



THESSISMUN



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Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee (SOCHUM)

Third Committee of the General Assembly

Topic Area A

Trafficking of women and girls in vulnerable
countries



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Study Guide

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“Trafficking of women and girls in vulnerable countries”



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1. Welcoming Letter

Dear Delegates,

It is our pleasure to welcome you to ThessISMUN 2023. This year the conference marks its 20th edition and is ready for each and every one of you. That said, we would also like to welcome you to this year's edition of the Social, Cultural and Humanitarian Council. As members of the board, we are committed to guiding you through this fascinating experience. Be sure to reach out to us, should you have any questions or troubles during your research or your days at the conference. We are certain that your contribution to the council will be significant and we look forward to hearing all your ideas on how to proceed with the problems at hand. Our goal is to ensure a friendly and productive working environment for every delegate, therefore we highly urge you to cooperate in a respectful manner with every participant, not only in our committee but at the conference in general.

This year, the matters at hand are once again challenging and require quality research and a plethora of arguments to be made. We are sure you are going to live up to our expectations. There are two topics that you will discuss with your equals. The first one is titled “**Trafficking of women and girls in vulnerable countries**” and the second one is “**Defending the rights of the LGBTIQ+ community**”. Be sure to come prepared for some heated debates, in order to come to an agreement on the best approach for each topic. For a better understanding of each topic, we have taken the time to conduct this study guide in order to help you through the wide variety of subtopics each title has. We will also be monitoring you closely during the council days. We would once again like to welcome you to ThessISMUN 2023 and we hope you have as good of a time as we are sure we will have. We hope we make your experience as smooth and joyful as we can and we hope you socialize and make as many new friends as possible.

Best regards,

Aris Aigyptiadis, Chair

Evdoxia Rarri, Vice Chair



Georgios Lymperis, Vice Chair

2. Introduction to the Committee

The General Assembly is the main policy-making body of the United Nations (UN) during which all 193 UN member states participate and retain one vote each. The General Assembly has six main Committees that were all created as a part of the UNGA in 1945, under the Charter of the United Nations.¹

The Third Committee of the GA, also known as the Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee (SOCHUM) or C3, is handling issues ranging around social and humanitarian affairs, human rights and social development questions. The Committee's mandate specifically focuses on matters regarding the advancement of women, the protection of children, the advancement of women, refugees and indigenous population, the promotion of the right to self-determination and the prevention of all forms of racism and crime. Additionally, it focuses on issues relating to youth, family and ageing, people with disabilities, crime prevention and criminal justice, the international drug trade, and related issues. At this moment, among other issues, there have been allocated in the Committee's Agenda the promotion of human rights and the advancement of women, which constitute the basis for further protecting the rights of LGBTQI+ communities.²

Ultimately, SOCHUM provides its members states with recommendations on the issues of its mandate, as well as initiates studies with other UN bodies and external partners in the fields of human rights, education, economy and society.³ This means that the Committee does not produce legally binding decisions and States have the discretionary power to follow the indications of the recommendations.

¹ (United Nations 2018)

² ("A/C.3/77/1" n.d.)

³ ("UN General Assembly - Third Committee - Social, Humanitarian & Cultural" 2019)



3. Introduction to the Topic Area

Secretary-General António Guterres stated in July 2022 that “Human trafficking is a horrific crime and an all-out assault on people’s rights, safety and dignity”.⁴ Trafficking can be briefly explained as the recruitment or transportation of people through force, without their will, or through fraud or deception, for malicious purposes. The majority of trafficked people globally are women and girls.⁵ Specifically, for every 10 victims detected globally, four are adult women and two are girls.⁶

Traffickers target people at vulnerable situations, in countries with lower GDP, conflicts, humanitarian emergencies. The breakdown of essential services, justice systems, social and economic structures hampers prevention and response efforts and provides new opportunities to traffickers. The vulnerable situation of countries combined with the systemic gender-based discrimination against women, creates economic and social injustices and contributes to augmented trafficking of women and girls.⁷

During the recent crises, traffickers have found new methods or have developed older ones to deceive, coerce and exploit women and girls. COVID-19 lockdowns led to a significant rise of extreme poverty, while millions women and girls in every part of the world stayed out of school, out of work, without social support. Under these conditions, women and girls are even more susceptible to trafficking. At the same time, the breakdown of justice systems and social or economic structures due to the pandemic is making social protection against trafficking even more difficult.⁸ The conflict in Ukraine has created a vast refugee crisis, with 90% of refugees being women and girls. In the borders and outside Ukraine have been significantly active

⁴ (UN News 2022)

⁵ (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime 2021)

⁶ (UN Women 2022)

⁷ (“CEDAW/C/GC/38” 2020)

⁸ (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime 2021)



according to reports. In the Tigray conflict in Ethiopia, trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation is rising as incidents sexual violence against females are more frequent.⁹

It is evident that trafficking of women and girls, especially in vulnerable countries, has many aspects of social and human rights violations. While crises all around the world are constantly emerging, putting more and more females into danger, it is vital to find ways to address the problem.

