COMPENDIUM
Of Anti-Trafficking Commitments
Adopted By The OSCE Ministerial Council

OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE AND CO-ORDINATOR FOR COMBATING TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS
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Introduction

In the last two years, the OSCE participating States adopted three Ministerial Council Decisions on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings:

- Decision No. 6/17, 8 December 2017: strengthening efforts to prevent trafficking in human beings;
- Decision No. 7/17, 8 December 2017: strengthening efforts to combat all forms of child trafficking, including for sexual exploitation, as well as other forms of sexual exploitation of children;
- Decision No. 6/18, 7 December 2018: strengthening efforts to prevent and combat child trafficking, including of unaccompanied minors.

In sum, these Decisions advance the OSCE’s response to human trafficking in several key areas including child trafficking, labour exploitation and supply chains, technology, and partnerships among governments, civil society, the private sector and international organizations. The Decisions also unanimously reaffirmed the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings (2003), its 2005 and 2013 Addenda, and all existing OSCE commitments in the field of combating human trafficking.

In line with supporting the participating States in the implementation of commitments contained in the above-listed MC Decisions, the Office of the Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings (OSR/CTHB) is publishing this Compendium. It is designed to highlight the individual provisions of the Decisions and to suggest OSCE-produced resources that can support adoption and implementation of the commitments.

The document begins with a table of thematic keywords found in the Decisions. This table will allow policy makers and practitioners to search the provisions of the Decisions by keywords consistent with their particular interest (e.g. technology, supply chains, child protection).

Next, the document organizes the operational provisions of the Decisions in a structure that tracks the 4P framework (prosecution, protection, prevention and partnerships) of the OSCE Action Plan and its Addenda. A non-exhaustive list of further literature is suggested for participating States as something to consult for guidance on implementation of the specific provisions. The Annex contains the original text of the Decisions, as well as a Keyword-Literature Directory which is structured according to themes.

Participating States are also encouraged to engage their National Coordinators and Rapporteurs, national anti-trafficking stakeholders and civil society in furthering adoption and implementation of the Decisions.

This tool anticipates the 2020 update of the Survey Report of 2016. The new survey will take stock of the status of participating States’ implementation of MC Decisions 6/17, 7/17 and 6/18. With this, the OSR/CTHB stands ready to assist the participating States as requested.

Acknowledgements

First and foremost, the Office of the Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings would like to express sincere gratitude to the delegations of all OSCE participating States and Partners for Co-operation for the support they provide to the work of the Office and to commend their commitment to combating trafficking in human beings.

This compendium is the result of a collaborative effort undertaken by my office, however, special thanks go to my Senior Advisor Julia Rutz, who, as the main drafter of the document, composed this Compendium to raise awareness about the content of three recent MC Decisions on combating trafficking in human beings and to provide resources that can support adoption and implementation of the commitments.

Valiant Richey
Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings

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Section I.

INVESTIGATION, LAW ENFORCEMENT AND PROSECUTION
A. Recommended action at the national level

1. Criminalizing and prosecuting all forms of Trafficking in Human Beings (THB)

Calls on OSCE participating States which have not already done so to consider legal measures that would allow them to prosecute their citizens for serious sexual crimes against children, even if these crimes are committed in another country; (MC Decision 7/17, para 3)

Resources by keyword

On children:


OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, Provision of social services to various categories of trafficked persons, 2011, p. 80-105, https://www.osce.org/ukraine/93267 (available in UKR)


OSCE OSR/CTHB, Trafficking in Human Beings Amounting to Torture and other Forms of Ill-treatment, 2013, p. 9-44, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/103085 (available in ENG)


On prosecution:


On sexual exploitation:


OSCE OSR/CTHB, Trafficking in Human Beings Amounting to Torture and other Forms of Ill-treatment, 2013, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/103085 (available in ENG)
Urges participating States to prosecute human traffickers and perpetrators of sexual exploitation of children, including those who misuse information and communication technologies to recruit children or facilitate access to children for the purpose of subjecting them to trafficking or sexual exploitation, and impose penalties that are effective dissuasive, and proportionate to the crime; (MC Decision 7/17, para 6)

Resources by keyword

On children:


OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, Provision of social services to various categories of trafficked persons, 2011, p. 80-105, https://www.osce.org/ukraine/93267 (available in UKR)

On penalties:

OSCE OSR/CTHB, Policy and legislative recommendations towards the effective implementation of the non-punishment provision with regard to victims of trafficking, 2013, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/101002 (available in ARM, AZE, BOS, ENG, MAC, SQR, SRP and UZB)


On prosecution:


On sexual exploitation:


On technology:

OSCE OSR/CTHB, *The role of information and communication technology in the fight against trafficking in human beings*, End 2019, forthcoming
Section II. PREVENTION OF TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS
A. Recommended action at the national level

1. Capacity-building and training

Strengthen education and awareness-raising efforts, including human rights education, and develop and implement empowerment programmes which take into account the particular needs of women, men, girls and boys, in order to enhance the capacity to recognize, prevent and fight human trafficking within communities; (MC Decision 6/17, para 6)

Resources by keyword

On awareness-raising:


On prevention:


On gender:


OSCE OSR/CTHB, Commentary to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings and its Addendums, 2015, p. 65, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/210391 (available in ENG and RUS)
Promote multi-agency, cross-sectorial and multinational capacity-building programmes that foster measures to prevent human trafficking in all of its forms, with a particular focus on factors that make people vulnerable to trafficking; (MC Decision 6/17, para 4)

Resources by keyword

On co-operation and partnerships:


OSCE OSR/CTHB, Enhancing Co-operation to Prevent Trafficking in Human Beings in the Mediterranean Region, 2013, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/108481 (available in ENG)


On prevention:


On vulnerability:


2. Co-operation and partnerships

Promote dialogue and co-operation among governments, international organizations, civil society, and the private sector, including businesses, and trade unions and employers organizations as social partners, with a view to enhance efforts to prevent human trafficking, inter alia through increasing awareness of each actor’s role and through facilitating the exchange of information on human trafficking among countries of origin, transit and destination, including the Partners for Co-operation, and recognizing the importance of the voice of victims of human trafficking in elaborating effective anti-trafficking strategies; (MC Decision 6/17, para 2)

Resources by keyword

On co-operation and partnerships:


OSCE OSR/CTHB, Enhancing Co-operation to Prevent Trafficking in Human Beings in the Mediterranean Region, 2013, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/108481 (available in ENG)


On prevention:


Continue to use the OSCE as a platform for dialogue on judicial and law enforcement co-operation, border security and management as an important element to prevent trafficking in human beings; (MC Decision 6/17, para 3)

Resources by keyword

On border:
OSCE OSR/CTHB, Commentary to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings and its Addendums, 2015, p. 50, 60, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/210391 (available in ENG and RUS)

On judiciary:


On law enforcement:
OSCE OSR/CTHB, Commentary to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings and its Addendums, 2015, p. 44, 47, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/210391 (available in ENG and RUS)


On prevention:


Encourage the private sector to adopt policies and procedures to prevent all forms of human trafficking, to be actively involved in multi-stakeholder efforts, to develop awareness about the risks of human trafficking and to take into account best practices such as establishing independent monitoring, verification and certification mechanisms to document compliance with and implementation of codes of conduct or self-established ethical standards, including through providing incentives for businesses to act with due diligence and transparency to prevent the abuse and exploitation of workers throughout their supply chains and to enable a level playing field for responsible companies; (MC Decision 6/17, para 10)

Resources by keyword

On awareness-raising:


On co-operation and partnerships:


OSCE OSR/CTHB, Enhancing Co-operation to Prevent Trafficking in Human Beings in the Mediterranean Region, 2013, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/108481 (available in ENG)


On policy development:


On prevention:


On private sector:


