



# POSMUN 2022

## **UNODC**

Good Use and Abuse: The role of  
technology in human trafficking

Ornella Faria and Thiago Profili

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# 01. Greeting letter

Dear delegates,

It is our honor to welcome each one of you to POSMUN 2022 and to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). Through this edition you will have the possibility not only to show and improve your debating skills, but also to meet new people and learn more about the situation concerning human trafficking. It is important that everyone reads this guidebook and informs yourselves beyond it, in order to develop a fruitful debate.

My name is Ornella and I will be your chair through this edition of POSMUN. This year is my last year at Porto Seguro and, consequently, my last year at Posmun, and it is an honor for me to be taking part as a Chair this year. At the last 2 editions of Posmun I was a delegate and nowadays I can see how the MUN's are helpful to learn about important topics, and most importantly, how to state your opinion even though there is someone ready to argue against you.

With that being said, I recommend all of you to do your best at this MUN, so that, at the end of this three-day debate, you can perceive a personal growth in yourselves. In case of any doubts, you can contact me, I will be very glad to help everyone of you.

May this Posmun not be your last one!

Your Sincerely,

Ornella Faria, Chair of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)



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Dear delegates,

It is our honor to welcome each one of you to POSMUN 2022 and to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). My name is Thiago Profili and I will be your chair as well throughout this edition of POSMUN. Unfortunately, it is my last year at Porto Seguro and having taken part in 2 editions of POSMUN, it has helped me a lot debate very important topics, keep up more often with worldwide news, improve my debating skills and most importantly, help me with my choice of degree in University

I recommend that you all show your best at POSMUN and if any flaws of you are shown throughout the debate, it will naturally help you be stronger as a person. This event will have great importance in your future and it is our duty to help you during the event.

In case of any question, please contact me as soon as possible and I will gladly help you with your question

Yours sincerely,

Thiago Profili, Chair of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at any time:

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The chair and vice-chair strongly recommend the delegates to read this guidebook thoroughly and use it as an initial research tool, but also to research and find information beyond it, seeking a better and more complete understanding of every delegation's position in this matter.

It should also be noted the importance of mutual cooperation, respecting the morals and values of all countries present and always bearing in mind that the U.N. was created to collectively make the world a better and safer place. Lastly, they urge the elaboration of a resolution that aims at a consensus between the majority of delegations present in the council.

## 02. Committee history

Created in 1997, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime is a member of the United Nations Development Group. The United Nations International Drug Control Program (UNDCP) and the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Division in the United Nations Office at Vienna were merged to form the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention. This was renamed as the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in 2002.

UNODC's work is based around five normative areas of activity: Counting **TERRORISM**; tackling **CORRUPTION** and its catastrophic impact on societies; Strengthening crime prevention and building effective **CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEMS**; Supporting Member States in implementing a balanced, comprehensive and evidence-based



approach to the **WORLD DRUG PROBLEM** that addresses both supply and demand; Strengthening Member States' capacities to confront threats from **TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME**.

The committee also makes an effort to establish **GENDER EQUALITY** all around the world. In order to ensure that men and women, boys and girls have equal access to rights, resources and opportunities. Therefore, it also enlists the support of **GOODWILL AMBASSADORS** to amplify its messages, such as Nadia Murad, Nobel Peace Prize laureate and UNODC Goodwill Ambassador for the Dignity of Survivors of Human Trafficking.

Last but not least, UNODC is committed to supporting Member States in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at its core. Some examples of the SDGs are the following: No poverty; No hunger; Climate Action; Gender Equality; Clean water and Sanitation, etc.

## 03. Introduction letter

Being part of the **TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME**, Human Trafficking is the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of people through force, fraud or deception, with the aim of exploiting them for profit. Men, women and children of all ages and from all backgrounds can become victims of this crime, which occurs in every region of the world. The traffickers often use violence or fraudulent employment agencies and fake promises of education and job opportunities to trick and coerce their victims.



