

# Stop Trafficking !

Anti Human Trafficking Newsletter



Awareness

Advocacy

Action

August 2015 Vol. 13 No. 8

This issue highlights the U.S. State Department's annual Trafficking in Persons Report and the global debate over Amnesty International's proposed policy on prostitution.

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## 2015 Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report



Secretary of State John Kerry released the 2015 Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report on July 27, 2015, at the U.S. Department of State.

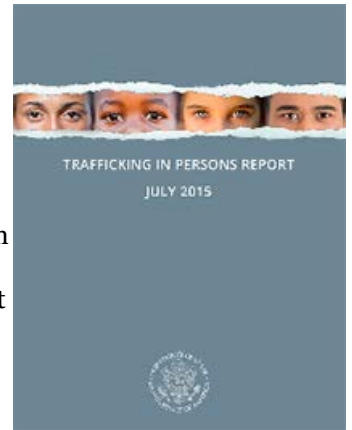
As required by the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA), the TIP Report assesses government

efforts around the world to combat modern slavery. The 2015 Report, which marks the 15th anniversary of the TVPA, includes narratives for 188 countries and territories, including the U.S.

Kerry stated, "This year's Report places a special emphasis on human trafficking in the global marketplace. It highlights the hidden risks that workers may encounter when seeking employment and the steps that governments and businesses can take to prevent trafficking, including a demand for transparency in global supply chains.

"The bottom line is that this is no time for complacency. Right now, across the globe, victims of human trafficking are daring to imagine the possibility of escape, the chance for a life without fear, and the opportunity to earn a living wage."

He also honored the 2015 TIP Heroes, eight men and women whose tireless efforts have made a lasting impact on the global fight against modern slavery. (Read about some of them on pg. 9).



## Criticism of TIP 2015

The U.S. is facing criticism after it removed Cuba and Malaysia from Tier 3 on the U.S. State Department's list of the countries categorically failing to respond to widespread human trafficking. Both countries have been upgraded to the Tier 2 Watch List.

Anti-trafficking groups have expressed concern at the obvious

political motivations of the 2015 rankings, which they claim call the integrity and impartiality of the report into question.

"We are very surprised by this year's report, which seems to be making blatantly political decisions that we consider will have a really

Criticism cont. on pg. 3



## Awareness

# Victims of Exploitation

### Ghana to United States

At 13 years old, Effia moved to the U.S. with family friends, excited to learn English and go to school—something her parents in Ghana could not afford. When she arrived, these so-called friends forbade her from attending school and forced her to clean, cook, and watch their children for up to 18 hours a day. The father physically and sexually abused her. Effia received no payment and could not use the telephone or go outside. Six years later, after a particularly severe beating, she escaped the house and a neighbor called the police. With help from an NGO, Effia is finally in school and plans to become a nurse. (TIP, pg.33)

### Nigeria

Aisha was at a friend's wedding when she was abducted by Boko Haram, along with her sister, the bride, and the bride's sister. They were taken to a camp where her friends were forcibly married to Boko Haram fighters. Aisha, at 19 years old, had to learn how to fight; she was trained how to shoot and kill, detonate bombs, and execute attacks on villages. She was forced to participate in armed operations, including against her own village; those that refused were buried in a mass grave. Aisha saw more than 50 people killed, including her sister, before she managed to escape. (TIP, pg. 39)

### Pakistan to Somalia

Ali and 19 other Pakistani men responded to a newspaper advertisement seeking fishermen to work in Saudi Arabia. Many of the men accepted the recruiters' promises. Others questioned the odd visa and recruitment process, but the recruiters assured them the official paperwork would be completed during a stop in Dubai. Once in Dubai, however, the recruiters confiscated the workers' passports and flew them to Somalia, where they were forced to work long, grueling hours, without pay, for a Somalian fishing company.

One Saturday, the men found a way to call their families and a human rights NGO from a local mosque. Their boss entered the mosque, beat them, and confiscated their cell phones. Fortunately, the workers hid one phone and used it to organize a rescue mission through the NGO. Twelve of the men were able to return home.

(TIP, pg. 17)

### Sierra Leone to Kuwait

Thema paid approximately \$1,480 to Sierra Leonean recruiters who promised her a nursing job or hotel work in Kuwait. Upon her arrival in Kuwait, however, Thema was instead forced to work as a domestic worker for a private Kuwaiti family. Thema worked all day, every day without compensation. Her employers forbade her from leaving the house or from using a cell phone. The family eventually returned Thema to her recruiter, taking advantage of a guarantee allowing them to obtain a refund for domestic workers they are not happy with.