OSCE OSR/CTHB, Ending Exploitation. Ensuring that Businesses do not Contribute to Trafficking in Human Beings: Duties of States and the Private Sector, 2014, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/126305 (available in ENG and RUS)

On supply chains:


OSCE OSR/CTHB, Compendium of relevant reference materials and resources on ethical sourcing and prevention of trafficking in human beings for labour exploitation in supply chains, 2018, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/375910 (available in ENG)

3. Policy development

Develop targeted prevention policies based on, as appropriate, enhanced research and systematically gathered reliable information, including with the support of national mechanisms, such as national rapporteurs where they exist, in order to maximize the effect and impact of anti-trafficking efforts at the national and international level; (MC Decision 6/17, para 1)

Resources by keyword

On data and research:

OSCE OSR/CTHB, Commentary to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings and its Addendums, 2015, p. 53-54, 70, [https://www.osce.org/secretariat/210391](https://www.osce.org/secretariat/210391) (available in ENG and RUS)

On national rapporteur:


On policy development:


OSCE OSR/CTHB, Ending Exploitation. Ensuring that Businesses do not Contribute to Trafficking in Human Beings: Duties of States and the Private Sector, 2014, p. 43-51, 93-98, [https://www.osce.org/secretariat/126305](https://www.osce.org/secretariat/126305) (available in ENG and RUS)

OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina, Trafficking in human beings for the purpose of labour exploitation - A reference paper for Bosnia and Herzegovina, 2011, p. 52-54, [https://www.osce.org/bih/106977](https://www.osce.org/bih/106977) (available in BOS and ENG)

On prevention:

OSCE OSR/CTHB, Commentary to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings and its Addendums, 2015, p. 51-68, [https://www.osce.org/secretariat/210391](https://www.osce.org/secretariat/210391) (available in ENG and RUS)


Promote measures to prevent and address the use of forced labour by diplomatic and other personnel of diplomatic missions and consular posts and international organizations, and promote a zero-tolerance policy for trafficking by such personnel, and take into account international best practices as compiled, for example, in the OSCE Handbook on how to prevent human trafficking for domestic servitude in diplomatic households and protect private domestic workers, and noting that many such measures are consistent with the Vienna Conventions on Diplomatic Relations and Consular Relations as well as headquarter agreements of international organizations and recognizing that the Vienna Conventions include a duty to respect the laws and regulations of the receiving State, including those designed to prevent and address human trafficking; (MC Decision 6/17, para 13)

Resources by keyword

On diplomatic missions:


On labour exploitation:


On policy development:


On prevention:


Promote policies, in complementarity with national legislation, that take into account whether businesses are taking appropriate and effective steps to address the risks of human trafficking, including with regards to their subcontractors and employees, when considering the awarding of government contracts for goods and services; (MC Decision 6/17, para 11)

**Resources by keyword**

**On policy development:**


**On private sector:**


**On prevention:**


On supply chains:


Take appropriate measures to identify and eradicate the abusive and fraudulent recruitment and employment practices which can lead to trafficking for labour exploitation, sexual exploitation, for forced criminality, or other forms of trafficking, including measures to promote clear criteria for the official registration of recruitment and placement agencies and through reinforcing the role of competent authorities, such as labour inspectors; (MC Decision 6/17, para 12)

Resources by keyword

On labour exploitation:

OSCE OSR/CTHB, Ending Exploitation. Ensuring that Businesses do not Contribute to Trafficking in Human Beings: Duties of States and the Private Sector, 2014, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/126305 (available in ENG and RUS)


On labour inspectors:


On policy development:


On prevention:


On private sector:


On recruitment:


Promote efforts to prevent child trafficking, countering the culture of impunity, and reducing and addressing the demand which fosters all forms of exploitation; (MC Decision 6/18, para 12)

Resources by keyword

On children:


OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, Provision of social services to various categories of trafficked persons, 2011, p. 80-105, https://www.osce.org/ukraine/93267 (available in UKR)

On demand:

Recognize the important contribution that media can make to the prevention of human trafficking, inter alia, through the adoption of voluntary professional standards to responsibly and sensitively cover cases of human trafficking; (MC Decision 6/17, para 8)

Resources by keyword

On capacity-building and training:


On media:


4. Responding to child trafficking

Calls on participating States which have not already done so to promote the implementation of age verification technologies with a view to limit the access of children to pornographic websites; (MC Decision 7/17, para 7)

Resources by keyword

On children:


OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, Provision of social services to various categories of trafficked persons, 2011, p. 80-105, https://www.osce.org/ukraine/93267 (available in UKR)

On technology:

OSCE OSR/CTHB, The role of information and communication technology in the fight against trafficking in human beings, End 2019, forthcoming


On prevention:


Encourages participating States to call on information and communication technologies and social media companies to prevent the distribution of and take down child sexual abuse content online, and to protect children by combating grooming by human traffickers online for all forms of child trafficking as well as other sexual exploitation of children, including through the development of new tools and technologies; (MC Decision 7/17, para 8)

Resources by keyword

On children:


OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, Provision of social services to various categories of trafficked persons, 2011, p. 80-105, https://www.osce.org/ukraine/93267 (available in UKR)

On prevention:


On media:


On private sector:


On protection of children:


On protection:


On sexual exploitation:


OSCE OSR/CTHB, *Trafficking in Human Beings Amounting to Torture and other Forms of Ill-treatment*, 2013, [https://www.osce.org/secretariat/103085](https://www.osce.org/secretariat/103085) (available in ENG)

On technology:

OSCE OSR/CTHB, *The role of information and communication technology in the fight against trafficking in human beings*, End 2019, forthcoming
Calls on participating States to enhance further specialized training on information and communications technologies for border officials, law enforcement officials, judges, prosecutors, immigration and other relevant officials as well as teachers and health professionals, as appropriate, to combat all forms of child trafficking as well as other sexual exploitation of children; (MC Decision 7/17, para 10)

Resources by keyword

On boarder:

OSCE OSR/CTHB, Commentary to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings and its Addendums, 2015, p. 50, 60, [https://www.osce.org/secretariat/210391](https://www.osce.org/secretariat/210391) (available in ENG and RUS)

On capacity-building and training:


OSCE/ODIHR, Combating trafficking in human beings: Central Asia, 2015, p. 30-36, [https://www.osce.org/odihr/177061](https://www.osce.org/odihr/177061) (available in ENG and RUS)

OSCE OSR/CTHB, Commentary to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings and its Addendums, 2015, p. 49-50, [https://www.osce.org/secretariat/210391](https://www.osce.org/secretariat/210391) (available in ENG and RUS)


On children:


OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, Provision of social services to various categories of trafficked persons, 2011, p. 80-105, [https://www.osce.org/ukraine/93267](https://www.osce.org/ukraine/93267) (available in UKR)

On health care:

OSCE OSR/CTHB, Trafficking in Human Beings Amounting to Torture and other Forms of Ill-treatment, 2013, p. 45-88, [https://www.osce.org/secretariat/103085](https://www.osce.org/secretariat/103085) (available in ENG)


On judiciary:

On law enforcement:
OSCE OSR/CTHB, Commentary to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings and its Addendums, 2015, p. 44, 47, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/210391 (available in ENG and RUS)

On migration:

On prevention:

On prosecution:

On sexual exploitation:


OSCE OSR/CTHB, Trafficking in Human Beings Amounting to Torture and other Forms of Ill-treatment, 2013, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/103085 (available in ENG)

On technology:

OSCE OSR/CTHB, The role of information and communication technology in the fight against trafficking in human beings, End 2019, forthcoming
Calls on OSCE participating States to prevent all forms of child trafficking and sexual exploitation of children, including in tourist destinations, through education and awareness-raising, and to work with the private sector and civil society to raise awareness among the tourism industry, as well as business travellers and tourists, to help eliminate demand that fuels child trafficking and sexual exploitation of children; (MC Decision 7/17, para 4)

