



## ***TBMUN 2022 UNHCR STUDY GUIDE***

***Committee:*** UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees)

***Agenda Item:*** Protecting Victims of Human Trafficking in Conflict and  
Post-Conflict Situations in the Middle East

***Student Officers:*** Duru Savda, Kuzey Erdoğan

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## ***Letters From Chairs***

Fellow Delegates of TBMUN 2022,

I am Kuzey and I am a 10th grade student at MEV Collage Anatolian High School. I have the honour to be serving as the president chair of UNHCR in TED Bodrum Model United Nations along with my deputy chair Duru this year who is truly an amazing person and MUN'er. I would like to begin my letter by welcoming you to this amazing conference. Some of you are going to be experienced delegates and some of you are going to be first timer MUN'ers which is perfectly fine if we bear in mind that we all have to start somewhere. From my point of view, joining MUN conferences are some of the best things you can do while you are in high school. It has tons of benefits such as; getting into politics in a pleasant way, learning about different points of views of completely different countries and the best of them all: socializing and making new friends. Finally, as the chairboard we have some friendly expectations from you in this conference. You are expected to do accurate research prior to the conference (we believe that the study guides will help you a lot with your research so please read them carefully), follow the rules of procedure, try to contribute to the debates so that the debate can go smoothly and please be respectful to the other delegates :) If you have some questions you can always contact me through my email [erdogan.kuzey@gmail.com](mailto:erdogan.kuzey@gmail.com)

Dear distinguished delegates,

I would like to start by welcoming you all to the fifth annual session of TBMUN. I'm Duru Savda and I will be your Vice Chair for this year's conference. I am delighted to conduct the UNHCR committee with my beloved President Chair Kuzey Erdoğan. The conference, including the formal and informal sessions, will be conducted via Zoom. Though the conference will be conducted in an entirely online format, we seek to have fruitful debates and joyful committee sessions with you all.

The essence of Model United Nations has never been more vital than it is now, amid these unusual times and hardships. Without a doubt, our world needs collaboration, cooperation, and consensus, notably during these tough days. Regardless of all the handicaps, we shall show our resilience and pursue our goal to enrich and enlighten young minds with international politics and relations.

Each committee will assist today's future politicians, diplomats and leaders for them to use diplomatic conversations to address long-standing disputes. With your cooperation and goodwill, our committee will achieve its objectives and, ultimately, we will constitute well-written resolutions. Each step you take in this committee will demand ingenuity and diplomacy. I highly encourage every delegate to speak during formal discussions and informal sessions, and to make new friends; every perspective should be respected, and every voice should be heard. I wish you all a fruitful conference, hoping that this experience will benefit you! If you have any other concerns don't hesitate to contact me through my email [duru.savda@gmail.com](mailto:duru.savda@gmail.com)

### **About UNHCR**

UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, is a global organisation dedicated to saving lives, protecting rights and building a better future for refugees, forcibly displaced communities and stateless people. Its primary purpose is to safeguard the rights and well-being of refugees. It strives to ensure that everyone can exercise the right to seek asylum and find safe refuge in another State, with the option to return home

voluntarily, integrate locally or to resettle in a third country. It also has a mandate to help stateless people.

In more than six decades, the agency has helped tens of millions of people restart their lives. Today, a staff of some 7,685 people in more than 125 countries continues to help some 33.9 million persons. In a world increasingly shaped by climate change, poverty and conflict, the Sustainable Development Programs cannot be achieved without taking into account the rights and needs of refugees, internally displaced and stateless people. In the lead-up to the 2030 Agenda, UNHCR worked to ensure that all persons were included in its guiding vision by engaging with a range of other humanitarian agencies

### **Introduction to the Topic**

Human trafficking occurs in almost every nation in the globe, but it takes on especially heinous proportions during and after conflict. It is described as the recruitment, transportation, transfer, sheltering, or receiving of persons for the purpose of exploitation by the threat or use of abduction, abuse of power or vulnerability, deceit, coercion, fraud, force, or the payment or benefit of a person in charge of the victim. While many victims of human trafficking are exploited within their own nations, others are transported beyond borders.