She ran away from the recruiter to the Sierra Leonean Embassy and was placed in a Kuwaiti government-run shelter with approximately 300 other former domestic workers. Thema likely faces the same fate as other trafficking victims in Kuwait who run away from private homes—the cancellation of her residence permit and deportation. (TIP, pg.11)



Men rescued raise their hands when asked, "Who wants to go home?"

### Ukraine to United States

Over a period of several years, five Ukrainian brothers fraudulently promised 70 Ukrainians well-paying janitorial jobs at retail stores in the U.S. They further lured the workers with promises to pay for their room and board and all their travel expenses. Once the workers arrived in the U.S., however, the traffickers exacted reimbursement for \$10,000-\$50,000 in travel debts, making them work 10 to 12 hours per day, seven days a week to repay the debt, almost never providing compensation. The brothers abused the workers physically, psychologically, and sexually, and threatened to hurt the workers' families if they disobeyed. The brothers brought many of the workers into the U.S. illegally through Mexico. Over time, several new recruits were detained at the border and other victims bravely came forward, exposing the trafficking ring. Four of the brothers were convicted on charges of human trafficking; one remains a fugitive and is thought to be in Ukraine. (TIP, pg. 48) (<http://www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/2015/243362.htm>)



## Awareness

### Criticism *cont. from pg. 1*

*detrimental impact on both the integrity of the report and progress in the global fight to end modern slavery,”* said Melysa Sperber, director of the Alliance to End Slavery and Trafficking (ATEST). *“The TIP report can be a valuable tool in holding governments to account and there is a real import in maintaining its credibility.”*

Under U.S. law, those countries on Tier 3 could trigger non-trade related sanctions, leading to restrictions on U.S. foreign assistance and access to global financial institutions such as the World Bank.

After 12 years on Tier 3, Cuba’s sudden upgrade to the Tier 2 Watch List comes soon after the re-opening of the U.S. embassy in Havana and the re-establishment of diplomatic relations after 50 years of estrangement. Last year’s TIP report contained criticism of Cuba’s trafficking record, including allegations of child prostitution and forced labor by the Cuban government.

Senator Robert Menendez, a Democrat on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, saw the move as politically motivated stating, *“You have to earn your way up the ladder, not just have political expediency be the reason that you get moved from Tier 3.”*

The U.S. State Department insists that the upgrade is based on better cooperation between Washington and Havana on eradicating human trafficking and ensuring better protection of victims. The Cuban government is taking a more open and proactive approach to sharing information and the prosecution of traffickers.

Malaysia was also given an upgrade to the Tier 2 Watch List after a year on Tier 3. It comes as President

Obama works to smooth the way for the Trans-Pacific Partnership, a huge U.S.-led free trade deal with Malaysia and 11 other countries across south-east Asia. Malaysia’s upgrade removes a potential barrier to getting the trade deal finalized, as countries on Tier 3 are theoretically barred from fast-tracked trade deals.

Over the past year Malaysia has been accused of widespread forced labor in its electronics industry, used by major global electronics brands such as Samsung, Sony and Apple. It has also faced allegations of forced labor and trafficking in its palm oil industry.

The upgrade also follows the international outcry over the discovery of 139 graves in jungle trafficking camps near the border with Thailand, used to hold thousands of stateless Rohingya migrants to ransom. The U.S. State Department said that the discovery of the camps happened after the cut-off for evidence-gathering for the 2015 TIP report.

*“We are disappointed in the extreme,”* said Aidan McQuade, director of Anti-Slavery International. *“Abysmal forced labor on the scale we see in Malaysia, Qatar and Uzbekistan does not exist without fundamental failures in government. It’s unfortunate that American interests seem to be diluting this message rather than holding governments to account and so transparently putting trade and political interests over human rights.”*

*What we are seeing here is the compromise of one of the most important diplomatic instruments in the struggle against slavery.”*

In the report, the U.S. State Department said that while the government of Malaysia does not fully comply with its minimum standards for the

elimination of trafficking, it is making significant efforts to do so. (TIP, pg. 234)

Uzbekistan has also been upgraded from Tier 3 to the Tier 2 Watch List, despite continuing concerns over its use of state-sanctioned forced labor in its annual cotton harvest.

Thailand remained on Tier 3 since 2014, despite concerted lobbying from the Thai government for an upgrade.

Last year a Guardian newspaper investigation revealed slavery in the supply chain of farmed Thai shrimp sold in supermarkets across the world. This July a follow-up investigation also revealed that Rohingya migrants held prisoner in a network of trafficking camps in southern Thailand were being sold onto Thai fishing boats and that Thai fishermen were actively facilitating the trafficking rings, exploiting hundreds of thousands of Rohingya migrants attempting to make the crossing into Malaysia.

Qatar remains on the Tier 2 Watch List since 2014. According to TIP policy, countries can remain on the Tier 2 Watch List for three years before an automatic relegation to Tier 3.