Resources by keyword

On awareness-raising:


On children:


On civil society:


On demand:


On prevention:


**On private sector:**


**On sexual exploitation:**


**On tourism and travel:**

B. Action for OSCE institutions and bodies

Encourage the relevant executive structures in accordance with their mandates and in co-ordination with the OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, to continue undertaking research, in consultation with the participating States, to conduct capacity-building activities, to assist participating States, upon their request, in developing policies and guidelines to strengthen efforts to prevent human trafficking; (MC Decision 6/17, para 15)

Resources by keyword

On capacity-building and training:


On co-operation and partnerships:


OSCE OSR/CTHB, Enhancing Co-operation to Prevent Trafficking in Human Beings in the Mediterranean Region, 2013, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/108481 (available in ENG)


On data and research:

OSCE OSR/CTHB, Commentary to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings and its Addendums, 2015, p. 53-54, 70, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/210391 (available in ENG and RUS)
On policy development:


On prevention:


Task the Secretary General to review existing policies, audit and reporting procedures and recruitment safeguards, and to ensure that no activities of the OSCE executive structures, including the issuing of contracts for goods and services, contribute to any form of trafficking in human beings, in accordance with the 2013 Addendum to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings, and to report on this review and on the implementation of the OSCE Code of Conduct, Appendix 1 to Staff Regulations and Rules to the Permanent Council. (MC Decision 6/17, para 16)

Resources by keyword

On prevention:


On recruitment:


On supply chains:


Section III. | PROTECTION AND ASSISTANCE
A. Recommended action at the national level

1. Policy development

Take appropriate measures for effectively combating human trafficking, by developing harmonized procedures and training courses, inter alia on identification and protection of trafficking victims, including for relevant authorities, civil society organizations, health care and social workers as well as others that may have first contact with victims; (MC Decision 6/17, para 5)

Resources by keyword

On capacity-building and training:


On civil society:


On first line responders:

On health care:

OSCE OSR/CTHB, Trafficking in Human Beings Amounting to Torture and other Forms of Ill-treatment, 2013, p. 45-88, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/103085 (available in ENG)


On identification:


OSCE OSR/CTHB, Commentary to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings and its Addendums, 2015, p. 54-56, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/210391 (available in ENG and RUS)


On policy development:


On protection:


On social workers:

OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, Provision of social services to various categories of trafficked persons, 2011, https://www.osce.org/ukraine/93267 (available in UKR)

Adopt a victim-centred, trauma-informed and, in that respect and in line with Ministerial Council Decision No. 14/06, gender-sensitive approach, that fully respects human rights and fundamental freedoms in all preventive and assistance efforts; (MC Decision 6/17, para 7)

Resources by keyword

On gender:


OSCE OSR/CTHB, Commentary to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings and its Addendums, 2015, p. 65, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/210391 (available in ENG and RUS)


On policy development:


On prevention:


On protection and assistance:


**On trauma-informed approach:**

OSCE OSR/CTHB, *Trafficking in Human Beings Amounting to Torture and other Forms of Ill-treatment*, 2013, [https://www.osce.org/secretariat/103085](https://www.osce.org/secretariat/103085) (available in ENG)

**On victim support:**


OSCE OSR/CTHB, *Trafficking in Human Beings Amounting to Torture and other Forms of Ill-treatment*, 2013, [https://www.osce.org/secretariat/103085](https://www.osce.org/secretariat/103085) (available in ENG)

OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, *Provision of social services to various categories of trafficked persons*, 2011, p. 15-20, [https://www.osce.org/ukraine/93267](https://www.osce.org/ukraine/93267) (available in UKR)

Encourages participating States to adopt a victim-centred and trauma-informed approach that takes into account the respective gender-specific concerns of girls and boys, in the best interests of the child, and fully respects the human rights and fundamental freedoms of children subjected to human trafficking or sexual exploitation; (MC Decision 7/17, para 2)

Resources by keyword

On children:


OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, Provision of social services to various categories of trafficked persons, 2011, p. 80-105, https://www.osce.org/ukraine/93267 (available in UKR)

On gender:


OSCE OSR/CTHB, Trafficking in Human Beings Amounting to Torture and other Forms of Ill-treatment, 2013, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/103085 (available in ENG)

On sexual exploitation:


OSCE OSR/CTHB, Trafficking in Human Beings Amounting to Torture and other Forms of Ill-treatment, 2013, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/103085 (available in ENG)

On trauma-informed approach:

OSCE OSR/CTHB, Trafficking in Human Beings Amounting to Torture and other Forms of Ill-treatment, 2013, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/103085 (available in ENG)
On victim-centred approach:


Adopt a victim-centred and trauma-informed approach that takes into account the respective gender-specific concerns of girls and boys and the best interests of the child, and fully respects the human rights and fundamental freedoms of children subjected to human trafficking; (MC Decision 6/18, para 2)

Resources by keyword

On children:


OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, Provision of social services to various categories of trafficked persons, 2011, p. 80-105, https://www.osce.org/ukraine/93267 (available in UKR)

On gender:

OSCE OSR/CTHB, Commentary to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings and its Addendums, 2015, p. 65, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/210391 (available in ENG and RUS)


On trauma-informed approach:
OSCE OSR/CTHB, Trafficking in Human Beings Amounting to Torture and other Forms of Ill-treatment, 2013, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/103085 (available in ENG)

On victim-centred approach:

OSCE OSR/CTHB, Commentary to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings and its Addendums, 2015, p. 15, 22, 30, 45, 74, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/210391 (available in ENG and RUS)


Adopt relevant measures so that all child victims of human trafficking are treated in line with the principle of non-discrimination, and in accordance with their individual needs and taking into account their best interests, providing opportunities for them to be heard, as appropriate, and upholding and protecting their human rights; (MC Decision 6/18, para 1)

Resources by keyword

On best interest of the child:

On children:
OSCE OSR/CTHB, Trafficking in Human Beings Amounting to Torture and other Forms of Ill-treatment, 2013, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/103085 (available in ENG)
OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, Provision of social services to various categories of trafficked persons, 2011, p. 80-105, https://www.osce.org/ukraine/93267 (available in UKR)

On non-discrimination:

On victim support:
OSCE OSR/CTHB, Trafficking in Human Beings Amounting to Torture and other Forms of Ill-treatment, 2013, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/103085 (available in ENG)
OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, Provision of social services to various categories of trafficked persons, 2011, p. 15-20, https://www.osce.org/ukraine/93267 (available in UKR)
Provide, as relevant, government service providers and agencies that come into contact with children with adequate guidance and training on how to properly identify, report, assist, and protect child victims of trafficking in an age-appropriate and manner that takes into account the respective gender-specific concerns of girls and boys, and consider the provision of relevant training to private sector actors that come into contact with child victims of trafficking; (MC Decision 6/18, para 3)

**Resources by keyword**

**On capacity-building and training:**


**On first line responders:**


**On children:**


OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, *Provision of social services to various categories of trafficked persons*, 2011, p. 80-105, [https://www.osce.org/ukraine/93267](https://www.osce.org/ukraine/93267) (available in UKR)
On gender:


OSCE OSR/CTHB, Commentary to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings and its Addendums, 2015, p. 65, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/210391 (available in ENG and RUS)


On identification:


OSCE OSR/CTHB, Commentary to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings and its Addendums, 2015, p. 54-56, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/210391 (available in ENG and RUS)


On policy development:


On private sector:


OSCE OSR/CTHB, Ending Exploitation. Ensuring that Businesses do not Contribute to Trafficking in Human Beings: Duties of States and the Private Sector, 2014, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/126305 (available in ENG and RUS)

