/36/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on the conditions of entry and stay of third-country nationals for the purpose of employment as seasonal workers

## INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW

- Geneva Conventions of the 12 August 1949
- Protocols additional to the Geneva Conventions of the 12 August 1949, 1977

## INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL LAW

- Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, 1998

## INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW

- International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), 1974
- International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue (SAR), 1979
- U.N. Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), 1982
- 2004 Amendments to the SOLAS and SAR

## REFUGEE AND MIGRANT LAW

- Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, 1951
- Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees, 1967
- Convention relating to the status of stateless persons, 1954

## U.N. CONVENTION AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (UNTOC) 2000

- **Palermo Protocol** to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children
- **Palermo Protocol** against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air

# Regional organizations : Council of Europe

- [Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings \(2005\)](#)

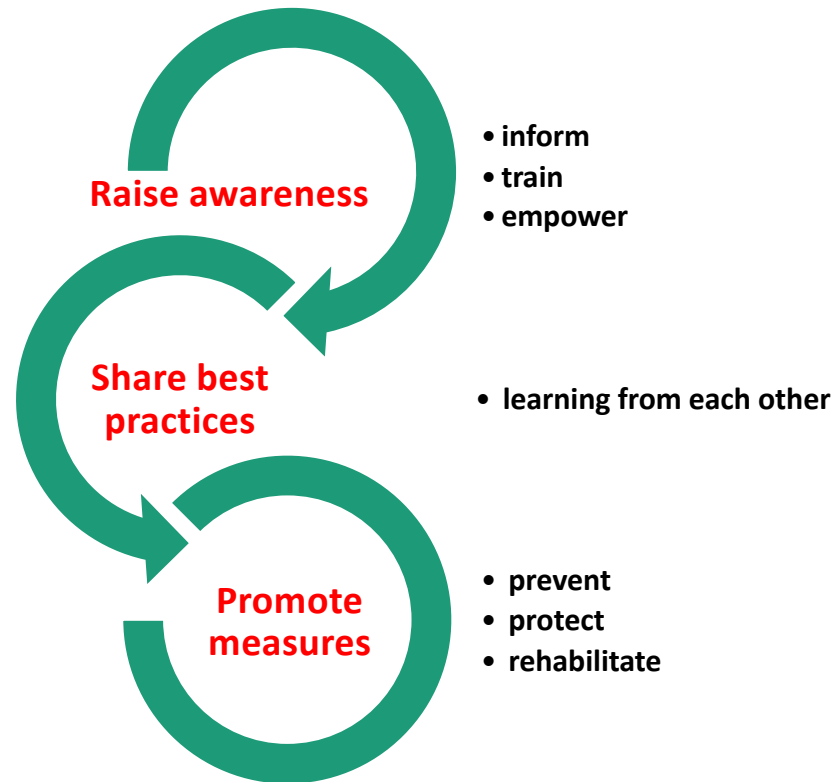
The States Parties to the Convention enter into a threefold commitment:

- **Prevent** human trafficking
  - **Protect** the rights of victims
  - **Prosecute** perpetrators
- **GRETA** (Group of **Experts** on Action against **Trafficking** in Human Beings) was created in 2009. GRETA consists of a maximum of 15 independent experts who are responsible for [monitoring](#) the situation on the ground and using their know-how to support the governments of the signatory states in their efforts to combat human trafficking.

**Belgium** Third Report (20 October 2022).

<https://rm.coe.int/3rd-greta-evaluation-report-on-belgium/1680a8940b>

# 5. WHAT TO DO?



## 5. WHAT TO DO?

### Prevention

- **Sensitization** of families and communities of origin, etc.

### Identification

- **Training of** police, customs, health personnel, and priests....

### Protection from traffickers

- Family members, former victims who become perpetrators

### Rehabilitation

- Physical, psychological, professional, spiritual

### Access to justice

- Criminal and Civil to obtain compensation for damages

### Avoid relapse into slavery

- **Protect and empower survivors**



# 6. CO-OPERATION

**Cooperation: Involve stakeholders: Governments, civil society, religious organizations and religious leaders, as well as the business sector and the media, without forgetting academia and education**



# Include victims and survivors



# Mobilize public conscience on human trafficking

- **[The Whistleblower \(2010\)](#)**

A Canadian-German-American production, this biographical crime drama stars Rachel Weisz as Kathryn Bolkovac. While working as a UN peacekeeper for DynCorp International in Bosnia, she discovered a sex trafficking ring run by DynCorp employees. When she tried to take action, she was fired. What happened next educates the viewer on how corruption affects attempts to deal with human trafficking. The film contains intense violence that some felt was exploitative. Others believed it was necessary.