Conflicts that occur in nations or other geographical locations can aggravate the prevalence and severity of human trafficking. As State and non-State organizations weaken and people resort to negative coping mechanisms to live, the chance of being a victim of human trafficking rises, as does the likelihood of perpetrating it against others. Conflict, on the other hand, raises demand for exploited people's goods and services while also creating new needs for exploitative combat and support positions.

Lack of rule of law, forced relocation, and humanitarian crises in various sections of Middle East, especially in Syrian Arab Republic and Iraq expose many civilians to the risk of human trafficking. Some armed organizations utilize human trafficking as a

mean of terrorizing populations. In refugee camps and informal settlements, opportunistic traffickers take advantage of the growing levels of vulnerability.

Many United Nations actors lack a clear mandate to combat human trafficking. However, there may be connections between human trafficking and other crimes or circumstances that they must tackle. A greater knowledge of human trafficking and how it intersects with conflict can help to integrate solutions to human trafficking into current requirements.

### **Definitions of Related Terms**

**Human Trafficking:** The illegal trade process of human beings for some specific reasons such as; forced labour, sexual slavery and commercial sexual exploitation.

**Post-Conflict:** The condition of a conflict area right after the conflict concludes.

**Sexual Exploitation:** Actual or attempted abuse of a position of vulnerability, power, or trust, for sexual purposes, including, but not limited to, profiting monetarily, socially or politically from the sexual exploitation of another.

**Sexual Slavery:** The state of being unlawfully kept in a situation in which one is repeatedly forced to engage in sexual activity against one's will.

**Forced Labour:** Any work relation, especially in modern or early modern history, in which people are employed against their will with the threat of destitution, detention, violence including death, compulsion, or other forms of extreme hardship to either themselves or members of their families.

## *Detailed Background Information*

Trafficking in persons in areas affected by conflict is not a new phenomenon, but a better understanding of the complex interrelationship between trafficking in persons and conflict has emerged in recent years. It is increasingly clear that conflict exacerbates vulnerability to trafficking and its severity.<sup>1</sup> This fact is evident in the extremely egregious treatment inflicted by armed and terrorist groups in areas where conflict is ongoing, the different forms of exploitation emerging in that context and the large number of people who are made vulnerable by conflicts and who are forced to flee them.

During times of war, widespread human trafficking and other types of exploitation that take place in criminal contexts prolong criminality and corruption, making it difficult to restore peace and reconstruct society. In this context, the United Nations Security Council said in Resolution 2331 (2016) that "...human trafficking undermines the rule of law and contributes to other forms of transnational organized crime, which can intensify conflict, encourage insecurity and instability, and undermine development."

Conflict-related displacement significantly increases individuals' vulnerability to organised criminal groups, including those groups that take advantage of displaced and otherwise vulnerable people to profit from their desperate situations.<sup>2</sup> Conflict increases the number of people who are internally displaced, including refugees or asylum seekers and migrants, who are often in irregular situations. Such situations make people particularly vulnerable to exploitation not only once they have arrived at a destination, but also en route as they are approached in camps or transit points by people looking to exploit them.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> See, for instance, the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of measures to counter trafficking in persons (S/2016/949).

<sup>2</sup> The Global Report on Trafficking in Persons 2016 established that an increasing number of trafficking victims from countries affected by conflict such as Iraq, Somalia and the Syrian Arab Republic were being detected in multiple countries in Europe. See also, "Conflict-related displacement in Ukraine: increased vulnerabilities of affected populations and triggers of tension within communities", Thematic reports from the Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine (OSCE, 2016).

<sup>3</sup> Claire Healy, *Targeting Vulnerabilities: The Impact of the Syrian War and Refugee Situation on Trafficking in Persons — A Study on Syria, Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq* (Vienna, International Centre for Migration Policy Development, 2015), chap. 4.