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The crime of human trafficking consists of three core elements: the act, the means, the purpose. Physical and sexual abuse, blackmail, emotional manipulation, and the removal of official documents are used by traffickers to control their victims. Exploitation can take place in a victim's home country, during migration or in a foreign country.

If someone recruits, transports, transfers, harbors or receives through threats, use of force, coercion, fraud, deception, abuse of a position of vulnerability, giving payments or benefits, and abduction, this person can be considered a trafficker. Human trafficking comes in many forms, in which victims are forced to work on factories, on construction sites or in the agricultural sector without pay or with an inadequate salary, living in fear of violence and often in inhumane conditions.

## 04. Topic overview

The term trafficking in persons can be misleading: it places emphasis on the transaction aspects of a crime that is more accurately described as enslavement. Exploitation of people, day after day. For years on end. After much neglect and indifference, the world is waking up to the reality of a modern form of slavery. The public and the media are becoming aware that humans prey upon humans for money.

First, over the past few years, the number of countries that have taken steps to implement the foremost international agreement in this area - the UN Protocol against Trafficking in Persons - has doubled. However, there are still many countries, particularly in Africa, that lack the necessary legal instruments.



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Second, the number of convictions is increasing, but not proportionately to the growing awareness and growing size of the problem. Most convictions still take place in only a few countries. While these countries may have human trafficking problems more serious than others, they are doing something about them. On the other hand, as of 2007/08, two out of every five countries covered by this report had not recorded a single conviction. Either they are blind to the problem, or they are ill-equipped to deal with it.

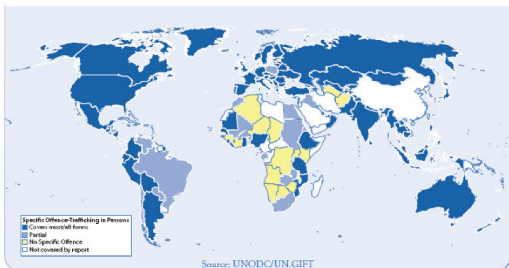
Sexual exploitation is by far the most commonly identified form of human trafficking (79%), followed by forced labour (18%). This may be the result of statistical bias. By and large the exploitation of women tends to be visible, in city centers, or along highways. Because it is more frequently reported, sexual exploitation has become the most documented type of trafficking in aggregate statistics. In comparison, other forms of exploitation are under-reported: forced or bonded labour; domestic servitude and forced marriage; organ removal; and the exploitation of children in begging, the sex trade, and warfare.

Of course, data on the response of states to human trafficking are only indirect indicators of the nature of the underlying problem. Countries with well-resourced criminal justice agencies may show a great deal of activity even when human trafficking is relatively rare, while countries with larger problems but less capacity may be unable to muster a proportionate response.

The Criminalization of trafficking in persons is something to be discussed. As the following data (2008) explains, many countries have been suffering from TIP (trafficking in persons), and even so they have no efficient measures to fight the problematic.







**Covers most/all forms:** Countries where the specific offence of trafficking in persons is in force, criminalizing at a minimum sexual exploitation and forced labour, with no restrictions concerning the profile of the victim.

**Partial:** Countries where the specific offence of trafficking in persons is in force, but legislation does not criminalize all or most forms listed in Article 3 of the UN Trafficking Protocol or does not define trafficking in persons.

**No specific offense:** Countries where forms of trafficking in persons are criminalized through other offenses due to the absence of a specific trafficking in persons offense.

The Distribution of all countries according to the number of convictions recorded for the specific offense of trafficking in persons during the reporting period was also measured by the UNODC. 14% of



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the data is not available. Meanwhile, 29% of the countries had at least 10 convictions per year, 17% had one to ten convictions, 19% had no convictions even though they had trafficking occurring currently and 22% of the countries were not being threatened by this topic, and as a conclusion, they had no convictions.

Unfortunately, internationally standardized data are still not available, that means that UNODC has not enough data to share exactly how big this problem is. As a consequence, we still lack a global understanding of the subject, and of how its components interact to make the whole.

