

“Referral of and Assistance for victims of human trafficking in Europe” RAVOT-EUR

Kick-off conference

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*Optimizing the process of identification and
constructing a National Referral System for victims of
human trafficking in Greece:
Challenges and steps forward*

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Greece is a transit and destination country for victims of human trafficking

According to the **2013** annual statistical data, 99 victims of THB were identified. Most of them were male, originating from Bangladesh (N = 35).

Purpose of trafficking	Number of victims
Forced labour	55
Sexual exploitation	30
Forced labour and Sexual exploitation	8
Forced begging	6

In **2012**, 94 victims of THB were identified. The majority originated from Romania (N = 44) and Bulgaria (N = 21); most of them were women (72%).

Minors victims of Human Trafficking

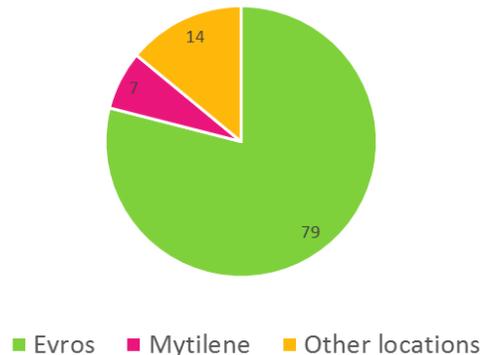
Minors are mainly trafficked for **sexual exploitation, forced marriage, forced labor (including forced begging), and adoption.**

The unaccompanied minors crossing the Greek borders each year are one of the most vulnerable to THB groups.

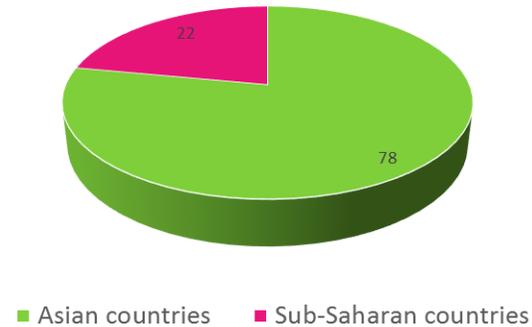
Minors victims of Human Trafficking & Unaccompanied minors

In 2013, District Attorneys' Offices reported that 956 unaccompanied minors had made use of their service; **25% was under the age of 13.**

Percentage of children entering Greece from different locations (N = 956 / year 2013)



Countries of origin of the 956 unaccompanied minors managed by the Attorneys' Offices in 2013 (%)



Minors victims of Human Trafficking & Unaccompanied minors

In 2012, the National Centre for Social Solidarity received 822 requests for shelter from unaccompanied minors asylum seekers.

Countries of origin of the 822 unaccompanied minors which asked for asylum in 2012	
Afghanistan	58,76%
Pakistan	9,98%
Syria	6,5%
Other locations	24,76%

Hellenic Police reported that in 2012 **15 minors identified as victims of trafficking**. None of them came from Asia or Africa, although the majority of unaccompanied children comes from South Asian countries.

Countries of origin of the 15 minors characterized as victims of human trafficking in 2012	
Albania	2
Bulgaria	2
Greece	2
Romania	9

Reasonable questions stemming from data:

1. Only such a small percentage of the unaccompanied minors entering Greece without legal permit are victims of trafficking?
2. Do we need new and specifically constructed tools to detect **minors** victims of trafficking?
3. Is specialized training on age-specific characteristics of victims of trafficking necessary?
4. Why all minors identified as victims of trafficking originated from countries belonging to the European geographical space? Is more difficult to detect victims originated from non-EU countries? Do cultural differences play a role on this?

National actions concerning identification of victims

Information and Referral Helpline “1109”, operated by the “A21 Campaign”

The International Organization for Migration has planned to deliver capacity building and training courses for first line identifiers.

The Hellenic Center for Disease Control and Prevention will provide training on interview techniques to health care professionals in detention, pre-reception centers and hospitals.

EKKA will deliver training to social care professionals.

The Institute of Child Health will train law enforcement professionals and personnel of pre-reception centers, focusing on identifying minors victims of trafficking.

National actions concerning the National Referral System

The National Rapporteur Office (NREM) is developing guidelines on the use of the criteria for the identification of victims of THB, and guidelines on how to address issues such as compensation and safe return.

The National Center for Social Solidarity (EKKA) will run a program through an existing web platform called “ESTIA”, aiming to manage in real-time victims’ demands and needs.

The NREM has also opted to participate in a larger EU Transnational Referral Mechanism which links National Referral Mechanisms to better identify, refer, protect and assist victims.

The Institute of Child Health will create a pilot database for the registry of unaccompanied minors and/or minors (possible) victims of THB crossing the Greek-Turkish borders

The Department of Mental Health and Social Welfare, Institute of Child Health runs two ISEC projects on THB

“REVIEWING SOCIAL AUDITING PRACTICES TO COMBAT EXPLOITATIVE BROKERING IN SOUTHERN EUROPE” – RESAURSE

- National partners. The project is coordinated by the University of Coimbra
- It aims to contribute to trafficking prevention and to promote victim identification and referral by combating exploitative brokering practices through social auditing
- End date: November 2014

“SOUTHEAST SAFE NET: PREVENTING CHILD TRAFFICKING AND PROTECTING UNACCOMPANIED MINORS IN GREEK-TURKISH BORDERS - SESN”.

- ICH is the Coordinator
- Collaborators: Experts from Turkey
- External Evaluator: Prof. Kevin Browne, University of Nottingham
- Three main objectives/actions:
 - Train law enforcement professionals on most updated tools for detecting minors victims of THB
 - Create a pilot database for the registry of unaccompanied minors and/or minors (possible) victims of THB crossing the Greek-Turkish borders
 - Create a pilot empowerment and psychosocial support program and implement it to unaccompanied minors and/or minors victims of THB, who reside in State and NGOs' shelters

Challenges and Steps forward

Detection of minors victims of trafficking among unaccompanied minors:

- Involve law enforcement personnel to a more child-friendly procedure concerning the identification process of minors victims of THB
- Create a toolkit for the detection of minors victims of trafficking among unaccompanied minors, which is consistent with the everyday reality of these professionals, feasible to be applied and at the same time evidence-based

Creation of a database to register unaccompanied minors and minors victims of THB:

- Avoid double entries due to misinformation or bureaucratic reasons
- Agree on a minimum set of variables necessary to inform decisions on appropriate interventions for each individual child

Empower and psychosocial support program:

- To prevent the running away of unaccompanied minors from the shelters only a few days after their allocation. In that way, it is believed that the danger to be exploited by trafficking system is diminished
- Enhance the resilience among unaccompanied minors and/or minors (possible) victims of trafficking



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Thank you for attention!



ReSAurSE

Reviewing social auditing practices to combat
exploitative brokering in Southern Europe