On protection and assistance:


On protection:


Address the situation of child victims of trafficking, including those unaccompanied, within a child protection framework; (MC Decision 6/18, para 5)

Resources by keyword

On children:


OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, Provision of social services to various categories of trafficked persons, 2011, p. 80-105, https://www.osce.org/ukraine/93267 (available in UKR)

On unaccompanied children:


Promote national anti-trafficking mechanisms, including National Referral Mechanisms where they exist, and child protection systems where appropriate, that recognize the needs and rights of child victims of trafficking; incorporate victim-centred, trauma-informed and age-appropriate assistance; apply a multidisciplinary approach, respecting human rights, that takes into account the respective gender-specific concerns of girls and boys, and reflects, as appropriate, input and recommendations from survivors of human trafficking when providing immediate assistance and looking for durable and sustainable solutions; as well as establish referral channels that are appropriate for children; (MC Decision 6/18, para 6)

Resources by keyword

On children:


OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, Provision of social services to various categories of trafficked persons, 2011, p. 80-105, https://www.osce.org/ukraine/93267 (available in UKR)

On co-operation and partnerships:


OSCE OSR/CTHB, Enhancing Co-operation to Prevent Trafficking in Human Beings in the Mediterranean Region, 2013, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/108481 (available in ENG)


On gender:


**On National Referral Mechanism:**


**On trauma-informed approach:**

OSCE OSR/CTHB, *Trafficking in Human Beings Amounting to Torture and other Forms of Ill-treatment*, 2013, [https://www.osce.org/secretariat/103085](https://www.osce.org/secretariat/103085) (available in ENG)

**On victim-centred approach:**

Encourages participating States to raise public awareness on the vulnerabilities of children in migration flows to all forms of child trafficking, including for sexual exploitation, as well as other forms of sexual exploitation of children, to increase the capacity and broaden the scope of first line responders to identify child victims of trafficking and other sexual exploitation, and provide them with protection, as well as appropriate assistance and referrals for legal assistance as well as effective remedies and other services as applicable, in line with the relevant provisions of the 2013 Addendum to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings; (MC Decision 7/17, para 11)

Resources by keyword

On awareness-raising:


On capacity-building and training:


On children:


On first line responders:


On identification:


On legal assistance:


On migration:


On sexual exploitation:


OSCE OSR/CTHB, Trafficking in Human Beings Amounting to Torture and other Forms of Ill-treatment, 2013, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/103085 (available in ENG)

On vulnerability:


2. Victim support

Provide that, to the extent possible, any assessment of the needs of a child victim of trafficking takes into account his or her interests and views and the need for care, protection and safety; (MC Decision 6/18, para 7)

Resources by keyword

On best interest of the child:


On children:


Upon identification of a child as a victim of trafficking, or when there are reasonable grounds to believe that a child may have been subjected to trafficking, take appropriate action to keep the child safe, in particular by preventing sexual and other abuse, preventing re-victimization, in accordance with national laws, provide for the possibility of not imposing penalties on victims for their involvement in unlawful activities, to the extent that they have been compelled to do so, and by providing suitable rehabilitation, reintegration and/or repatriation programmes, where appropriate; (MC Decision 6/18, para 8)

Resources by keyword

On children:


On identification:


On non-punishment:

OSCE OSR/CTHB, *Policy and legislative recommendations towards the effective implementation of the non-punishment provision with regard to victims of trafficking*, 2013, [https://www.osce.org/secretariat/101002](https://www.osce.org/secretariat/101002) (available in ARM, AZE, BOS, ENG, MAC, SQI, SRP and UZB)


On reintegration and/or repatriation:


Take measures to provide child victims of trafficking, when necessary, with a qualified and trained guardian or equivalent and/or a legal representative as a matter of priority, in order to safeguard the interests of child victims of trafficking, including those who are unaccompanied, and that their guardians and/or legal representatives are involved in procedures concerning their assistance and in finding durable and sustainable solutions for them; (MC Decision 6/18, para 4)

Resources by keyword

On best interest of the child:


On children:


OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, Provision of social services to various categories of trafficked persons, 2011, p. 80-105, https://www.osce.org/ukraine/93267 (available in UKR)

On legal assistance:


OSCE OSR/CTHB, Commentary to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings and its Addendums, 2015, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/210391 (available in ENG and RUS)


On protection and assistance:


On unaccompanied children:


On victim support:


OSCE OSR/CTHB, Trafficking in Human Beings Amounting to Torture and other Forms of Ill-treatment, 2013, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/103085 (available in ENG)

OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, Provision of social services to various categories of trafficked persons, 2011, p. 15-20, https://www.osce.org/ukraine/93267 (available in UKR)

Section IV. PARTNERSHIPS AND CO-ORDINATION
A. Recommended action at the national level

1. Co-operation and partnerships

Identify, develop and share best practices, including as contained in the 2013 Addendum to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings: One Decade Later, for successful national and global partnerships between the public and private sector in combating human trafficking, to promote respect for human rights and corporate social responsibility, including through public awareness-raising about the risk of human trafficking in production and sources of goods and provision of services; (MC Decision 6/17, para 9)

Resources by keyword

On awareness-raising:


On policy development:


On private sector:


On supply chains:


Calls on OSCE participating States to strengthen co-operation and co-ordination among relevant authorities, such as law enforcement and immigration and border services of participating States, Partners for Co-operation, and destination States outside the OSCE region, including through considering measures, in full accordance with national laws and national and international data protection frameworks, such as:

(a) Adopting additional administrative measures in relation to perpetrators, such as the registration in sex offender registers of persons convicted of child sexual exploitation or abuse, as appropriate;

(b) Where relevant, a means to exchange and/or receive information transnationally among law enforcement agencies and/or judicial authorities on persons convicted of child sexual exploitation or abuse; (MC Decision 7/17, para 5)

Resources by keyword

On border:

OSCE OSR/CTHB, Commentary to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings and its Addendums, 2015, p. 50, 60, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/210391 (available in ENG and RUS)

On children:


On co-operation and partnerships:


OSCE OSR/CTHB, Enhancing Co-operation to Prevent Trafficking in Human Beings in the Mediterranean Region, 2013, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/108481 (available in ENG)

On judiciary:


On law enforcement:


On migration:


On policy development:


On sexual exploitation:


On technology:
OSCE OSR/CTHB, *The role of information and communication technology in the fight against trafficking in human beings*, End 2019, forthcoming

On tourism and travel:
2. Protection of children

Invites OSCE Partners for Co-operation to share voluntarily the commitments of the participating States on combating all forms of child trafficking, including for sexual exploitation, as well as other forms of sexual exploitation of children. (MC Decision 7/17, para 13)

Resources by keyword

On children:


OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, Provision of social services to various categories of trafficked persons, 2011, p. 80-105, https://www.osce.org/ukraine/93267 (available in UKR)

On co-operation and partnerships:

OSCE OSR/CTHB, Enhancing Co-operation to Prevent Trafficking in Human Beings in the Mediterranean Region, 2013, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/108481 (available in ENG)


On sexual exploitation:


OSCE OSR/CTHB, Trafficking in Human Beings Amounting to Torture and other Forms of Ill-treatment, 2013, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/103085 (available in ENG)
Strengthen national, regional and international co-operation for preventing and combating child trafficking, particularly with regard to reporting and sharing information, about child victims of trafficking, including those unaccompanied, in accordance their respective domestic laws, including concerning the protection of personal data; (MC Decision 6/18, para 10)

Resources by keyword

On children:


OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, Provision of social services to various categories of trafficked persons, 2011, p. 80-105, https://www.osce.org/ukraine/93267 (available in UKR)

On co-operation and partnerships:


OSCE OSR/CTHB, Enhancing Co-operation to Prevent Trafficking in Human Beings in the Mediterranean Region, 2013, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/108481 (available in ENG)


