Background Paper

DEVELOPING A FRAMEWORK FOR COMBATTING CORRUPTION RELATED TO TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS



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Relevant international conventions are ratified and international cooperation against corre	
trafficking in persons is promoted.	
Processes of international cooperation in terms of mutual legal assistance and extradition a and functioning.	
2. Jointly addressing and investigating trafficking in persons and corruption with particula	
at-risk sectors	
Strategies that address trafficking in persons and corruption, or include corruption issue trafficking plans, and vice-versa, are in place.	es in anti-
Sectors prone to trafficking in persons-related corruption are given priority in the implement relevant strategies.	entation of
Information and resources are leveraged and shared among relevant actors	
Corruption is also investigated when investigating trafficking in persons	
Specialised multi-agency units are established and multi-agency trainings are organised	
3. Transparency and an integrity framework for public officials at risk	
Specific rules/standards of behaviour – such as guidelines or codes of conduct – with	
corruption and trafficking for public officials at risk are in place. The violations of the	
conduct entail sanctions.	
The activities of staff working in sectors at risk are performed in a transparent manner	
A wider framework of integrity for public officials is promoted.	
Mechanisms that allow for public officials as well as the public to expose misconduct	
dishonest or illegal activity and that ensure the effective protection from retaliation are in pla	
The recruitment process of officials is transparent, competitive and subject to independent	it scrutiny.
Upon recruitment, officials receive training, adequate supervision and are subject	to regular
performance evaluations.	
Key officials receive training so that they are able to correctly identify trafficking victims,	
the nature of the crime, and recognise warning signs throughout the different stages of the	trafficking
in persons process.	
4. Awareness-Raising and Prevention Measures for Public Officials and the General Public	
Public awareness regarding the existence, causes, and gravity of trafficking in persons and	
participation of individuals and groups outside the public sector in the prevention of and	
against trafficking in persons-related corruption is promoted.	
Targeted awareness-raising measures for all parties involved in anti-trafficking issues are pro-	
Preventive measures for potential victims of trafficking in persons are in place, in particula	
counselling about corruption and trafficking before and after they have undertaken a migrati-	
and alerting communities of early signs of corruption.	
5. Improvement of Data Collection and Systematic Use of Information	
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INTRODUCTION

1. Illicit trade is a multi-billion dollar business (Table 1) and an increasing concern for countries. It ranges from trade in counterfeit pharmaceuticals, electronics and cigarettes to, among other things, trade in drugs, wildlife, and humans. From an economic perspective, all these activities divert money from governments' tax revenue and the balance sheets of legitimate businesses and put cash in the hands of criminals, who build larger illicit networks.¹ Illicit trade threatens the level playing field, economic growth, sustainable development, social cohesion, security, and stability. Since illicit trade is a global problem, it cannot be solved by individual governments. Instead, bilateral, regional and international cooperation and initiatives are needed.

Market	Estimated Value of Illicit International Trade
Drugs	\$320 billion
Humans	\$31.6 billion
Wildlife	\$7.8 to \$10 billion
Counterfeit total	\$250 billion
Counterfeit Pharmaceuticals	\$35 to \$40 billion
Counterfeit Electronics	\$50 billion
Counterfeit Cigarettes	\$2.6 billion
Human organs	\$614 million to \$1.2 billion
Small Arms & Light Weapons	\$300 million to \$1 billion
Diamonds & Colored Gemstones	\$860 million
Oil	\$10.8 billion
Timber	\$7 billion
Fish	\$4.2 to \$9.5 billion
Art and Cultural Property	\$3.4 to \$6.3 billion
Gold	\$2.3 billion
Total	\$639 to \$651 billion
Approximation	\$650 billion

Table 1. Estimated Value of Illicit International Trade

Source: Haken, Jeremy (2011), Transnational Crime In The Developing World, Global Financial Integrity, p. 56. Available at: http://www.gfintegrity.org/storage/gfip/documents/reports/transcrime/gfi_transnational_crime_web.pdf.

2. Trafficking in persons (TIP) is one of the most lucrative forms of organised crime. Similarly to illicit trade in general, organised trafficking requires systematic corruption. The APEC Pathfinder Project meeting on 'Combating Corruption and Illicit Trade across the Asia-Pacific Region' that took place in Bangkok on 23-25 September 2013 confirmed the close link between trafficking in persons and corruption, and highlighted the importance of a sound integrity framework to combat this phenomenon. However, despite the close link between trafficking in persons and corruption, there is no international instrument that aims at addressing both of these topics.

3. Addressing TIP and corruption jointly is more effective in combatting TIP-related corruption than addressing the two topics individually. The purpose of this paper is therefore to provide the background for - and explore - the links between corruption and illicit trade with specific focus on mitigating corruption risks and applying a sound integrity framework for preventing trafficking in persons-related corruption.

TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS: WEAK GOVERNANCE AND GROWING PROFITS

4. The UN Trafficking in Persons Protocol defines the crime of trafficking in persons as consisting of (i) *acts* such as recruitment, transport, transfer, harbouring, receipt of a person, by (ii) *means* of abduction, fraud, deception, coercion, abuse of power or a position of vulnerability and others for the (iii) *purpose of exploitation*, including sexual exploitation, forced labour, and the removal of organs.² Trafficking in persons differs from smuggling of migrants which refers to "the procurement, in order to obtain, directly or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit, of the illegal entry of a person into a State Party of which the person is not a national or a permanent resident"³ – with its focus on illegal border crossings. Trafficking in persons instead centres around human rights violations through exploitation, most commonly the right to personal autonomy, the right not to be held in slavery or servitude, the right to safe and healthy working conditions and the freedom of movement.⁴

5. In addition to being a human rights issue, trafficking in persons is a form of illicit trade. As mentioned above (Table 1), trafficking in persons has become one of the most lucrative forms of organised crime.⁵ It is estimated that trafficking in persons and slavery is the third most lucrative illicit business in the world after arms and drugs trafficking.⁶ ILO estimates that the total illicit profits produced in one year by trafficked forced labourers are about US\$32 billion (Table 2). Approximately half of this profit is made in industrialised countries (US\$15.5 billion).

	Profits per forced labourer in commercial sexual exploitation (US \$)	Profits per forced labourer in other economic exploitation (US \$)	Total profits (million US \$)
Industrialized countries	67 200	30 154	15 513
Transition countries	23 500	2 353	3 422
Asia	10 000	412	9 704
Latin America	18 200	3 570	1 348
Sub-Saharan Africa	10 000	360	159
Middle East	45 000	2 340	1 508
World			31 654

Table 2. Estimated average annual profits generated by trafficked forced labourers

Source: ILO (2005). A global alliance against forced labour. Geneva: ILO.

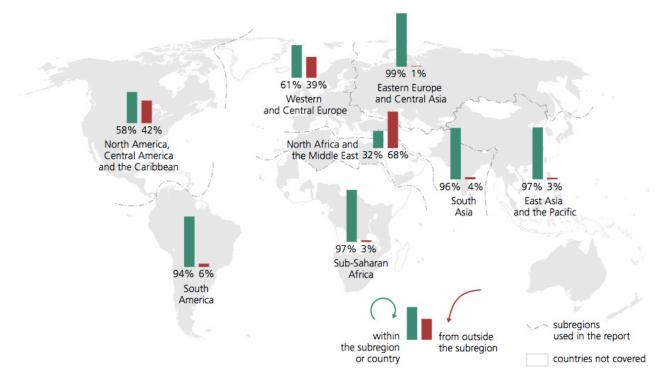
6. According to the International Labour Organization (ILO), 20.9 million people are victims of forced labour¹ globally.⁷ At the EU level, data from the 2015 edition of the Eurostat report on statistics on trafficking in human beings shows that 30,146 victims were registered in the 28 EU Member States

¹ The ILO defines forced or compulsory labour as "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" (Article 2.1 of the ILO Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29)).

between 2010 and 2012. 80% of these victims were female, and 69% of the total number of victims registered were trafficked for sexual exploitation.⁸

7. Trafficking in persons is often transnational in nature, with 66% of trafficking victims being trafficked across borders. However, 40% of detected victims are trafficked from a country in the same region as the country of destination or from a nearby subregion, and only about a quarter (26%) are trafficked across different regions.⁹ Between 2010 and 2012, 97% of detected victims in the East Asia and Pacific region were from within the region or the country (Figure 1). Eurostat data also supports this finding. Between 2010 and 2012, 65% of registered victims in the EU were EU citizens.¹⁰ This finding would support a focus on regional cooperation to combat TIP, with the exception of North Africa and the Middle East.





