

The United States of America

Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee (SOCHUM)

Agenda Item: Curbing Human Trafficking, Child Labour and Terrorism in Cultural Properties

USA is bordering both the North Atlantic Ocean and the North Pacific Ocean, between Canada and Mexico. It has an area of 9,833,517 sq km. Population size is 345,426,571 by 2024.

Human trafficking, also know as trafficking in person, is where people are forced to work in both legal and illegal industries and sectors. Traffickers force victims to engage in commercial sex, work in janitoral services, taking care of persons with disabilities, drug smuggling, domestic work, ect. Victims of human trafficking can be anyone regardless of race, color, gender, age, status or national origin. In the U.S trafficking can be both American or foreign citizens. This works same for the traffickers. People often assume that all the traffickers are males. However, there are also cases filled against women traffickers in the U.S. One of the top priorities of the U.S Departmet of Justice (DOJ) is bringing human traffickers to justice. To achieve this goal and restore the rights, dignity and independece of victims and survivors, the department designs and executes special programs meant to identify victims, hold traffickers accountable and build capaticy to combat human trafficking in U.S and abroad. The National Action Plan to Combat human Trafficking (NAP) includes many measures for combatting human trafficking such as prosecution and prevention measures, supporting victims and cooperating with international partners.

Child labour is employment of children in a business illegally. Child labour in the U.S was common in 19th centuty, it declined in the early 20th century except in the South. Child labour in mines and factories ended in 1938. Unfortunatelly it still continues in agricultural areas. It takes away childrens basic rights such as education, protection and health. The U.S is a supporter of the International Labour Oraganization (ILO). Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) was passed in 1938 in U.S law. It forbids the employment of minors in hazardous jobs, sets age limits for employment and limits te number of hours children can work. U.S Department of Labor’s Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB) works to eliminate child labor globally. It supports international programs which are to combat child labor by fuding. It also provides data of child labor practices in various countries.

Destruction and trafficking of cultural properties by terrorists is a global issue. It is destruction of history and it is important to learn our history to make good choices in the future. Terrorist groups target cultural heritage sites to trade antiquties to finance their operations. The U.S works with UNESCO to protect cultural heritages and prevent illegal tradings. “The Protect and Preserve International Cultural Property Act” law allowed the U.S goverment to take direct action towards illegal trades and destruction of cultural items. It gave goverment more power to take back stolen artifacts. It also directed State department to work with other countries in order to protect cultural heritage. International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) is an international organization that helps police from different countries work together. INTERPOL provides tools, resources and support for criminal investigating. U.S works with INTERPOL to trcak and get back stolen cultural property and track illegal trading that may fund terrorist organizations.

The USA goverment has numerous legal measures to curb with all of these problems. We think that providing social, medical and psyhological support for labor and trafficking survivors can make them feel like a normal human being again and help them reintegrate them into society. If we increase opportunities for young beings by helping them gain skills in safer industries they won’t need to do hazardous jobs. We can supervise borders to prevent cultural artifacts getting stolen. We should strengthen our laws in order to prevent all these issues.