The U.S. State Department’s Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, which produces the TIP report, has been beset by a leadership vacuum after the sudden departure of Ambassador Lou CdeBaca in December 2014. President Obama only confirmed Susan Coppedge, a former assistant U.S. State Attorney as his replacement in late July 2015. (<http://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2015/jul/27/us-human-trafficking-in-persons-report-under-fire-cuba-malaysia-upgraded>) (<http://www.state.gov/rss/channels/tip.xml>)



## Awareness

### TIP Global Statistics

During 2014 there were:  
 10,051 (•418) prosecutions,  
 4,443 (•216) convictions,  
 44,462 (•11,438) victims  
 identified, and  
 20 new or amended legislation.  
 (• Indicates labor cases/victims).

### Special Interest Topics:

- Declaration by Global Religious Leaders Against Modern Slavery (TIP, pg. 10)
- The 15th Anniversary of the U.N. Palermo Protocol (TIP, pg. 11)
- The Link Between Extractive Industries and Sex Trafficking (see next column)
- Overcoming Harmful Cultural Norms (TIP, pg. 20)
- Preventing Domestic Servitude in Diplomatic Households (TIP, pg. 21)
- New Research on Abusive Recruitment Practices and Human Trafficking (TIP, pg. 10)
- Verité Report on Human Trafficking in Federal and Corporate Supply Chains (TIP, pg. 22-23)  
[http://verite.org/sites/default/files/images/Verite-Executive\\_Order\\_13627.pdf](http://verite.org/sites/default/files/images/Verite-Executive_Order_13627.pdf)
- Beyond Witness Testimony (TIP, pg. 26)
- New at the ILO: Updates to the Forced Labor Convention (TIP, pg. 28)  
[http://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/2015/Recruitment\\_Fees\\_Report-Final-22\\_June\\_2015\\_AG\\_Final.pdf](http://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/2015/Recruitment_Fees_Report-Final-22_June_2015_AG_Final.pdf)  
[http://www.ilo.org/global/publications/working-papers/WCMS\\_377813/lang--en/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/global/publications/working-papers/WCMS_377813/lang--en/index.htm)
- Kailash Satyarthi: Recipient of the 2014 Nobel Peace Prize (TIP, pg. 30)
- Coalition of Immokalee Workers: Recipient of the 2015 Presidential Award for Extraordinary Efforts to Combat Trafficking in Persons (TIP, pg. 35)
- Modern Slavery as a Tactic in Armed Conflicts (see pg. 5)  
<http://www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/2015/243363.htm>

## The Link Between Extractive Industries and Sex Trafficking

Extractive industries involve the removal of non-renewable raw materials such as oil, gas, metals, and minerals from the earth. Although communities can benefit from such industries by using these natural resources for sustainable development, their extraction has also *“triggered violent conflicts, degraded the environment, worsened gender and other inequalities, displaced communities, and undermined democratic governance,”* according to the UN Development Program. Furthermore, mining, drilling, and quarrying activities often occur in relatively remote areas with minimal infrastructure and limited rule of law, leading to the development of makeshift communities, such as mining “boom towns,” that are vulnerable to crime.

Forced labor in extractive industries has been well-documented; however, the link between these industries and sex trafficking is increasingly an issue of grave concern among governments and advocates alike. Bolivian and Peruvian girls are subjected to sex trafficking in mining areas in Peru, and women and girls are subjected to sex trafficking near gold mines in Suriname and Guyana. NGOs have reported continued commercial sexual exploitation of children related to mining sectors in Madagascar. In some areas, this exploitation involves organized crime. For example, in Colombia, NGOs report organized criminal groups control sex trafficking in some mining areas.

Any discovery of raw materials will necessarily lead to a large influx of workers and other individuals, some of whom will create a demand for the commercial sex industry. In Senegal, a gold rush resulted in rapid migration

from across West Africa; some of these migrants are women and children exploited in sex trafficking. Likewise, in the oil industry, individuals are sometimes recruited with false promises of work opportunities, but instead are exploited in the sex trade. Service providers in areas near camps surrounding large-scale oil extraction facilities, such as the Bakken oil fields in North Dakota, report that sex traffickers are exploiting women in the area, including Native American women.

Sex trafficking related to extractive industries often occurs with impunity. Areas where extraction activities occur may be difficult to access and lack meaningful government presence. Information on victim identification and law enforcement efforts in mining areas can be difficult to obtain or verify. Convictions for sex trafficking related to the extractive industries were lacking in 2014, despite the widespread scope of the problem. (TIP, pg. 19)



Bangladeshi children working off family debts by stuffing cigarettes with tobacco. (TIP, pg. 37)



## Awareness

### MODERN SLAVERY AS A TACTIC IN ARMED CONFLICTS

Armed groups, violent extremists, and militias fuel conflicts that devastate communities and weaken social and governmental structures, leaving adults and children defenseless and vulnerable. Women and children in armed conflicts are particularly vulnerable to multiple abuses, including those involving human trafficking and sexual and gender-based violence.

