

**GLOBAL LAW**

**ACTION PLANS**

**STRATEGIES**

**DATA GATHERING**

# IS IT ENOUGH?

PANEL DISCUSSION

**WHAT GETS  
MEASURED  
GETS  
DONE**

## MEASURING THE EFFICACY OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING POLICIES AND PROGRAMS

Despite all efforts, human trafficking has continued to proliferate unfettered throughout the world and has been exacerbated during the pandemic. Major focuses have been on aiding the victims after the crime is committed and developing programs to prevent abuse of the most vulnerable. While these are laudable efforts, they obviously have not stopped the crimes from occurring.

Join us as we explore how the United Nations community can expand its policies and procedures to bankrupt the business of human trafficking by:

- establishing global measurement standards, including for illicit profiteering and numbers of trafficking victims;
- incorporating such estimates into the results framework of programmes and projects;
- facilitating collaboration amongst multi-sectors engaged in policymaking, implementation and monitoring of results.

**6 APRIL | 2022**

**11:00AM – 12:30PM ET**

**LIVESTREAM**

<https://media.un.org>

**PANELISTS**

**Dr. Gergana Danailova-Trainor**  
*Senior Economist, United States Government Accountability Office*

**Harry Cook**  
*Programme Coordinator, Trafficking in Persons Research, International Organization for Migration*

**Che Sidanius**  
*Global Head of Financial Crime & Industry Affairs, Refinitiv*

**Ms. Beate Andrees**  
*Special Representative to the UN and Director, International Labour Organization Office for the United Nations*

**Giulia Serio**  
*Associate Expert, Research on Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime*

**Susan Snyder**  
*Senior Coordinator for International Programs, Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, United States Department of State*

**MODERATED BY**

**Conny Czymoch** *Professional Moderator and Media Coach*

CO-SPONSORS



## Concept Note

### What Gets Measured Gets Done: Measuring Efficacy of Human Trafficking Policies and Programs

#### **Subject:**

Every business student as well as successful CEOs know that “what gets measured gets done”. Yet, throughout the United Nations system, including agencies and member states, there are no universal, reliable, consistent mechanisms for measuring the efficacy of programmes and policies designed to reduce the illicit profiteering and victims of human traffickers.

#### **Background:**

**There is an instrument of international law** -- 178 member states of the United Nations are parties to the UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC), also known as the Palermo Protocol. Many countries have also enacted national laws prohibiting trafficking in persons and other forms of modern slavery.

**There are action plans**— the 64/293 United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons, adopted in 2010, the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (2011) and the Children’s Rights and Business Principles (2012); 21 Member States have formally adopted national plans on human rights which includes how business can support children’s rights as part of their corporate social responsibility (CSR), including on combating child trafficking and exploitation.

**There are strategies**—including the 3 “Ps” approach—prosecution, protection and prevention regarding victimization. The approaches miss an underlying concept of simple economics and human behavior-- that even if the estimated 24.9 million<sup>1</sup> victims were all to be rescued today, tomorrow there would be a new set of victims as it is too lucrative an industry—conservatively at least US\$150 billion in annual<sup>1</sup>, illicit profits. Another strategy is that of bankrupting the business of human trafficking—going after the illicit profiteering that and preventing the demand for sex and labor trafficking.<sup>2</sup>

#### **There are data gathering mechanisms:**

- 1) IOM has the longest statistical history and a comprehensive list of data elements regarding sex trafficking. It is gathered from IOM assisted migrants who are willing to return and reintegrate into their country of origin. This data is used in studies and estimates produced by both ILO and UNODC.
- 2) ILO has developed estimates of people in forced labour, including sex and labour trafficking, in reports published in 2005, 2012 and 2017. Its latest report of “forced labour and trafficking” indicates 24.9 million victims and \$150 billion in illicit profiteering. These are derived numbers

---

<sup>1</sup> International Labour Organization 2016 Estimates: [Global Estimates of Modern Slavery: Forced Labour and Forced Marriage](#), Geneva, September 2017.

<sup>2</sup> NGO Committee to Stop Trafficking in Persons, Inc.: [Bankrupting the Business of Human Trafficking: Summary & Recommendations, October, 2021](#).

based on conducted national surveys, IOM data and statistical analysis. Due to different methodologies used in the three surveys, the estimates are not directly comparable to evaluate trends and cannot be considered a statistical baseline.

- 3) The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) was given the official mandate by the UN General Assembly “to collect information and report biennially (...) on patterns and flows of trafficking in persons at the national, regional and international levels “.<sup>i</sup> The latest edition of the Global Report on Trafficking in Persons (GLOTIP), published in 2020, provides an overview of patterns and flows of trafficking in persons at global, regional and national levels, based on trafficking cases officially detected in 148 Member States. The GLOTIP Database is the largest database on trafficking in persons available worldwide, providing information on more than 500,000 victims recorded since 2013. In order to assess the real size of the phenomenon beyond detected cases, UNODC also conducts research initiatives aimed at estimating the prevalence of trafficking in persons in selected locations and sectors.
- 4) The United States’ State Department produces its Trafficking in Persons report annually. The source data is a combination of surveys provided by country governments, nongovernmental organizations and other sources. It provides narrative information regarding countries’ efforts in prosecution, protection and prevention. It also provides statistical information regarding the number of worldwide prosecutions and a ranking of country’s efforts. There are no estimates regarding the total number of victims or illicit profiteering.

Despite all efforts, these crimes have continued to proliferate throughout the world and have been exacerbated during Covid. Major focuses have been on aiding the victims after the crime is committed and to develop programs to prevent abuse of the most vulnerable. While these are laudable efforts, they obviously have not stopped the crimes from occurring.

### **Proposal:**

Zoom discussion:

- a. Convene experts from the ILO, IOM, UNODC, and the US State Department to discuss their efforts to improve their understanding of the scope of human trafficking and their implemented measurement methodologies.
- b. Have experts from relevant organizations and agencies discuss bankrupting the business of human trafficking and need for credible and reliable data and estimates to assess program effectiveness in diminishing the number of victims and/or illicit profiteering;
- c. Summary of the programme to be provided by member states’ representatives of how the United Nations can expand its policies and procedures to bankrupt the business of human trafficking and to enable collaboration multi-laterally and multi-sectorally by:
  - establishing global measurement standards, including profits and number of trafficking victims;
  - incorporating such estimates into results framework of programmes and projects;
  - facilitating collaboration amongst multi-sectors engaged in policy-making, implementation and monitoring of results.

---

<sup>i</sup> 2010 United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons.