

Forum: 3rd committee of the General Assembly – Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee (SOCHUM)

Issue: Research report for the question of freeing and supporting the victims of human trafficking

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1) Introduction

Human trafficking is a worldwide problem and is contempt by 136 nations. Human trafficking is often referred to as modern day slavery, since it has many similarities to the triangle slave trade. There are many different kinds of trafficking, however the most common is sex-trafficking, which consists of women and children being forced to prostitution.

2) Definition of key terms

Human trafficking: Official definition

- a) Sex trafficking in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such an act has not attained 18 years of age; or
- b) the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.

Note that a victim need not be physically transported from one location to another in order for the crime to fall within these definitions.

3) History and key issues

Slavery has been an international issue for thousands of years. Human trafficking is often referred to as modern day slavery. One of the main problems with human trafficking is that many don't recognize the victims, and therefore the criminals get a free pass to exploit the victims. Human trafficking is a problem in many countries, and the top ten countries struggling with the problem is:

Bangladesh

Brazil

Haiti

Pakistan

India

Sri Lanka

Nepal
Uganda
Ghana
China

Another problem with human trafficking is that it is often centered in very poor nations, without good possibilities to stop the crimes from happening. Often it can have to do with corrupt police and or governmental institutions, which therefore leaves the door open for the crime to happen.

4) Major parties involved

Freedom United Organization: Freedom United Org is a NGO fighting for victims of human trafficking. Their main focus is to educate all in recognizing human trafficking and to make awareness of the problem.

The United States of America: The U.S have many problems with human trafficking. Wants an international cooperation.

5) Timeline and evaluation of previous attempts

2009 Human Rights Council UN makes a resolution to stop and prevent human trafficking (see link 6)

2016 SC passes resolution to stop and prevent human trafficking (see link 7)

2017 Brazil joins UNODC global initiative to stop human trafficking. (see link 8)

Although many resolutions have passed, the problem is still growing and relevant today, as an estimated 46 million are living in slavery.

6) Possible solutions

- Informing and educating the UN-populations the indicators of human trafficking.
- Educating police forces in member nations on how to track down and fight human trafficking.
- Implementing strict penalties for traffickers.
- A united database over potential traffickers.
- Providing financial aid for organizations that are trying to help the victims of human trafficking.

7) Appendices and bibliography

- 1) <http://humantrafficking.unc.edu/frequently-asked-questions/>
- 2) <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3651545/>
- 3) <https://www.state.gov/j/tip/id/help/>
- 4) <http://www.insidermonkey.com/blog/11-countries-with-the-highest-rates-of-human-trafficking-in-the-world-353360/12/>
- 5) https://www.freedomunited.org/united/?gclid=Cj0KCQjwvOzOBRDGARIsAICjxoftGxUaD7HD4bDmfx09JmLuuiOwRWryc_R4zk_7FPvHA4b14vlqUq8aAnywEALw_wcB
- 6) http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/vaw/humanrights/A_HRC_RES_11_3.pdf
- 7) <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/press/releases/2016/December/historic-human-trafficking-resolution-passed-at-un-security-council.html>
- 8) <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/glo-act/launch-of-glo-act-in-brazil.html>