

2016 WORLD DAY AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS



www.endht.org

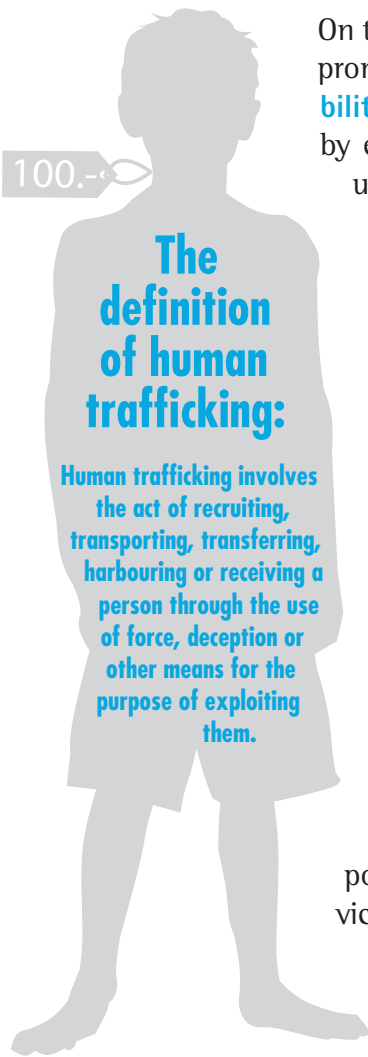


UNODC

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime



**WORLD DAY AGAINST
TRAFFICKING
IN PERSONS**
30 JULY



On the **World Day 2016**, UNODC seeks to raise awareness of trafficking in persons through promoting dialogue and greater engagement of all stakeholders regarding the **vulnerabilities** that lie behind every case of human trafficking, and the exploitation suffered by every trafficking victim. **Vulnerability** is central to how human trafficking can be understood – and, therefore, to how, in all its different forms, it can be addressed.

Anyone can potentially become a victim of human trafficking, no matter whether well-educated or illiterate, old or young, man or woman, national or foreigner. Awareness of those vulnerabilities that traffickers frequently prey upon, as well as an **openness to see and respond** to every individual's specific vulnerabilities (personal, situational, circumstantial, pre-existing and/or created by traffickers) are the key to detecting human trafficking, responding appropriately and actively preventing the victimisation of people globally.

UNODC, as the guardian of the leading international instrument against human trafficking¹, is charged with the responsibility of helping States develop comprehensive and sustainable responses to trafficking in persons, including prosecution of perpetrators, protection and assistance of victims and, most importantly, prevention measures. It seeks to build the cooperation, support and partnership between States to achieve these goals; it provides a secretariat to the multilateral discussions and decision-making on these issues; and it manages a UN facility to directly support trafficking victims. Every aspect of this work with those who can positively impact on human trafficking in each country, including law enforcement, victim assistance providers, policy makers, civil society organisations and even members of the public, involves an awareness and a response to aspects of **vulnerability**.

The Blue Heart

www.unodc.org/blueheart

The Blue Heart campaign is a broad-based and global awareness-raising vehicle that seeks to encourage involvement and inspire action, utilising what is increasingly recognised as the international symbol against human trafficking. Crucially, for the thematic focus of the **World Day 2016**, it allows people to show solidarity with victims of human trafficking by wearing, using and promoting the Blue Heart – by “wearing” the Blue Heart, you will help raise awareness of human trafficking, the **World Day 2016** and join ongoing, existing campaigns and efforts at all levels to fight this crime.

Normative and technical assistance – supporting practitioners and policy-makers

www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking

UNODC actively supports United Nations Member States to implement the international standards and obligations they have agreed to, providing: normative and policy guidance, technical and capacity building assistance, support for regional and trans-regional cooperation, and specialised technical tools and publications. UNODC, for example, helps police and multiple actors to develop and customise operational indicators of human trafficking which directly refer to the specific vulnerabilities traffickers prey on – be they personal, situational, circumstantial, pre-existing or created by traffickers; UNODC has helped State and civil society actors broker partnerships and put in place practices to reduce re-trafficking and ensure victims are not neglected or returned to the circumstances that lead to them being trafficked initially; and UNODC has developed practical expert guidance on the legal concept of vulnerability that judges and courts have directly applied to convict traffickers in, for example, the UK and Argentina.

¹ The UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children.

