

# Stop Trafficking !

## Anti-Human Trafficking Newsletter



Awareness

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This issue highlights some of the discussion during the Nov. 2-3 meeting of the Vatican Academies of Science and Social Science Symposium in Rome.

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## Vatican Seminar on Human Trafficking



Following a wish expressed by Pope Francis, the *Pontifical Academies of Sciences and of Social Sciences (PASS)*, together with the *World Federation of Catholic Medical Associations (FIAMC)*, organized a seminar entitled, "*Trafficking in Human Beings: Modern Slavery. Destitute Peoples and the Message of Jesus Christ*".

The November 2-3, 2013 seminar, held in Vatican City, brought together some seventy delegates from Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, England, France, Guatemala, Ireland, Mexico, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Singapore, Spain, Switzerland, and the USA. The UN Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, Joy Ngozi Ezeilo from Nigeria, was among the twenty-two speakers.

The sixty observers in attendance were asked to contribute concrete proposals through which the global Church could better respond to the plight of millions of enslaved peoples.

Pope Francis was directly involved in combating modern day slavery in Buenos Aires, where he actively supported the work of the Fundacion Alameda, an Argentinian organization headed by Gustavo Vera, another of the speakers. The Pope's first trip after his election was to Lampedusa to pay tribute to the hundreds who had recently died at sea, trying to reach this island half-way between Sicily and Tunisia where many victims of human trafficking end up.

At the close of the seminar, Bishop Marcelo Sanchez-Sorondo, chancellor of PASS, promulgated the following statement from the Academies:

"Each human being is a free person, whether man, woman, girl or boy, and is destined to exist for the good of all in equality and fraternity. Any relationship that fails to respect the fundamental conviction that all people – men, women, girls and boys – are equal and have the same freedom and dignity constitutes a grave crime against humanity.

Despite the efforts of many, trafficking in human beings – the most extensive form of slavery in our twenty-first century – is a plague on a vast scale in many countries across the world. Victims are hidden away in private homes, in illegal establishments, in factories, on farms, behind closed doors, in families, houses and other places in the cities, villages and slums of the world's richest and poorest nations. This situ-

Vatican cont. on pg. 2

Please note: The papers presented at the Vatican meeting were extensive. It is only possible to provide short quotes from a sampling of presentations.



## Vatican *cont. from pg. 1*

ation is not improving but, on the contrary, is probably deteriorating.

There is now a compelling need to put an end to trafficking in human beings and all forms of exploitation, particularly prostitution, forced labor, the harvesting of human organs and the use of children as drug dealers and in the production of pornographic material, especially on the Internet.

Trafficking in human beings in all its forms, and in particular trafficking for sexual exploitation and prostitution, must be declared a crime against humanity. Traffickers should be prosecuted on the basis of clear international and national laws, including the confiscation of the profits derived from their illegal activities, and the victims ought to be fully compensated from such funds.

All stakeholders, at all levels, have a moral and legal duty to eradicate this grave violation of human rights and strive to ensure that all human beings co-exist in freedom, equality, harmony and peace, in accordance with the values common to our shared humanity. With the support of academics, moral and religious leaders, together with the influence of a global movement and social networks, we must expose these hidden crimes by using today's technology and working through good and just national and international institutions. It is our moral imperative to make ours the last generation that has to fight the trade in human lives."

Throughout the Seminar and during the lively interactions of the participants it was often mentioned that religious sisters have been at the forefront of the work to educate people about human trafficking, to effectively rehabilitate victims and bring hope to survivors, as well as to pressure governments for better laws and implementation of existing laws.

Several further meetings on the topic are being planned by PASS in order to assure that a strong pastoral program emerges, according to the Pope's wish. A seminar on the same subject is planned for 2014, and a plenary



Photo: Emanuele Princi

session of the two Pontifical Academies will be held in 2015 according to Archbishop Sanchez Sorondo. (Partially excerpted from: <http://vaticaninsider.lastampa.it/en/world-news/detail/articolo/francisco-francisco-francisco-29266/>)

## Slavery: Historic and Current Comparisons

Professor Margaret S. Archer (Director of the Center for Social Ontology at Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, Switzerland) gave a scholarly presentation, highlighting the crucial common denominators of past slavery showing how they are evident today.