On prevention:


On unaccompanied children:


Consider the appointment of a national focal point to whom enquiries can be addressed by officials from other countries regarding child victims of trafficking, including those who went missing and/or whom they plan to return to in their respective country of origin; (MC Decision 6/18, para 11)

Resources by keyword

On children:


OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, Provision of social services to various categories of trafficked persons, 2011, p. 80-105, https://www.osce.org/ukraine/93267 (available in UKR)

On co-operation and partnerships:


OSCE OSR/CTHB, Enhancing Co-operation to Prevent Trafficking in Human Beings in the Mediterranean Region, 2013, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/108481 (available in ENG)


On National Referral Mechanism:


OSCE OSR/CTHB, Commentary to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings and its Addendums, 2015, p. 75-77, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/210391 (available in ENG and RUS)


On policy development:


On reintegration and/or repatriation:


Encourages co-operation among participating States, international organizations, and civil society in combating all forms of child trafficking, including for sexual exploitation, as well as other forms of sexual exploitation of children, taking note of their efforts to combat these crimes; (MC Decision 7/17, para 1)

**Resources by keyword**

**On children:**


OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, *Provision of social services to various categories of trafficked persons*, 2011, p. 80-105, [https://www.osce.org/ukraine/93267](https://www.osce.org/ukraine/93267) (available in UKR)

**On civil society:**


**On co-operation and partnerships:**


OSCE OSR/CTHB, *Trafficking in Human Beings Amounting to Torture and other Forms of Ill-treatment*, 2013, [https://www.osce.org/secretariat/103085](https://www.osce.org/secretariat/103085) (available in ENG)
Encourage law enforcement, or other relevant authorities, as appropriate, to co-operate with one another by collecting and exchanging information, in accordance with their respective domestic laws, including concerning the protection of personal data, about child victims of trafficking and those at risk of being subjected to human trafficking, for the purpose of strengthening their protection and addressing the issue of missing children; (MC Decision 6/18, para 9)

**Resources by keyword**

**On children:**


**On data and research:**


**On prevention:**


On protection and assistance:


On victim support:


OSCE OSR/CTHB, *Trafficking in Human Beings Amounting to Torture and other Forms of Ill-treatment*, 2013, [https://www.osce.org/secretariat/103085](https://www.osce.org/secretariat/103085) (available in ENG)

OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, *Provision of social services to various categories of trafficked persons*, 2011, p. 15-20, [https://www.osce.org/ukraine/93267](https://www.osce.org/ukraine/93267) (available in UKR)

Calls on participating States to share data, as appropriate and while protecting personal data from criminal use, concerning child trafficking and sexual exploitation of children with the Interpol International Child Sexual Exploitation (ICSE) image database, which is a hub for victim identification worldwide and also can help identify traffickers and their collaborators, and trace the financial flow to dismantle criminal networks; (MC Decision 7/17, para 9)

Resources by keyword

On children:


OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, *Provision of social services to various categories of trafficked persons*, 2011, p. 80-105, [https://www.osce.org/ukraine/93267](https://www.osce.org/ukraine/93267) (available in UKR)

On co-operation and partnerships:


On data and research:


On financial investigation:


On identification:


**On law enforcement:**


**On prosecution:**


**On sexual exploitation:**


OSCE OSR/CTHB, *Trafficking in Human Beings Amounting to Torture and other Forms of Ill-treatment*, 2013, [https://www.osce.org/secretariat/103085](https://www.osce.org/secretariat/103085) (available in ENG)

**On technology:**

OSCE OSR/CTHB, *The role of information and communication technology in the fight against trafficking in human beings*, End 2019, forthcoming
B. Action for OSCE institutions and bodies

Task the relevant OSCE executive structures, in accordance with their mandates, within available resources and in co-ordination with the OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, to continue assisting participating States, upon their request, in addressing all forms of child trafficking, by inter alia maximizing the existing knowledge basis and ensuring at the same time that no duplication of efforts and funded programmes occurs. (MC Decision 6/18, para 13)

Resources by keyword

**On children:**


OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, *Provision of social services to various categories of trafficked persons*, 2011, p. 80-105, [https://www.osce.org/ukraine/93267](https://www.osce.org/ukraine/93267) (available in UKR)

**On co-operation and partnerships:**

OSCE OSR/CTHB, Commentary to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings and its Addendums, 2015, p. 93-97, [https://www.osce.org/secretariat/210391](https://www.osce.org/secretariat/210391) (available in ENG and RUS)


Task the OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings and, as appropriate, other relevant executive structures in accordance with their mandates and in co-ordination with the OSCE Special Representative, to continue co-operation in the Alliance against Trafficking in Persons, and other regional and global platforms, inter alia, the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons; (MC Decision 6/17, para 14)

Resources by keyword

On co-operation and partnerships:


OSCE OSR/CTHB, Enhancing Co-operation to Prevent Trafficking in Human Beings in the Mediterranean Region, 2013, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/108481 (available in ENG)

Tasks the relevant OSCE executive structures in accordance with their mandates and in co-
ordination with the OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in
Human Beings to continue to assist participating States, upon their request, with implementation of
their commitments related to all forms of child trafficking, including for sexual exploitation, as well as
other forms of sexual exploitation of children; (MC Decision 7/17, para 12)

Resources by keyword

On children:

OSCE OSR/CTHB, Child Trafficking and Child Protection: Ensuring that Child
Protection Mechanisms Protect the Rights and Meet the Needs of Child
(available in ENG and RUS)

OSCE OSR/CTHB, Survey Report 2016 of Efforts to Implement OSCE
Commitments and Recommended Actions to Combat Trafficking in Human
ENG and RUS)

OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, Provision of social services to various
ukraine/93267 (available in UKR)

On co-operation and partnerships:

OSCE OSR/CTHB, Commentary to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat
Trafficking in Human Beings and its Addendums, 2015, p. 19-21, 28-29, 46-47,
55-59, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/210391 (available in ENG and RUS)

OSCE Transnational Threats Department, OSCE Resource Police Training
secretariat/109935 (available in ENG and RUS)

On sexual exploitation:

OSCE OSR/CTHB, Commentary to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat
Trafficking in Human Beings and its Addendums, 2015, p. 19-21, 28-29, 46-47,
55-59, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/210391 (available in ENG and RUS)

OSCE Transnational Threats Department, OSCE Resource Police Training
org/secretariat/109935 (available in ENG and RUS)

OSCE OSR/CTHB, Trafficking in Human Beings Amounting to Torture and
other Forms of Ill-treatment, 2013, https://www.osce.org/secretariat/103085
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| Labour exploitation | OSCE OSR/CTHB, Ending Exploitation. Ensuring that Businesses do not Contribute to Trafficking in Human Beings: Duties of States and the Private Sector, 2014, [https://www.osce.org/secretariat/126305](https://www.osce.org/secretariat/126305) (available in ENG and RUS)  
OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina, Trafficking in human beings for the purpose of labour exploitation - A reference paper for Bosnia and Herzegovina, 2011, [https://www.osce.org/bih/106977](https://www.osce.org/bih/106977) (available in BOS and ENG)  
| Labour inspectors | OSCE OSR/CTHB, Ending Exploitation. Ensuring that Businesses do not Contribute to Trafficking in Human Beings: Duties of States and the Private Sector, 2014, p. 43-44, 95, [https://www.osce.org/secretariat/126305](https://www.osce.org/secretariat/126305) (available in ENG and RUS)  
OSCE OSR/CTHB, Trafficking in Human Beings Amounting to Torture and other Forms of Ill-treatment, 2013, p. 9-44, [https://www.osce.org/secretariat/103085](https://www.osce.org/secretariat/103085) (available in ENG)  
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<p>| <strong>Technology</strong> | OSCE OSR/CTHB, <em>The role of information and communication technology in the fight against trafficking in human beings</em>, End 2019, forthcoming |</p>
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<th><strong>Trauma-informed approach</strong></th>
<th>OSCE OSR/CTHB, <em>Trafficking in Human Beings Amounting to Torture and other Forms of Ill-treatment</em>, 2013, <a href="https://www.osce.org/secretariat/103085">https://www.osce.org/secretariat/103085</a> (available in ENG)</th>
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DECISION No. 6/18
STRENGTHENING EFFORTS TO PREVENT AND COMBAT CHILD TRAFFICKING, INCLUDING OF UNACCOMPANIED MINORS

