



International Symposium 22.& 23. October in Vienna

Work- Migration- Rights
Strategies against women trafficking
International symposium for further development of competences and forms of
actions

Women trafficking is a highly explosive topic of national and international politics, police and civil society and especially amongst NGO's.

A lot has been achieved in the last 10 years, an increasing number of NGO's and institutions have taken up the cause as well as ways to support trafficked women, the political strategies and legal rules and regulations necessary to do so. Although the number of trafficked women didn't diminish.

Women trafficking is seen as a violation of women and human rights. Various NGO's have pushed for the acknowledgment of women survivors and their fundamental rights as the main focus within the definition of trafficking of women. According to the internationally recognized Palermo protocol 2000 this is defined as "trafficking in persons shall mean the recruitment, transport, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability (...) for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude".

A lot of questions have been put forward and discussed, nevertheless there is still an absence of practical solutions, even though there aren't any distinctive differences between the fight against trafficking in women and the fight against the so called illegal migration as well as irregular labour relations or prostitution. Therefore we have put forward the question, what measures should be taken in Europe to achieve a sustainable and credible politics against trafficking in women? This question will be addressed at the symposium from an international perspective.

From an Austrian perspective, women and girls from EU countries as well as from countries outside the EU are trafficked. They don't have access into the Austrian labour market, cannot speak the local language and are not informed about the real life situation.

In 1998 Austria introduced a humanitarian visa, which provides the possibility for women from outside the EU who are affected by trafficking to legally stay in Austria. However this visa is still not a right but a possibility.

This as well as other legal situations against trafficking in women needs to be evaluated with the main focus for the protection and empowerment of women.

During the discussion strategies will be developed which are applicable on different national contexts.

Preliminary Program

22. and 23. October

8.00 a.m. – 5.30p.m.

Introduction and Opening

- Federal Minister for Women, Media and Regional Policy: Heidrun Silhavy
- Federal Minister of Interior: Dr.ⁱⁿ Maria Fekter
- President of the Austrian National Council: Mag.^a Barbara Prammer (to be confirmed)

- Dr.ⁱⁿ Helga Konrad, International Consultant on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings (Austria)

As the former Austrian Federal Minister for Women's Affairs Helga Konrad hosted the first European –wide conference on trafficking in women in 1996. Between 2004-2006 she was the Special Representative of the OSCE and headed the Task Force against Human Trafficking of the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe between 2000-2004. As an international consultant she will have a critical perspective of the current developments.

- Maria Grazia Giammarinaro, European Commission, DG Justice, Freedom and Security, Fight against economic, financial and cybercrime (Brussels)

Maria Grazia Giammarinaro was a judge in Italy and helped develop the residency rights for trafficked women in Italy-§18. She is based at the European Commission in Brussels and part of the Unit on Combating Human Trafficking and will share her expertise on international developments in the fight against women trafficking.

- Roger Plant, Head, Special Action Programme to Combat Forced Labour International Labour Organisation (Switzerland)

The International Labour Organization (ILO) specializes in labour in an international context. Roger Plant, as head of ILO's special program against exploitation in the labour market, will present the current study of ILO on indicators for identifying victims in the context of human trafficking.

- Cristina Bianconi, State Prosecutor (Italy)

The State Prosecutor plays an important role in the fight against trafficking in women. Cristina Bianconi will talk about the prosecution of human trafficking as well as the sensitivity during the criminal proceedings of the women who have been trafficked.

- Luciana Campello R. Almeida, NGO Projeto Trama (Brasil)

Projeto Trama is an organization, which specializes in the fight against human trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation. Their main focus is on the defence, guarantee and promotion of human rights. Luciana Campello will give her presentation based on this background and analyze the current situation.

- Maria Obazuwa, NGO Girls Power Initiative (Nigeria)

GPI is a NGO based in Nigeria. Since 1993 they have dedicated their work to supporting girls between 10 and 18 years assisting and providing training and education on human rights, sexuality from a gender perspective. Maria Obazuwa will speak against the stereotypical images of trafficked women and girls.

- Binda Pandey, Deputy Secretary General Federation of Nepalese Trade Unions (Nepal)

The General Federation of the Nepalese Trade Union, which is currently the largest labour union in Nepal, established in 1989. Part of the governing body is the main Department for Women Workers. As the Deputy Secretary Binda Pandey works as part of the Women's Department and will argue on the necessary perspectives in the area of exploitation in the labour market within the framework of trafficking in women.

- Halina Tsiuryna, NGO LaStrada (Belarus)

La Strada Belarus joined the La Strada network in 2001, which advocates for women's rights and against trafficking in women. La Strada Belarus has a hotline, which provides preventive information to potential trafficked women. As coordinator Halina Tsiuryna will present an analysis based on her experience.

- Henk Werson, Advisor Expertise Center for Human Trafficking and Smuggling with the Netherlands Police. (Netherlands)

The duty of the police is to recognize and acknowledge victims of women trafficking and to develop a basis for the court proceedings. The Netherlands has developed an indicator list that is used as a guide during identification. Henk Werson will discuss the legal situation and the current situation.

- Nerea, Bilbatua, GAATW (Thailand)
Bandana Pattanaik, GAATW (Thailand)

The Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women (GAATW) was founded in 1994 and is a worldwide network that works against trafficking in women. The International Secretariat of GAATW based in Bangkok, Thailand, coordinates the activities of the Alliance, collects and disseminates information and advocates on behalf of the Alliance at regional and international level. Critical questions will be raised from a global perspective.

Methods:

- *Lectures*
- *Workshops based on the lectures with open questioning*
- *Auditorium Discussions*

Further information can be found on our website: www.lefoe.at

The Symposium is organized by LEFÖ

LEFÖ has supported and lobbied for women affected by trafficking since the early 90's developing strategies and concepts to fight against trafficking in women. As a consequence of these activities there was more public representation. In 1998 the Lefö Intervention Centre for Trafficked Women was established.

The lectures will be carried out simultaneously in German/English and English/German respectively.

Place: Palais Eschenbach – Eschenbachgasse 11 – 1010 Wien

To register for the Symposium please fill in the application and send it to:
ibf@lefoe.at

To select a working group please state your preferred language-English or German.

This Symposium co-funded by:



LEFÖ – IBF is operating on behalf of:



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