Source: UNODC (2014). Global Report on Trafficking in Persons 2014. New York: United Nations. p. 39.

8. Of 173 countries covered by the UNODC's *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons 2014*, 146 countries had a specific offence in their domestic legislation covering most or all forms of trafficking in persons.¹¹ However, nine countries had no legislation in place, and 18 countries had partial legislation in place, leaving two billion people without the full protection of the Trafficking in Persons Protocol.¹²

9. Despite the evident global concern over trafficking in persons, progress in enforcement remains limited. According to the UNODC, 15% of the countries that have included TIP as a specific offense did not record a single conviction in the period 2010-2012.¹³ Similar trends were recorded in the period 2007-2010 (see Figure 2). In the EU, Eurostat data shows that 8,805 prosecutions for trafficking in human beings were reported between 2010 and 2012 in the EU, with 2,855 convictions.¹⁴

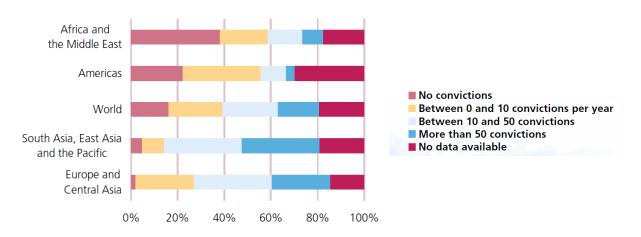


Figure 2. Number of convictions recorder per year, percentage of countries, 2007-2010

10. The United States Department of State collects worldwide data on trafficking prosecutions, convictions and sentences and estimates that in 2011 there were 9,460 prosecutions and 5,774 convictions globally (Table 3). The low conviction rate overall reveals difficulty in successfully prosecuting the underlying offenses. In addition, the low ratio of prosecutions to number of victims identified could imply that some regions are particularly inactive - although this low ratio could also be explained by traffickers in these regions victimising a higher volume of persons.

	Prosecutions	Convictions	Victims Identified
Africa	572 (245)	341 (192)	10,096
East Asia & Pacific	2,460 (188)	1,271 (39)	7,886
Europe	3,223 (275)	2,684 (127)	10,374
Near East	119 (25)	60 (4)	1,460
South & Central Asia	1,904 (259)	974 (58)	7,124
Western Hemisphere	1,182 (207)	446 (50)	7,818
Global	9,460 (1,199)	5,774 (470)	44,758

Table 3. Law Enforcement Data by Region, 2013

Note: The numbers in parentheses are those of labour trafficking prosecutions and convictions.

Source: US Department of State (2014). Trafficking in Persons Report June 2014. Washington: U.S. Department of State. p. 45-64

11. Better data is needed to understand more fully the TIP operating environment, including: the background of victims and incentives of perpetrators, the flows of trafficked people, and geographic hubs for transit. Collecting such information at the national level would strengthen policies designed to prevent trafficking and protect victims, increase prosecutions, and evaluate whether the money invested to combat human trafficking has had the desired impact or could be better spent in the future. An economic analysis could provide insights into the functioning of trafficking markets for persons, and where policy interventions could usefully undermine the prevailing incentive structures. Donors and governments need to know what public policies work and what has proven sub-optimal.

Source: UNODC (2012). Global Report on Trafficking in Persons 2012. New York: United Nations. p. 86.

THE LINK BETWEEN TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS AND CORRUPTION

12. Corruption facilitates the illegal economy just as transparency and the rule of law enable legal markets. Organised trafficking simply cannot take place without corruption. It has been argued that trafficking in persons would not be as prevalent and widespread if it was not for the leverage supplied by corruption.¹⁵ Similarly, it has been noted that human trafficking could not occur on the scale it does if it were not for the complicity and collusion of corrupt officials with criminal gangs.¹⁶

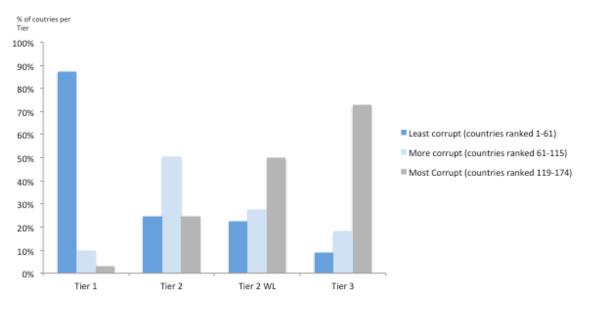
13. The aim of corruption in the trafficking in persons cycle is said to have four main goals:

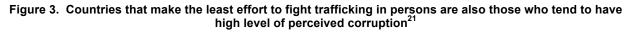
- 1. to allow the crime to be invisible,
- 2. to facilitate the impunity once a case of trafficking in persons is detected,
- 3. to facilitate the execution of the crime, and
- 4. to assure the re-victimisation of the trafficked victims.¹⁷

14. Corrupt law enforcement agents facilitate the recruitment, transportation and exploitation of trafficking victims, and corrupt criminal justice authorities can help traffickers by obstructing investigations and prosecutions of cases as well as hinder the protection of victims of trafficking. Corrupt officials play an important role in the different stages of the trafficking in persons supply chain. Obtaining fraudulent invitations or forged documents may be facilitated by corrupt officials at the recruitment stage. At the transportation stage, officials may turn a blind eye and ignore victims of trafficking – allowing them to cross borders – in exchange for bribes. At the exploitation phase, they may practice extortion.¹⁸ Corruption involving the private sector – for example travel agencies, model agencies, marriage bureaus, and hotels – may also contribute to trafficking in persons.¹⁹

15. Since corruption is central to the success of traffickers, corruption becomes a necessary investment for criminals. Studies suggest that corruption is one of the most important cost factors for traffickers.²⁰ Corruption allows for the massive enrichment of traffickers and helps to lure individuals from the public and private sector into trafficking networks – either by joining the networks or facilitating their operations.

16. Countries that make the least effort to fight trafficking in persons are also those who tend to have high levels of perceived corruption. Figure 3 compares the categorisation of countries in the US Trafficking in Persons 2014 report to the ranking of countries in Transparency International's 2014 Corruption Perception Index. Countries with the highest perception of corruption are found in the category 'Tier 3' which represents countries whose governments do not fully comply with the minimum standards in the US Trafficking Victims Protection Act and are not making significant efforts to do so.





17. Moreover, there is a significant relationship between perceived levels of corruption and trafficking in persons. Traffickers may use high levels of perceived corruption to their advantage in the recruitment of victims, and to control them.²² Victims who perceive corruption to be high are less likely to doubt a trafficker who claims middle men are required to obtain a visa, passport or other travel documents.²³ Similarly, a high level of perceived corruption in the victim's home country is also a powerful tool used by traffickers to control their victims in countries of destination. Traffickers often threaten victims that attempt to escape will be useless as corrupt police would bring them back to their exploiters. If victims have experienced corruption or have a perception of high levels of corruption in their home countries, they are more likely to believe these statements.²⁴

When in the trafficking chain does corruption take place? Who are the corrupt actors? What are the corrupt acts?

18. Several studies have identified opportunities for corruption at various stages in the trafficking chain, who the potentially corrupt actors are, and what corrupt acts they commonly perform. Corrupt behaviour in the trafficking chain ranges from active involvement (such as violating duties, accepting or transferring bribes, and facilitating transactions), to passive involvement (such as ignoring or failing to follow-up on information that a crime may be taking place).

