



European
Commission



Fighting Trafficking in Human Beings

#EndImpunity - #EUagainstTHB | April 2021



“Trafficking in human beings is a crime that destroys people’s lives. It denies victims their most basic of fundamental rights and undermines their dignity, especially women and children who are trafficked for sexual exploitation. We must all join forces to end this crime. Today’s Strategy focuses on prevention, awareness raising, prosecution of criminals and protection of victims. Children, women and men that fall victim to this crime deserve our full support to rebuild their lives.”

Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission

A crime that affects women and girls disproportionately

72% of victims are women and girls, **23%** are men and boys



60%

60% of victims are trafficked for sexual exploitation, **15%** are trafficked for labour

15%

Approximately **half** of victims are EU citizens



Building on existing EU tools

EU Anti-Trafficking Directive

Ensure effective implementation
Assess its application and consider reviewing



EU Anti-Trafficking Coordinator



Comprehensive action through legislation, cooperation, and funding

REDUCE DEMAND THAT FOSTERS TRAFFICKING

- Assess the possibility of minimum rules to **criminalise use of exploitation**
- **Prevention campaign** together with national authorities and civil society
- Review the **Employers' Sanctions Directive**
- Legislation on corporate governance to clarify **responsibilities of companies in the global supply chain**

BREAK CRIMINAL MODELS ONLINE AND OFFLINE

- Closer law enforcement and judicial **cooperation**
- Focus group of **specialised prosecutors**
- Dialogue with private sector and digital industries to **reduce criminal use of platforms**
- Enhance **digital capabilities of law enforcement** and judiciary

PROTECT, SUPPORT, EMPOWER VICTIMS

- Support early **identification and referral** of victims, including in **cross-border contexts**
- **Reintegration** and **victim empowerment** programmes
- Targeted funding for **specialised shelters**

INTERNATIONAL DIMENSION

- Step up **cooperation with non-EU countries** of origin and transit of victims and **international organisations**
- Upcoming **Action Plan against Migrant Smuggling**

© European Union, 2021

Reuse of this document is allowed, provided appropriate credit is given and any changes are indicated (Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International license). For any use or reproduction of elements that are not owned by the EU, permission may need to be sought directly from the respective right holders.