TASK FORCE ON TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS, TF TiP
PROTECTION AND INCLUSION WORKING GROUP
28.9.2023, 10:00

Palisády 29, Bratislava

Attendees:

In person:
Zuzana Čačová (IOM), Oľga Pietruchová (UNHCR), Benedetta Postiglione (UNPF), Tatiana Zlatos (IOM)

Online:
Katarína Božík (IOM), Kamila Džurňáková (Ministry of Interior's Office, Crime Prevention Department), Martina Grošaft Cebecauerová (IOM), Peter Piso (Caritas Slovakia), Paulína Pokorná (Association of Industrial Unions and Transport), Martina Pussová (Information Centre for Fight against Human Trafficking and Crime Prevention), Gabriela Šaturová (U.S. Embassy in Bratislava), Zuzana Špinderová (IOM), Viktor Valla (Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic), Miroslava Vrábeľová (Ministry of Interior of the SR)

Zuzana Kianičková (interpreter), Zuzana Kováčová (interpreter)

Agenda

- Approval of the minutes from the last meeting (Minutes from the last meeting are attached)
- Presentation on Experience with Temporary Employment Agencies, Association of Industrial Unions and Transport, Paulína Pokorná
- Regular update of partners: situation on borders, trainings focusing on prevention and beneficiaries: Update of the Situation from Information Centre, Department of Crime Prevention, Office of Minister of the Interior of the Slovak Republic, Caritas Slovakia - Program for support and protection of victims of human trafficking
- AOB (Any other business)

Ms Zuzana Čačová (IOM) welcomed participants and thanked them for attending the ninth meeting of TF on TiP. She opened the floor to **Ms Paulína Pokorná** from the Association of Industrial Unions and Transport, one of the largest associations of employers in Slovakia, who provided information on agency employment of foreigners in the country. The presentation of Ms Pokorná can be found attached to the meeting Minutes.

Ms Zuzana Čačová (IOM) thanked Ms Pokorná and opened the floor to regular update of partners.

Ms Martina Pussová provided an update from the **Information Centre for Fight against Human Trafficking and Crime Prevention**. The Information Centre is currently focusing

mainly on the preparation of the New National Plan for Fight against Human Trafficking for 2024-2028. At the moment implementation of the comments from the interdepartmental comment procedure is taking place. Ms Pussová thanked everyone who provided comments. The training of the National Labor Inspectorate focused on human trafficking has been taking place since September. A workshop focused on the care for victims of trafficking will take place in November. New National Coordinator for the Fight against Human Trafficking has been appointed - Martin Královič. A letter has been sent on his behalf with a request to the government to establish specialized prosecutor´s offices for the crime of human trafficking.
Ms Kamila Džurňáková updated Task Force participants on the activities of the **Crime Prevention Department**. So far 9 clients were provided consultation regarding human trafficking this year, of which 5 were women. The department organized in this year 75 educational activities focused on prevention and continues to deliver training on a variety of issues related to crime prevention. 106 clients have been provided consultation in the regional offices so far, these include victims of all types of criminal activity. Crime Prevention Department has also prepared a brochure focusing on help for the victims of crime. Please find the brochure attached to the Minutes of the TF TiP

Mr Peter Piso from **Caritas Slovakia** updated Task Force participants on the **Program of support and protection for victims of human trafficking**. During the last two months, two potential cases of human trafficking have been dealt with. Both cases are victims of forced begging whose country of origin is not Slovakia. The number of calls from people from Ukraine is currently minimal (one call in the last two months). This can be attributed to the wide network of helping organizations currently operating and providing support to people from Ukraine – people who called in the past usually needed legal, social and other consultations that are now provided by many other organizations.

Ms Miroslava Vrábeľová followed with an update from the **National Unit for the Fight against Illegal Migration.** Due to the situation in connection to the increased irregular migration in Slovakia, the majority of operative staff and investigators focus on this issue. So far in 2023, criminal prosecution has started in 14 cases of human trafficking. There has been an increase in identified victims of trafficking among children. Out of 26 victims, 14 were children (4 boys, 10 girls). Among these 26 victims were 9 people victims of sexual exploitation, the majority of victims were exploited in Slovakia. **Ms Pietruchová (UNHCR)** asked whether these are individual cases or a result of an organized network. **Ms Vrabeľová** answered that no criminal network has been identified in connection to these. **Ms Božík (IOM)** asked whether any Ukrainian victims have been identified. **Ms Vrabeľová** answered that none so far.

Ms Katarína Božík updated the Task Force on activities of **IOM** as well as the most recent data from IOM Ukraine regarding the victims of trafficking that were identified after February 2023. Please see the data from IOM Ukraine as well as the information about activities in the presentation attached to the Minutes. After the presentation, there was a question from TF TiP participant regarding the recruitment of Ukrainian victims of trafficking – what social network was most commonly used. **Ms Božík** answered that such information is unfortunately not included in the report from IOM UA she presented. However, based on the knowledge of IOM, Telegram is one of the most popular social media networks among the Ukrainian population. Furthermore, **Ms Pietruchová (UNHCR)** added that the disproportion

in identified victims between sexual exploitation and work exploitation presented by **Ms Božík** can be attributed to the fact that self-rescue from sexual exploitation may take a longer time as compared to other forms of trafficking.

Ms Zuzana Čačová (IOM) thanked the participants and closed the meeting of TF on TiP.