19. The Council of Europe provides a general overview of professionals at risk of corruption. They range from public officials such as police, customs, consular and embassy officers, to border control, immigration services, other law enforcement agencies, local officials, intelligence/security forces and armed forces (national or international) to persons/groups/parties with "influence". The private sector actors include workers within travel agencies, airlines, the transportation sector, financial institutions, and banks.²⁵ The risk is reported to be particularly widespread among the police (Box 1).²⁶

Source: TI CPI 2014 and US Trafficking in Persons 2014 Report.

Box 3. Cases of corruption identified by the Council of Europe among the police

The Council of Europe has identified a number of recurring problems of corruption among police.

Police departments in charge of registering foreign citizens are believed to sometimes accept bribes to issue work and residence permits for foreign "dancers". Corrupt officials may issue identity documents as well as visas. This sometimes also involves corrupt staff of 'western' embassies. Corruption at border crossings may also lead to the provision of entry visas and residence and work permits, or entry without control of travel documents. Corruption also involves the private sector, in particular travel agencies.

Police departments may collaborate with traffickers to put victims who have been arrested or are under protection back on the streets so that they can be re-trafficked or are prevented from giving testimony, or deport victims before they can give a testimony. There are reports of victims which return home that are re-trafficked immediately with the help of corrupt law enforcement officers or on the basis of information provided to traffickers by officers.

International police and armed forces may not only be customers, but there are cases where they are allegedly involved in trafficking and sexual exploitation. However, immunity prevents them from being prosecuted.

Local police as well as political authorities allegedly provide protection to business owners who use trafficked persons as forced labour in exchange for money or sexual services. There are instances where police officers earn supplementary income as security guards in clubs, bars and other establishments. This position enables them to inform business owners before raids and provide advance notice of planned police raids.

Source: PACO [Programme against Corruption and Organised Crime in South-Eastern Europe] (2002), Trafficking in human beings and corruption. Council of Europe, Report on the regional seminar, Portoroz, Slovenia, 19-22 2002, p. 10 and p. 28.

20. Similarly to the Council of Europe, UNODC has identified a number of areas where corruption in the public sector furthers trafficking in persons:²⁷

- traffickers may recruit, transport and exploit their victims with the help of corrupt public officials;
- lack of investigation, prosecution and adjudication of trafficking in persons due to corrupt criminal justice officials;
- lack of information and data collection on, as well as reporting of, trafficking in persons related corruption;
- protection of victims of trafficking impeded by corrupt public officials (and/or civil society actors);
- lack of adequate responses to root causes of trafficking in persons;
- lack of adequate response against major impediments to adequate criminal justice response.

21. In addition to these overarching challenges and problems, the Council of Europe and UNODC have identified and divided the key risks of corruption in three different stages of the trafficking cycle: the trafficking chain, the criminal justice chain and the victims support and protection stage (Table 4).

	Trafficking in persons chain	Criminal justice chain	Protection and support of victims
When	The trafficking chain consists of the recruitment of victims, the provision of documentation (identity papers, visas, permits), the transport of victims, which may include border-crossing, their exploitation, as well as the laundering of the proceeds of the crime.	The criminal justice chain ranges from the drafting and adoption of legislation, to crime prevention measures, preliminary investigations and investigations into specific offences, the search and seizure of proceeds, prosecution, trial and verdict, confiscation of proceeds, and enforcement of sanctions.	This protection and support of victims stage includes the provision of support, protection and shelter to victims of trafficking in persons.
Who	Corrupt actors within this chain of activities may include police, customs officers, visa officers or embassy staff, border control authorities, immigration services, other law enforcement agencies, intelligence/security services, armed forces (national or international), local officials, persons/groups/parties with influence on public officials, as well as private sector actors, such as travel agencies, airlines, transportation sector, financial institutions, and banks.	Corrupt actors may include parliamentarians, government officials, police, customs border control, immigration services and other law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, investigative judges, intelligence/security forces, local officials, as well as persons/groups, parties with influence on public officials.	Actors involved may include NGOs and civil society organisations, as well as public social service institutions.
What	Corrupt acts may range from passivity (ignoring or tolerating trafficking), or actively participating in or even organising trafficking in human beings, that is, from a violation of duties, to corruption or organised crime.	Acts pointing to corruption or organised crime, or at least to a violation of duties, may range from passivity (ignoring, tolerating, avoiding action) to an active obstruction of investigations, prosecution and judicial proceedings, the revealing and selling of information, and the perverting of the course of justice. Lack of awareness, capacities and skills may cause such behaviour, which may range from mere violation of duties to corruption and involvement in organized crime.	Corrupt behaviour may range from passivity and "trade offs" (passivity in order not to compromise access to victims or cooperation with official institutions), to revealing or selling information on victims, betraying victims, or that an organisation is infiltrated by traffickers.

Source: PACO [Programme against Corruption and Organised Crime in South-Eastern Europe] (2002), Trafficking in human beings and corruption. Council of Europe. Report on the regional seminar, Portoroz, Slovenia, 19-22 June, pp. 7-8 and UNODC (2011), The Role of Corruption in Trafficking in Persons, United Nations, Vienna, p.7.

22. Transparency International has identified opportunities for corruption in the recruitment, transportation and exploitation phases of trafficking.²⁸ According to TI, corruption in the recruitment phase most likely takes the form of buying the silence of government bodies with responsibility for protecting society from recruitment for trafficking actions. In the transportation phase, corruption is most likely (and profitable) during border crossings. Border crossings provide the entry point for the involvement of additional actors, such as law enforcement bodies and other public officials. In the exploitation phase of trafficking, traffickers commonly rely on networks of trusted hotel owners or lessors of lodging. Often, these owners pay bribes or are offered bribes to allow trafficking to take place on the premises unchecked by law enforcement agencies. If raids or arrest happens, bribes may be paid to the police, prosecutors or judges in return for compromising the integrity of a successful investigation or prosecution of traffickers.

EFFORTS TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

23. Considerable steps have been taken to combat trafficking in persons. One approach has been to adopt a series of conventions at the international and regional level as well as several pieces of national legislation to prevent and combat trafficking in persons. Similarly, in recent years private sector organisations and civil society have adopted initiatives for the same purpose. OECD countries are parties to many of these instruments (Table 5).

Table 5. Ratification by OECD countries to selected international and regional conventions on trafficking in persons and forced labour

Punish Trafficking in traffic of persons and of the convention of Action ILO Forced Labour Lab	O Abolition of Forced abour Convention, 1957 Io. 105) R R R R
AustriaRRRBelgiumRACRRCanadaRn.a.RChileRn.a.RCzech RepublicRDR	R R
AustriaRRRBelgiumRACRRCanadaRn.a.RChileRn.a.RCzech RepublicRDR	R R
Belgium R AC R R Canada R n.a. R Chilo R Canada Canada R Canada Cana	R
CanadaRn.a.RChileRn.a.RCzech RepublicRDR	
ChileRn.a.RCzech RepublicRDR	
Czech Republic R D R	R
	R
	R
Estonia R R R R	R
Estolina n n n n	R
France R AC R R	R
rialize n AC n N Germany R AC R R	R
Generative R R R R	R
	R
	R R
Israel R AC n.a. R	R R
Italy R AC R R	R
Japan S AC n.a. R	
Korea S AC n.a.	_
Luxembourg R R R R	R
Mexico R AC n.a. R	R
Netherlands A R R	R
New Zealand R n.a. R	R
Norway R AC R R	R
Poland R AC R R	R
Portugal R AC R R	R
Slovak Republic R D R R	R
Slovenia R D R R	R
Spain R AC R R	R
Sweden R R R	R
Switzerland R R R	R
Turkey R S R	R
United Kingdom R R R	R
United States R n.a.	R
Total OECD34	
S - Signature 2 1 1 0	0
R - Ratification 30 2 23 32	32
A - Acceptance 2 0 0 0 0	0
AP - Approval 0 0 0 0	0
AC - Accession 0 12 0 0	0
D - Succession 0 3 0 0	0

Notes: For UN Treaties, "Ratification" is defined as the international act whereby a state indicates its consent to be bound to a treaty if the parties intended to show their consent by such an act. In the case of bilateral treaties, ratification is usually accomplished by exchanging the requisite instruments, while in the case of multilateral treaties the usual procedure is for the depositary to collect the

ratifications of all states, keeping all parties informed of the situation. The institution of ratification grants states the necessary timeframe to seek the required approval for the treaty on the domestic level and to enact the necessary legislation to give domestic effect to that treaty (Arts.2 (1) (b), 14 (1) and 16, Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties 1969).

