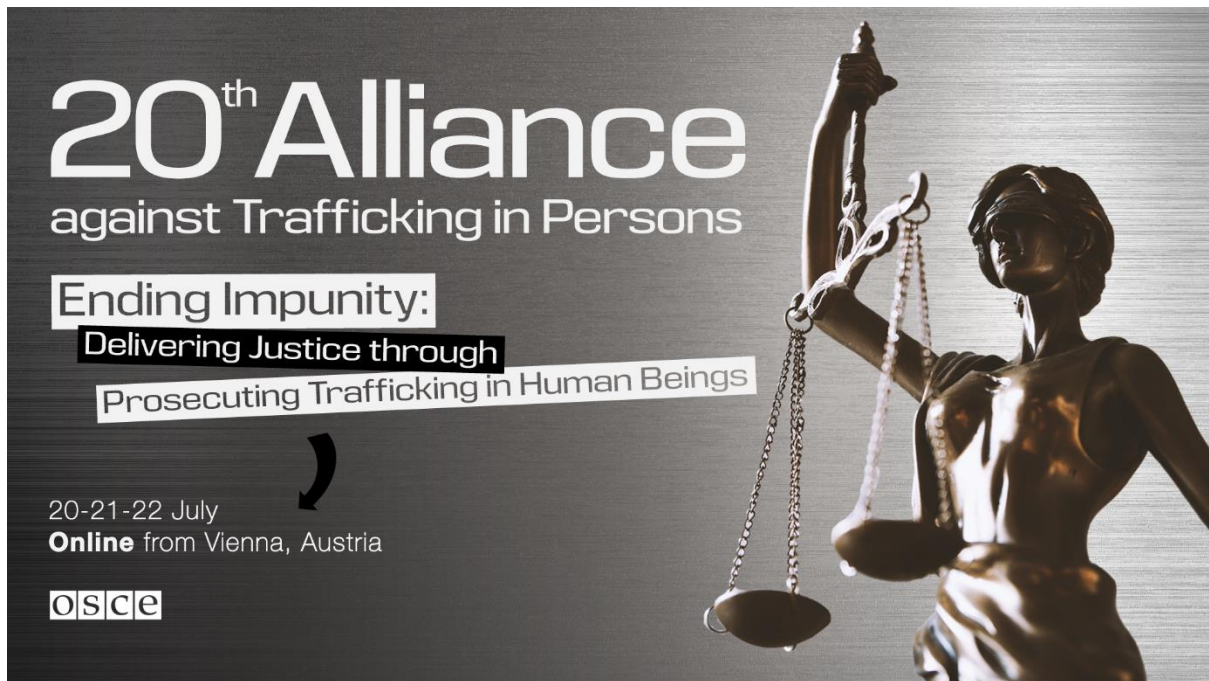




Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

Office of the Special Representative and Co-ordinator
for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings



20th Conference of the Alliance against Trafficking in Persons

Ending Impunity

Delivering justice through prosecuting trafficking in human beings

20-22 July 2020

Hofburg (Vienna, Austria) and via teleconference (upon registration)

AGENDA

(Please note that the following schedule is based on Vienna time, GMT+2)

Day 1: Monday 20 July

14:00-14:45

Welcoming Remarks

Mr. Valiant Richey, OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings

Opening Remarks

Mr. Sandër Lleshaj, Minister of Interior and representative of the OSCE Chairmanship, Albania

Ms. Ghada Waly, Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

Ms. Katarzyna Gardapkhadze, First Deputy Director of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR)

14:45-15:30

Keynote Addresses

Ms. Tanzila Narbaeva, Chairperson of the Senate of the Parliament of Uzbekistan, Chairperson of the National Commission on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings

Mr. Olivier Onidi, Acting European Union Anti-Trafficking Coordinator

15:30-16:00

Break

16:00-17:30

Panel 1 – The scope and nature of the problem

In order to effectively counter impunity for human trafficking offenders across the OSCE region, the scope and nature of the problem must first be understood. This includes accepting the stark picture presented by the data, showing stagnated and in some places even declining rates of prosecution and conviction rates, as well inadequate sentences, which pale in comparison to the severity of the crime and the number of identified victims. A multitude of factors contributes to this phenomenon, ranging from the existence of bottlenecks within the criminal justice system, to a fundamental lack of resources and limited political will. Often these factors coalesce to create a culture of impunity whereby it becomes a norm that traffickers go unprosecuted for THB offences. This panel will analyse the factors underlying impunity in the region and shed light on the obstacles to effective prosecutions.