Indeed, large-scale internal and cross-border movement of people as a result of conflict is one of the most serious humanitarian crises of the twenty-first century, creating extreme vulnerability among populations and lucrative markets for those who profit from it, such as migrant smugglers and traffickers. Addressing such illegal activities while preserving the rights of those who have been displaced from their homes continues to be a major economic, cultural, social, and political problem for nations of origin, transit, and destination.

### ***1. Overview: The Main Forms of Trafficking in Persons in Armed Conflict***

Trafficking for sexual exploitation, sexual slavery, forced marriages, the recruitment of children into armed organizations, and other kinds of trafficking for forced labor are the most commonly documented forms of human trafficking in situations characterised by high levels of violence and cruelty. Therefore, an overview of the main forms of trafficking that have been identified within and in the surroundings of conflict areas will provide a better understanding of the situation and in what circumstances it arises.

#### ***1.1 Trafficking for Sexual Exploitation***

On a global scale, trafficking in persons for sexual exploitation is the most detected form.<sup>4</sup> Sexual exploitation is a broad category, however, and more specific forms of sexual exploitation have been identified in the context of armed conflict. Among refugees in formal and informal camps and in urban contexts in the Middle East, some families have felt that they had no option but to trade away their daughters for marriage to obtain some money to support the rest of the family. Some may perceive this practice as a way to protect their daughters from sexual and gender-based violence.<sup>5</sup>

Some of these marriages resulted in girls and women being coerced into sexual exploitation which would qualify as trafficking in persons. Similarly, families coping

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<sup>4</sup> United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Global Report on Trafficking in Persons, all editions.

<sup>5</sup> Office of United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Report of the Special Rapporteur on Trafficking especially women and children, on her mission to Jordan, A/HRC/32/41/Add.1, para 18; International Centre for Migration Policy Development, 2015, Targeting Vulnerabilities: The Impact of the Syrian War and Refugee Situation on Trafficking in Persons.



with the harsh realities of internally displaced persons and refugee camps, informal settlements and displacement in urban settings, may apply less scrutiny to job offers used by traffickers to recruit young women and girls, and sometimes also boys and men, into sexual exploitation. Such cases have been detected in areas with high levels of vulnerability tied to limited economic opportunities and weak rule of law.<sup>6</sup>

### ***1.2 Trafficking for Sexual Slavery***

Many incidents of sexual abuse and assault constitute to sexual slavery, according to international criminal tribunals. Armed organizations frequently use coercion, isolation, and brutality to conduct sexual slavery in various wars across the world.

Various reports on violence in armed conflict have documented that victims are abducted, held in captivity, and exposed to many forms of sexual abuse, including rape and sexual slavery.

Sexual slavery also occurs in the broader context of conflict-related sexual violence. In 2016, the United Nations Mission in South Sudan recorded hundreds of incidents of conflict-related sexual violence, of which several included elements of trafficking for sexual slavery. Women were abducted by the Sudan People's Liberation Army and sexually enslaved for more than four months, during which they also witnessed the killing of other victims held in captivity.<sup>7</sup>

### ***1.3 Trafficking of Children Into Armed Groups***

Armed groups recruit children to boost military capacity or to add pliant human resources. These ways of using children are regarded as exploitative.<sup>8</sup> Figures from the United Nations Secretary-General's Reports on Children and Armed Conflict documents 7,734 verified cases of children being associated with armed groups in the year 2016.

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<sup>6</sup> International Organization for Migration, 2008, Field Survey Report on Trafficking in Persons in Afghanistan; United Nations, webpage, UN warns of trafficking, sexual abuse in shadow of Rohingya refugee crisis, 14. November 2017,

<sup>7</sup> United Nations Security Council, Report of the Secretary-General on conflict-related sexual violence, S/2017/249, para 62.