In the acclaimed 1982 socio-historical study, *'Slavery and Social Death'*, Orlando Patterson defined slavery as: "the permanent, violent domination of natively alienated and generally dishonored persons." He held these defining features of slavery to be structural, cultural and socio-psychological, despite the varied social contexts in which they occurred and listed four distinctive, constitutive features of the 'master-slave' relationship.

**Domination:** "Slavery is one of the most extreme forms of the relation of domination, approaching the limits of total power from the viewpoint of the master, and of total powerlessness from the viewpoint of the slave."

Archer attested that contemporary slavery not only meets this first criterion but appears to exemplify 'total power', with no attempt to conceal its nature after its début.

**Social Death:** "A slave, however recruited, [is] a socially dead person. Alienated from all 'rights' or claims of birth, he ceased to belong in his own right to any legitimate social order. All slaves experienced, at the very least, a secular excommunication ... the slave was socially alienated and ceased to belong to any formally recognized community."

It was this alienation of the slave from all formal, legally enforceable ties of 'blood' and from any attachment to groups or localities other than those chosen for him by the master, that gave the relation of slavery its peculiar value to the master. The slave was moveable, removable and disposable.

Slaves have little chance to learn the local language or local geography, to form meaningful social relationships, let alone to know, acquire or exercise any civil rights that might be theirs. They are socially dead because they are severed from any form of social integration, past, present or future.

**Dishonored and Degraded:** Honor or reputation is both externally expressed and internally felt, making it a socio-psychological phenomenon. "To belong to a community is to have a sense of one's position among one's fellow members, to feel the need to assert and defend that position, and to feel a sense of satisfaction if that claimed position is accepted by others and a sense of shame if it is rejected. It is also to feel one has a right to take pride in past and current successes of the group, and feel shame and dishonor in its past and present failures."

**Manumission:** According to Archer, this fourth factor, the freeing of a slave, requires some analysis in comparing historical and contemporary situations of slavery. Patterson stated that 'manumission' was integral and indispensable to the system of slavery. "It is not possible to understand what slavery is all about until we under-

Archer *cont. on pg. 3*





## Awareness

**Archer** *cont. from pg. 2*  
stand it as a process including the act of manumission and its consequence. Enslavement, slavery and manumission are not merely related events; they are one and the same process in different phases.” Patterson posed the seeming paradox that the effect of the first three criteria was indeed to make the slave’s yearning for human dignity more intense. This itself could then be exploited to benefit the individual master and to buttress the slavery system as a whole.

In contemporary trafficking, Archer stated, there is a natural and informal mechanism that operates for both labor and sex-trafficked persons in the same way, and with the same consequences, as manumission did years ago. Quite simply, those trafficked in modern times undergo ‘aging’, rendering them of diminished financial value to their exploiters. In cost-benefit terms, as they grow older, it is not worth further investment in order to retain them.

Dependency was and remains hard to shed: first, because debts accumulate and take time to pay off. Second, slaves are always landless, homeless, and penniless. Third, if they have skills these are undocumented. Slaves lack others willing to vouch for them or provide ‘references’. Fourth, while all of these factors would confine them to the lowest-paid jobs, they would also confine them to the localities they knew – and which also knew them! Fifth, traditional slaves were often detained by attachment to people they served. Their contemporary counterparts are frequently restrained by threats to their families back home. In both cases, the dependency established remains. Thus, real freedom is elusive.



Archer concluded her presentation by asking, *“For those who live to see such ‘freedom’, what kind of social life, what degree of social re-integration is open to them? Do they remain strangers in strange lands, forever editing their pasts but never able to forget them? What kinds of friendships can a ‘success case’, who now works in a shoe factory, develop or is she drawn back to ‘Clubland’ where, at least, she knows ‘how to go on’? Can she find joy or is she socially condemned to rejoicing in the absence of abuse? We simply do not know. In the thousands of pages of reports, official and unofficial, no one seems to have undertaken research on middle-aged and old-aged human subjects and their lives after ‘social death’. These lost lives remain globalization’s own ‘disappeared’.”*

## Socioeconomic Factors & Human Trafficking



Professor Juan José Llach (Director of the Center for the Study of Government, Business, Society and Economy at the Management and Business School of the Universidad Austral in Buenos Aires, Argentina) offered a presentation entitled, *“Towards a Socioeconomic Etiology of Human Trafficking”*. He provided many statistics to highlight risk factors for potential victims and suggested means to help prevent potential victims from being exploited.

