

**HAVE A  
HEART  
FOR  
VICTIMS  
OF HUMAN  
TRAFFICKING**



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**UNODC**

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime



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

100.-

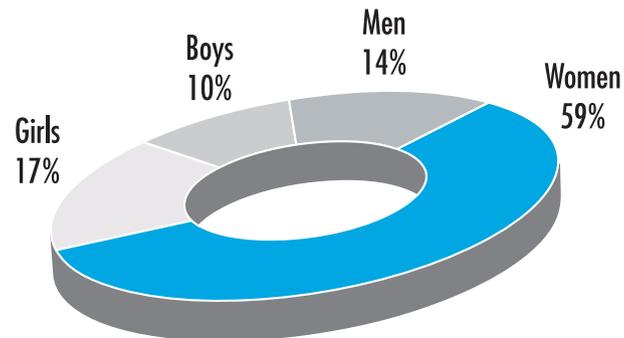
## The definition of human trafficking:

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.

**Human trafficking** is a global problem and one of the world's most shameful crimes, affecting the lives of millions of people around the world and robbing them of their dignity. Traffickers deceive women, men and children from all corners of the world and force them into exploitative situations every day. While the best-known form of human trafficking is for the purpose of sexual exploitation, many victims are trafficked for the purposes of forced labour, domestic servitude, begging or the removal of their organs.

### Gender and age profile of victims detected globally, 2009

UNODC: Global Report on Trafficking in Persons, 2012, p. 25



Source: UNODC elaboration of national data.

## What are the facts?

According to the 2012 UNODC Global Trafficking in Persons Report, based on data supplied by 132 countries:

**27% children**

27 per cent of all victims of human trafficking detected globally between 2007 and 2010 were children, up 7 per cent from the period 2003 to 2006.

**55 - 60% women**

The vast majority of detected trafficked persons are women, accounting for 55 to 60 per cent of victims detected globally.

**2/3 girls**

Girls make up two thirds of all trafficked children. They constitute 15 to 20 per cent of the total number of all detected victims, including adults, whereas boys comprise about 10 per cent.

<b>conviction rates are low</b>	16 per cent of reporting countries did not record a single conviction for trafficking in persons between 2007 and 2010.
<b>countries of origin and destination</b>	Trafficking victims from East Asia have been detected in more than 60 countries, making them the most geographically dispersed group around the world. Victims from the largest number of origin countries were found in Western and Central Europe.
<b>forms of exploitation</b>	There are regional variations in trafficking trends. Countries in Africa and in Asia generally intercept more cases of trafficking for forced labour, while sexual exploitation is somewhat more frequent in Europe and in the Americas.
<b>organ trafficking</b>	Trafficking for organ removal has been detected in 16 countries around the world.

