

# 2018 WORLD DAY AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS



30 JULY  
WORLD  
DAY  
AGAINST  
TRAFFICKING  
IN PERSONS



[www.endht.org](http://www.endht.org)



**UNODC**

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime



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## WHAT IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING?

Human trafficking involves the act of recruiting, transporting, transferring, harbouring or receiving a person through the use of force, deception or other means for the purpose of exploiting them.

This year on the World Day against Trafficking in Persons the UN Office on Drugs and Crime highlights the urgent need to step up responses to trafficking of children and young people. Protecting the most vulnerable among us has become ever more important, as humanitarian crises and armed conflict leave children and young people at particular risk of being trafficked. The perils are made worse when children and young people are on the move, often also separated from their families. At the same time, traffickers misuse the Internet and new technologies to target young people online. This is why UNODC in 2018 calls for **action to protect and assist trafficked children and young people.**

Despite almost every country having some form of national human trafficking law in line with the UN Trafficking in Persons Protocol, many children and young people are never identified as victims of trafficking. This hampers access to protection and assistance measures including appropriate housing, education and care.

The emphasis of a global response to trafficking of children and young people should be on implementing international standards and norms, such as the Trafficking in Persons Protocol and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, and strengthening domestic frameworks for child protection. Special attention should be devoted to children and young people's particular vulnerabilities, rights and needs to assist their recovery and ensure they are not detained, nor punished or penalized for acts they committed as a direct result of having been trafficked.

There is a need for all of us to "Act now" to enhance protection and assistance, not only at the international or Member State level. It is a moral imperative for all of us to take urgent expedient action, with the best interests of children and young people as the primary consideration. Everyone must act whenever possible, for instance by calling hotlines and guaranteeing access to education and care.

## The Trafficking in Persons Protocol in a nutshell:

Adopted by the UN General Assembly in 2000, it is the first and only international instrument

with an agreed definition on trafficking in persons. It supports a comprehensive approach, at international, regional and national levels, to prevent human trafficking, to punish the traffickers and to protect and assist the victims, with full respect for their human rights.

**UNODC is assisting States to develop comprehensive and sustainable responses to trafficking in persons, including prosecution of perpetrators, protection and assistance of victims and, most importantly, prevention measures. Responses include child-specific measures for identifying those at risk, protecting their rights, and assisting**

**with their re-integration. UNODC works to build cooperation, support partnership between States and other stakeholders to achieve these goals; provides a secretariat to the multilateral discussions and decision-making on human trafficking; and manages a UN fund to directly provide support to trafficking victims.**

## THE BLUE HEART CAMPAIGN

[www.unodc.org/blueheart](http://www.unodc.org/blueheart)

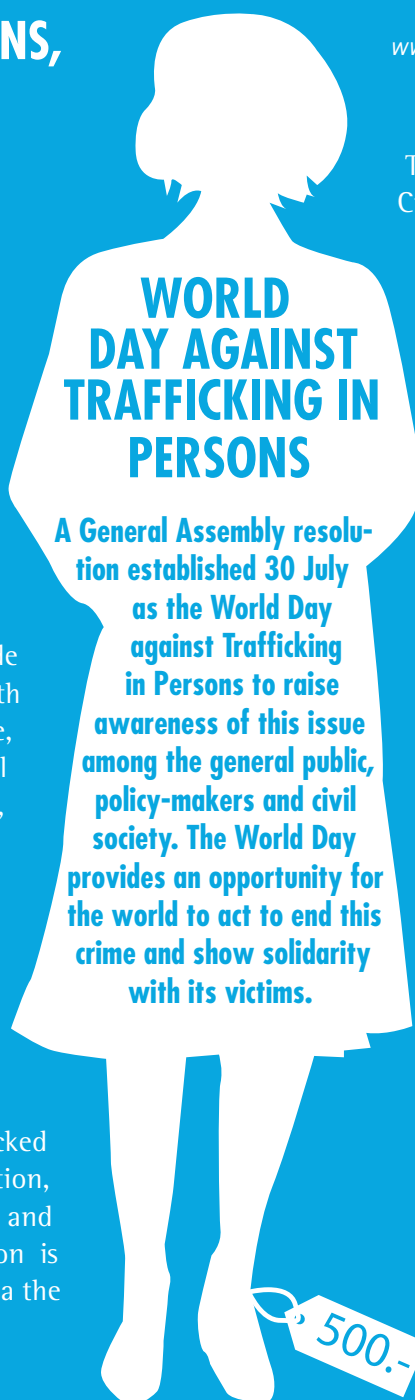
The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime launched the Blue Heart Campaign as an awareness-raising initiative to fight human trafficking and its impact on society. It encourages everyone around the globe: individuals, civil society, the