Children are increasingly affected. If they are on the street, live in slums, or are from broken families they are at risk. Young people ‘*not in employment, education, or training*’ (NEETs) are at risk. Almost 40% of employers say a lack of skills is the main reason for entry-level job vacancies. 50% of youth are not sure that their post-

secondary education improved their chances of finding a job.

Many human trafficking victims are not the weakest human beings; they are often poor, but healthy and strong at the same time. These are conditions appreciated by the traffickers. They also may have higher aspirations than those they could achieve remaining at their birth place. This becomes the incentive to emigrate from the countryside to towns, from towns to cities, from cities to a megalopolis and its slums, or to another country.

In terms of remedies, by examining the contributory factors in-depth, one can begin to ask: *Which people will be more prone to fall into human trafficking and where? Which contexts are more prone to organized crime?*

Llach *cont. on pg. 4*

## Risk Factors

### Personal Risk Factors:

- To be a woman or a girl (sexual exploitation);
- To be a man or a boy (forced labor);
- To have a broken family;
- To be poor, but healthy, strong, and/or pretty;
- To have a low educational level (all types of trafficking) or to be educated, but poor and living in a prosperous context (ripe for sexual exploitation).

### Social Risk Factors:

- To be a NEET;
- To live in slums near big and high/middle income cities (sexual exploitation and other demand-driven human trafficking);
- To live in slums near richer countries/regions;
- To live in a country or region that is growing rapidly and receiving investments from other countries or regions (forced labor).

### Political Risk Factors:

- To live in a weak rule-of-law country/region in general, or specifically regarding labor or human trafficking;
- To live in a country or region with high corruption levels and a moderate-to-high incidence of organized crime.



## Awareness

### Llach *cont. from pg. 3*

Answering these questions will assist in the prevention of human trafficking.

Modern day slavery will more readily be prevented with global concerted actions to fight against poverty, structural unemployment, and assist the NEETs. We must also learn more about traffickers, their socioeconomic and geographic etiology, and the relationships among criminal organizations specializing in different crimes.

### Use of Technology in Trafficking Children

Marcelo Suárez-Orozco (Dean of the Graduate School of Education and Information Studies and Distinguished Professor of Education at the University of California - UCLA) and Carola Suárez-Orozco (Co-Director of the Institute for Immigrant Children and Youth at UCLA, Los Angeles, CA) presented a paper entitled, *"The Empire of Suffering: Trafficking of Children in the Global Millennium"*.



They organized their insights and research within an ecological model of trafficking in which a macro-system of *globalization* is the context in which an exo-system of *'means'* and a micro-system of *'acts'* impact the vulnerable individual, who becomes trafficked. Their emphasis was on how these many factors specifically harm children, depriving them of both a childhood and a future.

With respect to the dark side of globalization, Suarez-Orozco identified three 'M' factors at play – *markets, media, and mass migrations* – as the macro context for human trafficking. The integration and disintegration of markets, new information, communication, and media technologies, the ease and declining costs of mass transportation, the brisk growth of inequality across the world, and new demographic factors fuel globalization's growing imbalances.

The global integration and disintegration of markets has produced unprecedented levels of both legal and unauthorized migration. The globally integrated economies of this century are structured around a predilection for migrant workers—both in knowledge-intensive sectors and in the least desirable sectors of the economy, generating large numbers of unauthorized immigration. Such workers are especially vulnerable to trafficking.

New information, communication, and social media technologies have stimulated new patterns of trafficking, using fluid, ubiquitous internet sites and new mobile devices. Scholarly research is beginning to outline the uses of digital technologies, mobile devices, tablets, smart phones, and social networking sites for human trafficking. Facebook, the world's most ubiquitous social media site with 1.2 billion users, has become an important conduit for the sexual exploitation of children.

Suarez-Orozco quoted researchers at the Annenberg Research Series on Technology and Human Trafficking, who contend:

"Mobile devices and networks are now of central importance to the sex trafficking of minors in the U.S. ...While the sex trafficking of minors continues to expand across multiple media platforms, the rise of mobile technology may fundamentally transform the trafficking landscape. No other communication technology in history, including the Internet, has been adopted so rapidly around the world. The World Bank estimates that 75% of the global population has access to a mobile phone. Mobile's ability to facilitate real-time communication and coordination, unbound by physical location, is also being exploited by traffickers to extend the reach of their illicit activities. Traffickers are able to recruit, advertise, organize, and communicate primarily—or even exclusively—via mobile phone, effectively streamlining their activities and expanding their criminal networks. In short, human traffickers and criminal networks are taking advantage of technology to reach larger audiences and to do illicit business more quickly and efficiently across greater distances." (Laterno, 2012 [http://technologyandtrafficking.usc.edu/files/2011/09/HumanTrafficking\\_FINAL.pdf](http://technologyandtrafficking.usc.edu/files/2011/09/HumanTrafficking_FINAL.pdf))

*"As technology and globalization make the world more interconnected, traffickers' ability to recruit and exploit their victims has also intensified."*

(U.S. Dept. of State, 2013, <http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/210737.pdf>).

### Globalized Crime

H.E. Amb. Pierre Morel (Director of the Pharos Observatory of Cultural and Religious Pluralism in Paris, France) spoke on *"International Crime as Part of Globalization: What Policy Response?"*

Growing drug addiction promotes global criminal gang activity. Cyber-technology has also opened new opportunities for global criminal networks. Multinational business corporations have grown beyond the control of individual States. This too feeds opportunity for organized crime.

In response there must be the formation of international bodies of coordination that share data and work collaboratively. After world wars, the Red Cross formed. After civil wars, non-governmental organizations formed and responded. Now the world community must collaborate to counter global criminal organizations. For example, new procedures must be in place to prevent money laundering by these criminal elements.



Awareness

**Diminish Exploitation of Migrants**

H.E. Amb. William Lacy Swing (Director General of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Geneva, Switzerland) presented a paper on “*Human Trafficking in the World: Challenges and Responses of the International Community*”.

Migration is an integral component of being human, since the time of Adam and Eve. Today migration is accelerating due to growing poverty, the technological revolution and globalization, and natural disasters driven by global warming.

Of the seven billion inhabitants of the world today, one billion are migrants: 232 million internationally and 740 million internally to their own country. Fear has led to discrimination and exploitation of migrants. Migrants must be decriminalized. There must be greater practical protection for them.

All efforts will fail however if we do not, at the same time, address the public image of migrants. Migrants from the global south are the answer to the job drain that is accelerating in the global north. Migrants must be welcomed into new areas, offered viable options for work and education and invited to share cultural values for the benefit of all.

According to Amb. Swing there will be a world summit in 2016 to address how to manage multiple longterm emergencies related to migration. It will require political will and resources to resolve this great crisis.

Comparison of Migrants with Other Countries Regarding:	
<b>Population Size</b>	
Indonesia (4th globally)	248 million people
Migrants	232 million people
Brazil (5th globally)	199 million people
<b>Earning Power (Gross Domestic Product)</b>	
Belgium (31st)	US\$418 Billion GDP
Migrants	US\$400 Billion
Philippines (32nd)	US\$395 Billion GDP
Source: Presentation by Amb. Wm. L. Swing, Gen. Dir. International Office of Migration	

**Focus on the Mafia**

Mr. Gustavo Vera, M.P. (Pres. of the Fundación La Alameda, Buenos Aires, Argentina) spoke of “*The Argentinian Experience and Approach*”.

His organization and the government have gone after the mafia to confiscate their wealth. It is used for victim compensation and for social compensation (schools, clinics, etc.).

**Focus on ‘Demand’**

Presenter, **Melissa R. Holman** (Asst. State Attorney General for Texas) recommended that the Vatican encourage more nations to adopt the ‘**Nordic Model**’ for fighting commercial sexual exploitation. This approach criminalizes the buyer of commercial sex and has shown to decrease the incidences of human trafficking in those countries that have enacted this type of legislation.

**Efforts by the European Community**

Ms. Myria Vassiliadou (European Anti-Trafficking Coordinator for the European Commission, Brussels, Belgium) presented on “*The EU Legal and Policy Response To Trafficking in Human Beings*”.