The use of modern slavery as a tactic in the armed conflicts in Iraq and Syria is particularly alarming. The Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), as well as other armed groups and militias, continue to intimidate populations and devastate communities through unconscionable violence, fear, and oppression. ISIL has made the targeting of women and children, particularly from Yazidi and other minority groups, a hallmark of its campaign of atrocities. In the past year, ISIL has abducted, systematically raped, and abused thousands of women and children, some as young as eight years of age. Many of the horrific human rights abuses that ISIL has engaged in also amount to human trafficking. Women and children are sold and enslaved, distributed to ISIL fighters as spoils of war, forced into marriage and domestic servitude, or subjected to horrific physical and sexual abuse. ISIL has established “markets” where women and children are sold with price tags attached and has published a list of rules on how to treat female slaves once captured.

In a recent UN report, women and girls who managed to escape from ISIL recounted how they were treated. A young woman shared how she was taken to a school and given to an ISIL emir as his slave, and in another case,



150 unmarried girls and women were reportedly transported to Syria from Iraq to be given to ISIL fighters as rewards. Some isolated reports indicate ISIL has begun transporting captive women and girls to buyers in the Gulf. Men and boys are also vulnerable to trafficking, as entire families are reportedly abducted and forced to work in agriculture, such as on sheep and poultry farms in Iraq. Additionally, there is growing concern that some ISIL recruits from Central Asian countries may be vulnerable to trafficking after arriving in Syria. Others, deceived by recruiters promising jobs in Turkey, are later taken to Syria and forced by extremist groups to fight, work, or endure sexual servitude.

ISIL continues to actively and unlawfully recruit, including by abduction, train, and use children—some as young as 12 years old—as soldiers in Iraq and Syria. These children are forced to undergo military training to join the front lines of combat, while some are deployed as human shields or made to patrol ISIL checkpoints. In training camps, children nicknamed “Cubs of the Caliphate” are trained to use weapons, make bombs, and deploy as suicide bombers.

Whole communities in Iraq and Syria continue to be displaced internally and in neighboring countries, as increasing numbers of adults and children flee the horrors of war, including those perpetrated by ISIL and other armed groups. The UN estimates 2.8 million individuals in Iraq have been displaced and nearly four million Syrians have fled the country, mostly to Turkey, Jordan, Lebanon, and Iraq. This displacement is compounded by the use of human trafficking as a tactic by ISIL in the armed conflict.

The use of modern slavery in armed conflicts is not unique to ISIL, but is also evident in the case of other armed groups that are forcibly recruiting children and training them to be soldiers or otherwise exploiting them. Boko Haram has forcibly recruited and used child soldiers as young as 12 years old, and abducted women and girls in the northern region of Nigeria, some of whom it later subjected to domestic servitude, other forms of forced labor, and sexual servitude through forced marriages to its militants. In Somalia, al-Shabaab has recruited and used children in armed conflict. The Lord’s Resistance Army, a Ugandan rebel group that operates in eastern regions of the Central African Republic, enslaves boys and girls for use as cooks, porters, concubines, and combatants. The use of human trafficking in the midst of armed conflicts further amplifies the unspeakable devastation communities and families experience and perpetuates intimidation and fear among oppressed communities.

(TIP, pg. 37)



## Awareness

### United States Self-Critique

The U.S. is a source, transit, and destination country for men, women, transgender individuals, and children—both U.S. citizens and foreign nationals—subjected to sex trafficking and forced labor. Trafficking can occur in both legal and illicit industries, including in commercial sex, hospitality, sales crews, agriculture, manufacturing, janitorial services, construction, shipyards, restaurants, health and elder care, salon services, fairs and carnivals, peddling and begging, and domestic service. Individuals who entered the U.S. with and without legal status have been identified as trafficking victims, including participants in visa programs for temporary workers who filled labor needs in many of the industries described above.