For UN Conventions, "Accession" is defined as the act whereby a state accepts the offer or the opportunity to become a party to a treaty already negotiated and signed by other states. It has the same legal effect as ratification. Accession usually occurs after the treaty has entered into force (Arts.2 (1) (b) and 15, Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties 1969).

For ILO conventions, ratifying countries commit themselves to applying the convention in national law and practice and reporting on its application at regular intervals.²⁹

Source: OECD 2015.

International and Regional Conventions and National Legislations

24. This section provides a brief overview of the main instruments developed to prevent and combat trafficking in persons. The main international and regional instruments – as well as a selection of national instruments – that deal specifically with the subject of trafficking in persons or the issue of forced labour are:

The United Nations Trafficking in Persons Protocol

25. The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, adopted by General Assembly resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000, was opened for signature by Member States in Palermo, Italy, on 12-15 December 2000 and entered into force on 29 September 2003. The Convention is supplemented by three Protocols: the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children; the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air; and the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, their Parts and Components and Ammunition. Countries have to be parties to the Convention before they can become parties to any of the Protocols. 80 countries signed the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children in Palermo on 12-15 December 2000. Currently there are 117 signatories and 166 parties to the Protocol.³⁰

26. The Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children³¹ (the UN Trafficking in Persons Protocol) entered into force on 25 December 2003. The Protocol is the first global legally binding instrument with an agreed definition on trafficking in persons. According to Article 3(a) of the Protocol, "Trafficking in persons shall mean the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs." The purpose of the Protocol is to protect and assist the victims of trafficking in persons with full respect for their human rights and to facilitate for the harmonisation of national approaches with regard to the establishment of domestic criminal offences that would support efficient international cooperation in investigating and prosecuting trafficking in persons cases.³²

The United Nations Convention for the suppression of the traffic in persons and of the exploitation of the prostitution of others (1949)³³

27. The Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others was approved by the General Assembly in 1949 and entered into force on 25 July 1951. Although "trafficking" is not explicitly defined in the Convention, Article 1 sets out that Parties to the Convention should punish "any person who, to gratify the passions of another: (1) Procures, entices or

leads away, for purposes of prostitution, another person, even with the consent of that person; (2) Exploits the prostitution of another person, even with the consent of that person". State Parties to the Convention should also punish anyone who "keeps or manages, or knowingly finances or takes part in the financing of a brothel" or "knowingly lets or rents a building or other place or any part thereof for the purpose of the prostitution of others".

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights

28. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights was adopted by the UN General Assembly on 10 December 1948. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights establishes in Article 4 that "No one shall be held in slavery or servitude; slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms" and that everyone has the right to the free choice of employment (Article 23(1)).

ILO Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29)

29. Adopted by the International Labour Conference at its fourteenth session (June 1930), the ILO Forced Labour Convention was the first international legal instrument providing a definition of forced and compulsory labour and listing possible exceptions. Forced or compulsory labour is defined as "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". In June 2014, the ILO International Labour Conference voted to adopt a Protocol and a Recommendation which supplement the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29), in order to provide guidance on effective measures to be taken regarding prevention, protection and remedy to eliminate all forms of forced labour.

ILO Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105)

30. After the Second World War, the ILO adopted new approaches to forced labour. The ILO Abolition of Forced Labour Convention was adopted by the International Labour Conference at its fortieth session (June 1959) and supplements the provision of Convention No. 29 on Forced Labour. Article 1 reads that "Member of the International Labour Organisation which ratifies this Convention undertakes to suppress and not to make use of any form of forced or compulsory labour (a) as a means of political coercion or education or as a punishment for holding or expressing political views or views ideologically opposed to the established political, social or economic system; (b) as a method of mobilising and using labour for purposes of economic development; (c) as a means of labour discipline; (d) as a punishment for having participated in strikes; (e) as a means of racial, social, national or religious discrimination".

Inter-American Convention on International Traffic in Minors (IAC Convention 1994)

31. The Inter-American Convention on International Traffic in Minors was adopted in 1994 and entered into force in 1997. The Convention is a regional treaty aiming to ensure the protection of minors against trafficking. The Convention defines international traffic in minors as "the abduction, removal or retention, or attempted abduction, removal or retention, of a minor for unlawful purposes or by unlawful means". State parties under the Convention should institute a system of mutual legal assistance dedicated to the prevention and punishment of the international traffic in minors, as well as adopt related administrative and legal provisions to that effect. Although the Convention contains few specific provisions on prevention or protection of victims of trafficking, it requires State parties to protect minors in consideration of their best interests (Article 1 a) and "ensure the prompt return of minors who are victims of international traffic to the State of their habitual residence, bearing in mind the best interests of the minors" (Article 1 c).

South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Convention on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Women and Children for Prostitution

32. Adopted in 2002, the purpose of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Convention on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Women and Children for Prostitution is to promote cooperation amongst SAARC Member States so that they may effectively deal with the various aspects of prevention, interdiction and suppression of trafficking in women and children as well as the repatriation and rehabilitation of victims of trafficking and prevent the use of women and children in international prostitution networks. Article 1. 3) of the Convention defines trafficking as the moving, selling or buying of women and children for prostitution within and outside a country for monetary or other considerations with or without the consent of the person subjected to trafficking. A persons subjected to trafficking is defined as women and children victimised or forced into prostitution by the traffickers by deception, threat, coercion, kidnapping, sale, fraudulent marriage, child marriage, or any other unlawful means.

33. Article VIII (1) established that State Parties to the Convention shall provide sufficient means, training and assistance to their respective authorities to enable them to effectively conduct inquiries, investigations and prosecution of trafficking offences. In addition to this, the SAARC Convention includes a number of provisions that address the prevention of trafficking and protection of victims. Article VIII (8) establishes that State parties shall "promote awareness, inter-alia, through the use of the media, of the problem of trafficking in Women and Children and its underlying causes including the projection of negative images of women". Article IX (2) and (3) state that State Parties shall establish protective homes or shelters for rehabilitation of victims. Also, for victims of cross-border trafficking that are waiting for the completion of arrangements for their repatriation, State Parties shall make suitable provisions for their care and maintenance and shall provide legal advice and health care facilities.

Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Declaration Against Trafficking in Persons Particularly Women and Children

34. The ASEAN Declaration Against Trafficking in Persons Particularly Women and Children³⁴ was adopted on 29 November 2004 during the tenth Summit of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) by the ten ASEAN heads of state. The purpose of the declaration is to establish a regional focal network for sharing of information, views, and strengthen operations and cooperation to prevent and combat trafficking in persons, particularly women and children, in the ASEAN region.

The Coordinated Mekong Ministerial Initiative Against Trafficking (COMMIT)

35. In 2004, Cambodia, China, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, and Viet Nam signed a Memorandum of Understanding against Trafficking in Persons at the Ministerial level.³⁵ The MOU commits the governments to a human trafficking response that meets international standards, and highlights the need for multi-lateral, bilateral, and government-NGO cooperation in the fight against human trafficking. At the national level, the COMMIT Process is governed by the six national COMMIT Taskforces, that are each comprised of government officials from the relevant ministries – including police, justice, social welfare, and women's affairs. At the regional level, two representative from each COMMIT Taskforce meet at least twice a year with the goal of setting priorities and holding discussions on urgent issues at a regional level.