<sup>8</sup> 2 United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,, 2018, Countering Trafficking in Persons in Conflict Situations, pp. 16-17

According to the Special Representative of the Secretary General on Children and Armed Conflict, the recruitment and use of children associated with armed groups nearly always constitutes trafficking in persons.<sup>44</sup> Trafficking of children by armed groups has been documented in conflicts across many regions, including the Middle East, subSaharan Africa and Asia.<sup>9</sup>

Families or communities may be recruited by giving over their children, especially males, to armed organisations having ethnic, religious, or territorial links to these communities. They may do so out of a "sense of responsibility" to the group, which may be viewed as the community's security authority. In reaction to perceived external threats, armed organisations apply pressure on local populations to produce youngsters for military service, according to case material from international courts. In other cases, children join armed organisations out of a lack of alternative options, a desire for vengeance for the loss of their relatives during the battle, or a desire to defend their neighbourhood.

#### ***1.4 Trafficking for Forced Labour***

Trafficking in persons for forced labour within conflict areas is typically carried out by armed groups to generate illicit income or sustain military operations. Children associated with armed groups, for instance, are also exploited in various non-combat or 'support' roles, such as cooking or carrying out other household chores.<sup>10</sup> They may also be forced to undertake heavy construction work, such as building bridges, roadblocks and camps. Case material from the conflicts in Sierra Leone shows that children were recruited by armed groups and used to gather food, fish, or to work on farms, and at one point, build an airstrip.

Trafficking for forced labour also occurs in the margins of hostilities. People living in informal settlements close to the conflict zone, or people travelling along smuggling

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<sup>9</sup> United Nations General Assembly and United Nations Security Council, Report of the Secretary-General. Children and Armed Conflict, A/72/361.

<sup>10</sup> United Nations, Children and Armed Conflict, webpage, last accessed 7 August 2018, URL: <https://childrenandarmedconflict.un.org/sixgrave-violations/child-soldiers/>

routes in order to flee the conflict and seek asylum, are also at risk of being trafficked for forced labour.<sup>11</sup>

## **2. Victims: Targeted and Vulnerable**

People living in areas directly or indirectly affected by armed conflict may be vulnerable to trafficking in persons in different and mixed ways, often reflecting their sex and age profiles. With the eruption or escalation of armed conflicts, people are forced to flee or find coping mechanisms to tackle heightened levels of insecurity. Being forcibly displaced or discriminated against for ethnic, religious or political reasons are some of the factors that typically increase the risks of being trafficked.

### **2.1 Sex and Age of the Victims**

According to the UNODC Global Report on Trafficking in Persons, women and girls comprise the largest share of detected trafficking victims worldwide.<sup>12</sup> While most are trafficked for sexual exploitation, this is not true for all female victims, as females account for about 30 per cent of the detected victims who were trafficked for forced labour. These patterns appear to be similar in conflict zones as well.

Women and girls are also trafficked for other forms of exploitation than sexual exploitation and forced labour in the context of armed conflict, for instance, forced marriages. It is well documented how ISIL coerced Yazidi women and girls into marriages and exploited them by compelling them to clean, cook, wash clothes and care for children. The women were severely beaten if they resisted rape, refused orders to complete tasks or attempted to escape.<sup>13</sup>

Men are primarily trafficked for various forms of forced labour. Since this often involves hard physical work, they tend to be young adults. In the context of armed

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<sup>11</sup> United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, 2018, Global Study on Smuggling of Migrants; International Centre for Migration Policy Development, 2018, Trafficking Along Migration Routes to Europe: Bridging the Gap between Migration, Asylum and Anti-Trafficking.

<sup>12</sup> United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Global Report on Trafficking in Persons, all editions.