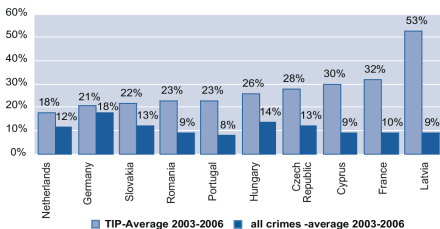
Besides, there is, of course, considerable regional variation in compliance to standards. Many African countries still do not have legislation on human trafficking, or they have laws that criminalize only some aspects of human trafficking (such as child trafficking). And not all high income countries have comprehensive legislation, either. In addition, most of the human trafficking convictions come from just a few countries, some of which are wealthy and some of which are not.

In addition, crime is typically a male activity. Men make up over 90 percent of the prison populations of most countries and are particularly over-represented as perpetrators of violent crime. It might be assumed that human trafficking, where violence and threats are keys to the business, would likewise be overwhelmingly male dominated. But, surprisingly, the data on the gender of those convicted for trafficking in persons do not support this premise.

The following data (based on a research made based on informations given by 46 countries) affirms the role played by women as perpetrators of human trafficking.

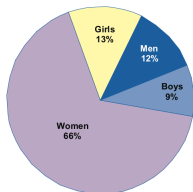


### Proportion of females in convictions for trafficking in persons and for all crimes combined in Europe



Source: UNODC/UN.GIFT

### Profile of victims identified by State authorities in 61 countries where information was collected, aggregated for 2006



Source: UNODC/UN.GIFT

It is important to emphasize that women are also victims of human trafficking, despite they can also be involved voluntarily with the crime. The profile of the victims is highly influenced by local laws and priorities, which often focus on child victims and victims of sexual exploitation (usually women). With this caveat in mind, in the 61 countries where the gender and age of the victim were specified, two thirds of the identified victims were women and 13% were girls.



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Regarding this topic, the UNODC committee already organized some campaigns in order to reduce the human trafficking, such as the Blue Heart Campaign against the human trafficking; the World Day against trafficking in Persons and the Twentieth anniversary of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

## 05. Position of involved countries

### **United States of America:**

The National Action Plan highlights several critical ways the Department of State combats human trafficking. It calls for collaboration between the Department's Diplomatic Security Service and other federal and local law enforcement agencies to continue building our collective capacity to pursue human trafficking cases and promptly connect victims to services. It also reinforces the urgency of the Department's ongoing work to engage governments, including across our own interagency, and with the private sector to prevent and address forced labor in global supply chains and public procurement. Most importantly, the National Action Plan underscores the need to further enhance our ability to ensure our anti-trafficking work is trauma- and survivor-informed, which the Department is committed to doing through its engagement with the U.S. Advisory Council on Human Trafficking and support of the Human Trafficking Expert Consultant Network. However, the USA has received major criticism regarding its social media enterprises for



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letting human traffickers freely access their social media and easily seducing and catching people to the human trafficking pyramid.

## **People's Republic of China:**

A 10-year action plan to combat human trafficking, aiming to better protect people's rights, maintain social harmony and stability, and safeguard national security, has been released by the General Office of China's State Council. The action plan calls for improving community-based network for preventing human trafficking, and establishing a working system featuring inter-department coordination and extensive participation by the public. Stressing a severe crackdown on human trafficking using the internet, the action plan urges carrying out a sustained national campaign targeting such crime.

It also requires investigation methods to be modernized and upgraded, calling for improving the information release system and the national DNA database for missing children. Despite this action plan being enacted, China still suffers a lot of criticism and accusations from other countries regarding supporting forced labour and human trafficking in the Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea and the reported human trafficking and forced labour of ethnic Uyghurs in the Xinjiang region in order to erase the Uyghur ethnicity, separating families and kidnapping people at night to work and to be trafficked.

## **French Republic:**

Combatting human trafficking is one of France's priorities for protecting and promoting human rights and fighting against organized crime.