Council of Europe Convention on Action Against Trafficking in Human Beings (European Trafficking Convention, 2005)

36. The Council of Europe Convention on Action Against Trafficking in Human Beings was adopted on 16 May 2005 and entered into force on 1 February 2008. The convention focuses on the protection of victims of trafficking and their rights, as well as the prevention of trafficking and prosecution of traffickers, and uses the same definition of trafficking in human beings as the UN Trafficking in Persons Protocol definition.

EU Directive 2011/36/EU of 5 April 2011 (EU Trafficking Directive)

37. EU Directive 2011/36/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 April 2011 on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims uses the UN Trafficking in Persons Protocol definition of trafficking in persons for the definition of trafficking in human beings. The EU Directive requires Member States to criminalise all forms of trafficking and to assign penalties for trafficking offences. According to Article 9(1), Member States shall ensure that investigation into or prosecution of trafficking offences is "not dependent on reporting or accusation by a victim and that criminal proceedings may continue even if the victim has withdrawn his or her statement".

38. The establishment of an EU Anti-Trafficking Coordinator was originally discussed in the Stockholm Programme, but later elaborated on in the EU Trafficking Directive. In addition to improving coordination and coherence among EU institutions, EU agencies, Member States and international actors and developing existing and new EU policies to address trafficking in persons, the Coordinator is responsible for overseeing the implementation of the EU Strategy towards the Eradication of Trafficking in Human Beings 2012–2016.³⁶ The Strategy identifies five priorities that the EU should focus on in order to address the issue of trafficking in human beings and outlines a number of proposed actions implement over the next five years together with other actors (e.g. Member States, third countries, international organisations, civil society and the private sector). The priorities and corresponding actions are³⁷:

- A. Identifying, protecting and assisting victims of trafficking Action 1: Establishment of National and Transnational Referral Mechanisms Action 2: Identification of Victims Action 3: Protection of Child Victims of Trafficking Action 4: Provision of Information on the Rights of Victims
 B. Stepping up the prevention of trafficking in human beings Action 1: Understanding and Reducing Demand Action 2: Promote the establishment of a Private Sector Platform
- Action 2: Promote the establishment of a Private Sector Platform
 Action 3: EU-wide Awareness Raising Activities and Prevention Programmes
 C. Increased prosecution of traffickers
 Action 1: Establishment of National Multidisciplinary Law Enforcement Units
 - Action 2: Ensuring Proactive Financial Investigation
 - Action 3: Increasing cross-border Police and Judicial Cooperation
 - Action 4: Increasing Cooperation beyond Borders
- D. Enhanced coordination and cooperation among key actors and policy coherence Action 1: Strengthening the EU Network of National Rapporteurs or Equivalent Mechanisms Action 2: Coordinating EU External Policy Activities Action 3: Promoting the establishment of a Civil Society Platform Action 4: Device projects for ded by the EU
 - Action 4: Reviewing Projects funded by the EU
 - Action 5: Strengthen the fundamental rights in anti-trafficking policy and related actions
 - Action 6: Coordinating Training Needs in a Multidisciplinary Context

E. Increased knowledge of and effective response to emerging concerns related to all forms of trafficking in human beings
 Action 1: Developing an EU-wide System for Data Collection
 Action 2: Developing knowledge relating to the Gender Dimension of Trafficking and Vulnerable Groups
 Action 3: Understanding Online Recruitment
 Action 4: Targeting Trafficking for Labour Exploitation

OSCE Ministerial Council adopted Decision No. 2/03 on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings

39. Similar to the EU Trafficking Directive, the OSCE Decision No. 2/03 on Combatting Trafficking in Human Beings which was adopted in December 2003 is based on the UN Trafficking in Persons Protocol definition of trafficking in persons. The OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Begins intends to provide participating States with a comprehensive toolkit to help them implement their commitments to combating trafficking in persons. It provides participating States with follow-up mechanisms such as Human Dimension Implementation Meetings and Review Conferences which promote co-ordination between individual participating States, but also recommends states to for example consider appointing national rapporteurs or other mechanisms for monitoring the anti-trafficking activities, and establishing anti-trafficking commissions (task forces) or similar bodies responsible for co-ordinating activities within a country among State agencies and NGOs. It covers the protection of victims, the prevention of trafficking in persons and the prosecution of those who facilitate or commit the crime. The Action Plan provides recommendations as to how participating States may best deal with political, economic, legal, law enforcement, educational and other aspects of the problem.

United States Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act

40. The US Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2003, the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005, the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2013 provide tools to combat trafficking in persons both worldwide and domestically in the United States. Section 103 (8) of the Act defines severe forms of trafficking in persons as (a) sex trafficking in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such act has not attained 18 years of age; or (b) the recruitment, harbouring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labour or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery. The TVPA provides the basis for an annual report on trafficking in persons and establishes an inter-agency task force to coordinate federal anti-trafficking action. The TVPA allows trafficking victims to benefit from residence and work authorisation under certain circumstances.

United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Counter-Trafficking in Persons Policy and Agency-Wide Counter Trafficking in Persons Code of Conduct

41. Being among the largest donors engaged in counter-trafficking in persons, USAID has implemented a Counter-Trafficking in Persons Policy and an Agency-Wide Counter Trafficking in Persons Code of Conduct that both incorporate the principles set out in the TVPA.

42. The Policy is built on 4Ps: Prevention, Protection for victims, Prosecution of traffickers and Partnership and coordination of stakeholders. The Policy sets out five programming objectives for the Agency relating to counter-trafficking in $persons^{38}$:

1. Efforts to combat TIP integrated into relevant Agency initiatives and programs

- 2. Improved codification and application of learning in efforts to combat TIP
- 3. Enhanced institutional accountability to combat TIP as a result of training and coordination
- 4. Augmented C-TIP investments in critical TIP challenge countries
- 5. Increased investments in TIP prevention and protection in conflict and crisis affected areas

43. Through the Code of Conduct, USAID pledges to (1) prohibit USAID contractors, subcontractors, grantees and sub grantees during the period of performance of their contracts or awards from engaging in trafficking in persons, procuring commercial sex acts, or using forced labour; (2) sensitise USAID personnel to human trafficking and the ethical conduct requirements that prohibit the procurement of commercial sex and the use of trafficked labour; (3) equip USAID personnel with the necessary knowledge and tools to recognise, report, and address human trafficking offenses; (4) require USAID personnel to report suspected cases of USAID employee misconduct as well as waste, fraud, and abuse in USAID programs as related to human trafficking; and (5) designate a Counter Trafficking in Persons Coordinator at all Missions to serve as the primary point of contact for this issue. The Coordinator will disseminate information, respond to inquiries, and liaise with appropriate staff in developing antihuman trafficking strategies.³⁹

Mexican General Act for Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Crimes in Trafficking in Persons and for the Protection and Assistance of Victims of this Crime

44. In Mexico, the General Act for Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Crimes in Trafficking in Persons and for the Protection and Assistance of Victims of this Crime came into force on 14 June 2012.⁴⁰ It determines the coordination of Federal, State and Municipal actors involved in the prevention and prosecution of trafficking in persons, as well as the protection of victims. It sets out the criminal actions and corresponding penalties for crimes of trafficking in persons, and establishes a number of mechanisms to effectively protect the life, dignity, freedom, integrity and safety of persons from offences set out in the Act. The Act does not only make the trafficking of persons a criminal offence but also criminalises slavery, debt bondage, the imposition of forced labour or services, and the exploitation of labour.

45. The National Programme for the Prevention and Punishment of Trafficking in Persons 2010-2012⁴¹ (Programa Nacional para Prevenir y Sancionar la Trata de Personas 2010-2012) was drawn up by an Inter-Ministerial Committee set up to prevent and penalise the trafficking of persons and was adopted on 6 January 2011. The Programme has four objectives: increasing knowledge of trafficking in persons; preventing and raising awareness of trafficking in persons; contributing to the effective functioning of the justice system; and providing comprehensive protection for victims.

