



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe**

**Office of the Special Representative and Co-ordinator  
for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings**

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*22<sup>nd</sup> Conference of the Alliance against Trafficking in Persons*

*Protection: upholding victims' rights  
and strengthening assistance*

**4-6 April 2022**

Hofburg, Vienna and via Zoom (upon registration)

## SIDE-EVENT PROGRAMME

(Please note that the following schedule is based on Vienna time, GMT+1)

### Monday 4 April

**18:00-19:00**      ***The Inclusion of survivors' voices to ensure a human rights-based and survivor-centred approach to combating human trafficking***

Online side-event organized by the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) (via Zoom)

### Tuesday 5 April

**9:30-11:00**      ***Unconditional support and access to residence on personal grounds is needed to uphold Victim's Rights and their protection***

Online side-event organized by LEFO, CoE, LSI and PICUM (via Zoom)

**11:00-12:00**      ***Gender-sensitive approaches to protection of victims of trafficking***

Online side-event organized by the Office of the OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings (Hofburg, Ratsaal and via Zoom)

**12:00-13:00**      ***Hidden in plain sight: Giving a voice to the vulnerable and forgotten***

Online side-event organized by the Office of the OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings (via Zoom)

**18:00-19:30**      ***Effective National Referral Mechanisms to protect and promote the rights of victims and survivors of trafficking, especially children***

Online side-event organized by the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) (via Zoom)

### Wednesday 6 April

**10:00-11:00**      ***Partnership in Action": What NGOs can do together to protect victims of trafficking. International Network experience – 2018-2022***

Online side-event organized by the International Network of NGOs against THB and Other Forms of Violence "Partnership in Action" in co-operation with the Eurasia Foundation (via Zoom)

**11:00-12:00**      ***Ensuring a child rights based approach in identifying and providing access to services and justice for child victims of trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation***

Online side-event organized by Child10 and The Council of the Baltic Sea States (via Zoom)

**12:00-13:00**      ***Promoting complementary legal pathways for the displaced to prevent smuggling, trafficking and exploitation***

Online side-event organized by The Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (OCEEA) (via Zoom)



**Title:**            **The Inclusion of survivors' voices to ensure a human rights-based and survivor-centred approach to combating human trafficking**

**Date:**             Monday 4 April 2022

**Time:**            18:00 – 19:00 (CET, Vienna time)

**Convenor:**       OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) (via Zoom)

### **Background**

Individuals are trafficked for various forms of exploitation and each of their experiences is unique, as well as their needs after they have been identified. Although some States have included survivors' voices and perspectives in anti-trafficking policy development and work, their participation has been largely excluded globally. However, in order to ensure a human rights-based and victim and survivor-centred approach to combating human trafficking, survivors need to be included in all aspects of anti-trafficking work.

Survivors of THB are a key stakeholder within the multidisciplinary approach to combatting trafficking in human beings. For this reason, ODIHR established the International Survivors of Trafficking Advisory Council (ISTAC) consisting of 21 leading survivors of human trafficking from across the OSCE region and tasked with assisting ODIHR in its anti-trafficking work. By seeking and sharing the expertise of the ISTAC's members, ODIHR incorporates survivors as key stakeholders when developing and promoting survivor-centred and human rights-based national and transnational anti-trafficking frameworks.

### **Objective**

In this context of the 22nd High-Level Alliance against Trafficking in Persons Conference, the side event will provide a platform to highlight the work of ISTAC over the past year and discuss the importance of inclusion of survivors' voices and lived experiences to ensure a victim-and survivor centred approach in anti-trafficking work. To mark the occasion, ODIHR is planning to organise an art exhibition at Hofburg in Vienna by a survivor leader to raise awareness of human trafficking, which will be presented also virtually during the event by an ISTAC member. In addition, the event will include panel discussions consisting of ISTAC members, which will provide an opportunity for participants to gain a better insight into survivor leaders expertise on the topic. This will also facilitate the exchange of information among OSCE delegations, international experts, survivor leaders and civil society on the need to include survivors' voices and perspectives in all anti-trafficking interventions to ensure a human rights-based, gender-sensitive, trauma-informed, survivor and victim-centred approach in countering this crime. In particular, the presence of members of the ISTAC will offer participants the chance to hear their own reflections on the topic and to engage directly with survivor leaders throughout the event.

