



## **Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting**

Vienna Austria, 18 - 19 July 2022

### **SCHEDULE AND OVERVIEW**

#### **OF SIDE EVENTS**

*as submitted by the organizers*

*The Helsinki Document of 1992 (Chapter IV) called for increasing the openness of OSCE activities and expanding the role of NGOs. In particular, in paragraph (15) of Chapter IV the participating States decided to facilitate during CSCE meetings informal discussion meetings between representatives of participating States and of NGOs, and to provide encouragement to NGOs organizing seminars on CSCE-related issues. In line with this decision, governments, civil society and other participants are encouraged to organize side meetings at the Review Conference on relevant issues of their choice.*

*The side events below have been exclusively organized and scheduled exclusively at the request of participants of the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting. The below descriptions have been provided by the organizers. They have been lightly edited by ODIHR for language but not for content. Responsibility for the content remains with the organizers. Neither the text below nor the events themselves necessarily reflect the views of the OSCE.*

#### **Monday, 18 July**

Time: **16:30-17:30**  
Venue: **533**  
Title: Protection of Victims of Trafficking, especially Women and Children, in Central Asia  
Convenor: The Legal Center for Women's Initiatives "Sana Sezim"  
Working language: Russian

#### **Summary:**

Human trafficking in Central Asia, be it internal, regional or transnational, remains a challenge that obtained new threatening features, such as the abuse of ICT in recruitment and persecution of VoTs, especially women and children, a new socio-economic dimension related to the ongoing Russian military operation in Ukraine, unprecedented flows of refugees affecting labour market in countries of destination, and growing vulnerability of migrants. Though indirect, its impact has to be taken into account when assessing the THB situation in the region.

Central Asian countries have developed comprehensive legal frameworks to address all forms of human trafficking, Kazakhstan being on the verge of adopting a new anti-trafficking law drafted with active participation of civil society actors. Countries have established NRMs and coordinating structures engaging NGOs representatives. They adopted a multidimensional interagency approach demonstrating its effectiveness in victim protection and assistance.

In this context International Network of NGOs against THB “Partnership-in-Action” has become a platform for co-operation between countries of origin and destination aiming at expedient and effective rescuing and protection of VoTs, initial assistance, rehabilitation and organization of safe return. Each alleged case of THB for whatever form of exploitation, each request for assistance is immediately reported to partner organizations for further action. The Network, working in real time 24/7, created Working groups of lawyers to solve complicated cases and exchange information and experience; established collaborative relationship with the IOM to facilitate translational cases and guarantee adequate protection and assistance to VoTs; developed close co-operation with relevant state services and agencies providing due protection to VoTs and became implementing partners in various forms of assistance, including shelters, safe accommodation, legal assistance, training, and other ways and means to support VoTs in their rehabilitation and reintegration.

Members of the Network will share their good practices and their plans for the future development of “Partnership-in Action” as a prototype of a Transnational Referral Mechanism functioning at the level of civil society.

**Speakers:**

Ms. Nodira Karimova, Head of the Republican, Social and Information Center "Istiqbolli Avlod"

Ms. Nurzhan Tulegabylova, Head of the Public Fund "El Agartuu"

Ms. Nina Balabayeva, Director of the Center for Social-Psychological Rehabilitation and Adaptation for Women and Children "Rodnik"

Ms. Shakhnoza Khassanova, Director of the Legal Center for Women's Initiatives "Sana Sezim"

Time: **16:30-17:30**

Venue: **Bibliotheksaal**

Title: Are countries making progress on combating trafficking in human beings?  
Findings of the 2021 Survey Report

Convenor: OSCE Secretariat; Office of the Special Representative/Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings

Working language: English

**Summary:**

Over the last 20 years since the adoption of the first internationally-recognized definition of trafficking in human beings and the first OSCE anti-trafficking commitments, OSCE participating States have been combating trafficking in human beings. But are they making progress? Are countries adopting new laws to combat trafficking? What areas of the field have

seen the most progress? What are countries doing to combat labour exploitation or technology-facilitated trafficking? Do countries require cooperation with police from victims before giving them services? What progress is being made on combating child trafficking? Measuring such efforts and identifying areas for further improvement is crucial to ensure that collectively and individually countries of the OSCE region are moving toward achieving the common objective – ending trafficking in human beings.

In 2020, the Office of Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings (OSR/CTHB) launched a follow-up survey of OSCE participating States and NGOs to assess progress made in the OSCE region toward implementing the OSCE anti-trafficking commitments. The 2020 survey was developed for the purpose of tracking progress made towards the implementation of anti-trafficking commitments since the previous survey in 2015, with specific emphasis on recent Ministerial Council Decisions adopted during the interim. In line with these commitments, the survey features new sections on vulnerability reduction, awareness-raising, and addressing demand, as well as the role of technology in facilitating and combating human trafficking and online sexual exploitation of children. It also presents recommendations, including on emerging trends, challenges and opportunities in responding to the complex, cross-dimensional, and evolving crime of trafficking in human beings. This side event will present the findings of the expansive survey of OSCE participating States and NGOs, including analysis of how countries are progressing since the last survey in 2015/16. It will also provide an opportunity to discuss the survey findings and recommendations for participating States and the broader anti-trafficking community.

**Opening remarks:**

Ms. Helga Maria Schmid, OSCE Secretary General (video message)

Presentation of the Findings of the 2021 Survey Report:

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

**Panel Discussion:**

Ms. Gudrun Kugler, Member of the Austrian Parliament and member of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

Ms. Biljana Lalova, Member of the National Commission for fight against THB and illegal migration, North Macedonia

Mr. Tim Nelson, Hope for Justice

The event will be livestreamed at <https://www.osce.org/cthb/surveyreport>.

## **Tuesday, 19 July**

Time: **09:00-10:00**  
Venue: **532**  
Title: Ukrainian Women's NGOs' Response to the Russian invasion of Ukraine  
Convenor: Democracy Development Center  
Working language: English

### **Summary:**

The event includes a 30-minute presentation of the Ukrainian Women's NGOs' experience of the Russian invasion of Ukraine and organizing and running response to its consequences for different target groups of the WPS agenda, and a 30-minute Q&A session. Special attention will be paid to the experiences of groups most vulnerable to trafficking in human beings and to sexual violence and exploitation.

### **Speaker:**

Ms. Mariya Dmytriyeva, Director of Programmes, Democracy Development Center

Time: **09:00-10:00**  
Venue: **Bibliotheksaal**  
Title: A closer look at how the human rights of trafficked persons are negatively affected by the Dublin III Regulation  
Convenor: The Justice Project e.V.; Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII  
Working language: English

### **Summary:**

The focus of this side event is to highlight the vulnerability of third-country national victims of human trafficking (VoTs) who are left unprotected and at risk of further exploitation resulting from the Dublin Regulation actively implemented across the EU.

In particular, West African VoTs being forcibly returned to Italy from other EU Member States as a result of the Dublin procedure are at risk of being relocated to Italian cities where their exploitation took place or where their traffickers may still reside. In addition, the lack of implementation of Transnational Referral Mechanisms in the context of Dublin returns and delays in processing information on Dublin returnees between EU Member States has led to increased vulnerability for transnational homelessness, re-trafficking, and further traumatisation of this vulnerable group of people. The lack of basic provision and active/ongoing protection once deportation authorities have completed successful border crossings are contributing factors that leave VoTs at risk for various forms of exploitation.

This side event will include a short presentation of the Transnational Dublin-Return Assistance Network (T-DAN), an initiative co-funded by the European Commission aimed to assist VoTs, which was recently launched by 5 civil society organisations working in collaboration in Germany, Italy and Spain.

In addition, unique challenges facing West African VoTs in the asylum-seeking process as observed in the context of Germany will be touched on with an aim to explore promising practices to effectively minimize these obstacles.

**Speakers:**

Ms. Rawan Shrum, Executive Director, The Justice Project e.V. (Germany)

Ms. Enkolina Shqau, Social Worker, Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII (Italy)

*Refreshments will be provided*

Time: **13:15-14:15**

Venue: **Bibliotheksaal**

Title: Combating human trafficking in conflict situations: the role of frontline workers and National Referral Mechanisms

Convenor: OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

Working language: English

**Summary:**

The OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) has been active in preventing and combating trafficking in human beings since 1999. In line with its mandate to assist States in establishing National Referral Mechanisms, as well as technical assistance in their development, monitoring and reporting on the implementation of NRMs in the OSCE participating States, OSCE ODIHR will organize an event where frontline responders from countries neighboring Ukraine can share their experience on effective response systems to combat human trafficking of women and children. Women and children in situations of armed conflict and individuals forcibly displaced by armed conflict can be especially vulnerable to trafficking in human beings. Since the beginning of the armed conflict in Ukraine on 24 February, more than three million people – mostly women and children – have fled the country<sup>1</sup>. An increasing number of reports warn of traffickers targeting women and children at the borders as well as upon their arrival in transit and destination countries, such as Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Hungary and Moldova<sup>2</sup>. While governments and civil society in Ukraine and neighboring countries have been working to address the immediate risks and protect refugees, there is a need to address to ensure that effective responses, including functioning National Referral Mechanisms in conflict situations, are in place to prevent and combat the trafficking in women and children in countries of transit.