There are 28 members in the European Union (EU) and clear evidence of growing internal migration of peoples among these nations. There are at least 23,600 victims, 61% of whom belong to the EU. The increase of trafficked victims is caused in part by an increase in gang activity and a decrease in the economy. Yet conviction of traffickers is down by 15% during 2008-10. There is a growing realization that demand must be addressed and users of cheap labor and sexual exploitation must be punished.

The EU is now reviewing the impact of hundreds of anti-trafficking projects that were funded in order to redesign what is done so it makes a more effective impact on trafficking. Recompense to victims and long prison sentences for traffickers are some ways to respond to this crisis.

**Involve Religious Orders of Men**

Observer, **S. Eugenia Bonetti, MC**, (Coordinator for the Office of Trafficking in Women and Children of the Union of Major Superiors of Italy - USMI) recommended during the Vatican meeting that **more religious orders of men** become involved in anti-human trafficking efforts.

Sister Bonetti, who has devoted the past two decades of her life to assisting victims of human trafficking, was one of 43 winners of the 2013 European Citizens’ Prize, an award begun by the European Parliament in 2008.





## Advocacy

### Impunity and Human Trafficking



Prof. Anne T. Gallagher (independent scholar and legal adviser from Australia to the United Nations and Association of South East Asian Nations) spoke on

*“Ending Impunity, Securing Justice and Preventing Exploitation: Human Rights and Human Dignity in the Fight against Trafficking”.*

Trafficking is a heinous crime and violation of fundamental human rights. However it is also a predictable outcome of certain global political and economic realities. These include migration regimes that restrict the ability of individuals to secure legal access to preferred destinations; international and domestic trade policies that liberalize and regulate the movement of money, goods, and services but not labor; rampant consumerism that disregards the human costs of production; and the internationalization, diversification, and explosive growth of the global sex industry. These essentially economic determinants are reinforced by powerful social structures that create or exacerbate vulnerabilities among particular groups including women, children, and migrants and that nurture demand for the main products of trafficking.

Ultimately, addressing trafficking requires frank acknowledgement that exploitation has built our world and continues to power global economic growth. Ending trafficking will require a radical modification of current patterns of demand for the cheap goods, cheap sex and cheap labor made pos-

sible through the exploitation of our fellow human beings. This broader project of renewal and reform must move beyond governments to include civil society, the business sector, communities and individuals.

It is essential to never lose sight of this broader picture and to openly confront the challenges we face in dealing with the political, economic and social factors that drive the exploitation of human beings for private profit. However, there is much that can and should be done immediately.

The following recommendations focus particularly on the key issues addressed in Gallagher’s paper.

#### **Prioritize human rights and human dignity:**

All responses to trafficking must reflect and enhance the rights and dignity of all human beings. Such an approach requires careful consideration of the ways in which human rights violations arise throughout the trafficking cycle, as well as of States’ obligations under international human rights law. It seeks to both identify and redress the discriminatory practices and unjust distributions of power that underlie trafficking, that maintain impunity for traffickers, and that deny justice to victims of trafficking.

#### **Demand an effective criminal justice response:**

Trafficking is a serious crime and should be treated as such. A criminal justice response that seeks to both end impunity for traffickers and secure justice for victims deserves to take its rightful place as a critical component of any lasting solution. The twin goals of ending impunity and securing justice are intrinsically linked and each one facilitates the attainment of the other. A national strategy that aims to achieve only one of these goals, particularly at the expense of the other is doomed to irrelevance and failure.

#### **Reduce vulnerability to trafficking:**

Trafficking is fueled by poverty, inequality within and between countries, and systemic human rights violations. States and the international community have an obligation to recognise such vulnerabilities and to address them effectively. This requires acknowledgement that certain groups, including migrants, children and women subject to violence, are especially vulnerable to trafficking-related exploitation and that laws, policies and practices can exacerbate such vulnerabilities.

#### **Address demand for goods and services produced through trafficking:**

The integration of trafficking into the global economy is the direct result of a seemingly insatiable demand for cheap, unregulated and exploitable labor and the goods and services that such labor can produce. States must acknowledge their role in constructing the conditions under which it is possible or profitable to consume or exploit the labor and services of trafficked persons, and take the appropriate corrective action. Corporations, communities and individuals bear at least a strong moral obligation to address demand and must make serious efforts to identify ways in which this responsibility can be effectively discharged.