## Programme

### ***Opening remarks***

- **Kateryna Ryabiko**, First Deputy Director, Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights
- **Shandra Woworuntu**, Chair of ISTAC

### ***Virtual presentation of survivors' artwork***

- **Laurent Ziegler**, Member of the International Survivors of Trafficking Advisory Council (ISTAC)

### ***Reflections on the importance of survivors' inclusion in anti-trafficking work***

- Selected speakers from the International Survivors of Trafficking Advisory Council (ISTAC)

### ***Q&A with participants***

#### **Registration:**

[https://osce-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_dYTK8spbSce90yRb0Od9lQ](https://osce-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_dYTK8spbSce90yRb0Od9lQ)

#### **Interpretation:**

The meeting will be held in English, with Russian interpretation.



**Title:** Unconditional support and access to residence on personal grounds is needed to uphold Victim's Rights and their protection

**Date:** Tuesday 5 April 2022

**Time:** 9:30 – 11:00 (CET, Vienna time)

**Organizers:** La Strada International - European NGO platform against human trafficking. The event is co-organised and supported by the Council of Europe/GRETA secretariat, LSI's member LEFO IBF and PICUM.

**Convenor/Sponsoring organization:** Council of Europe/GRETA secretariat

### **Background**

Following identification, victims of trafficking are often in a situation of high vulnerability, and may risk being removed immediately if their status is irregular. However, access to support and residence for victims of human trafficking is currently very closely tied with the criminal legal system. Access depends first on identification, and then on cooperation with, and the needs of, law enforcement. This leaves many people without the protection, support and assistance they need and are entitled to. It leads to repeat victimisation.

The Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings requires that assistance to victims is not made conditional on their willingness to act as witnesses or co-operate with competent authorities in the investigations and criminal proceedings. It foresees unconditional assistance and renewable residence permits on account of the personal situation of victims of trafficking.

This event will provide an analysis of the state of play and spotlight country examples that highlight both the need and policy options for a human rights-centred approach to trafficking in human beings.

### **Programme**

***Moderator: Lilana Keith, Senior Advocacy Officer, Labour rights and labour migration, PICUM***

#### **Speakers:**

- **Petya Nestorova**, Executive Secretary of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings
- **Marija Andjelkovic**, Director Serbian NGO, ASTRA-Anti trafficking action.
- **Mercy Obade**, Cultural social worker at Hope Now, Denmark and member the OSCE International Survivors of Trafficking Advisory Council (ISTAC)
- **Michelle Mildwater**, Director Hope Now

**Registration:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcodemvqDssG9zL2k06SMZtgtejlLdv0Ew1>

**Interpretation:**

The meeting will be held in English.



**Title:** Gender-sensitive approach to protection of victims of trafficking

**Date:** Tuesday 5 April 2022

**Time:** 11:00 – 12:00 (CET, Vienna time)

**Place:** Vienna, Hofburg, Ratsaal

**Convenor:** Office of the OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings (in person and via Zoom)

**Interpretation:** The event will be held in English with simultaneous interpretation in Russian

### **Background**

Boys, girls, men and women are vulnerable to trafficking in human beings (THB) for different reasons and are affected in different ways. Prevention, protection, and prosecution efforts, therefore, must apply a gender-sensitive lens in order to effectively tackle trafficking and respond to the specific needs of all victims.

With the ratification of a number of international instruments as well as the adoption of OSCE commitments that recognized discrimination based on sex among the root causes of trafficking (PC.DEC/557, MC.DEC/10/11) and emphasized the need to adopt gender-sensitive approach that fully respects human rights and fundamental freedoms in all preventive and assistance efforts (MC.DEC/6/17), all 57 OSCE participating States have committed to adopt and implement gender-sensitive approaches to combating trafficking in human beings. However, many gender aspects associated with both the nature of the crime as well as responses to it remain unaddressed in existing strategies.

Against this background, the OSCE Office of the Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings (OSR/CTHB) published the study on ***Applying gender-sensitive approaches in combating trafficking in human beings***. The paper seeks to ensure that strategies for prevention, protection, and prosecution are comprehensive and leave no victim behind, regardless of the form of exploitation they have endured. It also provides a list of recommendations for the OSCE participating States and the wider anti-trafficking community to enhance the development of more holistic, tailored, and gender-responsive strategies that address gender-specific vulnerabilities and needs of victims of trafficking.

