

Country:Pakistan

Committee: (UNHCR) United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Topic: Promotion and protection of human rights in the situation of human trafficking

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Human trafficking, also referred to as trafficking in persons, is a form of modern-day slavery, and involves the use of force, fraud, or coercion to exploit human beings for some type of labour. Every year around the world, millions of men, women, and children are victims of human trafficking. Victims are often lured with false promises of well-paying jobs or are manipulated by people they trust; forced or coerced into domestic servitude, farm or factory labour, or other types of forced labour. Human trafficking and migrant smuggling continue around the world, posing a challenge to both transnational and national governance. Trafficking and smuggling result in global profits of up to \$32 billion, with 2.4 million victims being trafficked worldwide each year, according to a 2012 estimate by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

Like many other countries such as Russia and Sudan Pakistan is a source, transit, and destination country for men, women, and children subjected to trafficking and smuggling in persons, specifically forced labour. Trafficking in persons continues unabated within Pakistan, as well as across its borders. Girls and women are sold into forced marriages; in some cases their husbands move them both inside the country as well as across international borders and force them into doing unspeakable things.

Pakistan is a signatory to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) 2000. However, the Protocol to Prevent trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, has not been ratified. Nor has the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air. However, in 2002, Pakistan published its most important domestic law on trafficking in persons, the Prevention and Control of Human Trafficking Ordinance. This was completed by a policy document, released a few years later, the National Action Plan for Combating Trafficking. The main government law enforcement agency handling all matters related to human trafficking and migrant smuggling is the Federal Investigation Agency, or FIA. The FIA works under the authority of the Ministry of Interior. Anti-Human Trafficking Circles have been established in 12 cities across Pakistan.

In the past few years many anti trafficking organisations were built that aim to combat human trafficking in countries like Pakistan. We believe that raising awareness about human trafficking and teaching possible victims how to deal with minor and major signs of it will greatly reduce human trafficking.

As we finish our words we also would like to say we believe that if we work together we can greatly reduce human trafficking in not only Pakistan but in the whole world.