4. Definitions

4.1. Human Trafficking

According to the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime, Human Trafficking is “the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of people through force, fraud or deception, with the aim of exploiting them for profit”. Victim of this crime can become every human being, despite of its age or socioeconomic status, from all over the world. Fake promises for free education or job opportunities as well as violence are the main ways that the traffickers use to trick or force their victims¹⁰.

4.2. Smuggling

Smuggling describes the act of transportation of objects, substances, information or people by the use of illegal methods that violate applicable laws or other regulations. The UNHRC states that human trafficking is involuntary and victims are exploited, whereas smuggling is voluntary, yet still bears life-threatening risks. Thus, if a victim is exploited, for example by being held for ransom or sex work, then a smuggling case becomes automatically a human trafficking case¹¹.

⁹ (UN Women 2022)

¹⁰(United Nations, 2021)

¹¹(United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, 2011)



4.3. Vulnerable groups

Human trafficking is often oriented in more vulnerable social groups. In its Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, the United Nations notes that “women and children are particularly at risk for human trafficking and revictimization”. The Protocol requires State Parties not only to enact measures that prevent human trafficking but also to address the factors that exacerbate women and children's vulnerability, including "poverty, underdevelopment and lack of equal opportunity"¹².

4.4. Vulnerable-Fragile states

According to the World Bank, “a fragile, vulnerable or weak state is a country characterized by weak state capacity or weak state legitimacy leaving citizens vulnerable to a range of shocks”. The fragility of a state can be recognized if one out of three main factors exists in it: a) if it requires immediate assistance from the International Development Association (IDA), (b) if it has had a UN peacekeeping mission in the last three years, and (c) if it has been characterized as a poorly governed nation (governance score under 3.2)¹³. Moreover, such states often have lost physical control of their territory or a monopoly of the legitimate use of force. They, also, no longer acquire the ability to collect taxes, make collective decisions or provide reasonable public services. From an international perspective, they lack the ability to interact effectively with other states as a full member of the global community. Thus, those states are more vulnerable to crime, wars and social instability¹⁴. Currently, the Fragile States Index demonstrates that the position for the five most unstable countries in the world belong to Somalia, Syria, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo and Sudan.

¹²(United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, 2011)

¹³(“Topics” World Bank, 2023)

¹⁴(“What Does State Fragility Mean? | Fragile States Index”)



5. Legal Framework

The international community has set certain provisions regarding the prevention of trafficking of women and girls. The most fundamental treaties that refer to the aforementioned provisions are the following:

5.1. United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC)

The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, adopted by the UN General Assembly in November 2000 is the main international instrument in the fight against transnational organized crime. The Convention is supplemented, among others, with the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children. Their aim is to assist the victims of trafficking, especially females, and ensure that all human rights are respected. The Protocol is also the first global legally binding instrument which provides a concrete definition on trafficking in persons.¹⁵

5.2. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)

The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women was adopted by the UN General Assembly on 18 December 1979. CEDAW consists of a preamble and 30 articles and it defines what constitutes discrimination against women. The Convention's aim is to ensure equality between women and men and to set up an agenda for national action to combat discrimination against women. Among the many rights protected, the Convention ensures that all necessary measures are taken to eradicate all forms of traffic in women and exploitation of prostitution of women.¹⁶

5.3. United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)

The UNCRC is an international agreement, adopted in November 1989, whose aim is to protect civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of children. It consists of 54 Articles that

¹⁵ (United Nations 2000)

¹⁶(United Nations General Assembly 1979)



outline the aforementioned rights and set guidelines for governments to follow in order to safeguard and promote them. The agreement revolves around four core principles: non-discrimination, devotion to the best interests of the child, the right to life, survival and development, and respect for the views of the child. The Convention along with the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, provide the basis to impede the sexual exploitation and human rights violation that derive from abusing children. Also, their aim is to provide children a safe environment that prevents persons to exploit them for malicious purposes, such as various forms of forced labour, illegal adoption and organ removal.¹⁷