The protection of victims of trafficking requires a gender-sensitive approach. This is because victims of different genders are exploited in different ways, impacted differently and thus have different needs. For instance, trafficked women and girls experience high rates of physical and sexual violence and require tailored victim support and empowerment measures. On the other hand, male victims may need psychological support, medical assistance and healthcare that is different than that needed by female victims.

## **Description**

Organized by the Office of the OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, this event will offer an opportunity to **share key conclusions and recommendations** presented in the OSCE research focusing **on the gender dimension of protection of victims of trafficking**.

Panellists will discuss the importance of gender-sensitive, proactive identification of victims of trafficking as well as strategies to overcome the construction of so-called *ideal victim* that hinders the identification process. They will also elaborate on the need to allocate appropriate resources to meet the gender-specific needs of the victims within immediate, short- and long-term assistance mechanisms.

A panel discussion will be followed by a **Q&A** session.

## **Programme**

### ***Opening and Moderation***

- **Mr. Valiant Richey**, OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings.

### ***Keynote Speaker***

- **Liliana Palihovici**, Special Representative on Gender of the OSCE Chairpersonship

### ***Speakers***

- **Jerome Elam**, Member of the International Survivors of Trafficking Advisory Board (ISTAC)
- **Miroslav Jovanović**, Centre for Protection of THB Victims, Serbia
- **Nurzhan Tulegabylova**, Head of NGO “El Agartuu”, Kyrgyzstan

### ***Q&A***

### **Registration:**

Participants interested to join online are requested to register through the link below:

[https://osce-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwucuqtqD0tHdy34Ia5\\_Zf5w\\_R9gKNyQV4h](https://osce-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwucuqtqD0tHdy34Ia5_Zf5w_R9gKNyQV4h)

Those participants who will attend in person and have already registered for the conference do not need to register for the side event separately.





**Title:**           **Hidden in plain sight: Giving a voice to the vulnerable and forgotten**

**Date:**            Tuesday 5 April 2022

**Time:**           12:00 – 13:00 (CET, Vienna time)

**Convenor:**      Office of the OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings (via Zoom)

### **Background**

The protection of victims of trafficking in human beings (THB) has always been highlighted as a priority by a multitude of anti-trafficking actors ranging from law enforcement agencies and social service providers to NGOs and international organizations.

However, despite the efforts of the global anti-trafficking community to protect and support THB victims, numerous gaps remain as many protection efforts tend to focus on selected vulnerabilities and often lack flexibility to offer non-discriminatory, targeted and needs-based assistance that is sensitive to individual circumstances. System biases and stereotypes often lead to assumptions about various forms of exploitation vis-à-vis victims' gender, and, as a consequence, insufficient attention is paid to some forms of exploitation. This particularly concerns victims who struggle with additional vulnerabilities that fall off the radar of traditional and established protection mechanisms and approaches, but also victims who do not fit the "ideal victim" profile. Male or female victims of trafficking, for instance, may not align with the "ideal victim" traits because of drug abuse or because they have committed petty crimes. As a result, these victims are often neither identified effectively nor protected adequately and thus remain hidden in plain sight.

Similarly, gender bias and stereotyping might hinder the provision of targeted and appropriate protection and assistance. The majority of identified victims by States globally continues to be women and girls who are victims of THB for sexual exploitation<sup>1</sup>, while men and boys (if they are identified in the first place) are commonly presumed to only be victims of labour exploitation. The fact that both women and men, girls and boys are exploited for a wide range of purposes is often overlooked by systems that are not designed to be nuanced.

Against this backdrop, the side event will focus on the difficulties faced by victims of THB that foster additional individual and systemic vulnerabilities. Highlighting the importance of understanding the different forms of human trafficking and the vast differences in vulnerability, it will discuss how each victim is unique with their own experiences and specific needs, and how the application of a victim-centred and human rights-based approach should be based on the understanding of each victim as an individual. In addition to raising awareness and drawing attention to the above issues, the speakers will share promising practices and exchange views from a survivor perspective as to what works and what needs to be changed to ensure better and comprehensive protection in the future.

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<sup>1</sup> UNODC Global Report on Trafficking in Persons 2020. Available at: <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/data-and-analysis/glotip.html> (accessed 25 November 2021).

## Programme

### *Opening remarks*

- **Mr. Valiant Richey**, OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings.