<sup>13</sup> United Nations Human Rights Council and the United Nations Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic, They came to destroy: ISIS Crimes Against the Yazidis, A/HRC/32/CRP.2, paras 66-73, 130.

conflict, men are abducted and exploited for carrying heavy equipment, digging and cooking, among others.<sup>14</sup>

Some men are also trafficked into sexual slavery. In the context of the conflicts in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, armed groups abducted and transferred men into camps where they were sexually abused by fighters over weeks, months or even years. Sexual abuse of men may also be used to emasculate victims, as there is a cultural perception that raping a man transforms him into a woman in the eyes of his family and community. The perpetrators also force these victims to perform household tasks that are often considered “women’s work”, such as childcare, washing clothes, collecting water and cooking.<sup>15</sup>

Children trafficked by armed groups are exposed to traumatic events by participation in front-line fighting or by witnessing violence, including torture, death, explosions, massacres or indiscriminate firing. While boys are typically recruited to take part in armed combat, girls are more often subjected to sexual slavery, exploited in marriage or used for domestic work.<sup>16</sup>

## ***2.2 Discrimination and Marginalized Minorities***

Especially in conflict zones, people may suffer discrimination and marginalization on the basis of their religion, ethnicity or political views. These groups are particularly at risk of being trafficked, either because they are specifically targeted by armed groups, or because they have less economic resources as a result of their marginalisation. Religious and ethnic minorities who were marginalised prior to conflict tend to become more vulnerable to trafficking when armed conflict erupts. Political exclusion may also fuel grievances and contention. In addition, discriminated minorities may not enjoy sufficient protection by local institutions, making them easy targets for traffickers.

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<sup>14</sup> 8 United Nations Human Rights Council, 2018, Report of the Detailed Findings of the Independent International Fact Finding Mission on Myanmar, A/HRC/39/CRP.2, paras 253-260; International Criminal Court, Situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in the case of the Prosecutor v. Germain Katanga, case no. ICC-01/04-01/07. 7. para

<sup>15</sup> Mervyn, Christian et al., 2011, “Sexual and gender-based violence against men in the Democratic Republic of the Congo: effects on survivors, their families and the community”, *Medicine, Conflict and Survival*, p. 235.

<sup>16</sup> United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, 2015, *Invisible Survivors: Girls in Armed Groups in the Democratic Republic of the Congo from 2009 to 2015*, p. 18

Religious minorities are targeted for trafficking by armed groups. This is the case, for instance, of the Yazidi people in the Middle East and certain communities in the Lake Chad region. In South-East Asia, persecution and violence directed against the Rohingya result in trafficking networks taking advantage of members of this ethnic minority for different exploitative purposes.

### ***2.3 Forcibly Displaced People***

The armed conflicts considered in this study, from subSaharan Africa to the Middle East and South-East Asia, have all driven the forced displacement of large numbers of civilians from the areas directly affected by the conflicts. People forced to flee their homes leave families, friends and support networks behind. This social isolation makes them extremely vulnerable and easy targets for traffickers.<sup>17</sup>

#### ***Timeline of Major Events***

<b><i>Date</i></b>	<b><i>Description of Event</i></b>
2000	The United Nations passes the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress, and Punish Trafficking in Persons as part of the Convention against Transnational Organised Crime. It is the first global legally binding treaty with an internationally agreed definition of trafficking in persons.
2001	The countries of the Economic Community of Western African States agree on an action plan to tackle slavery and human trafficking in the region.
2004	The United Nations appoints a Special Rapporteur on Human Trafficking.

<sup>17</sup> Interview, United Nations Organization Stabilisation Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, 3 March 2018; United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, 2018, Global Study on Smuggling of Migrants, pp. 41-2.

2005	The International Labour Organization's (ILO) first Global Report on Forced Labour puts the number of slaves worldwide at 12.3 million. A 2012 update increases the number to 20.9 million.
2008	The Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings comes into force. The convention is the first international law to define trafficking as a violation of human rights, and it guarantees minimum standards of protection to victims.
2011	California enacts the California Transparency in Supply Chains Act. It requires major manufacturing and retail firms to disclose what efforts they are making to eliminate forced labour and human trafficking from their supply chains.
2014	The ILO adopts a protocol on forced labour, bringing its 1930 Convention on Forced Labour into the modern era to address practices such as human trafficking.
2015	The United Nations adopts 17 Sustainable Development Goals, including a target of ending slavery and eradicating forced labour and human trafficking.

