

OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting in Warsaw
Working Session 11: Humanitarian issues and other commitments
18 September 2017
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In the context of the global refugee and migration crisis, Liechtenstein is committed to fully implement its international obligations and to support refugees as well as States hosting large numbers of refugees. Liechtenstein has contributed more than 2.6 Million Swiss Francs for humanitarian projects in the Syria context. Furthermore, Liechtenstein participated in resettlement and relocation projects, receiving more than 60 Syrian refugees and asylum-seekers in total.

On 1 January 2017, new asylum legislation entered into force in Liechtenstein. Its purpose is to accelerate the asylum procedures and to reduce asylum applications from safe countries. It is important for asylum seekers to know as soon as possible if they are entitled to stay. The reform also strengthened the non-refoulement-principle. Furthermore, asylum seekers in Liechtenstein enjoy full access to the labour market from the very first day.

Another pillar of migration policy is the promotion of the inclusion of migrants and refugees through innovative language training: “Liechtenstein Languages” is a non-profit language programme designed to teach German or other languages to migrants and refugees with a method inspired by early language acquisition. The courses are gender-inclusive and enable participants to communicate on a basic level within four weeks. The project also provides a two-week training course for people without a teaching background. Having completed such training, social workers for example can give a language course themselves. To date, more than 150 trainers have undergone training and more than 3’000 migrants have been introduced to the German language in the framework of this programme.

With regard to human trafficking, Liechtenstein is worried not only about the massive scale of this crime, but also about the disproportionate vulnerability of refugees and migrants, particularly women and children. Liechtenstein promotes cooperation of Financial Intelli-

gence Units and other authorities to share relevant data to detect and disrupt illicit financial flows associated with human trafficking and modern slavery. To that end, Liechtenstein published a report¹ together with UN University with 25 concrete recommendations on how to unlock financial chains associated with human trafficking and modern slavery. It is the outcome of a two-day workshop in which experts discussed the nature of the exposure of the financial sector to modern slavery, human trafficking and forced labour, the risks associated with that exposure, and the measures it can take to combat these crimes. Liechtenstein stands ready to contribute its expertise in these areas within the OSCE process of combating human trafficking.

Thank you.

¹ http://collections.unu.edu/eserv/UNU:6232/BreakingtheFinancialChains_FullBooklet_Web.pdf