### *Moderator*

- **Karly Church**, Human Trafficking Survivor, Human Trafficking Crisis Intervention Counsellor, Durham Region, Ontario

### *Speakers*

- **Pastor Sean Wheeler**, Human Trafficking Survivor, Founder of Starfish Ministries
- **Evelyn Chumbow**, Operations Manager and Survivor Advocate with The Human Trafficking Legal Center
- **K'Mesha Maloney**, Human Trafficking Survivor, Advocate

### **Registration:**

Interested participants are requested to register online through the link below:

<https://osce-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEtd-mrrT4qE9OWRRF0Vcp8uSPPi32vag3z>

### **Interpretation:**

The meeting will be held in English.



**Title:**            **Effective National Referral Mechanisms to protect and promote the rights of victims and survivors of trafficking, especially children**

**Date:**            Tuesday 5 April 2022

**Time:**            18:00 – 19:30 (CET, Vienna time)

**Convenor:**      OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) (via Zoom)

### **Background**

A NRM is a co-operative, national framework through which governments fulfil their obligations to protect and promote the human rights of victims of trafficking, co-ordinating their efforts in a strategic partnership with civil society organisations, survivor leaders and the private sector. The first edition of the NRM Handbook was published by ODIHR in 2004, and since then NRMs have been established and become operational in many OSCE participating States and outside of the OSCE region. The update of the NRM Handbook provides a framework which all OSCE participating States can adapt and apply within their own national systems. Its purpose is to provide essential ‘know-how’ of the working methods, procedures and services that are required in order to fulfil the objectives of NRMs. For the first time, it explains the specific and individual needs and risks of both adults and children who are victims of trafficking, centring all communications and actions on the protection of victims.

Many child victims of trafficking have lacked the crucial nurturing of parents and other adult care givers during some, or all, of their formative years. They may have been exposed to traumatic events and multiple forms of abuse before and during trafficking, including physical, emotional and sexual abuse, which may affect their emotional and educational development. This increases their vulnerability to being re-trafficked. All children, without exception, need to have a home environment where they feel safe, secure, individually supported and cared for, and where a settled routine can be created for them. Therefore, NRMs for children must be child friendly, age-appropriate, child-rights centred and gender-sensitive. NRM designated procedures for children must serve the best interests of the child at all times, among other considerations. As such, they build upon identification, protection, individual support and access to services, social inclusion, criminal justice and redress measures.

## **Objective**

The side event will provide a platform to present and promote the updated NRM Handbook and showcase to OSCE participating States the key components and new features regarding the protection and assistance for victims and survivors of trafficking. It will also provide an opportunity to highlight the specific guidance for dealing with child victims of trafficking, emphasising their special needs that should be addressed at all stages of the NRM. Overall, the event will facilitate the exchange of information among OSCE delegations, international experts, survivor leaders and civil society on the importance to establish and strengthen NRMs with a human rights-based, gender-sensitive, trauma-informed, survivor and victim-centered and child-appropriate approach.

## **Programme**

### ***Welcome remarks and introduction***

- **Kateryna Ryabiko**, First Deputy Director, Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (TBC)

### ***Presentation of the NRM Handbook***

- **Tatiana Kotlyarenko**, Adviser on Anti-Trafficking Issues, ODIHR and Rachel Witkin, lead project consultant and Head of Counter-Trafficking, Helen Bamber Foundation (TBC)

### ***Reflections on the Handbook with a particular focus on the NRM for children***

- Selected Members of ODIHR's NRM Advisory Group and child trafficking and protection experts

### ***Q&A with participants***

### **Registration:**

[https://osce-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_bxNd8AFhTDSHnuPD1tRR0A](https://osce-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_bxNd8AFhTDSHnuPD1tRR0A)

### **Interpretation:**

The meeting will be held in English, with Russian interpretation.



