



Breaking the Link between Human Trafficking and Forced Migration Addressing Root Causes & Supporting Survivors

The House passed the TVPRA. Now it's the Senate's turn.

Many men, women and families are forced to flee their homes due to poverty, violence, corruption or natural disasters. Whether on the move or in the United States, migrants are easy targets for traffickers who exploit them for sex or labor.

As leaders in ending human trafficking, the Alliance to End Human Trafficking and the National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd have joined forces to work with policy makers to break the link between human trafficking and forced migration. The 118th Congress has the opportunity to address the root causes of forced migration, enabling people to stay in their home countries and flourish, thus reducing their vulnerability to human trafficking.

We are faith-based organizations; women religious, Catholic lay leaders, and others who are committed to advocating for the dignity and justice of all individuals – with particular concern for those men, women and children forced to migrate who are at grave risk of being trafficked.

We call on the Senate to immediately take up and reauthorize the seminal anti-trafficking legislation, the Frederick Douglass Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act (TVPRA) which already passed the House as ([H.R. 5856](#)). The TVPRA addresses some of the root causes of forced migration and thus helps to mitigate human trafficking.

Reauthorization of the TVPRA would help to enable potential migrants to choose to live in

safety and with dignity in their home countries rather than undertake the arduous and dangerous journey to the United States. The Frederick Douglass Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act fights human trafficking abroad by providing U.S. aid for sustainable development and humanitarian assistance offering support for food security, housing, employment, education and health care in local communities.

Those lacking security and access to basic needs in their home countries are bound to leave to seek better lives for themselves and their families. To make inroads in eliminating the human trafficking of those forced to migrate - people who make up the majority of those trafficked within the U.S., we must address the root causes that force people to flee.

We urge the Senate to take up and pass the Frederick Douglass Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act ([H.R. 5856](#)) which speaks to one of the root causes of human trafficking—forced migration. By providing discrete financial assistance to migrant-sending countries, the U.S. can plant the seeds of sustainable development and long-term solutions which would permit people to flourish at home, safe from the threat of human traffickers. Without immediate action, the law and its protections will expire, thereby further exacerbating the circumstances that give rise to forced migration and human trafficking.