The event will be hosted by ODIHR, together with frontline responders from transit countries, will discuss the following elements focused on promoting effective responses to combating trafficking in human beings during the armed conflict in Ukraine:

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<sup>1</sup> UNHCR (2022), [Ukraine Refugee Situation: Operational Data Portal](#). See also, InfoMigrants (2022), [Women and children fleeing Ukraine at risk from human traffickers](#).

<sup>2</sup> EU Commission (2022), [Commissioner Johansson's speech on the developing situation regarding refugees as a consequence of Russian aggression against Ukraine](#).

- What are current challenges to ensure identification and protection of women, children and unaccompanied minors fleeing from the armed conflict in Ukraine within transit countries?
- How are survivor and victim-centred, trauma-informed, gender- and child-sensitive approaches incorporated in protection strategies to combat trafficking of persons fleeing armed conflict, including but not limited to border crossings, reception facilities and similar interim protection centres?
- Which multi-disciplinary frameworks exist at the local level, especially at border crossings, reception facilities and other interim protection centres, to ensure gender-sensitive and child-sensitive strategies to combat human trafficking in transit countries of refugees fleeing from the armed conflict in Ukraine?

Moderator: Ms. Tatiana Kotlyarenko, Adviser on Anti-Trafficking Issues, OSCE/ODIHR

Welcome remarks: Ms. Andrea Huber, Head of Human Rights Department, OSCE/ODIHR

Youth Address: Mr. Timur Tsiplienko, Youth Volunteer, Save Ukraine

### **Speakers:**

Ms. Yulia Sachenko, Executive Director, A21 Ukraine

Ms. Ioana Bauer, President of the Board, e-Liberare, Romania

Ms. Joanna Garnier, Coordinator of Projects, La Strada Poland Poland

The event will be livestreamed at

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1100788547174389/?ref=newsfeed>

Time: **13:15-14:15**

Venue: **533**

Title: Displacement of Ukrainian citizens as a result of Russian aggression: refugees and deportation of adults and children.

Convenor: Ukrainian Helsinki Human Rights Union; Center for Civil Liberties

Working language: English, Ukrainian

### **Summary:**

As stressed in UN Security Council resolution 2379 (2017), the armed conflicts exacerbate the vulnerability to trafficking in human beings, especially in persons among those forcibly displaced or otherwise affected by armed conflict. According to the Government of Ukraine, an outrageous number of over 1.2 million of Ukrainians have been forcibly displaced to Russia in the course of the Russia's full-scale aggression against Ukraine, including more than 230,000 children were forcibly resettled in Russia. After passing the so-called "filtration", many of the resettled people find themselves in the position of civilian hostages and are held in the so-called "filtration camps" or pre-trial detention centers in Russian regions. The situation regarding civilian prisoners taken from the territory of Ukraine during the retreat of Russian troops is also critical. This situation undermines the rule of law and contributes to other forms of human rights violations that increase the consequences of the Russian Federation's war against Ukraine and therefore requires immediate attention and response.

At this special side event, we will present first-hand update on:

1. Forcible displacement of children
2. Illegal abduction and detention of civilians, including journalists, local authorities, and activists
3. Forcible displacement of citizens of Ukraine to the territory of the Russian Federation or the territories it occupied.

**Moderator:**

Ms. Oleksandra Drik, Coordinator for International Cooperation, Center for Civil Liberties

**Speakers:**

Ms. Aksana Filipishyna (online), Representative of the Commissioner for Child and Family Rights

Ms. Olena Yuzvak and Mr. Oleg Gordiichuk, Residents of Gostomel, a city in the Kyiv region that was occupied by the Russian army, survived the violent displacement. Parents of civilian prisoner Dmytro Yuzvak.

Ms. Iryna Bodanova (on-line), expert of the group for the release of prisoners of war and civilian hostages of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine

Mr. Taras Ulyanchenko, Ukrainian student of the Mariupol State University, victim who left Mariupol through the territory of the Russian Federation and went through the filtering procedures, managed to escape to Europe eventually.

The event will be livestreamed at [https://www.facebook.com/ccl.org.ua/live\\_videos/](https://www.facebook.com/ccl.org.ua/live_videos/)