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At a national level, an interministerial mission for the protection of women against violence and the fight against human trafficking (MIPROF) was created in January 2013, with the aim of providing greater protection for trafficking victims. On 18 October 2019, France announced the adoption of a second national action plan against human trafficking, process led by the MIPROF (Interministerial mission for the protection of women against violence and the fight against human trafficking), working closely with associations. This plan reaffirms the French government's commitment to reinforcing the fight against human trafficking on the basis of 45 precise measures. The plan wishes to place the subject of human trafficking at the forefront of the public debate, and to increase awareness amongst young people to the risks of exploitation; define a strategy to identify victims of human trafficking to ensure their protection and effective care; guarantee an unconditional protection to minors victims of trafficking; intensify the dismantling of criminal networks; coordinate public action at national and local level and finally, reinforce the international cooperation.

## **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland:**

The UK has launched a combat campaign on human trafficking, which includes the following topics:

- Improved victim care arrangements;
- Enhanced ability to act early, before the harm has reached the UK;
- Smarter multi-agency action at the border;
- Better coordination of our law enforcement efforts within the UK.



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Not only that, but the UK has been paying special attention to vulnerable children trafficked to and within the UK and the government guarantees complete focus on protecting children from traffickers

### **Russian Federation:**

Despite the Kremlin completely denying the existence of a human trafficking crisis in the Russian federation and Article 127 of the Russian Criminal Code prohibiting both trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation and forced labor, there are reportedly 800,000 Russians being forced to work under human traffickers. Another accusation is that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) operated work camps in Russia and exploited thousands of North Korean workers in forced labor. Although the government took steps to repatriate North Korean workers in accordance with UN Security Council resolutions (UNSCRs), citizens from the DPRK continued to arrive throughout the year, many of whom likely engaged in informal labor.

### **Federal Republic of Germany:**

The German government has undertaken several preventive initiatives over the last few years. These include:

The Alliance Against Human Trafficking for Labour Exploitation (Bündnis gegen Menschenhandel zur Arbeitsausbeutung), a project carried out by the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (BMAS) with European Social Fund (ESF) funding, the Social



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Protection and Prevention of Human Trafficking (SPPHT), a regional project for the Western Balkans, targets publicity and education work in Macedonia, Kosovo, Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, primarily by the support of learning and dialogue processes and by developing standards, guidance and further training for counsellors. The German government has had some major victories in combating human trafficking and since those victories, it has helped a lot of countries with their issues on human trafficking with bilateral cooperation.

### **Federative Republic of Brazil:**

Due to recent urbanization in Brazil, many industries, such as textile companies, are exploiting undocumented workers, especially those from neighboring Spanish-speaking countries. Undocumented workers are not the only victims of human trafficking in Brazil, however, as women and children are in situations of forced labor or prostitution. Between the years of 2010 and 2017, Brazil had over 500 cases of forced sexual exploitation, stemming from the country's severe income inequality. Since 2005, Brazil's government has made efforts to reduce the income gap, but since over 70 percent of those in forced labor situations are illiterate, these efforts have yet to impact the high rates of human trafficking in Brazil. The Brazilian government since the enactment of Brazil's 2016 law on human trafficking that expanded the legally recognized definition of the crime beyond sexual exploitation to include forced labour, servitude, illegal adoption and trafficking for the purpose of the organ removal has cracked down on human trafficking however it is still a problem in the largest country in South America.





## **Islamic Republic of Iran:**

The Iranian government believes in cooperation for tackling the issue of human trafficking. Capacity building programs and bilateral cooperation with neighboring countries and regions within the regions in the country are being implemented to target the present issue in the Middle East. This joint cooperation in the eyes of the Iranian government will be benefited from international support.

## **Syrian Arab Republic:**

The government of Bashar Al Assad has been unable to invest in combating human trafficking in and outside the Syrian borders due to the never ending conflict in the country. Videos of human trafficking and crimes that follow it have been documented throughout Syria, being shot by numerous terrorist groups. The main activism against it in the country is using social media to denounce the topic debated, with little to no response due to the delicate situation in the Arab country.

