

Syrian Arab Republic Committee: Social, Humanitarian & Cultural Issues Topic: Worldwide Prevention of Human Trafficking

The Syrian Arab Republic is a Western Asian nation in the Eastern Mediterranean. It is bounded to the

west by the Mediterranean Sea, to the north by Turkey, to the east and southeast by Iraq, to the south by Jordan, and to the southwest by Israel and Lebanon. The majority of the population in Syria is Arab, but there are also significant populations of Kurds, Turkmen, Assyrians, Circassians, Armenians, Albanians, Greeks, and Chechens. Syria's biggest and capital city is Damascus. After decades of Ottoman rule, the modern Syrian state was founded in the middle of the 20th century. The newly established state, which had previously been Syrian provinces under Ottoman control, was the biggest Arab state to emerge from what had been a French mandate for a while.

Human trafficking is a crucial problem that is deteriorating rapidly and needs to be stopped urgently. While the whole world is heavily affected by it, developing and underdeveloped countries are affected a lot more due to most being in vulnerable situations, lacking education and many more reasons. According to the Human Trafficking Institution, there are at least 24.9 million people are victims of human trafficking, 20.1 million are victims of forced labor and 4.8 million are sex trafficking victims. Continent wise around 11,450 victims of human trafficking were found in Africa in 2021; this number was substantially higher in South and Central Asia.

In 2009 the Syrian government made limited progress in protecting trafficking victims. The government does not have a shelter to protect victims of trafficking at the moment however in December, the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor approved the opening of an IOM-operated shelter. Since more than %62 of global human trafficking occurs in the Middle East and Africa, we are severely impacted by the issue and want to put an end to it as soon as possible though it is exceedingly difficult to do so given the civil conflict we are facing at the moment. The Syrian government is eager to discuss the problem in order to find a solution while we are well aware that we still have a lot of progress to make on it.