



Note for the File

Event	RRP Counter-Trafficking Working Group
Date and Place	30.05.2022, 15.30, Microsoft Teams
Attended by	IOM Poland, National and International NGO and IO actors (full list recorded)
NFF prepared by	Natalie Payne

Summary of Relevant information:

- The group has agreed to move the frequency of the meetings to a biweekly basis. The next meeting will take place on Tuesday June 14th. The focus of the meeting will be initiatives of law enforcement in the field of CT and will include an intervention from the CT Coordinator of the Polish Police HQ.
- GRETA will be visiting Poland next week (06/06) to understand the State of Play of THB
- IOM is launching a new CT project, funded by the Norwegian Funding Mechanism, whose focus will be on combatting forced labour.

Intervention by Pawel Barabasz, IOM Poland on the Legal Framework of Labour Exploitation in Poland (Researched by Agnieszka Reczynska)

Full slides will be shared with the minutes and will be uploaded to the CT Working Group's ODP page. The topic was chosen for this session as the group's experts have forecasted labour exploitation of people fleeing Ukraine to be a major issue in the near future.

- It is estimated that 21 million people worldwide are victims of forced labour
- Gender imbalance in sex exploitation women, physical labour men
- In Poland, majority of VoTs who were victims of labour exploitation were male Ukrainians

The relevant international legal framework on labour exploitation is:

- **Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29) (hereinafter the „Convention”)**
- **Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention of 1930' Forced Labour (Supplementary Measures) Recommendation of 2014 (No. 203) (hereinafter the „Forced Labour Protocol”)**
- **Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime of November 15, 2000 (hereinafter the „Palermo Protocol”)**



- There are many signs of potential cases of labour exploitation, including recruitment linked to debt; forced overtime beyond legal limits; restrictions on freedom of movement and communication; signing a contract in a language the worker does not understand, or being forced to work without a contract; threats of violence, denunciation to authorities, and other punishments.
- In Poland, challenges in identifying and prosecuting cases of labour exploitation include lack of understanding among law enforcement authorities on THB and labour exploitation, and cooperation between relevant authorities
- The Polish Labour Inspectorate has the ability to comment on standards
- IOM Migrant Infoline can offer advice on lawful working conditions and educate migrants on their rights: **22 490 20 44**
- In recent years there have been an increased prevalence of labour exploitation cases of people from Latin America in Poland
- Added dimension in this case that many of the refugees who have entered Poland are women and children, leaving room for particular forms of exploitation that may be harder to identify
- Apparently, there were plans by governmental actors to introduce a systemic approach to labour exploitation prepandemic

Important contacts and resources:

- IOM Migrant Infoline: (+48) **22 490 20 44**
- Police dedicated helpline: (+48) 47 72 565 02 (consultants speak Polish, English, Russian and Ukrainian)
- KCIK (National Consultation and Intervention Center for Victims of Trafficking) : +48 22 628 01 20
- La Strada (Foundation Against Trafficking in Persons and Slavery): +48 22 628 99 99, +48 605 687 750
- General Emergency Number: 112
- [Ukraine - Training - European Freedom Network](#)
- [E-campus: English \(iom.int\)](#)
- [Trafficking in Persons: Victim Identification and Assistance \(Training Guide – Region specific\)](#)
- [Community Engagement in Preventing and Responding to Gender-based Violence and Trafficking in Persons \(Training Guide – Region specific\)](#)
- [Investigating Human Trafficking Cases Using a Victim-Centred Approach \(Trainer's Manual – Region specific\)](#)
- [Caring for Trafficked Persons: Guidance for Health Providers \(Trainer facilitator's Guide\)](#)
- [IOM Handbook on Protection and Assistance for Migrants Vulnerable to Violence, Exploitation and Abuse](#)
- [IOM Guidance on Referral Mechanisms](#)
- [IOM Guidance on response planning for migrants vulnerable to violence, exploitation and abuse](#)
- [Migrants and their Vulnerability to Human Trafficking, Modern Slavery and Forced Labor](#)
- [IOM Handbook on Direct Assistance for Victims of Trafficking](#)
- [Caring for Trafficked Persons: Guidance for Health Providers](#)
- [Counter-Trafficking in emergencies: Information management guide](#)