#### **Accept the primary responsibility of countries of destination:**

All countries have a legal obligation and moral responsibility to act against trafficking in persons. The weight of that responsibility rests particularly heavily on countries of destination. It is in places such as Australia, the U.S., Western Europe, and the wealthy countries of Asia and the Middle East, where the true profits from trafficking-related exploitation are being generated; where vulnerable victims are trapped; and where the evidence to support strong, high-impact prosecutions is located. It also forces us to confront the reality that human exploitation has built our world and continues to power the global economic growth that benefits our societies disproportionately. It would be sobering to calculate just how big our individual *“slavery footprint”* might be.



## Advocacy

### DNA-PROKIDS: Genetic Identification of Missing Children to Fight Child Trafficking and Illegal Adoptions

Prof. Jose Antonio Lorente, M.D., Ph.D. (Director of the DNA-PROKIDS Program in the Dept. of Legal & Forensic Medicine at the Univ. of Granada, Spain) highlighted efforts his team is making to help detect child trafficking.

The pandemic of children in prostitution, sexual exploitation, hard labor, child soldiers, and illegal adoptions, needs the world's attention.

Forensic DNA-typing provides genetic data from a variety of materials and can be applied to many social issues. DNA databases help identify missing persons and provide investigative leads to assist law enforcement. With genetic identification, in cases like illegal adoptions or missing children, it could provide the link between children and their true relatives.

DNA-PROKIDS is an international humanitarian, non-profit project founded in 2004 by the University of Granada. It is aimed at fighting human trafficking by using genetic identification of victims, especially children, and their families. The goal is to spread results worldwide with the aim of broadening the international fight against human trafficking.

From 2004 until June 2013 there are 9,200 samples in databases. Among these there were 638 successful matches between a missing, unknown child and a relative; 257 illegal adoptions were detected, with DNA proving that the person trying to give the child for adoption was not a biological relative; and 218 negative identifications, where people looking for a missing child thought they had found him/her -- errors usually occurring with children under 12 months old.

DNA-PROKIDS efforts also gather information on traffickers: the origins, routes and the means of their crimes,

which aid in arrests and prosecutions.

Adoptions can be categorized in three groups:

- **Completely legal adoption** is one where all the procedures established by the laws were followed and are cases where the parents or relatives voluntarily went to the designated agency to handle the adoption.
- **Completely illegal adoption** is one where no legal procedure was followed. These cases usually originate with "wealthy" people who do not want to wait long to adopt a child or with a family that wants to choose the age, sex, and country of origin of the adoptee. The adopting family pays money and the mafia and traffickers supply the baby to be sold. Such babies may be stolen or are bought from very poor families.
- **Legal, but illegal adoption** is one where the families adopting a child proceed legally from the very beginning. They follow all the procedures, contact the right, authorized agency in the country of origin of the adoptee, and receive all documentation, along with the baby. But a number of these children could have been stolen and given for adoption by a young woman who claims she is the mother and is unable to support her child. Many actual "illegal" adoptions also appear "legal" because documents are easily falsified and faked passports show whatever traffickers want to show.

Hence, no child should be given for adoption without verifying that the one handing the child over for adoption is his/her biological mother, father, or other relative with that right (i.e., grandparents). A simple DNA analysis will be able to prove this link.

In those cases where children are

found abandoned and no one is looking for them, the authorities should do DNA analysis to ensure that when their families look for them, they will be informed of the database.



Prof. Lorente urged that States should progressively pass laws to ensure that all children who are adopted must have their DNA registered

in their countries of origin. Global initiatives to encourage the utilization and growth of these DNA databases would provide authorities with additional tools that could significantly increase the likelihood of identifying and apprehending those individuals responsible for committing these crimes against children and reunite victims with their families or communities.

### 'Reproductive Trafficking'

Dr. Henrietta Maria Williams (Pres. of the Association of Catholic Medical Practitioners of Nigeria) presented "*The New Slaveries: Neo-Colonization by International Agencies*".

Southeast Africa is seeing increased organ and baby trafficking. Women are forced to be impregnated and carry a fetus to birth. The baby is then sold into adoption.

There is also evidence of the trafficking of ovarian eggs and embryos. Girls are forced to donate eggs to pay for their school fees.