Victims originate from almost every region of the world; the top three countries of origin of federally identified victims in fiscal year (FY) 2014 were the U.S., Mexico, and the Philippines. Particularly vulnerable populations in the U.S. include: children in the child welfare and juvenile justice systems; runaway and homeless youth; children working in agriculture; American Indians and Alaska Natives; migrant laborers; foreign national domestic workers in diplomatic households; employees of businesses in ethnic communities; populations with limited English proficiency; persons with disabilities; rural populations; and lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender individuals. Some U.S. citizens engage in child sex tourism in foreign countries. (TIP, pg. 352-57)

### Global Call to Amnesty International: Do NOT Legalize Pimps, Brothel Owners and 'Johns'

*Editor Note: The decision of AI was not known at the time of this posting.*

On July 22, 2015 an open letter went to Amnesty International's (AI) Secretary General, Executive Director, and the Board of Directors prior to AI's International Council Meeting scheduled to meet in Dublin, from August 7 to 11, 2015. It carried over 400 signatures "representative of a wide breadth of national and international human rights advocates, women's rights organizations, faith-based and secular organizations and concerned individuals, deeply troubled by AI's proposal to adopt a policy that calls for the decriminalization of pimps, brothel owners and buyers of sex — the pillars of a \$99 billion global sex industry."

The response to the open letter issued by CATW was so exceedingly positive that it became a campaign on Change.org with 3000 signatures and more signing on minute-by-minute.

To sign, go to: <https://www.change.org/p/amnesty-international-vote-no-to-decriminalizing-pimps-brothel-owners-and-buyers-of-sex>

Excerpts from the letter follow:

AI has been "a beacon in mobilizing the public to ensure governments' implementation of the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. However, the 'Draft Policy on Sex Work' flies in the face of this historical reputation.

This policy "is incomprehensibly proposing the wholesale decriminalization of the sex industry, which in effect

legalizes pimping, brothel owning and sex buying. ([http://tasmaniantimes.com/images/uploads/Circular\\_18\\_Draft\\_Policy\\_on\\_Sex\\_Work\\_final.pdf](http://tasmaniantimes.com/images/uploads/Circular_18_Draft_Policy_on_Sex_Work_final.pdf))

"Growing evidence shows the catastrophic effects of decriminalization of the sex trade. The German government, for example, which deregulated the industry of prostitution in 2002, has found that the sex industry was not made safer for women after the enactment of its law. Instead, the explosive growth of legal brothels in Germany has triggered an increase in sex trafficking.

"Amnesty appears to shape its opinion about the sex industry primarily from the perspective of the HIV/AIDS sector, including UNAIDS. As worthy as their global work is, it is evident that these groups have very little understanding, if any, of violence against women and the intersection of race, gender and inequality.

"Defending the health and human rights of women is significantly more complex than the single aim of protecting individuals from HIV/AIDS, however critical. The primary goals of UNAIDS and other agencies that support limited harm

reduction policies in the sex industry seem far more concerned with the health of sex buyers than the lives of prostituted and sex trafficked women. On the

Amnesty  
cont. pg. 7





## Awareness

### Amnesty *cont. from pg. 6*

other hand, medical professionals, including gynecologists and mental health providers, confirm that regardless of how a woman ends up in the sex trade, the abuse, sexual violence and pervasive injuries these women endure at the hands of their pimps and 'clients,' lead to life-long physical and psychological harm — and, too often, death.

"Moreover, international laws and covenants recognize the abuse of power over acutely vulnerable populations — the poor, the incested, the transgendered, the homeless — as a tool for the purpose of exploitation. Disenfranchised women of color, including Aboriginal, Native, First Nations, African-American and 'Scheduled Castes' women, are overwhelmingly represented among the prostituted and the sex trafficked. Every day, we combat male access to women's bodies through power and control, from female genital mutilation to forced marriage; from domestic violence to violation of reproductive rights. The exchange of money for such access does not eliminate the violence women face in the sex trade. It is unfathomable that a human rights organization of Amnesty's stature is failing to recognize prostitution as a cause and consequence of gender inequality.

"A primary way of protecting the human rights of commercially sexually exploited individuals is to provide comprehensive services and exit strategies, should they opt to leave the sex trade, and to hold their exploiters accountable. A number of governments have already passed legislation that reflects this gender and human rights framework.\* In a 2014 resolu-

tion, the European Parliament also recognized prostitution as a form of violence against women and an affront to human dignity, urging its members to pass laws that decriminalize solely those who sell sex and criminalize solely those who purchase it.

"Consequently, should Amnesty vote to support the decriminalization of pimping, brothel owning and sex buying, it will in effect support a system of gender apartheid, in which one category of women may gain protection from sexual violence and sexual harassment, and offered economic and educational opportunities; while another category of women, whose lives are shaped by absence of choice, are instead set apart for consumption by men and for the profit of their pimps, traffickers and brothel owners. Neither the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, nor international law dispenses any human being from enjoying a life free of violence and of dignity. We implore Amnesty to stand on the side of justice and equality for all.

The full text of the letter is found at: <http://catwinternational.org/Content/Images/Article/617/attachment.pdf>

\*The 'Nordic' model adopted by Canada, Sweden, Norway and Iceland, and more recently, Northern Ireland, aims to punish clients without criminalizing those who have been driven into sex work.