The Ministerial Council,

Gravely alarmed by the prevalence of trafficking in children, including those who are unaccompanied, in all its forms, including for the purpose of sexual exploitation, forced labour, forced criminality, forced marriage, and the removal of organs,

Reaffirming all OSCE commitments to combat child trafficking, contained in, in particular, Ministerial Council Decision No. 13/04 on the special needs for child victims of trafficking for protection and assistance; Ministerial Council Decision No. 15/06 on combating sexual exploitation of children; Ministerial Council Decisions No. 6/17 on strengthening efforts to prevent trafficking in human beings and No. 7/17 on strengthening efforts to combat all forms of child trafficking, including for sexual exploitation, as well as other forms of sexual exploitation of children; and also the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings (2003) and its 2005 and 2013 Addenda,

Noting the relevant provisions of pertinent international instruments, including the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and the UN Optional Protocol to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution, and Child Pornography; the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its supplementing Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children; and the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) of the International Labour Organization (ILO),

Deeply concerned about the large number of unaccompanied children who are vulnerable to human trafficking in recent years,

Acknowledging that the adoption of a victim-centred and trauma-informed approach that takes into account the respective gender-specific concerns of girls and boys and the best interests of the child, is paramount to effectively prevent and protect children from being subjected to trafficking in human beings,

Recognizing that collaboration among States, first line responders and civil society, can further help safeguard children, including those who are unaccompanied, from being subjected to human trafficking,

Recalling that in Ministerial Council Decision No. 7/17, the participating States expressed concern about the vulnerability of unaccompanied minors to human trafficking and encouraged participating States to raise public awareness of the vulnerabilities of children in migration flows, to all forms of child trafficking, and to increase the capacity and broaden the scope of first line responders to identify child victims of trafficking and provide such children with protection, as well as with appropriate assistance, effective remedies and other services as applicable under domestic law,

Commending participating States that adopt special legislative and other measures for the early identification, reception and protection of children vulnerable to human trafficking, including unaccompanied minors,

Recognizing the importance of the contribution of civil society, including religious organizations, in inter alia assisting the work of national authorities in preventing and combating all forms of child trafficking, through national anti-trafficking mechanisms, including National Referral Mechanisms, as appropriate,

Noting the 17th Alliance against Trafficking in Persons conference on “Trafficking in Children and the Best Interests of the Child” (2017) and the first OSCE Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting on “Child Trafficking: From Prevention to Protection” (2018),

Calls on the participating States to:

1. Adopt relevant measures so that all child victims of human trafficking are treated in line with the principle of non-discrimination, and in accordance with their individual needs and taking into account their best interests, providing opportunities for them to be heard, as appropriate, and upholding and protecting their human rights;

2. Adopt a victim-centred and trauma-informed approach that takes into account the respective gender-specific concerns of girls and boys and the best interests of the child, and fully respects the human rights and fundamental freedoms of children subjected to human trafficking;

3. Provide, as relevant, government service providers and agencies that come into contact with children with adequate guidance and training on how to properly identify, report, assist, and protect child victims of trafficking in an age-appropriate and manner that takes into account the respective gender-specific concerns of girls and boys, and consider the provision of relevant training to private sector actors that come into contact with child victims of trafficking;

4. Take measures to provide child victims of trafficking, when necessary, with a qualified and trained guardian or equivalent and/or a legal representative as a matter of priority, in order to safeguard the interests of child victims of trafficking, including those who are unaccompanied, and that their guardians and/or legal representatives are involved in procedures concerning their assistance and in finding durable and sustainable solutions for them;

5. Address the situation of child victims of trafficking, including those unaccompanied, within a child protection framework;
6. Promote national anti-trafficking mechanisms, including National Referral Mechanisms where they exist, and child protection systems where appropriate, that recognize the needs and rights of child victims of trafficking; incorporate victim-centred, trauma-informed and age-appropriate assistance; apply a multidisciplinary approach, respecting human rights, that takes into account the respective gender-specific concerns of girls and boys, and reflects, as appropriate, input and recommendations from survivors of human trafficking when providing immediate assistance and looking for durable and sustainable solutions; as well as establish referral channels that are appropriate for children;

7. Provide that, to the extent possible, any assessment of the needs of a child victim of trafficking takes into account his or her interests and views and the need for care, protection and safety;

8. Upon identification of a child as a victim of trafficking, or when there are reasonable grounds to believe that a child may have been subjected to trafficking, take appropriate action to keep the child safe, in particular by preventing sexual and other abuse, preventing re-victimization, in accordance with national laws, provide for the possibility of not imposing penalties on victims for their involvement in unlawful activities, to the extent that they have been compelled to do so, and by providing suitable rehabilitation, reintegration and/or repatriation programmes, where appropriate;

9. Encourage law enforcement, or other relevant authorities, as appropriate, to co-operate with one another by collecting and exchanging information, in accordance with their respective domestic laws, including concerning the protection of personal data, about child victims of trafficking and those at risk of being subjected to human trafficking, for the purpose of strengthening their protection and addressing the issue of missing children;

10. Strengthen national, regional and international co-operation for preventing and combating child trafficking, particularly with regard to reporting and sharing information, about child victims of trafficking, including those unaccompanied, in accordance their respective domestic laws, including concerning the protection of personal data;

11. Consider the appointment of a national focal point to whom enquiries can be addressed by officials from other countries regarding child victims of trafficking, including those who went missing and/or whom they plan to return to in their respective country of origin;

12. Promote efforts to prevent child trafficking, countering the culture of impunity, and reducing and addressing the demand which fosters all forms of exploitation;

13. Task the relevant OSCE executive structures, in accordance with their mandates, within available resources and in co-ordination with the OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, to continue assisting participating States, upon their request, in addressing all forms of child trafficking, by inter alia maximizing the existing knowledge basis and ensuring at the same time that no duplication of efforts and funded programmes occurs.

INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE

By the delegation of the Holy See:

“Mr. Chairperson,

The Holy See, while joining the consensus on the Ministerial Council decision on strengthening efforts to prevent and combat child trafficking, including of unaccompanied minors, wishes to make the following interpretative statement, under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the OSCE Rules of Procedure.

The family has a completely original, indispensable and irreplaceable role in raising children. Parents, in particular, have the primary responsibilities, rights and duties for rearing and guiding their children.

Therefore, the Holy See, reaffirming the importance of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, deems – in the light of the rights of the child and of those of his or her parents and family, enshrined in the above-mentioned Convention – that any assessment of the needs of a child, and any appropriate action to keep the child safe, cannot occur without respecting the primary and inalienable rights of the parents.

Appropriate arrangements and measures should be put in place to ensure that the principle of the best interests of the child and the role of the family, as the fundamental group of society concerned with the protection and well-being of children and adolescents, are a primary consideration in regard to all decisions having a fundamental impact on the life of a child.