6. Challenges in the forms of trafficking

6.1. Trafficking for sexual exploitation

According to a 2022 UN Report, trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation is the most common type and 92% of the victims for this purpose are women and girls.¹⁸ Sexual exploitation could be defined as “any actual or attempted abuse of a position of vulnerability, differential power, or trust, for sexual purposes, including but not limited to, profiting monetarily, socially or politically from sexual exploitation of another.”¹⁹

Sexual exploitation remains a persistent social problem as States do not try to solve the problem from its root and dissolve the demand that creates exploitation and results in trafficking. The societal views and stereotypes that enhance male domination and the will to assert male control or power, foster the continuation of patriarchal gender roles and male sexual entitlement, coercion and control that leads to a high demand to sexually exploiting women and girls.²⁰ Trafficking for sexual exploitation can be pursued via the Internet. Females can be exploited by the force to engage in sex acts or take pictures for the purpose of producing pornographic

¹⁷ (UNICEF 2022)

¹⁸ (UN Women 2022)

¹⁹ (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime 2020)

²⁰ (“CEDAW/C/GC/38” 2020)



material. Trafficking can also have the form of sex tourism. These are some of the most usual forms of trafficking in the modern times.²¹

Trafficking for sexual exploitation also highly occurs in conflicted-related environments. The term “conflict-related sexual violence” refers to rape, sexual slavery, forced prostitution, forced pregnancy, forced abortion, enforced sterilization, forced marriage and any other form of sexual violence of comparable gravity perpetrated against women, men, girls or boys that is directly or indirectly linked to a conflict.²² Conflicted-related sexual violence has lately also been linked with trafficking through land dispossession, forced evictions and raids leading to abductions. However, the attempt to escape from war-zone countries also creates obstacles as trafficking can be seen in the contexts of sexual violence and migration, sexual slavery in displaced persons camps, forced marriage and terrorism.²³

6.2. Trafficking for forced labour

Forced labour is defined in article 2 paragraph 1 of the Convention for Forced or Compulsory Labour of 1930 (No. 29) as in “all work or service which is exacted from any person under the menace of any penalty, and for which the said person has not offered himself voluntarily”.²⁴ Globally, even though men are trafficked more for forced labour women experience many challenges when they are exploited for this purpose. However, in North Africa, the Middle East and South Asia women constitute the majority of persons trafficked for forced labour. Also, in Central America and the Caribbean, young girls are the main profile of detected victims of trafficking for the same purpose.

It is also notable that this type of trafficking contains the most cases that include cross-border transportation, rather than domestic which is mostly seen in trafficking for sexual exploitation. Thus, trafficking for forced labour is highly connected with labour migration. Women and girls

²¹ (UN Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, Working Group on Trafficking in Persons 2013)

²² (United Nations Security Council 2018)

²³ (United Nations General Assembly 2018)

²⁴ (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime 2020)



are exploited in many different types of work, including primarily domestic work, and then agriculture, catering, street trading, garment and others.²⁵

Trafficking for forced labour is mainly counteracted only in extreme cases, while many others remain ungoverned. Even though the human rights of trafficking victims are constantly violated, justice systems are neither easily accessible to those who have suffered or suffer from trafficking for forced labour nor the remediation is effectively obtained by these victims. Additionally to the previous rights that are being infringed, these workers tend to face problems in unpaid wages, working hours and conditions, health and safety as well.²⁶

6.2.1 Trafficking for domestic servitude

Domestic servitude as a type of forced labour is mostly seen in disadvantaged communities that are more prone to being “discriminated” against in the aspect of working conditions. In these vulnerable environments, women and girls seem to be even more discriminated against due to their gender and constitute vast majority of domestic servitude workers, up to 80%-90% of all the cases. Domestic workers are usually exploited inside private homes and, in some cases, they are migrants with undocumented status. Therefore, they easily become victims of human trafficking as the labour inspection agencies do not consider them when investigating. They are also not being considered due to investigations not being held in private households. The significance of this type of work lies in the fact that domestic servitude workers experience high levels of violence, more than other workers, physical and psychological abuse, even food deprivation, beatings with electrical wires or scalding with hot water.²⁷

²⁵ (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime 2020)