## **Republic of Cuba:**

Although the Cuban government has established a zero-tolerance policy toward sex trafficking, it does not explicitly prohibit forced labor or report on efforts to prevent it. In fact, Cuba has come under criticism for allegations that it sponsors and profits from forced labor. The Cuban government has been accused of sponsoring of human trafficking and subsequent forced labor, especially in the worldwide medical program that it offers. This has the effect of mistrust from



other powers on the effectiveness of the cuban government in combating the topic.

## **Republic of the Sudan:**

As one of the countries that has the most people enslaved in Africa, and it is considered one of the worst places for enslavement in the world. However, the sudanese government has launched a program to counter human trafficking and certain measures include:

- Access to a microfinance programme and to vocational and technical education and job opportunities to reduce poverty and increase livelihood options for young people, including migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers.
- Trainings with a special focus on female social workers to improve protection and support services for victims of trafficking and vulnerable migrants.
- More safe houses and secured shelters for rescued victims.
- Further training targeting law enforcement officials, the establishment of specialized prosecutor offices and courts, cross-border cooperation and the access for victims of trafficking to legal aid to improve investigation and prosecution.
- Revision of the national legal framework according to international conventions relevant to the protection of human rights.



The measures above are a step in the right direction, however no technology has been cited in the campaign and that worries the UN.

### **Republic of India:**

India is home to more slaves than any other country in the world, yet a lack of crime data is hindering efforts to understand the organized networks that are buying, selling and exploiting women and children for personal profit. A collaboration between a few charities alongside the Texas christian University, were able to create a database which will facilitate the tracking of human traffickers.

### **Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela:**

Venezuela has established human trafficking as a crime, but it still does not have an anti-trafficking law and policy. The Maduro administration demonstrated the intention to combat the development of human trafficking. However, Venezuelan law in 2019 only criminalized select forms of trafficking with insufficient penalties, prevention, reporting and protection of vulnerable groups.

### **Kingdom of Thailand:**

Thailand is home to about 610,000 human trafficking victims.

For more than two and a half decades, the labour migration to Thailand has continued to increase and it seems unlikely that it will change in the coming years. The Thai government alongside the



Mahanakorn university of technology has developed an app called Apprise which is able to report human trafficking schemes and human traffickers.

### **Kingdom of Cambodia:**

Cambodia has been labeled as a country that does not fully meet the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking but is making significant efforts to do so. However, the kingdom has a strategy for solving problems. A site called bongpheak.com has been created to find jobs for Cambodians before they suffer from human traffickers and the subsequent crimes that follow it. This strategy has been praised by the ASEAN countries and the government is banking on that strategy despite the criticism on the lack of action towards human trafficking.

### **People's Democratic Republic of Algeria:**

Algeria has not made significant progress to eliminate human trafficking within its borders. It only dismantled 100 smuggling groups and identified and helped 34 victims in 2019. Furthermore, the Algerian government prosecuted fewer human traffickers in 2020. As a result, the government is protecting fewer victims of human trafficking. Algeria lacked effective ways to identify and protect victims of human trafficking. Unidentified victims underwent deportation or punishment for their illegal actions rather than receiving assistance. Algeria provides free services to trafficking victims to increase identification. However, people often underutilize



these free services. Moreover, the government does not report how many resources are provided for victims.

## 06. Purpose of the council

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) is looking forward new measures in order to combat the human trafficking all around the globe. It is extremely important to maintain peace among the countries and to respect human rights during the debate on the solution of TIP. It is also important for the delegations to respect themselves and their ideologies during the debate, so that the discussion can be fluid and successful.

The Chair and Vice-Chair hugely recommend the Delegates to read this document thoroughly, use it as an initial guide of research, and to find more information beyond it, especially about your country in specific.

## 07. Guiding questions

1. How does my country benefit from human trafficking?
2. Is my country interested in solving this issue?
3. Why does human trafficking still exist?
4. How would an alliance with ... benefit my country?



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