## **Major Organizations Involved**

### **Global Alliance Against Trafficking Women**

The Global Alliance Against Trafficking in Women (GAATW) is composed of more than 80 non-governmental organizations from around the world including Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin American and the Caribbean, and North America, according to the GAATW site. The Alliance looks at human trafficking in the context of migrant labour exploitation, and works to alleviate situations where slavery-like conditions and practices exist. By using research, advocacy, and communication, the GAATW raises awareness and pushes for legislation that combats human trafficking. You can get involved by volunteering or even applying for one of the Alliance's internships.

## **Stop The Traffik**

Stop the Traffik is an organization that calls itself a pioneer in fighting human trafficking through education. The group informs communities on how to recognize the signs of human trafficking as well as how to respond to them. They've also headed initiatives like creating the Stop App, which lets users report human trafficking. You can help out the cause by donating to their intelligence-led campaigns.

## **The Urban Justice Center's Sex Workers Project**

The Sex Workers Project by the Urban Justice Center works to support sex workers and victims of human trafficking. The group does this mostly through legal advocacy and therapeutic support, according to its site. The Sex Workers Project's mission is to create a world that is safe for all workers and that doesn't include human trafficking. They mainly do this by providing policy makers with the necessary information about sex work to help them make informed decisions when it comes to legislation. To help support the work that the Sex Workers Project is doing, you can either make a one-time or monthly donation to the group.

## **Fair Girls**

FAIR Girls is dedicated to providing care for trafficking victims who identify as women or girls through advocacy and intervention. The organization provides housing, trauma-informed services, and education that helps these women cope with their experiences. Plus, the organization works to help sex workers who have been trafficked either remove themselves from their situations, or continue sex work in a way that is safe for them. There are plenty of ways to get involved with FAIR Girls, including donating, volunteering, and even starting a career with the organization

## **UNICEF**

While UNICEF is known for its dedication to many causes, one of its missions is to put a stop to all child trafficking. UNICEF works to combat the issue by helping adults attain a livable wage to encourage children to stay in school instead of providing for their families. The organization also lobbies for stronger child protection laws and supporting the training of professionals who either have to mentally support victims or identify them at borders. To help the cause, you can either donate to UNICEF or support one of their events centered around bringing awareness to the issue.

## Freedom Network USA

The Freedom Network USA is America's largest coalition of individuals and groups working to provide victims of human trafficking with access to justice, safety, and opportunity, according to its site. In addition to providing legal services, the group has created a network of survivors for support. If you'd like to get involved with the organization, you can donate to help it train professionals.

## Previous Attempts Upon the Issue

The international community is paying more attention to human trafficking in the context of armed conflict. The United Nations Security Council addressed the issue in Resolution 2388 in November 2017<sup>18</sup>, expressing its grave concern that human trafficking continues to occur in regions impacted by armed conflict. It further said that some offenses related to human trafficking committed during armed conflict may be considered war crimes. Furthermore, the Security Council requested the Secretary-General to take efforts to increase the collection of data, monitoring, and analysis of human trafficking in the context of armed conflict in Resolution 2331 of December 2016<sup>19</sup>. Furthermore, the Security Council reiterated its condemnation of all acts of trafficking carried out by the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), Boko Haram, Al-Shabaab, the Lord's Resistance Army, and other terrorist or armed groups for the purposes of sexual slavery, sexual exploitation, and forced labor by the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), Boko Haram, Al-Shabaab, the Lord's Resistance Army.<sup>20</sup>

In September 2016, the United Nations University, in collaboration with several other stakeholders, held a workshop on Fighting Human Trafficking in Conflict. Their report<sup>21</sup> detailed the three main trafficking trends connected to conflict: trafficking within and into conflict zones (i.e. trafficking of people from outside a conflict zone into the zone, or trafficking of people already located in the conflict zone); child trafficking (for a variety of purposes, including as combatants, servants such as

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<sup>18</sup> United Nations Security Council, November 2017, Resolution, S/ RES/2388, preamble.