- **[I am Jane Doe \(2017\)](#)**

This Netflix documentary focuses on the legal suits brought against Backpage.com, a classified ad website notorious for sex trafficking. It follows the mothers of victims who sued, their lawyers, and groups who pushed back on attempts to hold Backpage accountable. Congress held a private screening of the film. In 2018, the FBI seized Backpage.

- **[Sex Trafficking in America \(2019\)](#)**

This documentary aired as part of PBS Frontline's 2019 season. It follows a Phoenix-based police unit dedicated to stopping sex trafficking and relates a survivor's story. Sex trafficking is often something that Americans believe is an international problem. This film proves that it's a serious issue right here, as well. Viewers can watch the documentary for free on the PBS Frontline website.

<https://www.humanrightscareers.com/issues/10-movies-about-human-trafficking/>





**SOVEREIGN ORDER OF MALTA**  
**AMBASSADOR**  
**AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

## **WEBINARS AND FREE ONLINE RESOURCES ON COMBATING HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

1. Religious Helping Trafficking Victims along the Road of Recovery - 20 October 2020
2. Religious Working In International Advocacy Against Human Trafficking - 27 October 2020
3. Impact Of Human Trafficking On Health: Trauma - 1 December 2020
4. Impact Of Human Trafficking On Health: Healing - 8 December 2020
5. International Prosecution Of Human Trafficking — Where Are We Now? - 16 February 2021
6. International Prosecution Of Human Trafficking — What can be done? - 23 February 2021
7. International Prosecution Of Human Trafficking — Best Practices - 2 March 2021
8. Demand As Root Cause For Human Trafficking – Sex Trafficking & Prostitution - 13 April 2021
9. Demand As Root Cause For Human Trafficking – Forced Labor, Empowering Consumers - 20 April 2021
10. Root Causes For Human Trafficking – The Role Of Technology - 5 May 2021
11. Aspects juridiques de la traite des êtres humains - 11 mai 2021
12. Assistance humanitaire et sociale des victimes de la traite des êtres humains - 18 mai 2021
13. Modern slavery and decent work - 22 June 2021
14. Legal Approaches To Reducing The Demand Behind Human Trafficking - 12 October 2021
15. Migration and Human Trafficking – 16 November 2021
16. Religions Against Human Trafficking – 7 December 2021
17. **Sexual Slavery – Testimony - Middle Eastern And Nigerian Women Enslaved** - 8 February 2022
18. **Demand for HT: We Are All Responsible for Human Trafficking as Consumers of Forced Labor and Sexual Slavery. How Can We End This Cycle ?** – 14 June 2022
19. **Justice & HT: The Gap Between the Law and Its Implementation in Practice**– 28 June 2022
20. **Countering The Use Of Technology To Recruit And Control Victims Of Human Trafficking,**– 20 September 2022
21. **Human Trafficking & Laudato Si': Towards A New Paradigm To Ensure The Protection Of Human Dignity** – 6 October 2022

**22. Next webinars: 7 November (Migrants in the Mediterranean), 29 November (Supply Chains), 6 December 2022 (Actions)**

### 1. **Webinars** on human trafficking

[www.adlaudatosi.org](http://www.adlaudatosi.org)



### 2. Free **online course** on human trafficking in English & French

[www.cuhd.org](http://www.cuhd.org)



### 3. **Good practices**

[www.christusliberat.org](http://www.christusliberat.org)



<https://nohumantrafficking.orderofmalta.int>

### 4. **Digital Library** on Human Trafficking

<https://bit.ly/DIGITAL-LIBRARY-2022>

Webinar recordings with **subtitles and transcripts in 7 languages** (English, French, German, Italian, Russian, Spanish, Simplified Chinese) are available on: <https://vimeo.com/adlaudatosi>

# **Together it is possible to break the chains of slavery**

At the end of the last century, in 1997 and 1998, two coalitions achieved a result that no one expected:

- In 1997, the Coalition for the Total Abolition of Anti-Personnel Mines achieved the adoption of the **Ottawa Convention**....
- In 1998, the Coalition for the **International Criminal Court (ICC)** achieved the adoption of the Rome Statute. Human trafficking is a crime against humanity and a war crime.

**It is a similar coalition that we need, to achieve the abolition of modern slavery.**

- 1. Adapt international treaties and domestic legislations to combat contemporary slavery on the internet, especially on the Dark Web, on pornography and sexual exploitation**
- 2. Implement existing treaties, domestic legislation and National Action Plans**
- 3. Raise awareness and train stakeholders on identification, protection, rehabilitation and compensation of victims**
- 4. Monitor supply chains and public procurements to guarantee slave-free products and services**
- 5. Increase support to prevention, protection and rehabilitation efforts by Governments and civil society.**