²⁶ (United Nations General Assembly 2019)

²⁷ (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime 2021)



6.3 Trafficking for other forms of exploitation

6.3.1 Forced marriage

Globally, young girls, starting from twelve years old, are being forced or tricked to marry men who exploit them through various means, such as abduction, deception, abuse of vulnerability and bribery in the form of payments or gifts. Forced marriages are a distinctive type of exploitations as they will often involve both sexual exploitation and servitude. The girls are most likely to remain being abused indefinitely by their spouse or until the trafficker releases her from the marriage.²⁸

Furthermore, although trafficking and smuggling are two different terms that should be distinguished, in the case of forced marriage there should be a clarification. An agreement to marry may start off as a voluntary agreement in exchange of money and thus should be considered a case of smuggling. However, if afterwards the element of deception or coercion is introduced, the previous case should be then considered as a case of trafficking.²⁹

6.3.2 Removal of organs

Although there is a number of purposes of trafficking, the last form that will be mentioned is the trafficking of women and girls for the removal of organs. Trafficking for organ removal requires the exploitation of females who are compelled by need or force to provide organs for transplantation to people within their own countries or to foreigners. Although men are primarily the victims of this type of trafficking through specific channels, there are many confirmed cases that husbands obliged their wives to donate their organs, because they claimed that the man is the breadwinner and/or in some cases ill.³⁰

²⁸ (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime n.d.)

²⁹ (SHERLOC UNODC n.d.)

³⁰ (The Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons 2021)



The gender discrimination that exists, as proven above, can also cause a more serious impact on females on the aspect of removal of organs, as women are affected disproportionately from sexual violence and povert, two of the main characteristics that distinguish victims of removal of organs.³¹

7. Prevention of women and girl trafficking

The severity of trafficking is widely recognized and has proven to be a strong obstacle against any action to overcome state fragility. It is, usually, directly connected with sexual exploitation, enslavement, state corruption, organized crime and terrorism. Therefore, in order for a state to become durable, as opposed to being fragile³², it needs to ensure the safety of its people, apply measures to counteract trafficking in its territory and comply with international standards that aim to combat trafficking. Moreover, developed countries are also affected by fragile states' inability to manage trafficking, due to the fact that these vulnerable countries tend to become hubs for criminal practices and corruption. These high stakes highlight the need for immediate and effective prevention of trafficking, especially of women and girls who constitute the majority of the victims of this practice.

Legislation³³ is one of the strongest weapons against any criminal activity. However, not every state, especially when it is a fragile³⁴ one, can enact effective laws to combat such actions. Thus, common guidelines on combating³⁵ trafficking should be brought forward. The United Nations have provided resolutions, Conventions and plans as a response to the issue, for example the UN Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons, which would “help to ensure the effective implementation of relevant legal instruments by addressing key gaps in

³¹ (Joint Council of Europe/United Nations study 2009)

³² (The Fund for Peace 2019)

³³ (Bassiouni et al. 2010)

³⁴ (SZUHAI 2015)

³⁵ (Tuttle 2017)



implementation³⁶. Such strategies should be implemented in order to minimize the extent of the problem.

Other measures³⁷ that have already been applied, target societal norms, in order to highlight trafficking as a socially unacceptable practice. To accomplish such a goal, emphasis has been given to awareness raising³⁸ and education of the public. With the use of media and education centers, states and international organizations mobilize the public and provide them with the necessary knowledge, guidelines and action items, aiming to construct certain norms and shape societies, therefore combating the problem from its roots, the people. Lastly, lobbying³⁹ is a common practice⁴⁰ that intends to put pressure on national governments for them to take specific matters more seriously, and most of the time it is conducted by Non-Governmental Organizations⁴¹, which mostly emphasize humanitarian matters, as is trafficking.

A coordinated approach to the matter is of utmost importance and therefore, an effective strategy needs to aim at several crucial points that strengthen the problem and combat them simultaneously. In the case of trafficking an effective response should, not only be multifaceted, but also transnational and interrelated. This means that every different aspect of the whole strategy must co-align and assist the others in order for the strategy to be considered effective. For instance, an effective strategy adopted by the Office on Drugs and Crime⁴² emphasizes on four different approaches in order to combat trafficking. To help each country develop laws, policies and action plans it is crucial to provide them with experts in order for them to find the right approach to the problem. Training and mentoring people to use the tools that are also provided to them (i.e. law models, policy reform frameworks etc.) is also critical

³⁶ *ibid* 16

³⁷ (Ruth Dearnley 2010)

³⁸ (Bahous 2022)

³⁹ (“SVAW - Trafficking in Women: Explore the Issue” 2003)

⁴⁰ (Humanity & Health Foundation 2022)

⁴¹ (Tzvetkova 2002)

⁴² (United Nations, n.d.)



to the strategy. Finally, building or rebuilding networks is of utmost importance, since partnerships with several International Organizations, Governments and NGOs can lead to an effective strategy that will last in time. So, an effective strategy also needs to be continuous and not fade with time in order for it to be successful.

Taking into account the current situation and the difficulties⁴³ that arise in every fragile state or region is also vital for a successful plan to combat trafficking from its roots. One of the main factors that strengthen unlawful practices is crises that occur. Therefore, in order to combat trafficking, one must have an effective way to deal with crises that arise and directly affect the problem by strengthening it. For example, the COVID-19 pandemic, while it promoted digitalization, it also gave the opportunity for new methods of control and exploitation of girls and women. As it seems, technology is a double edged sword that can both promote and combat trafficking, and therefore is an aspect that needs to be considered when trying to resolve the issue. Climate change is another phenomenon that affects trafficking indirectly, by increasing the displacement of persons. Migration combined with the lack of sufficient and protected pathways to ensure the safety of the displaced during their journey also leads to trafficking. This situation is therefore considered a complication that needs to be dealt with, so as to take action against the core of the problem. Lastly, poverty and economic insecurity can be driving factors for trafficking, so economic aid as a strategic approach to mitigate state fragility and intrastate poverty can lead to the minimization of women and girl trafficking.

8. International response to women and girl trafficking

Trafficking is a problem that affects both individual states and the International System⁴⁴ as a whole. That is because, as stated earlier, fragile states can become hubs for organized crime and terrorism and can contribute to the expansion of their criminal activities to other states.

⁴³ (Bahous 2022)

⁴⁴ (Kissinger 2014)



With that in mind, the International Community⁴⁵ has highlighted state fragility as a matter of international security and has taken action, in order to assist these states combat certain problems that are to blame for their fragility, such as trafficking. For that specific matter, the International Community has launched numerous programs and strategies, especially in the humanitarian and economic sector, and have made use of new technologies that have made its efforts to combat trafficking even more effective.

Humanitarian aid⁴⁶ is of utmost importance when it comes to trafficking. The evolution of International Law with the addition of new ways to prevent trafficking has had a significant impact on the matter, due to the fact that legislation provides states' and International Organizations' actions with a proper legal framework to act against criminal groups all around the world. At first, anti-slavery mechanisms were adopted, with various conventions condemning slavery, servitude and forced labor, followed by anti-prostitution treaties, like the International Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic of Women and Children (1921). Also, additional legislative measures have been taken, with general human rights documents, like the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948).

This legal background has enabled state action against trafficking and humanitarian aid in various forms has already been provided to victims. NGOs have formed with wide public support and frequent program collaboration with international and government agencies, including ECPAT, the Polaris Project, and Captive Daughters and many others. However, seeing as the matter at hand is still growing, further legislative measures and new strategies seem to be at need. Considering the fact that technology has also advanced through the years, strategies, like advancements in data collection of the victims or the criminals, could be implemented in order to strengthen the efforts against trafficking.

⁴⁵ (Uc and Barbara 2012)

⁴⁶ *ibid* 13



Lastly, economic assistance⁴⁷ needs to be provided both to victims, for their effective rehabilitation, and to hub states, in order to become durable enough for an effective counterattack to trafficking. Economic help is being provided from different sources, one of which is The United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, which has generated more than 8.9 million dollars in contributions from a wide range of supporters. However, economic strategies tend to be victim-centered⁴⁸, an approach that is not effective enough to combat the problem. Targeting societal norms, by -for example- funding education, should approach and attack the phenomenon from its roots. Moreover, identifying potential victims, for example by economic income, should also be an effective strategy against trafficking. Lastly, international help should be provided to hub states in order for them to fund inner state bodies responsible for the assurance of safety and legality in the region.