**Title:** **Partnership in Action”: What NGOs can do together to protect victims of trafficking. International Network experience – 2018-2022**

**Date:** Wednesday 6 April 2022

**Time:** 10:00 – 11:00 (CET, Vienna time)

**Convenor:** International Network of NGOs against THB and Other Forms of Violence “Partnership in Action” in co-operation with the Eurasia Foundation (via Zoom)

### **Background**

“Partnership in Action”, a Network of NGOs based in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, has become a stable platform for cooperation aiming to provide protection and assistance to the victims of trafficking and forced labour in transnational cases. Anti-trafficking NGOs, real front-liners, have developed 7/24 channels of co-operation allowing for immediate reaction to each and every request for assistance in rescuing trafficked persons and removing them out of exploitative situations, providing them with safe accommodation, legal and psychological assistance, access to health services and restoration of their documents. In most cases it’s NGOs who provide presumed victims with information about their rights and perspectives of co-operation with the law enforcement based on their informed consent. It’s NGOs who assist victims to get access to justice, and it’s NGOs who ensure safe referrals of the victims to medical and social services and who organize their safe return. The International Network of anti-trafficking NGOs “Partnership in Action” has become an informal prototype of a Transnational referral mechanism to address requests for assistance in rescuing victims of THB and forced labour across borders. The Network established a group of lawyers with a view to solve complex legal issues, to exchange best practices and address common challenges, that were especially demanding due to COVID-2019.

### **Objective:**

At this side-event NGOs from CIS countries will share their experience and good practices of partnerships in providing assistance and protection to the VoTs irrespective of limited resources, COVID restrictions and appearance of new forms of trafficking, its digitalisation and other negative developments we are facing nowadays. They will inform about efforts to promote Transnational Referral Mechanisms and establish SOPs in the region, as well as their plans to engage more partners faced with similar challenges.

## Programme

### ***Opening address***

- Ms. **Juliana Pavlovskaya**, International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Moscow

### ***Speakers***

- **Ms. Nodira Karimova** (Director, Istiqbolli Avlod, Uzbekistan)
- **Ms. Shakhnoza Khasanova** (Executive Director, Sana Sezim, Kazakhstan)
- **Ms. Khadicha Abysheva** (Eurasia Foundation Consultant, Chair of the Board, Sana Sezim, Kazakhstan)
- **Ms. Nurjan Tulegabylova** (Director, NGO El Agartuu, Kyrgyzstan)
- **Ms. Sitora Rozikova** (Eurasia Foundation, Project Coordinator)

### ***Moderator***

- **Ms. Vera Gracheva** (President, Inter-regional Social Movement against THB and Modern Forms of Forced Labour “The Alternative”, Russia, Chair of the Board, International Network of NGOs against THB and Other Forms of Violence “Partnership in Action”)

### **Registration:**

Same as for the Conference. Please use this link to join the side-event:

Time: Apr 6, 2022 10:00 AM Vienna

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81259501856?pwd=LzBhamN2Tzh1RVdxakZUYUMwSnFvZz09>

Meeting ID: 812 5950 1856

Passcode: 405113

### **Interpretation:**

No interpretation, the side event will be held in Russian.



**Title:** Ensuring a child rights based approach in identifying and providing access to services and justice for child victims of trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation

**Date:** Wednesday 6 April 2022

**Time:** 11:00 – 12:00 (CET, Vienna time)

**Convenor:** Child10 and The Council of the Baltic Sea States (via Zoom)

### **Background**

Recent studies show an alarming increase in trafficking and sexual exploitation of children and perpetrators are constantly finding new ways of exploiting children. One of the fastest growing arenas for trafficking and sexual exploitation of children is the internet, and technology is increasingly being misused by human traffickers during all the stages of the crime, including recruitment, control, and exploitation of victims.

Technology facilitated trafficking of children poses new challenges both in terms of identification of victims and consequently also their access to services and justice, in part because legal definitions of human trafficking can be an obstacle for applying the official human trafficking framework to victims of online trafficking. Improved early identification and lowering the threshold for access to services and justice for victims who are without official victim status is therefore vital in order to ensure the rights and needs of child victims of trafficking and sexual exploitation. Against this background, the need to systematize the services of victims of THB in the form of National and Transnational Referral Mechanisms is crucial, as well as integrating child friendly procedures in these mechanisms in order to ensure that children are properly protected and assisted.

This amplifies the need for strengthening the international collaboration between frontline officers, social workers and civil society organizations as well as clarifying the role and responsibilities of internet service providers.

During this event a variety of viewpoints will be presented to enhance our collective understanding of how trafficking and sexual exploitation of children is happening both offline and online and how victim identification and access to services can be improved, especially from the perspective of survivors and organizations across Europe working directly with child victims. The side event also intends to address the cross-national aspect of child trafficking and sexual exploitation and how to improve outreach efforts and identification of victims. We will also discuss recent policy developments in this field and how to ensure effective implementation to stop trafficking and sexual exploitation of children.