## Action

8

# What Must Be Done?

*"Discrimination against the world's migrants has become a form of 'global apartheid'."*  
Prof. Gallagher

Speakers and observers at the Vatican seminar offered action proposals from their areas of expertise that would help stem the spread and abuses of human trafficking. From these proposals the Academies formulated the following:

### **The Holy See**

- Signs and ratifies the 1949 UN Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others; the 2000 UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children (the 'Palermo Protocol'); and the 2005 Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings.
- Commits the Permanent Missions of the Holy See in international organizations to insisting upon the urgency of a global strategy against trafficking in human beings.f
- Encourages the ratification of the International Convention on Migrant Workers (18 December 1990) and the Domestic Workers Convention of the ILO (16 June 2011) and advocates the inclusion of domestic workers and agricultural workers in national labor laws.
- Promotes a movement to ensure the commitment of the Catholic Church and of all men and women of good will to stopping human trafficking and prostitution; one that is stated in the clearest and most decisive terms.
- Encourages male religious Orders to work alongside female religious to alleviate the immediate suffering and long-term social exclusion of trafficked persons.

### **International Organizations**

- Forcefully stress that the trafficking in human beings is first and foremost a severe form of human-rights violation.
- Insert as a specific objective the ending of trafficking in human beings in the new post-2015 Global Development Goals.
- Take all possible actions to reduce the demand for all forms of exploitation damaging to human life and especially sexual exploitation.
- Establish codes of conduct and specifically a policy of zero tolerance towards sexual exploitation and other abuses deleterious to human life and well-being.

### **Governments & National Authorities**

- Prepare national action plans to address trafficking in human beings, including measures to avoid re-trafficking, in cooperation with civil society organizations, including faith-based organizations.
- Establish a national mechanism to combat and prevent trafficking in human beings and to protect its victims.
- Ensure the necessary political, legal and financial support to the courts, the administrative offices and the security forces involved in action against trafficking in human beings at all levels, including enhanced 'Witness Protection Schemes' for those trafficked who are willing to testify in court or supply information to the police that improves the chances of apprehending traffickers and accessories to this crime.
- Resist hasty, automatic and involuntary repatriation of those who have been trafficked and develop programs for their housing and re-training, in the expectation that these will result – when desired – in the granting of a work permit in the host country.
- Take urgent action to curb the demand that fuels all forms of exploitation, especially sexual exploitation, and criminalize the clients of prostitution as a deterrent against sex trafficking. This entails recognition that the trafficking of women, girls and boys is intrinsically linked with legalized prostitution systems and the commercialization of sex.
- Ensure that businesses are sufficiently regulated and held accountable for abuses that occur. Prohibit the supply of sexual material and advertisements for sexual activities in hotels and other public places.
- Consider the key role of the Internet and especially pornography in facilitating the online recruitment of victims for trafficking in human beings and legislate against possible damage involved. Promote the incorporation, at point of sale, of 'default

- settings' on computers precluding access to pornographic material.
- Introduce a compulsory system of birth registration, incorporating DNA identification in cases of risk or need.
- Ensure the full confiscation of assets from criminals and appropriate compensation to victims.
- Target financial investigation, increased prosecution and conviction for traffickers.
- Intensify the training of all relevant actors, especially frontline officials, in the work against trafficking in human beings.
- Prioritize the eradication of child trafficking, including for sexual exploitation, and ensure the early identification of children who may be victims. To this end consider innovative means such as the establishment of national DNA databases to identify and prevent child trafficking.

### **Civil Society Organizations**

- Promote enhanced awareness campaigns concentrating specifically on different forms of exploitation, especially targeting the demand for sexual and labor exploitation.
- Create networks of associations of professionals relevant to the work against trafficking in human beings and protecting and assisting its victims pro bono.
- Create online resources to address this global phenomenon and to foster appropriate action.
- Lobby for the establishment of free national 'Helplines' for victims and their wide public visibility.

### **The Business Community**

- Introduces strict codes of conduct and legislation on transparency for supply chains that are free of trafficked and other forms of enslaved labor.
- Raises awareness about the serious risks and damage involved in the 'race to the bottom' to minimize labor costs, risks that exist per se and because they frequently entail forced labor.