We request that this interpretative statement be attached to the decision and annexed to the journal of the meeting under this item.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.”
Second day of the Twenty-Fourth Meeting
MC(24) Journal No. 2, Agenda item 7

DECISION No. 7/17
STRENGTHENING EFFORTS TO COMBAT ALL FORMS OF CHILD TRAFFICKING, INCLUDING FOR SEXUAL EXPLOITATION, AS WELL AS OTHER FORMS OF SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN

The Ministerial Council,


Reaffirming, if they are a party, the relevant provisions of pertinent international instruments, including the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and the UN Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, as well as the decisions and recommendations of pertinent international bodies,

Deeply alarmed by the persistence of all forms of child trafficking, both transnational and internal, including the trafficking of children for the purposes of sexual and labour exploitation, and reiterating the need to take more vigorous measures against it,

Reaffirming that the best interests of the child shall be a primary consideration in decisions taken with regard to trafficked or sexually exploited children, and the importance of respecting the special needs of children for protection and assistance, and the opportunity for the child to be heard,

Distressed that sexual exploitation of children can result in serious, lifelong consequences for the physical and psychological development and well-being of a child and, in many instances, is a form of human trafficking,

Recognizing that all forms of child trafficking, including for sexual exploitation, as well as other forms of sexual exploitation of children violate human dignity and undermine the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Considering that all forms of child trafficking, including for sexual exploitation, as well as other forms of sexual exploitation of children constitute grave and heinous crimes, in many cases involving organized crime, that must be prevented, investigated, prosecuted and penalized,

Recalling that the 2013 Addendum to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings calls on participating States to develop and implement policies and actions, including law enforcement co-operation between participating States, to prevent the tourism industry from being used for all forms of trafficking in human beings, in particular for sexual exploitation of children,

Acknowledging that the sexual exploitation of children in travel and tourism, which can include travel from one country to another, is a serious crime and contributes to the demand that fosters trafficking in children for sexual exploitation,

Commending participating States that are working with the travel and tourism industry, including airlines and other modes of transportation, as well as hotels, the broader hospitality industry, civil society, and relevant international organizations to prevent all forms of child trafficking, including for sexual exploitation, as well as other forms of sexual exploitation of children, and to establish and implement procedures for identifying, reporting and addressing suspected child trafficking,

Underlining that information and communications technologies (ICTs) can play a positive educational, developmental, and awareness-raising role for children, but can also be misused to facilitate access to children for exploitation or for advertisement of children for sexual exploitation, and that social media platforms can be misused to groom children who may be subjected to sexual exploitation as well as all forms of child trafficking,

Recalling that the 2013 Addendum to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings calls on participating States to train border officials, law enforcement officials, judges, prosecutors, immigration, and other relevant officials regarding the use of the Internet and other information and communication technologies for human trafficking and related crimes, including all forms of child trafficking and sexual exploitation of children,

Concerned that children who access pornography on the Internet may become desensitized to it and more likely to become a victim of or perpetrate sexual exploitation,

Taking note that new forms of age verification technologies have been developed over the last decade and could help protect children from accessing pornography on the Internet,

Expressing concern that children in migration flows, particularly unaccompanied minors, can be particularly vulnerable to human trafficking and sexual exploitation and that specialized facilities, adequate security, training for and sufficient numbers of staff, as well as of female patrollers, can mitigate these risks,
1. Encourages co-operation among participating States, international organizations, and civil society in combating all forms of child trafficking, including for sexual exploitation, as well as other forms of sexual exploitation of children, taking note of their efforts to combat these crimes;

2. Encourages participating States to adopt a victim-centred and trauma-informed approach that takes into account the respective gender-specific concerns of girls and boys, in the best interests of the child, and fully respects the human rights and fundamental freedoms of children subjected to human trafficking or sexual exploitation;

3. Calls on OSCE participating States which have not already done so to consider legal measures that would allow them to prosecute their citizens for serious sexual crimes against children, even if these crimes are committed in another country;

4. Calls on OSCE participating States to prevent all forms of child trafficking and sexual exploitation of children, including in tourist destinations, through education and awareness-raising, and to work with the private sector and civil society to raise awareness among the tourism industry, as well as business travellers and tourists, to help eliminate demand that fuels child trafficking and sexual exploitation of children;

5. Calls on OSCE participating States to strengthen co-operation and co-ordination among relevant authorities, such as law enforcement and immigration and border services of participating States, Partners for Co-operation, and destination States outside the OSCE region, including through considering measures, in full accordance with national laws and national and international data protection frameworks, such as:

   (a) Adopting additional administrative measures in relation to perpetrators, such as the registration in sex offender registers of persons convicted of child sexual exploitation or abuse, as appropriate;

   (b) Where relevant, a means to exchange and/or receive information transnationally among law enforcement agencies and/or judicial authorities on persons convicted of child sexual exploitation or abuse;

6. Urges participating States to prosecute human traffickers and perpetrators of sexual exploitation of children, including those who misuse information and communication technologies to recruit children or facilitate access to children for the purpose of subjecting them to trafficking or sexual exploitation, and impose penalties that are effective, dissuasive, and proportionate to the crime;

7. Calls on participating States which have not already done so to promote the implementation of age verification technologies with a view to limit the access of children to pornographic websites;

8. Encourages participating States to call on information and communication technologies and social media companies to prevent the distribution of and take down child sexual abuse content online, and to protect children by combating grooming by human traffickers online for all forms of child trafficking as well as other sexual exploitation of children, including through the development of new tools and technologies;

9. Calls on participating States to share data, as appropriate and while protecting personal data from criminal use, concerning child trafficking and sexual exploitation of children with the Interpol International Child Sexual Exploitation (ICSE) image database, which is a hub for victim identification worldwide and also can help identify traffickers and their collaborators, and trace the financial flow to dismantle criminal networks;

10. Calls on participating States to enhance further specialized training on information and communications technologies for border officials, law enforcement officials, judges, prosecutors, immigration and other relevant officials as well as teachers and health professionals, as appropriate, to combat all forms of child trafficking as well as other sexual exploitation of children;

11. Encourages participating States to raise public awareness on the vulnerabilities of children in migration flows to all forms of child trafficking, including for sexual exploitation, as well as other forms of sexual exploitation of children, to increase the capacity and broaden the scope of first line responders to identify child victims of trafficking and other sexual exploitation, and provide them with protection, as well as appropriate assistance and referrals for legal assistance as well as effective remedies and other services as applicable, in line with the relevant provisions of the 2013 Addendum to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings;

12. Tasks the relevant OSCE executive structures in accordance with their mandates and in co-ordination with the OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings to continue to assist participating States, upon their request, with implementation of their commitments related to all forms of child trafficking, including for sexual exploitation, as well as other forms of sexual exploitation of children;

13. Invites OSCE Partners for Co-operation to share voluntarily the commitments of the participating States on combating all forms of child trafficking, including for sexual exploitation, as well as other forms of sexual exploitation of children.
INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE

By the delegation of the Russian Federation:

"In joining the consensus regarding the OSCE Ministerial Council decision on strengthening efforts to combat all forms of child trafficking, including for sexual exploitation, as well as other forms of sexual exploitation of children, we should like to express our satisfaction at the adoption of a document on such an important topic as countering trafficking in children, which, as we have repeatedly emphasized, is a priority for our country. We are grateful to our United States, Belarusian and Italian colleagues for such an important initiative.

However, we express disappointment that our proposal on the importance of protecting children not only from pornographic content, but also from other forms of harmful information, which threatens their life, physical and mental health, and also increases the risk of them falling victim to exploiters, was not included in the decision. We believe it necessary to further reflect these aspects in similar documents.

At the same time, we should like to emphasize that in the light of the importance of the issues considered in the document, we expect the participating States to implement it in its entirety.