46. A Special Prosecutor for Crimes of Violence against Women and Trafficking (La Fiscalía Especial para los Delitos de Violencia contra las Mujeres y Trata de Personas - FEVIMTRA) attached to the Office for Human Rights, Victim and Community Services of the Attorney General's Office (PGR), is responsible for investigating and prosecuting federal crimes related to violence against women and trafficking in persons, and to contribute to citizens' right to obtain justice.⁴²

New Zealand Plan of Action to Prevent People Trafficking

47. In New Zealand, the Plan of Action to Prevent People Trafficking⁴³ was coordinated by the Department of Labour on behalf of an Interagency Working Group on People Trafficking comprised of the Departments of Labour and Prime Minister and Cabinet; the Ministries of Justice, Foreign Affairs and Trade, Health, Social Development, and Women's Affairs; and the New Zealand Police and Customs

Service. The Plan of Action sets out 10 principles that focus on the prevention, and prosecution of trafficking, and protection of victims of trafficking. This includes training for officials to identify trafficking, assistance, health services, housing and protection for trafficking victims, and compensation for victims. The Plan of Action mainstreams human trafficking prevention and assistance into existing government initiatives and programmes.

Private sector Initiatives

48. The private sector has a key role to play in the prevention of trafficking in persons as traffickers cannot operate on a large scale without legitimate businesses. Examples highlighted by BEST (Businesses Ending Slavery and Trafficking) are: traffickers advertising their victims on websites and taking them to hotels for sexual exploitation; traffickers using airlines and ports to transport victims; and traffickers using banks for their financial transactions.⁴⁴ Also, due to a lack of awareness or a lack of anti-trafficking in persons, or do not know how to respond when recognised. As outlined below, there are a number of private sector initiatives that aim to address these issues. Less common are government anti-trafficking measures aimed at the private sector (e.g. the California Transparency in Supply Chains Act of 2010).

Athens Ethical Principles

49. Companies are increasingly integrating corporate social responsibility considerations into their business models. A prominent example of a private sector initiative to combat trafficking in persons is the End Human Trafficking Now (EHTN) association. EHTN is an association created by the business community that during the Round Table of the Business Community Against the Trafficking of Human Beings on 23 January 2006 adopted the Athens Ethical Principles.⁴⁵ The purpose of the Principles is through the focus of seven main areas combat human trafficking worldwide:

- 1. Demonstrate the position of zero tolerance towards trafficking in human beings, especially women and children for sexual exploitation (Policy Setting);
- 2. Contribute to prevention of trafficking in human beings including awareness-raising campaigns and education (Public Awareness-Raising);
- 3. Develop a corporate strategy for an anti-trafficking policy which will permeate all activities (Strategic Planning);
- 4. Ensure that personnel fully comply with the anti-trafficking policy (Personnel Policy Enforcement);
- 5. Encourage business partners, including suppliers, to apply ethical principles against human trafficking (Supply Chain Tracing);
- 6. In an effort to increase enforcement it is necessary to call on governments to initiate a process of revision of laws and regulations that are directly or indirectly related to enhancing anti-trafficking policies (Government Advocacy);
- 7. Report and share information on best practices (Transparency).

50. In addition to benefitting society at large, the focus on combatting human trafficking is also beneficial for the business community (Box 2).

Box 4. Benefits to the business community

"As an illegitimate form of business, it negatively impacts the functioning of the legitimate business sector and puts the development of sound economic systems into danger. It is a ground where corruptive practices and money laundering proliferate. Potential risks for companies being associated with human trafficking include legal litigations, financial and brand damages. Since loss of reputation is a disaster for any company, it is their vital interest to pay attention to these risks and exercise due diligence to eliminate or minimize them.

An active stance against human trafficking enhances brand value and attracts consumers interested in ethical brand. Experience shows that work for an ethical brand makes employees proud and happy which means higher retention rate and increased profit for a company. Additional gains include strengthening of business partnerships, ensuring market access and attracting new business opportunities. Corporations are increasingly requesting from their suppliers commitment to ethical business practice, including with respect to human trafficking and labor exploitation. A zero-tolerance policy, advocacy and engagement earn business a leadership position in their industry and community, build trust and good working relationships with local communities, and guarantee the highest distinction of its corporate image."

Source: http://www.endhumantraffickingnow.com/background/

51. As of 6 June 2012, 177 companies were signatories to the Athens Ethical Principles.⁴⁶

The Luxor Protocol

52. The Luxor Protocol was one of the main outcomes of the Luxor International Forum in 2010. The Luxor Protocol is a collection of implementation guidelines to the Athens Ethical Principles. The guidelines follow the structure of the Athens Ethical Principles and present a number of actions within each area that companies must take.⁴⁷

53. UN.GIFT (UN Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking) and EHTN also launched a modular Human Trafficking and Business eLearning Programme for business leaders, managers and employees of business companies that was developed together with Microsoft. The aim of the course is to educate them on what human trafficking is, identify where it might be a risk to their business and point to actions they can take to address this risk.⁴⁸

International Code of Conduct for Private Security Service Providers (2011)

54. The International Code of Conduct for Private Security Providers (ICoC) is a multi-stakeholder initiative convened by the Swiss Bureau of Diplomatic Security, the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labour, and the Department of Defence. Companies that sign the code make the commitment that they "will not, and will require their Personnel not to, engage in trafficking in persons. Signatory Companies will, and will require their Personnel to, remain vigilant for all instances of trafficking in persons and, where discovered, report such instances to Competent Authorities".⁴⁹ As of 1 June 2013, 659 companies were signatories to the International Code of Conduct for Private Security Providers.⁵⁰

Washington BEST Code of Conduct and Principles for Implementation

55. The Washington BEST Code of Conduct and Principles for Implementation⁵¹ is a tool for small and medium size enterprises to prevent trafficking in persons within their operations and business-tobusiness networks. It is a partnership between Businesses Ending Slavery and Trafficking (BEST), Washington Engage and End Human Trafficking Now. By signing the Principles, companies commit to:

1. Comply with applicable laws and regulations

- 2. Assess trafficking-related risks and impacts
- 3. Implement an anti-trafficking management system with protocols to prevent, report, and remedy incidents
- 4. Align existing policies with the anti-trafficking policy
- 5. Provide notice of the anti-trafficking policy to employees and business partners including suppliers, contractors, and sub-contractors
- 6. Train employees to comply with the anti-trafficking policy and protocols
- 7. Report and share best practices

California Transparency in Supply Chains Act of 2010

56. The California Transparency in Supply Chains Act of 2010⁵² requires retail sellers and manufacturers doing business in the State of California and that have annual worldwide gross receipts that exceed \$100,000,000 to disclose their efforts to eradicate slavery and trafficking in persons from their direct supply chains for tangible goods offered for sale. The reasoning behind the Act is that this will contribute to educating consumers on how to purchase goods that are produced by companies that responsibly manage their supply chains. Section 2 (i) of the Act states that "Absent publicly available disclosures, consumers are at a disadvantage in being able to distinguish companies on the merits of their efforts to supply products free from the taint of slavery and trafficking. Consumers are at a disadvantage in being able to force the eradication of slavery and trafficking by way of their purchasing decisions." The retail seller or manufacturer should disclose, at a minimum, to what extent it does each of the following⁵³:

- 1. Engages in verification of product supply chains to evaluate and address risks of human trafficking and slavery. The disclosure shall specify if the verification was not conducted by a third party.
- 2. Conducts audits of suppliers to evaluate supplier compliance with company standards for trafficking and slavery in supply chains. The disclosure shall specify if the verification was not an independent, unannounced audit.
- 3. Requires direct suppliers to certify that materials incorporated into the product comply with the laws regarding slavery and human trafficking of the country or countries in which they are doing business.
- 4. Maintains internal accountability standards and procedures for employees or contractors failing to meet company standards regarding slavery and trafficking.
- 5. Provides company employees and management, who have direct responsibility for supply chain management, training on human trafficking and slavery, particularly with respect to mitigating risks within the supply chains of products.