<sup>19</sup> United Nations Security Council, December 2016, Resolution, S/ RES/2331.

<sup>20</sup> United Nations Security Council, November 2017, Resolution, S/ RES/2388, para 10.

<sup>21</sup> Cockayne, James, and Summer Walker. *Home - UNU Collections*. United Nations University, Sept. 2016, [https://collections.unu.edu/eserv/UNU:5780/UNURreport\\_Pages.pdf](https://collections.unu.edu/eserv/UNU:5780/UNURreport_Pages.pdf).



cooks, and increasingly as suicide bombers); and trafficking out of and through conflict zones (e.g. large refugee and Internally Displaced People (IDP) populations as they try to leave conflict zones, and irregular migrants trying to find opportunities by going through a conflict zone).

The United Nations Human Rights Office is collaborating with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) to create guidelines and an e-learning course for cabin crew on detecting victims of human trafficking. The creation of an awareness-raising message to be broadcast on flights is also part of this initiative. The recommendations will be unveiled during the inaugural Civil Aviation Authorities and Airlines Forum on Human Trafficking in 2018, which will take place in 2018.<sup>22</sup> Moreover, since 2013, the Office supports capacity building in combating trafficking in persons in the Republic of Belarus. The project aims to strengthen national capacity in protection of human rights in the context of the administration of criminal justice.

The General Assembly resolution A/71/L.80<sup>23</sup> directs OHCHR to draft worldwide guidelines on the health, criminal, and human rights elements of trafficking in people for the purpose of organ removal and trafficking in human organs in partnership with WHO and UNODC. In this context, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) has conducted research aimed at adapting the Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights and Human Trafficking to the unique characteristics of TPOR. The study is based on the work of the Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons, particularly women and children, who completed his work in 2013.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development establishes a comprehensive framework for combating both human trafficking and war. Anti-trafficking responses must be developed well before the commencement of conflict for prevention to be successful. Even if there haven't been any documented examples of human trafficking, actual or prospective concerns should be identified and handled.

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<sup>22</sup> "Trafficking in Persons // ." *Trafficking in Persons*, International Civil Aviation Organization, <https://www.icao.int/safety/airnavigation/OPS/CabinSafety/Pages/Trafficking-in-Persons.aspx>.

<sup>23</sup> United Nations General Assembly, August 2017, Resolution, A/71/L.80.

Counter-trafficking experts and interdisciplinary teams, for example, might be deployed to assess the hazards faced by persons compelled to leave war, who are often caught in large-scale migrations.

Prevention also necessitates taking steps to address vulnerability, such as increasing resilience through livelihood and educational opportunities, ensuring food security, and addressing sex and gender-based violence, as well as other forms of discrimination that can lead to the use of negative coping mechanisms. Providing secure and frequent crossing routes for individuals escaping war, as well as guaranteeing correct birth and marriage registration of non-nationals, including internally displaced persons in camps, are among the measures that may be taken to reduce the vulnerability of those fleeing conflict.

Raising awareness of the dangers of human trafficking and other types of exploitation may also be used as a preventative tactic. People derive no advantage from being taught that smuggling situations might devolve into trafficking when they have no option but to seek the services of smugglers to avoid violence. Counter-messages sent using the same social media channels that traffickers use to lure those at danger of being trafficked into conflict settings, such as radicalised teenagers, may be beneficial. Religious leaders' anti-radicalization teachings, as well as cautions from previous radicalization victims, may give crucial information to those who are vulnerable.

### ***Bibliography and Useful Links***

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