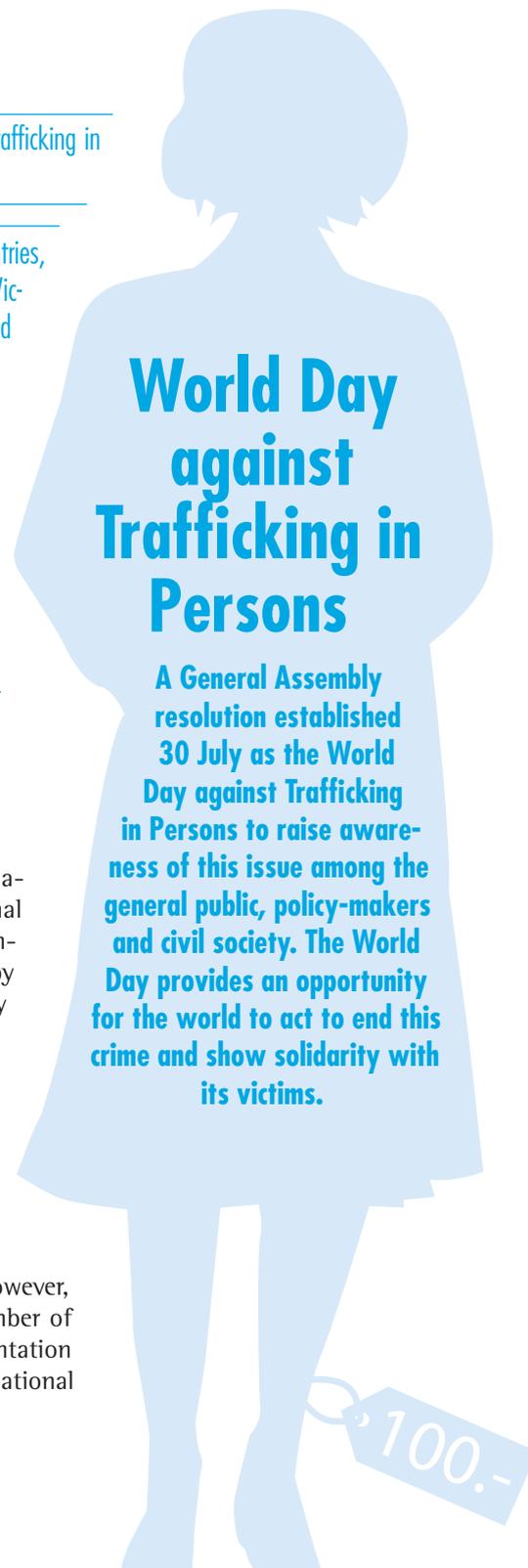
## What can be done?

Human trafficking is being tackled through a variety of national and international means. In 2000, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its supplementing Protocol to Prevent, Suppress, and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, were adopted by the General Assembly and entered into force at the end of 2003. As the only international instrument addressing human trafficking as a crime, the Protocol is the world's premier tool for preventing and combating human trafficking, protecting and assisting victims and promoting cooperation among countries to fight this crime.

At national level, countries continue to implement and integrate the Protocol into their domestic laws. There are annual improvements in the number of countries with specific legislation, as well as those with special anti-human trafficking police units and national action plans to deal with the issue. However, despite increasing conviction rates for the crime of human trafficking, the number of such convictions remains low. In an effort to tackle this, more effective implementation of the Protocol at the national level and greater degrees of regional and international cooperation are needed.

## 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.**



Fighting human trafficking should not just be seen as the responsibility of authorities. Everyone can help tackle this crime by being aware of it and making sure that the plight of victims does not go unnoticed. There are many ways

## you can help:



**Be supportive:** join the international #igivehope social media campaign and thousands of others in showing your solidarity with victims of human trafficking. Use #igivehope to find out more or visit [www.endht.org](http://www.endht.org).



**Be alert:** if you see anything that you think might be related to trafficking, tell the police or telephone your local anti-trafficking helpline, if one is available. These concerns could relate to your workplace or to your private life - remember, victims can be coerced in many ways. If you are unsure, it is better to be mistaken than to let another victim continue to be enslaved.



**Be involved:** find out what is being done in your community, see what you can do and encourage your friends, family and neighbours to be more aware about human trafficking.



**Be aware:** join the Blue Heart Campaign against Human Trafficking by visiting [www.unodc.org/blueheart](http://www.unodc.org/blueheart). This international initiative works to raise awareness of the plight of victims and build political support to fight the criminals behind trafficking. Follow the Blue Heart on Twitter (<http://twitter.com/BlueHeartHT>) and Facebook ([www.facebook.com/BlueHeartHT](http://www.facebook.com/BlueHeartHT)) for updates and news on human trafficking.



**Be compassionate:** you can donate to the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Human Trafficking ([www.unodc.org/humantraffickingfund](http://www.unodc.org/humantraffickingfund)) which funds grass-roots organizations working with survivors of this crime.



**Be responsible:** make sure that your consumer choices and actions are ethical ones. While some decisions might be clearer than others, you can pledge not to purchase goods and services that could be linked directly or indirectly to sexual exploitation, forced labour or other forms of exploitative practices.

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