THE NEED TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS-RELATED CORRUPTION AND CORRESPONDING DRAFT PRINCIPLES

57. As previously stated, a number of countries are party to a Trafficking convention (Table 5) or to an Anti-Corruption convention (Table 6), yet there is no international instrument that comprehensively focuses on the important link between corruption and trafficking in persons and that aims at addressing both. This approach of addressing these two issues jointly, coupled with better cross-border cooperation, better enforcement and an increased focus on combatting corruption is key to effectively curb trafficking in persons.

58. In past studies a number of gaps in preventing and combating trafficking in persons and corruption and corresponding recommendations have been identified. This section highlights the main points raised and corresponding principles that could facilitate the combating of TIP-related corruption. Therefore, the following principles provide reference for countries intending to establish, modify or complement a framework to address TIP-related corruption.

Table 6. Ratification by OECD countries to selected international and regional conventions on corruption

	The United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC)	United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime	Council of Europe, Civil Law Convention on Corruption Strasbourg 4.XI.1999	Council of Europe, Criminal Law Convention on Corruption Strasbourg 4.I.1999
Australia	R	R		
Austria	R	R	R	R
Belgium	R	R	R	R
Canada	R	R		
Chile	R	R		
Czech Republic	R	R	R	R
Denmark	R	R	S	R
Estonia	AC	R	R	R
Finland	A	R	R	R
France	R	R	R	R
Germany	R	R	S	S
Greece	R	R	R	R
Hungary	R	R	R	R
Iceland	AC	R	S	R
Ireland	R	R	S	R
Israel	R	R	J	
Italy	R	R	R	R
Japan	S	S		TX
Korea	R	S		
Luxembourg	R	R	S	R
Mexico	R	R	5	S
Netherlands	A	R	R	R
New Zealand	S	R	IX.	IX.
Norway	R	R	R	R
Poland	R	R	R	R
Portugal	R	R	IX.	R
Slovak Republic	R	R	R	R
Slovenia	AC	R	R	R
Spain	R	R	R	R
Sweden	R	R	R	R
Switzerland	R	R	IX.	R
Turkey	R	R	R	R
United Kingdom	R	R	S	R
United States	R	R	3	R S
United States	Γ	Ν		3
Total OECD34				
S - Signature	2	2	6	3
R - Ratification	27	32	17	24
A - Acceptance	27	0	0	0
AP - Approval	0	0	0	0
AC - Accession	3	0	0	0
D - Succession	0	0	0	0
D - Succession	0	0	0	U

Source: OECD 2015.

1. International cooperation and agreements

Relevant international conventions are ratified and international cooperation against corruption and trafficking in persons is promoted.

59. In order to address the issue of trafficking in persons efficiently, there is a need to strengthen the legal basis against corruption and trafficking in persons. This could be done by strengthening international co-operation, and by countries joining international conventions and monitoring systems. It is important that national legislation on counter-trafficking is in line with international standards concerning trafficking in persons and corruption.

Processes of international cooperation in terms of mutual legal assistance and extradition are in place and functioning.

Trafficking in persons is often transnational in nature, with 66% of detected victims being 60. trafficked across borders.⁵⁴ However, the criminal justice responses to trafficking in persons generally only operate within national borders. Therefore, to efficiently be able to respond to trafficking in persons, countries would benefit from effective processes of international cooperation in terms of mutual legal assistance and extradition. An example of an initiative aimed at achieving this is the 'Handbook on International Cooperation in Trafficking in Persons Cases' for the ASEAN region.⁵⁵ In order to be efficient, mutual legal assistance allows for international identification, sequestration and seizure of assets accrued by traffickers, and the procedure of mutual legal assistance are simplified, prioritised, and accelerated. Examples of how to improve cross-border cooperation could be to link regional trafficking in persons-focal points with regional anti-corruption focal points, and to identify and propose countermeasures to at-risk points of regional or transnational trafficking in persons-related corruption (for example the issuance of travel documents, border transfers and work permits). Law enforcement agencies should be encouraged to proactively share intelligence on transnational TIP networks. Law enforcement cooperation on intelligence is often an essential prerequisite to effective investigations, and it plays a complementary role to mutual legal assistance and subsequent prosecutions.

2. Jointly addressing and investigating trafficking in persons and corruption with particular focus on at-risk sectors

Strategies that address trafficking in persons and corruption, or include corruption issues in antitrafficking plans, and vice-versa, are in place.

61. Organised trafficking requires systemic corruption. However, few strategies in place jointly address trafficking in persons and corruption. Due to the strong link between corruption/perceived levels of corruption with trafficking in persons, ⁵⁶ States are therefore recommended to put in place strategies that jointly address corruption and trafficking in persons, or alternatively include corruption issues in anti-trafficking plans, and vice versa. By streamlining approaches, countries can address the issue by modifying anti-corruption tools or by simply including corruption issues in existing anti-trafficking measures, in particular in trainings and strategies.

Sectors prone to trafficking in persons-related corruption are given priority in the implementation of relevant strategies.

62. When implementing the relevant strategies that address trafficking in persons-related corruption, countries are advised to identify and pay particular attention to vulnerable sectors and industries in their specific country context and steps that could be taken to prevent or combat the exploitation of people. This could, for example, entail regulation of labour intensive sectors, in particular the construction, brothel, agriculture, fishing and textile industries or the foreign labour recruitment sector in a country. Countries

are recommended to involve non-governmental actors as well as the private sector in the identification of at-risk sectors and the monitoring of these.

Information and resources are leveraged and shared among relevant actors.

63. Cases of trafficking and corruption are often dealt with separately. According to UNODC, there is a lack of referral to the relevant authorities of (a) cases of trafficking in persons where there are indicators for corruption and (b) referral of corruption cases where there are indicators of trafficking in persons. Cooperation is therefore essential among relevant actors to share information and resources. This can be done through the establishment of task forces or joint operations. It is also crucial to establish protocols between NGOs and law enforcement bodies to coordinate their activities so that both sides understand and acknowledge the efforts and responsibilities of the other.

64. Furthermore, anti-money laundering systems can be used to detect and prevent the financing of trafficking in persons, and assist in the confiscation of profits from trafficking in persons as well as the prevention of the reinvestment of illicit funds into the criminal trafficking networks. Financial intelligence systems that are already in place can be used to map the activities of trafficking networks and how these networks interact with corrupt officials.

Corruption is also investigated when investigating trafficking in persons.

65. According to the Council of Europe, investigations and prosecutions of trafficking in persons should be accompanied by investigations into corruption and finances of suspects.⁵⁷ In order to effectively deal with trafficking in persons related corruption, indicators need to be developed for actors working in the field of corruption to detect trafficking in persons when investigating relevant corruption cases and for actors working in the field of trafficking in persons to detect corruption when investigating trafficking cases.

Specialised multi-agency units are established and multi-agency trainings are organised.

66. At the national level, countries could enhance cooperation between anti-corruption and antitrafficking practitioners, for example through multi-agency training and specialised multi-agency units staffed by prosecutors and specially selected police.

3. Transparency and an integrity framework for public officials at risk

Specific rules/standards of behaviour – such as guidelines or codes of conduct – with respect to corruption and trafficking for public officials at risk are in place. The violations of the codes of conduct entail sanctions.

67. The conduct of the international peacekeepers, civilian police, intergovernmental and nongovernmental organisations' staff and diplomatic personnel has raised serious concerns in relation to trafficking in persons and corruption.⁵⁸ According to the cases analysed by the Council of Europe, the problem is reported to be particularly widespread among the police.⁵⁹ One way of addressing this can be to include specific rules/standards of behaviour with respect to corruption and trafficking, for example in codes of conduct. As supervision, discipline, and accountability are key in preventing and combating corruption, effective mechanisms are needed for reporting, investigating and sanctioning the violation of these codes of conduct for officials at risk.