private / corporate sector, intergovernmental institutions and Member States alike, to get involved. By using the logo, or by wearing the Blue Heart everyone can show their support, and express their solidarity with trafficking victims, almost a third of whom are children. This alarming fact gives even more importance to the thematic focus of the World Day 2018, as it should be a moral imperative for all to help end the trafficking of children and young people.

## UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTARY TRUST FUND FOR VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS, ESPECIALLY WOMEN AND CHILDREN

[www.unodc.org/humantraffickingfund](http://www.unodc.org/humantraffickingfund)

The UN Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons facilitates effective, on-the-ground assistance and protection to victims of trafficking, through grants to specialized NGOs. Grantees identify the most vulnerable victims, especially women and children, and provide essential services and remedies, with an emphasis on direct assistance, including shelter, food, medical care, psychosocial support, legal aid, access to justice and compensation. Currently, the Fund is allocating USD 1.5 million in grants to projects around the world prioritizing victims coming from a context of armed conflict and those identified among large refugee and migration flows. The Fund is also focusing on victims trafficked for the purpose of sexual exploitation, organ removal, forced begging and forced criminality. More information is available / donations can be made via the Fund's website.



### 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.**

## GLOBAL REPORT ON TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

[www.unodc.org/unodc/data-and-analysis/glotip.html](http://www.unodc.org/unodc/data-and-analysis/glotip.html)

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) will publish its latest Global Report on Trafficking in Persons at the end of 2018. According to preliminary data, children make up almost 30 per cent of all human trafficking victims worldwide. However, in some parts of the world, like West Africa and Central America, children account for the majority of victims detected. In addition, preliminary results also show that one third of the victims of trafficking for sexual exploitation are children.

Produced every two years, the Report covers 140 countries and provides an overview of patterns and flows of trafficking in persons at global, regional and national levels. Its findings are based on trafficking cases detected between 2014 and 2017, and it reinforces the link between tackling this crime and achieving the 2030 Agenda's Sustainable Development Goals.

[www.unodc.org](http://www.unodc.org)



# 30 JULY WORLD DAY AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS



The World Day against Trafficking in Persons on 30 July provides an opportunity to reflect on our shared responsibility to end trafficking in persons and show solidarity with the victims.

Exploitation of vulnerability lies at the core of this crime. On the World Day, therefore, both the international community and civil society have the opportunity to reflect on what each of us can do to decrease vulnerabilities to trafficking, or the risks that follow from such vulnerabilities, particularly those affecting children and young people. What is more, we also have to make sure to act.



No region or country is untouched by trafficking of children and young people, who continue to be trafficked for multiple purposes, including sexual and labour exploitation, begging, forced marriage, as soldiers, or for combined exploitative practices.

Traffickers also profit from large-scale movement of unaccompanied minors, and misuse new technologies to reach additional victims.

The underlying challenge for us all, as individuals and members of the international community, remains the same: we need to redouble our joint efforts to prevent trafficking, identify and protect victims, and disrupt the criminal networks that commit these crimes, adapting our response to changing forms of human trafficking.

[www.unodc.org](http://www.unodc.org)

[www.endhht.org](http://www.endhht.org)



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