United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children

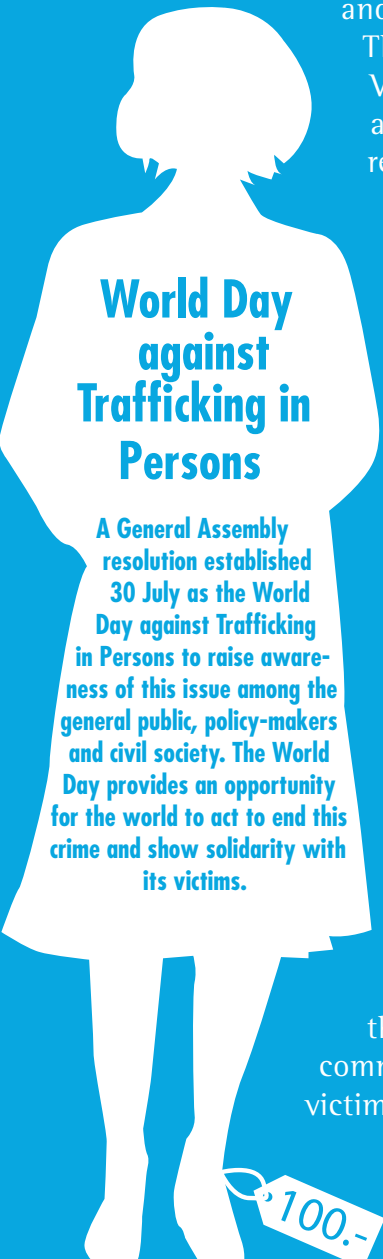
www.unodc.org/humantraffickingfund

At the global level, the UN Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons facilitates effective, on-the-ground humanitarian, legal and financial aid to victims of trafficking through grants to specialized NGOs. Supported organisations have directly addressed the identified vulnerabilities of multiple victims to ensure their trafficking experience is not repeated. The Shakti Samuha organization, for example, has helped 600 survivors receive vocational training, counselling and legal support in Nepal, while the Different and Equal organization in Albania offered 300 women, children and men temporary accommodation and medical and psychological assistance. The detailed work of the Victims' Trust Fund, managed by UNODC, can be reviewed online. The Fund is open to donations from Governments and the wider public, which can be made via the website.

Global Report on Trafficking in Persons

www.unodc.org/unodc/data-and-analysis/glotip.html

In late 2016, UNODC will publish the third edition of its mandated, biennial Global Report providing an overview of patterns and flows of trafficking in persons at the global, regional and national levels, based on detected trafficking cases and providing data at the national level for each of the 136 countries covered. In the context of current global concerns regarding mixed migration and the largest movement of refugees and migrants since the end of World War II, this edition of the Global Report will present data that support a clear link between migration and trafficking in persons flows and in particular between accessibility to legal routes of migration and decreased victimization. While trafficking in persons is driven by a range of factors, many of which are not related to migration, the human desire to improve one's lot in life is a vulnerability that can clearly be preyed upon by criminals. In addition, the Report will highlight the impact of conflict and natural disasters, and the resultant, multiple vulnerabilities that many people face to abuse and exploitation, in identifying specific migration flows that appear particularly vulnerable to human trafficking as well as highlighting the links between human trafficking and refugee flows from countries including Syria and Eritrea, among others.



World Day against Trafficking in Persons

A General Assembly resolution established 30 July as the World Day against Trafficking in Persons to raise awareness of this issue among the general public, policy-makers and civil society. The World Day provides an opportunity for the world to act to end this crime and show solidarity with its victims.

In its third year, the **World Day 2016** provides an opportunity to reflect on our shared responsibility and show solidarity with and seek to empower the victims. It is clear that what lies at the core of human trafficking is the exploitation of vulnerability. An appeal, therefore, to the international community and civil society, on **World Day 2016** is to reflect on what each of us could do to contribute to decreasing these vulnerabilities or the risks that follow from vulnerabilities including, but not limited to, age, gender, disability or a lack of legal status.

In the global context of mixed migration flows and the large scale movement of refugees and migrants, no region or country is untouched by trafficking in persons, whether for sexual exploitation, forced labour or a host of exploitative practices.

Traffickers continue to deceive and control victims, by new and old forms, but the underlying challenge for us all, as individuals and members of an international community, remains the same: we need to redouble our efforts to identify and protect victims as well as to disrupt the criminal networks who commit these crimes.

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