



Alliance Against trafficking in Persons  
Unprotected work, Invisible Exploitation:  
Trafficking for the purpose of domestic servitude  
OSCE, Vienna 17-18 June 2010

# The Jossefina Case

- Jossefina N

Mozambican citizen

34 years old

Single

# The Josefina Case

- 1- Recruitment

Agust 2008, through her cousin (taxi driver)

Marisa V, Portuguese citizen offered for domestic work in Portugal (to take care of two children):

- House and food
- 350 Euros month
- Mobile phone to contact her family
- legalisation in Portugal

# The Jossefina Case

- Marisa V arranged the short stay visa in the Portuguese Embassy in Maputo, saying she was inviting Jossefina for a short holidays, so that she knew Portugal. She signed a responsibility declaration.
- She also bought the flight ticket
- On the 11th Set 09 Jossefina arrived in Oporto

# The Josefina Case

## 2- The exploitation:

- Passport removed allegedly for legalization purposes
- Work was, not only taking care of the children, but all the house domestic work
- When complained, she was told that at least she had food and a house to sleep

# The Jossefina Case

- Working hours: 7am to 22.30pm every day (no days off)
- Lived in a small room outside the house with a bath that had no current water
- 100 Euros removed from her salary (to pay the travel expenses)

# The Josefina Case

## 3- The means used:

- Deceit on working conditions
- Deceit on legalization
- Psychological violence (her work was constantly depreciated)

# The Jossefina Case

## 4- The investigation

- On 10th January first escape to local police. Advised to return and talk in the employer (Marisa V)
- On 25th April second escape to Immigration and Borders service. Referred to the safe shelter for victims of THB.
- Communication to the Prosecutor office



# The Jossefina Case

- Investigation included search on the house of Marisa V, where the passport was found and relevant documentation was seized.
- Jossefina was questioned before a Judge where she produced a very consistent testimony.

# The Jossefina Case

5- The prosecution:

Marisa V was charged for “recruitment of illegal worker”,  
crime foreseen with a penalty from 1 to 4 years of  
imprisonment

The Prosecutor concluded that there was no evidence that  
when Marisa recruited Jossefina, she had the intention to  
exploit her, as its demanded in THB

# The Jossefina Case

## 6- Conclusions:

- THB is prosecuted, as a trend, in the more severe cases where physical violence occurs or total deprivation of freedom)
- The need to separate the Judicial proceedings with the THB protection and assistance measures (Jossefina was granted a RP)

# The Jossefina Case

- There's an absolute need to network in the fight against THB (LE, NGO, GO and civil society)

# The Jossefina Case

Thank you very much for your attention  
Questions?

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