68. Many of the sectors of public officials that could play a role in trafficking in persons are already covered by codes of conduct. However, some of these codes may need to be updated in order to address the

specific issues relating to trafficking in persons. UNODC has proposed a number of specific measures that countries can implement, for example requesting police staff who are conducting brothel raids to always be accompanied by one or more colleagues, preferably female staff, when conducting raids in brothels.⁶⁰

The activities of staff working in sectors at risk are performed in a transparent manner.

69. Sectors at specific risk of corruption in the trafficking in persons context need to ensure that their staff's activities are performed in a transparent manner and that unnecessary bureaucracy is eliminated so that the opportunities for corrupt officials to seek bribes are limited. This is particularly relevant within the law enforcement (e.g. border control, customs and immigration authorities) and criminal justice authorities. As raised by UNODC, ensuring that the staff's activities are performed in a transparent manner does not necessarily mean public disclosure of assets and private interests but rather safeguards, such as for example internal approval systems of tasks to be performed and avoiding having one-to-one meetings with individuals such as visa and work permit applicants, presumed trafficking victims, and suspects.⁶¹

A wider framework of integrity for public officials is promoted.

70. In addition to establishing rules/standards on behaviour of public officials in respect to corruption and trafficking, countries can benefit from promoting a wider framework ensuring the integrity of public officials, including: asset disclosure regime; conflict of interest legislation; and whistleblower protection. Of particular focus are issues such as outside positions for police officers (for example when public officials take up positions as security guards for bars and clubs). Officials at risk should also receive general anti-corruption training which could contribute to the prevention and combating of corruption in trafficking in persons.

Mechanisms that allow for public officials as well as the public to expose misconduct and report dishonest or illegal activity and that ensure the effective protection from retaliation are in place.

71. Confidential hotlines or similar measures for whistleblowers may be established so that public officials or private sector employees that witness corrupt behaviour by their colleagues can provide information about these activities. This can be established within government organisations as well as international organisations. Members of the public may also be given clear channels for exposing misconduct and reporting dishonest or illegal activity occurring in public and private sector organisations. Countries need to ensure that whistleblowers are effectively protected from retaliation and intimidation.

The recruitment process of officials is transparent, competitive and subject to independent scrutiny. Upon recruitment, officials receive training, adequate supervision and are subject to regular performance evaluations.

72. Recruitment of key officials, in particular those employed in anti-corruption or anti-trafficking units, prosecutors and judicial officials needs to consistently be conducted by the means of a transparent and competitive selection process that is subject to independent scrutiny. Upon recruitment, key officials would benefit from receiving training, adequate supervision and be subject to regular performance evaluations. It is important that the training does not only cover instructions relating to specific tasks and responsibilities that the employee will encounter, but also the standards of conduct and values of the organisation.

Key officials receive training so that they are able to correctly identify trafficking victims, understand the nature of the crime, and recognise warning signs throughout the different stages of the trafficking in persons process.

73. In order to correctly identify and deal with trafficking in persons cases, it is essential that key officials receive training. Experience shows that the first government official a victim of trafficking is likely to meet is a local police officer and not a lawmaker or diplomat, and if this local police officer has not been trained to identify trafficking victims and understand the crime, there is a heightened risk that the crime is not properly identified.⁶² Also, for example consular staff in countries of origin may benefit from exchanging experiences and being trained in recognising visa applications which could involve trafficking in persons.

4. Awareness-Raising and Prevention Measures for Public Officials and the General Public

Public awareness regarding the existence, causes, and gravity of trafficking in persons and the active participation of individuals and groups outside the public sector in the prevention of and the fight against trafficking in persons-related corruption is promoted.

74. The importance of prevention measures is not consistently recognised. Article 13 of the UNCAC demands that each State Party shall take the appropriate measures to promote the "active participation of individuals and groups outside the public sector, such as civil society, non-governmental organisations and community-based organisations, in the prevention of and the fight against corruption and to raise public awareness regarding the existence, causes and gravity of and the threat posed by corruption". Specific measures to strengthen this participation include:⁶³

(a) Enhancing the transparency of and promoting the contribution of the public to decisionmaking processes;

(b) Ensuring that the public has effective access to information;

(c) Undertaking public information activities that contribute to nontolerance of corruption, as well as public education programmes, including school and university curricula;

(d) Respecting, promoting and protecting the freedom to seek, receive, publish and disseminate information concerning corruption.

75. Similarly, Article 9(2) of the United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, establishes that State Parties shall "endeavour to undertake such measures such as research, information and mass media campaigns and social and economic initiatives to prevent and combat trafficking in persons". The Council of Europe suggests giving particular attention to the development of special awareness programs in schools.⁶⁴

76. In order to effectively raise awareness of the linkages between corruption and trafficking in persons, countries can involve and train media and facilitate investigative journalism on trafficking in persons and corruption. Furthermore, media can play an important role in increasing public awareness and knowledge on TIP and corruption hotspots, deterring offenders by highlighting arrests and prosecutions, and rewarding and encouraging successful law enforcement through the publication of success stories.

Targeted awareness-raising measures for all parties involved in anti-trafficking issues are provided.

77. In addition to general anti-corruption measures, specific awareness raising measures that highlight vulnerabilities, responsibilities, risks, and draw attention to how corrupt behaviour could

facilitate the crime of trafficking in persons and the re-victimisation of the trafficked victims are essential to understand the links and forms of trafficking. Consequently, these measures need to be provided for all parties involved in anti-trafficking issues, including police and anti-trafficking organisations.

Preventive measures for potential victims of trafficking in persons are in place, in particular offering counselling about corruption and trafficking before and after they have undertaken a migration journey and alerting communities of early signs of corruption.

78. It is essential to build civic response and community awareness about the linkages between corruption and trafficking in persons. Specific measures proposed by the UNODC for potential victims of trafficking includes (i) alerting communities that early signs of corruption in a legitimate migration journey should be considered as warning indicators that trafficking may be taking place; and (ii) giving citizens access to free, confidential counselling about corruption and trafficking before and after they have undertaken a migration journey, in order to make them aware of their rights and capable of looking for help if they are infringed in a way that renders them victims of trafficking.⁶⁵

5. Improvement of Data Collection and Systematic Use of Information

Data on trafficking in persons are collected, analysed and used systematically.

79. Most countries are not systematically collecting and analysing data on investigations or prosecutions of public officials relating to trafficking in persons and corruption.⁶⁶ There are many reasons for the scarcity of data. Among the most important reasons highlighted by the IOM are the victims' reluctance to report or testify for fear of reprisals; lack of harmonisation among existing data sources; and the opposition of some countries and agencies to share data.⁶⁷ As a crucial step in addressing trafficking in persons-related corruption, countries need to focus on the collection of data and information in order to get a better insight into the problem. Because of its transnational nature, data on trafficking in persons-related corruption also needs to be collected and aggregated at the regional level.

80. Information on corruption provided by victims and NGOs can also be used more systematically. Government agencies working in anti-corruption and anti-trafficking need to cooperate with the non-governmental sector and civil society to ensure that information and experiences from victims are collected (through for example interviews) and that this information is passed on to the anti-corruption and anti-trafficking units in government. By improving the data collection and systemic use of information, countries would be allowed to implement targeted responses based on facts.

6. Lift immunity in corruption and trafficking cases

Immunity from prosecution of public officials is duly lifted to allow for effective investigation, prosecution and adjudication of corruption and trafficking in persons-related offences.

81. The purpose of immunity is to protect the independence of public officials and make sure that they will make difficult decisions without risking to face personal consequences for this decision (e.g. being sued). According to UNCAC Article 30(2), "Each State Party shall take such measures as may be necessary to establish or maintain, in accordance with its legal system and constitutional principles, an appropriate balance between any immunities or jurisdictional privileges accorded to its public officials for the performance of their functions and the possibility, when necessary, of effectively investigating, prosecuting and adjudicating offences established in accordance with this Convention". Similarly, in cases of trafficking in persons, countries need to lift the immunity from prosecution of public officials following an allegation of corruption that is supported by evidence.

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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.
- 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.

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