## Programme

### **Opening remarks**

- **Valiant Richey**, OSCE Special Representative and Coordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings

### **Panel Debate**

- moderated by **Elise Thoen**, Director of Policy and Programs, **Child10**

### **Speakers**

- **Edi Mujaj**: Senior Adviser Task Force against Trafficking in Human Beings, CBSS
- **Diane Schmitt**: EU Anti-Trafficking Coordinator, EU Commission
- **Morgane Nicot**: Team Leader Knowledge Department and Innovation Team, UNODC
- **Anna Ekstedt**: Swedish Ambassador-at-large for Combating Trafficking in Persons, Swedish Government
- **Nadine Finch**: Child Circle
- **Gabriella Kärnekull Wolfe**: Survivor leader and Swedish Ombudsman against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children
- **Tomislav Ramljak**: Executive Director, Centre for Missing and Exploited Children and Child10 Awarded Member 2022

**11:50 – 12:00 Q&A**

### **Registration:**

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/cbss-and-c10-side-event-to-the-osce-conference-on-trafficking-in-persons-registration-299012774257>

### **Interpretation:**

The meeting will be held in English.





**Title:** Promoting complementary legal pathways for the displaced to prevent smuggling, trafficking and exploitation

**Date:** Wednesday 6 April 2022

**Time:** 12:00 – 13:00 (CET, Vienna time)

**Convenor:** Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (OCEEA) (via Zoom)

### **Background**

“Facilitating effective legal migration schemes through fostering multi-stakeholder and regional co-operation, partnerships and dialogue” provides the essential role of the Office of the Co-ordinator of the OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (OCEEA). The Office has acted as a catalyst of comprehensive and gender-sensitive labour mobility as well as effective labour market integration measures with the aim to maximise “the substantial economic and social contribution that migrants and refugees can make for inclusive growth and sustainable development” , in line with relevant international commitments.

Large displacements triggered by conflicts, persecutions, man-made or natural disasters, as well as environmental degradation call for renewed efforts towards the establishment of legal pathways that allow individuals to move along safe and regulated migration avenues. Often driven by education and employment opportunities, these viable and legal alternatives generate multiple benefits for the countries of first and final reception, the private sector as well as for the economic empowerment of displaced populations.

By providing the opportunity to access tertiary education and fill labour shortages in hosting countries, complementary legal pathways contribute to prevent irregular movements facilitated by smuggling and trafficking networks while ensuring long-term socioeconomic inclusion of migrants and refugees, preventing de-skilling effects , “brain waste” and labour exploitation. Whereas resettlement remains a primary tool to ensure long-term protection, complementary legal pathways are critical towards “reducing both migration caused by deep poverty and the supply factors of trafficking”, contributing to a more equitable sharing of responsibilities among hosting countries.

### ***Objective***

The side event wishes to discuss challenges and opportunities when designing education and employment-based complementary legal pathways. The objective is to raise awareness on how the OSCE, in co-operation with relevant stakeholders, can assist the participating States in responding to the needs of displaced populations, considering the growing uncertainty generated by multiple crises, particularly in and around the OSCE region.

## Programme

### **Moderator**

- **Teresa Albano**, Economic Affairs Officer, Office of the Coordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities

### **Introduction**

- **Mr. Lorenzo Rilasciati**, Deputy Coordinator (a.i.), Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (OCEEA)
- **Representative** of the Fundamental Rights Agency

### **Speakers**

- **Mr. Marco Borraccetti**, University of Bologna, Italy: *“Universities as sponsors of complementary pathways for displaced people”*
- **Ms. Zvezda Vankova**, postdoctoral fellow, Lund University: *“Refugees as Migrant Workers. Labour Migration as Alternative for Refugee Protection”*
- **Mr. Chris Richmond**: *“It takes an algorithm. How artificial intelligence can help mapping education and employment-relevant skills towards university and labour market inclusion of displaced populations”*
- **Mr. Luca Pianese**, Senior migration and security expert, Office of the Secretary General, OSCE

### **Debate**

### **Registration:**

<https://osce-org.zoom.us/j/97684101813>

Meeting ID: 976 8410 1813

Passcode: 99804095

### **Interpretation:**

The meeting will be held in English.