It contrasts with laws legalizing or decriminalizing sex work, which have been introduced in the Netherlands, Germany and New Zealand.

(<http://www.catwinternational.org/Home/Article/617-over-400-global-advocates-issue-a-call-to-amnesty-international-in-open-letter>)

### Why Amnesty International's Resolution to Decriminalize the Sex Industry Is a Mistake

Rachel Moran, CEO of 'Survivors of Prostitution-Abuse Calling for Enlightenment' (SPACE International) presented five reasons to oppose the AI Resolution.

1. *In countries with legalized prostitution, sex trafficking increases.*

(<http://www.spiegel.de/international/germany/human-trafficking-persists-despite-legality-of-prostitution-in-germany-a-902533.html>)

2. *Amnesty claims that prostitution and sex trafficking are different phenomena, but they are intrinsically linked.*

([http://www.urban.org/research/publication/estimating-size-and-structure-underground-commercial-sex-economy-eight-major-us-cities/view/full\\_report](http://www.urban.org/research/publication/estimating-size-and-structure-underground-commercial-sex-economy-eight-major-us-cities/view/full_report))

3. *Decriminalizing the commercial sex industry does not make it safe, because prostitution is inherently harmful, whether legal or illegal.*

Research in nine countries, found 60-75% of prostituted women were raped; 70-95% experienced physically assault; and 68% suffered post traumatic stress disorder, at levels similar to combat veterans or victims of state torture.

4. *The sex trade is hugely profitable.*

Buying or purchasing sex, fuels a criminal market that destroys people.

5. *Amnesty International's resolution does not address the successful 'Nordic Model Law', which sees commercial sex as a system of gender-based violence.*

In countries where it has been implemented the Nordic Model has led to a decrease in sex trafficking. The Nordic Model offers the best means of addressing the reality of sexual exploitation, by criminalizing the purchase of sex, but not the sale of sexual access. The law shifts criminal liability from people who are exploited, to those doing the exploiting. Pimping and running a brothel are illegal. Governments commit to addressing the needs of those exiting the sex trade.



## Advocacy

# 2015 TIP Report Tier Placement

Legend: (+/-) indicates the number of tiers a country moved up (+)/down (-) since 2013; (s) special case.

Countries which continue to violate the Child Soldier Protection Act (CSPA) are indicated by ‡

**Tier 1** Countries whose governments fully comply with the Trafficking Victims Protection Act's (TVPA) minimum standards.

Armenia Australia Austria The Bahamas (+) Belgium Canada	Chile Czech Republic Denmark Finland France Germany	Iceland Ireland Israel Italy Korea, South Luxembourg	Macedonia Netherlands New Zealand Norway Poland Portugal (+)	Slovak Republic Spain Sweden Switzerland Taiwan United Kingdom USA
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**Tier 2** Countries whose governments do not fully comply with the TVPA's minimum standards, but are making significant efforts to bring themselves into compliance with those standards.

Afghanistan Albania Angola (+) Argentina Aruba Azerbaijan Bahrain (+) Bangladesh Barbados Benin Bhutan Bosnia & Herzegovina (+) Brazil Brunei Cabo Verde Cameroon Chad ‡	Colombia Cote d'Ivoire Croatia Curacao Cyprus (+) Dominican Republic Ecuador El Salvador Estonia Ethiopia Fiji Georgia Greece Guatemala Honduras Hong Kong Hungary India	Indonesia Iraq Japan Jordan Kazakhstan Kenya (+) Kiribati Kosovo Kyrgyzstan Republic Latvia Liberia Lithuania Macau Madagascar (+) Malawi Malta Mexico Micronesia	Moldova Mongolia Montenegro Morocco (+) Mozambique Nepal Nicaragua (-) Niger Nigeria ‡ Oman Palau Panama (+) Paraguay Peru Philippines Romania Rwanda (+) Senegal	Serbia Seychelles Sierra Leone Singapore Slovenia (-) South Africa St. Lucia St. Maarten Swaziland Tajikistan Togo Tonga Turkey Uganda United Arab Emirates Uruguay (+) Vietnam Zambia
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**Tier 2 Watch List** Countries whose governments do not fully comply with the TVPA's minimum standards, but are making significant efforts to bring themselves into compliance with those standards and:

- a) The absolute number of victims of severe forms of trafficking is very significant or is significantly increasing;
- b) There is a failure to provide evidence of increasing efforts to combat severe forms of trafficking in persons from the previous year; or
- c) The determination that a country is making significant efforts to bring itself into compliance with minimum standards was based on commitments by the country to take additional future steps over the next year.

Antigua & Barbuda Bolivia Botswana Bulgaria (-) Burkina Faso (-) Burma ‡ Cambodia China (PRC) Congo (DRC) ‡ (+)	Congo (ROC) (-) Costa Rica (-) Cuba (+) Djibouti Egypt (-) Gabon (-) Ghana (-) Guinea Guyana	Haiti Jamaica Laos Lebanon Lesotho Malaysia (+) Maldives (-) Mali Mauritius (-)	Namibia Pakistan Papua New Guinea (+) Qatar Saudi Arabia (+) Solomon Islands Sri Lanka St. Vincent & the Gren Sudan ‡	Suriname Tanzania Timor-Leste Trinidad & Tobago (-) Tunisia Turkmenistan Ukraine Uzbekistan (+)
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**Tier 3** Countries whose governments do not fully comply with the minimum standards, nor make significant efforts to do so.

Algeria Belarus (-) Belize (-) Burundi (-) Cent. African Rep.	Comoros (-) Equatorial Guinea Eritrea The Gambia Guinea-Bissau	Iran Korea, North Kuwait Libya Marshall Islands (-)	Mauritania Russia South Sudan ‡ (-) Syria ‡ Thailand	Venezuela Yemen ‡ Zimbabwe Somalia (s) ‡
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## Advocacy

### TIP Heroes

#### Betty Pedraza Lozano, Colombia

Since July 2003, Ms. Pedraza L. has served as the founder and director of Corporación Espacios de Mujer, a Colombian NGO that provides victim services to adults, especially women, and children who suffer violence and abuse within the context of human trafficking and sexual exploitation. As director, she promotes and advocates for women's empowerment and victims' rights, as well as gender and human rights.



A native of Medellín, Ms. Pedraza L. focuses much of her attention in the Antioquia department, where virginity auctions, sex tourism, and child pornography are rampant, and women and children are often exploited in prostitution in the mining and tourism sectors. She coordinated an anti-trafficking awareness campaign called "Porque se Trata de Ti," or "Because It's All about You," which provides educational information on prevention efforts, victim identification, and victim services. (TIP, pg. 40)

#### Ameena Saeed Hasan, Iraq

Ms. Hasan is a Yezidi Kurd, a former member of the Iraqi Council of Representatives, and a fearless voice for the Yezidi religious minority in northern Iraq. This community



has been the target of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) since the summer of 2014 when they began kidnapping thousands of members of the Yezidi community, including women and girls who are subjected to forced marriages, sexual slavery, systematic rape, and domestic servitude.

Resolved to assist victims of some of the worst forms of human rights abuses and human trafficking, Ms. Hasan participated in an effort to create a registry of ISIL captives and the locations where they were being held. She also joined a team of activists sponsored by the Kurdistan Regional Government that has helped secure the release of approximately 100 former captives.

She participated as a civil society representative in the White House Summit to Counter Violent Extremism in February 2015 and delivered remarks on captive Yezidi women. (TIP, pg. 40)

#### Gita Miruškina, Latvia

Ms. Miruškina, an innovative lawyer for the Latvian NGO Safe House, has dedicated her life to assisting victims of human trafficking and enhancing the legal understanding of trafficking in persons in Latvia and the European Union. As one of the principal NGOs working on trafficking in Latvia, Safe House works directly with sex and labor trafficking victims, assisting them with recovery and vital legal aid.



Ms. Miruškina also has been instrumental in alerting the European Union to the issue of "sham" or brokered marriages between European Union passport-holders and third-country nationals, arranged so the latter can become eligible for immigration benefits—a practice that often leads to

sex and labor trafficking, especially of women from Eastern Europe.

In the past six years, Ms. Miruškina assisted more than 150 trafficking victims and acted as their legal representative in 30 trials, including Latvia's first labor trafficking trial, a landmark case that is still ongoing. (TIP, pg. 41)

#### Tony Maddox, United States

Mr. Maddox is the Exec. Vice Pres. and Managing Dir. of CNN International (CNNi) and creator of the Freedom Project (CNN-FP), the



longest-running awareness and investigative campaign on modern slavery on a global news channel. CNNi launched the CNN-FP in 2011 to shine a spotlight on modern slavery, amplify the voices of survivors, highlight effective prevention and victim assistance efforts, and investigate the criminal enterprises involved. Mr. Maddox's personal conviction that combating trafficking is a shared responsibility was the catalyst for the concept behind the CNN-FP. Due to his dedication and relentless advocacy, what began as a yearlong project became a much longer commitment. The CNN-FP is celebrating its fifth year of production, and is one of the most successful and highly visible programming initiatives on CNNi.