## Action

**Toll-Free 24/7 Hotline**  
**National Human Trafficking**  
**Resource Center**  
**1.888.3737.888**  
 or text **HELP** or **INFO** to  
**BeFree (233733).**

### Actions *cont. from pg. 8*

#### Christians

- Ensure the effective and systematic involvement of Bishops' Conferences, bishops, clergy, Congregations, parishes, schools and media instruments in knowledge about, and action against, trafficking in human beings.
- Incorporate the subject of human trafficking into pastoral care in formation courses and create an advocacy community opposed to such trafficking that is specially trained to dialogue with diplomatic communities, the business world, police/security forces and others on behalf of victims.
- Create working groups on the topic of trafficking in human beings, focusing on concrete actions and preparing position papers on key issues that could form the basis for future statements (by Church leaders).
- Strengthen public knowledge and support popular understanding and quality research regarding all forms of exploitation associated with trafficking.

#### All Religions

- Reinforce inter-confessional and ecumenical networks locally, regionally and internationally in order to create an ever-growing pool of resources to help victims.
- Provide access for those from local

churches and other faith groups to training and resources to promote an appropriate community-level response in all activities connected with trafficking in human beings.

- Educate people on the phenomenon and scale of trafficking in human beings and stress that this is a grave form of human rights' violation.
- Give victims access to monasteries, convents and religious houses and make every effort to assess their pressing needs.
- Coordinate the work against trafficking in human beings by all faith-based organizations and ensure the active participation of nuncios, religious representatives and diplomats.
- Establish a World Day of prayer, fasting, action, and reflection on trafficking in human beings.
- Reach out to all people, women, men, girls, and boys, and raise awareness of their moral duty to refrain from any activities, including any involvement in the sex industry, that fuel trafficking in human beings.

#### All People of Good Will

- Cooperate to forward these proposals, by acting together and sharing information, with the aim of eradicating this grossly inhumane practice of our times.

## Building a Social Protection Floor

More than 1.4 billion people struggle to live on less than \$1.25 a day (World Bank). Therefore more must be done to eradicate the scourge of extreme poverty.

The *International Labor Organization* (ILO) and the *World Health Organization* (WHO) coordinate the *Social Protection Floor Initiative* (SPF-I) as a joint UN effort to form a global coalition committed to supporting countries in building national social protection floors for their citizens.

SPF is the first level of a comprehensive national social protection system that helps to realize human rights for all through guaranteeing: • Universal access to essential services (such as health, education, housing, water and sanitation, and other services as nationally defined); • Social Transfers, in cash or kind, to guarantee income and food security, adequate nutrition, and access to essential services.

Countries will develop nationally defined strategies for the progressive realization and sustainability of their floor as well as higher levels of social protection in line with their needs, preferences and financial capacities.

*Cont. next col.*

### Informative Web Sites: (Each contains information related to human trafficking)

#### Vatican Pontifical Academies

[http://www.vatican.va/roman\\_curia/pontifical\\_academies/acdscien/](http://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/pontifical_academies/acdscien/)

#### Social Protection Floor

<http://www.socialprotectionfloor-gateway.org/>

### Social Protection *cont.*

In summary, the SPF is:

- Universal: It includes everyone.
- Rights-based: It is enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- Nationally owned and designed.
- The first step in an ongoing process, not a 'ceiling' for benefits.
- Affordable by all countries.

### What Can You Do?

Join the campaign. Form a network to get as many signatures as possible to promote the initiative with the U.S. government. Both individuals and organizations may sign. The signature campaign is a tool for lobbying at national and global levels.

The most important purpose of the campaign is to convince national government that the Social Protection Floor is needed and wanted by its citizens and must be included in national development policies.

This initiative is an opportunity to collaborate to roll back poverty, to put social protection at the heart of the international development agenda, and to strengthen the chance for every person to live with dignity.

For further information and details:

<http://www.socialfloor.org> and

<http://www.ngosocdev.net>

**Stop Trafficking!** is dedicated exclusively to fostering an exchange of information among religious congregations, their friends and collaborating organizations, working to eliminate all forms of trafficking of human beings.

Use the following web address to access back issues of *Stop Trafficking!* <http://www.stopenslavement.org/archives.htm>

To contribute information, or make requests to be on the mailing list, please contact: [srjeanschafer@aol.com](mailto:srjeanschafer@aol.com)

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