Technological development⁴⁹ also poses a threat, since it may create new platforms that help both states and individuals operate effectively with minimum effort and in less time, but it also provides such advantages to criminal organizations. Especially during the COVID-19 pandemic, digitalization has gained ground and has provided opportunities for criminals to expand their illicit practices while also maintaining anonymity. Internet users and especially children are being presented with vast amounts of information, some of which may be controlled and directed by criminal organizations. As a result, many illegal activities, and especially trafficking, tend to expand both digitally and therefore geographically making the issue even more complicated. The digital world is a difficult area to be reinforced with legislative measures or to be protected by online police, due to issues, such as anonymity, information overload and its continuous and rapid development. Also, it is difficult to pinpoint the exact location of the criminal organization's base of operation, because of their ability to evade such attempts, using hacking technics. This poses further threats, since operating

⁴⁷ (hexin.liu 2010)

⁴⁸ ibid

⁴⁹ (Nazli Choucri and Clark 2018)



digitally exceeds geography and therefore detection, control and constraint of such activities seem to be very challenging as it also cannot be traced back to specific fragile states or regions.

However, certain opportunities⁵⁰ arise for actors who aim to minimize trafficking and other criminal activities in the digital world. Firstly, although difficult, legislative measures and transnational strategies should be implemented. Such strategies should be combined with the use of media companies in order to raise awareness about the threats and the steps taken to combat them. Liability mechanisms, regulations for online safety and online victim protection should also be encouraged and assisted by the use of artificial intelligence. Lastly, state cooperation and information exchange should be sealed with bilateral and multilateral agreements.

Many International Organizations and NGOs have been created and cooperated with each other and with already existing ones in order to amplify international response concerning trafficking⁵¹ of women and girls. For example, the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons⁵² (ICAT) in cooperation with UNICEF, UNIFEM, UNODC and other organizations have combined forces with a view to combat trafficking effectively in all of its stages. Both state and non-state actors have united under international agreements, such as the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and maintain the pressure against such criminal activities with further legislative measures, humanitarian aid to the victims and economic support to fragile states as a means to discourage and prevent trafficking internationally.

⁵⁰ (ICAT 2022)

⁵¹ (ICAT n.d.)

⁵² (ICAT n.d.)



9. Conclusion

Through the years, women and girls have fallen victim to trafficking, while action against it has not been sufficient enough to protect them, especially in fragile states. Combating the issue takes more and more effort, due to the new threats that have arisen, which open new windows for everyone, including criminal organizations. As a result, state and non-state actors find it difficult to keep up with arising threats and because of their complexity, legislative measures or other forms of action against them tend to not be on par with their rapid development and their influence on trafficking.

The International Community once again finds itself on the verge of a crisis concerning fragile states and their tendency to become hubs of criminal activities. Trafficking organizations have taken advantage of every new opportunity that international crises and technological development have to offer. Thus, new innovative ways are needed to take action against the phenomenon, as traditional methods seem to underperform and have been proven insufficient.

Human rights and their protection are core elements of the United Nations and action to preserve them is always a top priority of our agenda. Therefore, new strategies need to be implemented to further ensure the protection and promotion of human security in every aspect worldwide. Renewed and innovative, multifaceted and transnational strategies need to be formed and applied in order for the International Community to keep up with the rapid changes in the trafficking world. Beginning with understanding the types of trafficking that occur and forming plans to encounter them directly is key to a complete and effective strategy. Furthermore, forming plans that target different but codependent areas of trafficking at the same time is of utmost importance to effectively combat the phenomenon. Lastly, the race to overcome state fragility and prevent its reappearance seems to also be at the top of UN's goals and priorities, since they can become hubs of criminal activities. Thus, an effective strategy is crucial to recognize the importance and reality of state fragility.



10. Points to be addressed

- 1) How are women and girls especially affected by trafficking?
- 2) Which are the root causes of trafficking?
- 3) What form can exploitation through trafficking have?
- 4) How is the vulnerable status of countries linked with trafficking?
- 5) What measures can be adopted to prevent women and girl trafficking
- 6) What are some economic strategies in order to combat and minimize trafficking of women and girls in fragile states?
- 7) What role can technology play in order to furtherly prevent trafficking of women and girls?
- 8) What could be some adequate humanitarian aid strategies?
- 9) What steps can be taken to provide support in order to aid the recovery and rehabilitation of the victims?
- 10) What strategies can be implemented so as to block trafficking roads?
- 11) How can the International Community react to the new global threats (i.e. pandemic, climate change, cybercrime etc.) that strengthen women and girl trafficking?
- 12) How can women and girls be protected from trafficking in conflict areas and/or in periods of crises?



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