We request that this statement be appended to the decision adopted and the journal of the day."
SECOND day of the Twenty-Fourth Meeting
MC(24) Journal No. 2, Agenda item 7

STRENGTHENING EFFORTS TO PREVENT TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS

The Ministerial Council,

Reaffirming that trafficking in human beings is a grave and heinous crime that violates human dignity and that all aspects of combating human trafficking should be firmly based on the rule of law and respect for human rights,

Reaffirming our strongest condemnation of all forms of trafficking in human beings, including for the purpose of labour and sexual exploitation, child trafficking, forced criminality, as well as for the purpose of organ removal, and recognizing that the prevention of this crime is a priority,

Reaffirming also our commitment to addressing factors that make persons more vulnerable to trafficking and emphasizing the importance of a cross-dimensional and comprehensive approach to combating trafficking in human beings, which requires a focus on carrying out effective prevention measures,

Recalling the 2003 OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings and its Addenda, which stress the importance of comprehensive prevention measures, including measures to address demand, and reaffirming all OSCE commitments in the field of combating human trafficking,

Reiterating our support for the effective implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its supplementing Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, as the international legal framework for combating trafficking in persons, and the importance of the implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons,

Recalling the relevance for the prevention of and fight against trafficking in human beings of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as well as the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989) if they are a party,

Noting that enhanced judicial and law enforcement co-operation and co-ordination among participating States and Partners for Co-operation, including effective border security and management may contribute to preventing human trafficking, inter alia, by disrupting and dismantling related transnational criminal organizations and by prosecuting the perpetrators,

Stressing the importance of the implementation of international labour standards as applicable within efforts to prevent human trafficking and taking note of international labour instruments, such as the 2014 Protocol to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29), the 2014 Forced Labour (Supplementary Measures) Recommendations (No. 203) and the Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189) and its Recommendation (No. 201) which also contain good practices on prevention of human trafficking for labour exploitation,

Commending participating States that require contractors supplying goods and services to the government to take effective and appropriate steps to address the risks of human trafficking in their supply chains, including steps that aim to prevent subcontractors and employees from participating in activities known to lead to human trafficking. Also commending those States that encourage the private sector to consider the risks of human trafficking in their own operations and in those of their subcontractors and suppliers, aiming to ensure that they address risks proactively,

Recognizing the contribution of civil society, including religious organizations, in preventing trafficking in human beings, and in assisting its victims,

Calls on participating States to:

1. Develop targeted prevention policies based on, as appropriate, enhanced research and systematically gathered reliable information, including with the support of national mechanisms, such as national rapporteurs where they exist, in order to maximize the effect and impact of anti-trafficking efforts at the national and international level;

2. Promote dialogue and co-operation among governments, international organizations, civil society, and the private sector, including businesses, and trade unions and employers organizations as social partners, with a view to enhance efforts to prevent human trafficking, inter alia through increasing awareness of each actor’s role and through facilitating the exchange of information on human trafficking among countries of origin, transit and destination, including the Partners for Co-operation, and recognizing the importance of the voice of victims of human trafficking in elaborating effective anti-trafficking strategies;

3. Continue to use the OSCE as a platform for dialogue on judicial and law enforcement co-operation, border security and management as an important element to prevent trafficking in human beings;

4. Promote multi-agency, cross-sectorial and multinational capacity-building programmes that foster measures to prevent human trafficking in all of its forms, with a particular focus on factors that make people vulnerable to trafficking;

5. Take appropriate measures for effectively combating human trafficking, by developing harmonized procedures and training courses, inter alia on identification and protection of trafficking victims, including for relevant authorities, civil society organizations, health care and social workers as well as others that may have first contact with victims;
6. Strengthen education and awareness-raising efforts, including human rights education, and develop and implement empowerment programmes which take into account the particular needs of women, men, girls and boys, in order to enhance the capacity to recognize, prevent and fight human trafficking within communities;

7. Adopt a victim-centred, trauma-informed and, in that respect and in line with Ministerial Council Decision No. 14/06, gender-sensitive approach, that fully respects human rights and fundamental freedoms in all preventive and assistance efforts;

8. Recognize the important contribution that media can make to the prevention of human trafficking, *inter alia*, through the adoption of voluntary professional standards to responsibly and sensitively cover cases of human trafficking;

9. Identify, develop and share best practices, including as contained in the 2013 Addendum to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings: One Decade Later, for successful national and global partnerships between the public and private sector in combating human trafficking, to promote respect for human rights and corporate social responsibility, including through public awareness-raising about the risk of human trafficking in production and sources of goods and provision of services;

10. Encourage the private sector to adopt policies and procedures to prevent all forms of human trafficking, to be actively involved in multi-stakeholder efforts, to develop awareness about the risks of human trafficking and to take into account best practices such as establishing independent monitoring, verification and certification mechanisms to document compliance with and implementation of codes of conduct or self-established ethical standards, including through providing incentives for businesses to act with due diligence and transparency to prevent the abuse and exploitation of workers throughout their supply chains and to enable a level playing field for responsible companies;

11. Promote policies, in complementarity with national legislation, that take into account whether businesses are taking appropriate and effective steps to address the risks of human trafficking, including with regards to their subcontractors and employees, when considering the awarding of government contracts for goods and services;

12. Take appropriate measures to identify and eradicate the abusive and fraudulent recruitment and employment practices which can lead to trafficking for labour exploitation, sexual exploitation, or other forms of trafficking, including measures to promote clear criteria for the official registration of recruitment and placement agencies and through reinforcing the role of competent authorities, such as labour inspectors;

13. Promote measures to prevent and address the use of forced labour by diplomatic and other personnel of diplomatic missions and consular posts and international organizations, and promote a zero-tolerance policy for trafficking by such personnel, and take into account international best practices as compiled, for example, in the OSCE Handbook on how to prevent human trafficking for domestic servitude in diplomatic households and protect private domestic workers, and noting that many such measures are consistent with the Vienna Conventions on Diplomatic Relations and Consular Relations as well as headquarter agreements of international organizations and recognizing that the Vienna Conventions include a duty to respect the laws and regulations of the receiving State, including those designed to prevent and address human trafficking;

14. Task the OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings and, as appropriate, other relevant executive structures in accordance with their mandates and in co-operation with the OSCE Special Representative, to continue co-operation in the Alliance against Trafficking in Persons, and other regional and global platforms, *inter alia*, the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons;

15. Encourage the relevant executive structures in accordance with their mandates and in co-operation with the OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, to continue undertaking research, in consultation with the participating States, to conduct capacity-building activities, to assist participating States, upon their request, in developing policies and guidelines to strengthen efforts to prevent human trafficking;

16. Task the Secretary General to review existing policies, audit and reporting procedures and recruitment safeguards, and to ensure that no activities of the OSCE executive structures, including the issuing of contracts for goods and services, contribute to any form of trafficking in human beings, in accordance with the 2013 Addendum to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings, and to report on this review and on the implementation of the OSCE Code of Conduct, Appendix 1 to Staff Regulations and Rules to the Permanent Council.
By the delegation of Canada (also on behalf of the United States of America):

“Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

In connection with the adoption of the decision, Canada, also on behalf of the United States, would like to make the following interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the OSCE Rules of Procedure.

The United States and Canada strongly support this decision. Human trafficking is one of the most egregious crimes of our time, which robs human beings of their freedom and their dignity. We must all unite to end the scourge of human trafficking.

We believe it is a priority to ensure that the rights of victims are protected, that they are not re-traumatized or endangered, and that their privacy and dignity is respected.

In this decision, we recognize the important contribution that media can make in preventing human trafficking.

It is therefore in this particular context that we accepted the wording concerning media. We do not view “responsibly” used in this context as reflecting any intention of participating States to direct or dictate journalistic or editorial content, and our acceptance of the word “responsibly” in this context does not create a precedent for its use in another context, and certainly not in the overall context of the media.

We reiterate our unwavering support for freedom of expression and independence of the media.

I request that this interpretative statement be attached to the decision and to the journal of the day.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.”