Moderator

Ms. Kristiina Kangaspunta, Chief of Crime Research Section, UNODC

Ms. Camelia Stoina, Chief Prosecutor of International Cooperation Service, Directorate for Investigating Organized Crime and Terrorism, General Prosecutor's Office, Romania

Mr. Oleg Zatelepin, Judge of the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation, Member of the Judicial Collegium for Criminal Cases

Ms. Marija Andjelković, CEO of Astra, Serbia

Ms. Hilary Axam, Director, Human Trafficking Prosecution Unit, Criminal Section, Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice, United States

Discussion

Day 2: Tuesday 21 July

11:30-13:00

Online side-event *Towards resilient and cohesive societies: community policing to prevent and combat human trafficking* organized by the Transnational Threats Department/Strategic Police Matters Unit in collaboration with High Commissioner on National Minorities (via Webex)

14:00-15:30

Panel 2 – Working smarter to enhance investigations and prosecutions

The complexity of obstacles contributing to low prosecution rates means that anti-trafficking actors have to adopt innovative measures in order to overcome them. This panel will introduce some of the existing best practices in this regard. This includes outlining: how investigations can avail of new technology tools and proactive methods to detect both offenders and victims; alternative avenues for identifying perpetrators, such as conducting financial investigations following the money trail left by traffickers; and how cooperation between law enforcement, prosecutors and judges, at both the national and international level can help resolve evidentiary and jurisdictional issues within a case, as well as maximise shared expertise.

Moderator

Mr. Kevin Hyland, Member of the Council of Europe's Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings, Ireland

Mr. Barry Koch, Commissioner, Financial Sector Commission on Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking / the Liechtenstein Initiative, United States

Mrs. Ivanka Kotorova, Chair of the Eurojust Anti Trafficking in Human Beings Sub-Group and National Member for Bulgaria

Mr. Aliaksandr Tsyganok, Deputy Head of the Department for Investigation of Crimes against Persons and Public Security, Main Investigation Department of the Central Office of the Investigative Committee of the Republic of Belarus

Ms. Rahel Gershuni, Independent expert, Israel

Discussion

15:30-16:00

Break

16:00-17:30

Panel 3 – Victim-centred approaches to investigations and prosecutions

The criminal justice process is important to hold offenders accountable but may not be the most important aspect of recovery to the victim. How do we conduct effective investigations and prosecutions while also supporting the victim and securing his/her rights? The panel will discuss the application of the victim-centred, trauma-informed approach to investigation and prosecution. Victims are often left traumatised through their experiences, and this can be compounded by participation in difficult and lengthy criminal justice procedures, reducing the willingness of victims to report human trafficking. This panel will give an opportunity to discuss: the development of victimless prosecution strategies which do not rely upon victim testimony and minimize the negative impact on victims; how prosecutions can provide greater protection to victims by facilitating access to justice and remedies; the application of the non-punishment principle; and the provision of protection against intimidation and retaliation. The panel will also highlight ways to support victims in the criminal justice process.

Moderator

Mr. Chris Toth, Executive director of the National Association of Attorneys General (NAAG) and member of the Executive Committee of the International Association of Prosecutors, United States

Dr. Maia Rusakova, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, St. Petersburg State University, Executive Director of Stellit, ECPAT International Regional Board Representative for Eastern Europe and Central Asia, Russian Federation

Ms. Pam Bowen, Senior Policy Advisor at the Crown Prosecution Service, UK

Sister Gabriella Bottani, Co-ordinator and 2019 U.S. TIP Report Heroes Award Winner, Talitha Kum International, Italy

Mr. Wanchai Roujanavong, Senior Consultant Prosecutor, Thailand

Discussion

18:00-19:00

Online side-event *Presentation of Findings of the ODIHR and UN Women Policy Survey Reports and Recommendations “Addressing Emerging*

Human Trafficking Trends and Consequences of the COVID-19 Pandemic
organized by ODIHR and UN Women (via Zoom)

Day 3: Wednesday 22 July

15:00-16:30 Panel 4 – Recommendations for the way forward

Prosecution of trafficking cases is highly specialized, labour-intensive, time-consuming and often under-resourced in comparison to other crimes. This panel will outline the practical ways in which laws and policies can be adapted to best contribute to increased and more effective prosecutions. This will include a discussion on investing in an environment that enables effective prosecution and strengthens the implementation of the Palermo Protocol and relevant OSCE commitments. Panellists will share forward-looking recommendations to address challenges presented in previous panels. The panel will also look at good policy practices, examining those addressing various forms of exploitation, and treating the users as offenders. Finally, the panel will discuss how national prosecution strategies can be more effectively tailored to provide enhanced prosecutions on the ground and draw greater investment from national authorities.

Moderator Mr. Valiant Richey, OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings

Dr. Myria Vassiliadou, Former EU Anti-Trafficking Coordinator, Independent Expert, Cyprus

Mr. Farrukh Raufov, Deputy Head of Preliminary Investigation Department, Tajikistan

Ms. Beatriz Sanchez Alvarez, Prosecutor, Spain

Mr. Sergiu Russu, Head of the Anti-Trafficking Section within the General Prosecutor's Office, Moldova

Discussion

16:30-17:00 Break

17:00-17:30 Closing remarks

Mr. Valiant Richey, OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings

Amb. Igli Hasani, Permanent Representative of Albania to the OSCE and Chairperson of the OSCE Permanent Council