Under Mr. Maddox's leadership, CNNi has enlisted dozens of correspondents and crews around the world and published more than 400 investigative stories on modern slavery. Various NGOs report that CNN-FP stories have led to more than 1,000 survivors receiving assistance, sparked more than \$24 million in donations to anti-trafficking organizations globally, contributed to changing laws and corporate policies, and inspired new NGOs and grassroots campaigns around the world. CNNi currently reaches more than 291 million households and hotel rooms worldwide. (TIP, pg. 43)

(<http://www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/2015/243365.htm>)



Action

## Educational Video on Human Trafficking

The *Catholic Health Initiatives\** (CHI) Advocacy Group, along with the *Violence Prevention Oversight Committee*, produced an educational video describing the worldwide scope of human trafficking as part of CHI's commitment to violence prevention.

The 10-minute video is designed to raise awareness of a grim reality that affects millions of people. It is introduced by Colleen Scanlon, senior vice president and chief advocacy officer at CHI, and features two leading international experts, both from the Human Trafficking Initiative at Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston: Roy Ahn, research director and Wendy Macias Konstantopoulos, medical director.

This issue is particularly significant to the health care industry: experts estimate that about half of all human trafficking victims will be seen at some point in health care settings. Worldwide, as many as 21 million people are trapped into forced labor, many in our own communities.

The video and more information can be found at: <http://www.catholichealthinitiatives.org/human-trafficking-how-you-can-help>

\*CHI is a nonprofit, faith-based health system serving communities in 18 states with over 90 acute care facilities. In addition, CHI has four academic medical centers and teaching hospitals: 24 critical-access facilities; community health services organizations; accredited nursing colleges; home-health agencies; and other facilities that span the inpatient and outpatient continuum of care. In fiscal year 2013, CHI provided \$762 million in charity care and community benefit, including services for the poor, free clinics, education and research.

### Health Care Provider Resources

Health care providers are in a unique position to identify victims and to help them with care and services. Here are some resources:

- *International Organization of Migration – Care for Trafficked Persons: Guidance for Health Care Providers* (2009) ([http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/free/CT\\_Handbook.pdf](http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/free/CT_Handbook.pdf))
- U.S. Health & Human Services Documents: *Rescue and Restore Campaign and Health Provider Resources* (2012) (<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr/resource/rescue-restore-campaign-tool-kits>)
- *Health Care Providers: Human Trafficking: Guidebook on Identification, Assessment and Response in the Health Care Setting* (2014) from Massachusetts General Hospital and the Massachusetts Medical Society. (<http://www.massmed.org/News-and-Publications/MMS-News-Releases/Massachusetts-General-Hospital-Massachusetts-Medical-Society-Publish-Guidebook-on-Human-Trafficking-for-Health-Care-Providers/>)

### Violence Prevention

In 2008, CHI introduced its United Against Violence initiative, the first of its kind to be sponsored by a national nonprofit health system.

(<http://www.catholichealthinitiatives.org/championing-violence-prevention>)

Through the CHI Mission and Ministry Fund (<http://www.catholichealthinitiatives.org/violence-prevention-planning-grants>), United Against Violence provides millions of dollars in grants to support violence prevention programs. These programs address many forms of violence, including child abuse, youth dating violence, gang violence, and domestic violence.

### Informative Web Sites:

(Each contains information related to human trafficking)

#### 2015 TIP Report

<http://www.state.gov/j/tip/>

#### SPACE

<http://spaceinternational.ie/>

#### Global HT Incidence Map

<http://human.globalincidentmap.com/>

#### CHI Anti-Violence Resources

[http://catholichealthinitiatives.org/documents\\_public/Advocacy/CHI%20Violence%20Handbook%207-16a.pdf](http://catholichealthinitiatives.org/documents_public/Advocacy/CHI%20Violence%20Handbook%207-16a.pdf)  
<http://www.catholichealthinitiatives.org/violence-prevention>

## Progress Report from the Office of Victims of Crime

The *Federal Strategic Action Plan on Services for Victims of Human Trafficking* defined four goals, eight objectives, and contains more than 250 associated action items for victim service improvements during the period 2013-2017.

The Status Report highlights the progress made on the Strategic Action Plan during Fiscal Years 2013-2014 by federal agencies to ensure that all victims of human trafficking in the U.S. are identified and have access to the services they need to recover.

The Action Plan can be viewed at:

<http://www.ovc.gov/pubs/>

FederalHumanTraffickingStrategicPlan.pdf

The Status Report can be viewed at:

[http://www.ovc.gov/pubs/FY\\_13\\_14\\_Status\\_Report.pdf](http://www.ovc.gov/pubs/FY_13_14_Status_Report.pdf)

**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!*

[www.stopenslavement.org/archives.htm](http://www.stopenslavement.org/archives.htm)

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