Efforts to prevent and combat trafficking in human beings often entail complex ethical and legal dilemmas. Government authorities and civil society organizations increasingly need to have clear guidelines on the application of national legislation.

The 16th OSCE Alliance against Trafficking in Persons conference will draw attention to the social and legal implications of human trafficking for forced criminality. The event will provide an excellent forum for discussing the wide range of unlawful activities that this form of exploitation entails, the national and international challenges related to the prosecution of the crime, as well as victims’ rights, identification and assistance. A special focus will be given to children as they are one of the most vulnerable groups forced to commit criminal activities.

In addition to enhancing the coherence of national and international efforts, this year’s high-level event aims to develop recommendations to respond to trafficking in human beings in a more comprehensive and expert manner that is respectful of human rights. Moreover, the conference will gather multidisciplinary expertise and knowledge on the phenomenon, while distinguished speakers will deliver thought-provoking presentations with the objective of generating concrete recommendations. Each panel will consist of presentations followed by an interactive discussion with the participants on current practices and lessons learned. Moderators and rapporteurs will elaborate the recommendations of each session and present them during the last panel discussion.

Finally, the conference strives to raise the profile of this complex and increasingly widespread form of human trafficking. It will also further promote the full and effective implementation of relevant OSCE commitments including the 2013 Addendum to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings: One Decade Later (PC.DEC/1107/Corr.1), as well as regional and international obligations.
Monday 11 April

15.00 – 15.45 Welcoming remarks

Chair: Madina Jarbussynova, Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, OSCE
Eberhard Pohl, Chairperson of the OSCE Permanent Council, Germany
Lamberto Zannier, Secretary General, OSCE
John Brandolino, Director, Division for Treaty Affairs, UNODC

15.45 – 16.45 Keynote address

Maria Grazia Giammarinaro, United Nations Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons, especially in Women and Children, OHCHR

Discussion

16.45 – 18.00 Panel 1 - Trafficking for forced criminality: forms and implications

The first panel will provide an overview of the phenomenon in the OSCE region. It will focus on the different types of unlawful activities that this form of human trafficking currently entails as well as recall States' obligations when facing this crime. Speakers will also discuss the social and legal implications of this form of exploitation and its impact on society. The profile and the specific situation of minors involved in delinquency will be described using case studies and analyzed from a sociological point of view. This panel will provide a basis for discussion and create a framework for further research and policy recommendations.

Moderator: Klara Skriváňková, Europe Programme and Advocacy Coordinator, Special Adviser to the Ethical Trading Initiative, Anti-Slavery International
Rapporteur: Houtan Homayounpour, Senior Programme and Operations Officer, ILO
Speakers: Gulnara Shahinian, GRETA member, Council of Europe
Corinne Dettmeijer, National Rapporteur on Trafficking in Human Beings and Sexual Violence against Children, the Netherlands
Olivier Peyroux, Sociologist, Expert on Migration and Trafficking in Persons, France

Discussion

18.00 – 20.00 Reception
Tuesday 12 April

09.30 – 11.00  Panel 2 - Challenges of investigation and prosecution

This panel will provide an overview of the challenges in investigating and prosecuting human trafficking for forced criminality. The speakers will present transnational cases with a focus on international co-operation and the use of joint investigation teams. In addition, the panel discussion will explore different practices in the application of the non-punishment provision. Speakers will outline the lessons learned and will provide recommendations on ways to improve the criminal justice responses to this form of exploitation.

Moderator: Michèle Ramis, Ambassador-at-large on Organized Crime, France

Rapporteur: Jan Austad, Senior Adviser, Ministry of Justice and the Police Security, Norway

Speakers: Radmila Dragičević-Dičić, Judge, Supreme Court of Cassation, Serbia

Anders Lisborg, Senior Advisor, Centre against Human Trafficking, Ministry for Social Affairs, Integration, Gender Equality and Children, jointly with Anna Valentine, Detective Inspector, National Police, Denmark

Discussion

11.00 – 11.30  Coffee Break

11.30 – 13.00  Panel 3 - Victims’ rights: challenges in identification, referral and assistance of trafficked people

This panel will look at some successful practices in the identification, referral and assistance to victims of trafficking for forced criminality. Based on their practical experience dealing with transnational cases, the speakers will outline lessons learned and share recommendations on strengthening the response to this form of trafficking while upholding victims’ rights. The complementary expertise of the panelists will lay the foundation for a lively discussion on the issue, while highlighting the different legal and social aspects of victim support across the OSCE region.

Moderator: Helga Konrad, Head, Regional Implementation Initiative on Preventing and Combating All Forms of Trafficking in Human Beings, Austria

Rapporteur: Petya Nestorova, Executive Secretary of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings

Speakers: Valbona Hystuna, Child Protection Officer, ARSIS - Association for the Social Support of Youth, Greece

Parosha Chandran, Barrister, 1 Pump Court Chambers, United Kingdom

Discussion

13.00 – 15.15  Lunch Break

Side events will be held during the lunch break
15.15 – 17.00  Panel 4 - Looking forward: recommendations for policy and research

This panel will present practical recommendations collected and developed during the conference. Panelists will offer their concluding thoughts on how States can strengthen their anti-trafficking policies and fully comply with their commitments and obligations, while observing internationally accepted standards in cases of trafficking in human beings for forced criminality. Furthermore, panellists will discuss the need for research on the topic that may inform further policy development.

Moderator:  Ruth Pojman, Deputy Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, OSCE

Speakers: Klara Skrivánková, Europe Programme and Advocacy Coordinator, Special Adviser to the Ethical Trading Initiative, Anti-Slavery International

Michèle Ramis, Ambassador-at-large on Organized Crime, France

Helga Konrad, Head, Regional Implementation Initiative on Preventing and Combating All Forms of Trafficking in Human Beings, Austria

Louise Shelley, Omer L. and Nancy Hirst Endowed Chair, Director, Terrorism, Transnational Crime and Corruption Center (TraCCC), University Professor, School of Policy, Government and International Affairs, George Mason University, United States

Discussion

17.00 – 17.15  Closing remarks by Madina Jarbussynova, OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings