



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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*Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs
Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality*

PROGRAMME

Seminar on

**Combating and preventing trafficking in human beings:
the way forward**

Thursday 10 June 2010, 15.00 – 18.30

*Jointly organized by the
Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs
and the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality*

European Parliament, Brussels

Room PHS 3 C 050

PRACTICAL GUIDELINES FOR THE DEBATE

- *During the discussion, so as to make it possible for the highest number of parliamentarians to intervene, speaking time will be limited to **two minutes** per contribution or question.*
- *Members requesting the floor are kindly asked to inform the chair indicating their name and parliament on a special sheet. The floor will be given to Members in the order in which requests are received..*
- *Speakers wishing to supplement their speeches may do so in writing by submitting a document (preferably in English or French) in advance to the secretariat (email: ip-femm-libe@europarl.europa.eu). These documents will be circulated during the meeting.*
- *Meeting documents will be progressively added to the Hearings section of the LIBE Committee pages: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/activities/committees/homeCom.do?language=EN&body=LIBE> and FEMM pages: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/activities/committees/hearingsCom.do?language=EN&body=FEMM>*

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR THOSE WISHING TO ATTEND THE MEETING

This meeting is open to the public. However, for security reasons, participants who do not have a European Parliament access badge must obtain a pass in advance. Those wishing to obtain such a pass should contact the secretariat (ip-femm-libe@europarl.europa.eu) **before 6 June 2010**. It is essential to provide us with your **full name, address and date of birth**. Without this information, the Security Service will not provide entry passes.

INTRODUCTION

Trafficking in human beings is a modern form of slavery, a serious crime and a severe violation of fundamental human rights and reduces people to a state of dependency via threats, violence and humiliation.

Trafficking in human beings is also an extremely profitable business for organised crime, with high profit possibilities and limited risk-taking and may take many forms, relating for example to sexual exploitation, forced labour, illegal trade in human organs, begging, illegal adoptions and domestic work.

The importance of this phenomenon is impressive but certainly not exactly known.

The Treaty of Lisbon has strengthened EU action in the field of judicial and police cooperation in criminal matters, including in combating trafficking in human beings, and the European Parliament, becoming co-legislator, will have a full role to play.

The Treaty of Lisbon contains multiple references to the fight against trafficking in human beings: Article 83 sets the legal basis for establishing minimum rules concerning the definition of criminal offences and sanctions in the area of trafficking in human beings and sexual exploitation of women and children and Article 79 sets a legal basis under the common immigration policy.

The EU legal framework on trafficking in human being is currently mainly based on:

- Framework Decision 2002/629/JHA of 19 July 2002 on combating trafficking in human beings which aims at a minimum harmonisation of national legislation;
- Directive 2004/81/EC of 29 April 2004 on the residence permit issued to third-country nationals who are victims of trafficking in human beings or who have been the subject of an action to facilitate illegal immigration, who cooperate with the competent authorities;

Experience has shown that this legal framework is not effective enough and that the EU has to do more. With this perspective, in 2009 the European Commission presented a proposal for a new Framework Decision. Due to the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty, which interrupted all ongoing legislative procedures, negotiation at Council could not lead to the formal adoption of the Framework Decision and the European Commission has tabled a new proposal for a Directive on Preventing and combating trafficking in human beings, and protecting victims, repealing Framework Decision 2002/629/JHA(COM(2010)95 final).

From its side, the European Parliament is deeply committed in cooperating with the Commission and the Council in enhancing an effective EU policy against trafficking in human beings.

In the Resolution adopted on 10 February 2010(P7_TA(2010)0018) the European Parliament expressed, inter alia, the position that:

- a) action against trafficking in human beings should be developed on the basis of a holistic approach centred on human rights and focusing on combating trafficking, prevention and protection of victims;
- b) a victim-focused approach should be adopted, meaning that all potential categories of victims must be identified, targeted and protected, with special attention being given to children and other at-risk groups;
- c) an EU anti-trafficking coordinator to coordinate EU action and policies in this field – including the activities of the network of national rapporteurs – and reporting to both the EP and the Standing Committee on Operational Cooperation on Internal Security (COSI) should be established;
- d) policies on trafficking in human beings should cover aspects linked to social affairs and social inclusion including appropriate programmes and effective methods of ensuring social rehabilitation of victims, including measures relating to the labour market and the social security system;
- e) due attention should be given to the external relations dimension of trafficking in human beings and the dimensions of immigration, asylum and reintegration policies;
- f) information and awareness campaigns should be run through the education and school system in the countries of origin, transit and destination for trafficking;

The legislative process concerning the Commission's proposal of 29 March 2010 is ongoing, the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE), and the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality (FEMM) co-sharing the competence from the European Parliament side.

The aim of this Seminar is to explore ways forward, together with the relevant institutional and civil society stakeholders, at EU and international level, in order to give the rapporteurs and shadow rapporteurs the widest awareness of the phenomenon in view of negotiating the proposed Directive.

Introduction: 15.00 - 15.25

European Parliament:

15.00 - 15.05 Opening by Anna Hedh, co-rapporteur

European Commission:

15.05 - 15.15 Presentation of the Commission's Proposal for a Directive: Reinhard Priebe, Director of the Directorate F (Security) of DG JLS

Council of the European Union:

15.15 - 15.20 Spanish Presidency of the Council: Luis Aguilera Ruiz, Counsellor of Justice

15.20 - 15.25 Belgium: Charlotte Janssens, Legal Advisor, Ministry of Justice

First Panel: 15.25-16.25

**EU legislative and practical tools
in the fight against trafficking in human beings**

Europol:

15.25 - 15.40 Steve Harvey, Europol National Member, Serious Crime Department, SC3 Crimes against Persons Unit

Eurojust:

15.40 - 15.50 Ola Laurell, Eurojust Swedish National Member

Frontex:

15.50 - 16.00 Speaker to be confirmed.

Discussion: 16.00-16.15

Second Panel: 16.15 -17.10

**The importance of information gathering, prevention of trafficking
and monitoring of anti-trafficking policies**

European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA):

16.15 - 16.25 Ioannis Dimitrakopoulos, Head of Department Equality & Citizen's Rights

International Labour Organisation (ILO):

16.25 - 16.35 Caroline O'Reilly, Head, Special Action Programme to Combat Forced Labour

Council of Europe:

16.35 - 16.45 Carolina Lasen Diaz, Administrator, Secretariat of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings

Discussion: 16.45 - 17.00

Third Panel: 17.00 -17.45

Victims' support, assistance and protection

International Save The Children Alliance - Europe Group:

17.00 - 17.10 Rebecca O'Donnell, Policy advocacy officer for asylum seeking, migrating and trafficked children

The Poppy Project

17.10 - 17.20 Speaker to be confirmed

The Swedish Police:

17.20 - 17.30 Mats Paulsson, Inspector at the anti-trafficking unit

Discussion: 17.30-17.45

Conclusions: 17.45 - 18.30

International Criminal Court (ICC):

17.45 - 17.55 Cuno J. Tarfusser, Judge, Pre - Trial Chambers I & II

Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE):

17.55 - 18.05 Maria Grazia Giammarinaro: OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings

Discussion: 18.05 - 18.25

Final remarks: 18.25 - 18.30 by Edith Bauer, co-rapporteur

Additional information:

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