

HUMAN TRAFFIKING FOR FORCED LABOR – A PROBLEM OF CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY



- *Human trafficking and forced labor. Defining concepts*
- *Factors that contribute to trafficking*
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1. Human trafficking and forced labor. Defining concepts

Forced labor: forced or compulsory labor means all work or service demanded from any kind of person under the menace and for which that person has not offered himself voluntarily. Forced labor is often designated by the term of "modern slavery", the concept of property differentiating forced labor and slavery in a traditional sense. Because the traditional slavery requires the possession of a slave by another person, forced labor consists only in the exercise of coercion and the restriction of personal freedom. Slavery is a form of forced labor, but not unique. There are many categories of labor - from slavery until the easement.

Debt constraint: it is an example of forced labor. The debt constraint is a situation that occurs when a person gives another person a loan and use for work the debtor, to repay the debt. When the work is evaluated reasonably, but the liability is not yet liquidated, the situation turns into debt constraint.

Human trafficking: the exploitation of victims shall include, exploitation for prostitution, forced labor, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs.

2. Factors that contribute to trafficking:

a) In terms of the offer:

The climate in which the activities of traffickers thrive - due to poor governance characterized by a corrupt government or an absent one.

Inefficient legal system.

Discrimination based on gender difference in the employment process, education and information. For example, overseas employment opportunities are offered mainly to men, as women become more vulnerable to trafficking.

Insufficiency or lack of legal channels for migration and the lack of information on existing legal resources on how to obtain work abroad.

Illiteracy and low education.

Lack of knowledge about the risks of migration.

b) In term of the demand:

- The consumer demand for products and services offered at a low price and quickly.
- Development of sex industry - has generated demand for sexual services.
- Absence of regulatory framework and lack the efficient sanctions.
- Lack of respect for human rights
- Lack of awareness.
- Corruption of immigration officials and customs system.

3. Recruitment process. Profile of recruiters

The recruiters can be divided in 2 categories:

Intermediaries. An individual recruiter working on his own but often directly related to a network of traffickers.

Intermediaries can operate under different forms:

- Friend of a friend
- Member of familie
- Boyfriend / girlfriend, fiancé / fiancée
- People from the community

Agencies. An organization of recruiters working legally, semi-legal or illegal.

Private recruitment agencies can operate in various forms:

- Private employment agencies
- Travel agencies
- Fashion agencies
- Dance agencies
- Dating agencies
- Clubs

4. Methods used by traffickers to recruit potential victims

- **By force, coercion, complicity and ignorance**

Recruiters can lure victims by promising them well-paid jobs in countries of destination. They also can make use of violence and coercion. Some victims are kidnapped, but in most cases, in the first recruitment stage, there is some understanding between the trafficker and the victim.

- **Voluntary recruitment of victims that do not suspect the consequences**

Lured by the promise of a better life, many migrants leave voluntarily with the recruiters, some even looking for them, willing to pay the required fees and accepting to fall into debt to the recruiter, to become in a state of servitude.

- **Prostitution**

Women working in the sex industry of the country of origin are subject to increased risk of becoming victims of trafficking. This is because pimps are mostly members of criminal networks, and women have been trafficked to the country, sold or re-sold.

False documents

Migrants could receive fake documents - passports and visas, work contracts, certificates of marriage

5. Forms of abuse carried out by the traffickers

A characteristic of the behaviour of traffickers is to impose a permanent domination over the victim, lack of release opportunity

The most common ways to impose such dependencies are:

- Confiscation of identity documents so that migrants are not able to travel back to their country
- The threat of denunciation to the authorities of the country of destination.
- Threats of physical violence
- Threats of using violence to family members of the migrant
- Social isolation.
- Close in a certain space.
- Servitude.
- Confiscation of wages or excessive wage reduction.

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6.Safeguards. Knowing the legal recruitment process of candidates

- 1) The vacant post is notified to the public by the recruitment agency using normal means of communication (newspapers, radio, internet)
- 2) The applicant is registered and receives informations regarding the job, type of work, salary, general working conditions.
- 3) The applicant is interviewed and an initial selection takes place.
- 4) The professional skills of the pre-selected candidates are tested and those who have passed this test are included in the shortlist.
- 5) The shortlist is presented to the employer abroad that will take the final decision.
- 6) The selected candidates are informed regarding the type of work that they will have to perform, living and working conditions, traveling conditions.
- 7) The selected candidates will sign a labor contract
- 8) The candidates will receive travelling
- 9) The selected candidates are received in the country of destination by a representative of the agency or by the employer.
- 10) The selected candidates will start the work and the recruitment agency will receive the amount of money for the recruitment process.