



*Restoring
Broken
Dreams*

2018 EUROPEAN REPORT

ON THE ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING WORK OF
THE SALVATION ARMY ACROSS EUROPE



/ THE SALVATION ARMY **EU AFFAIRS OFFICE** /

Restarting Broken Dreams



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*We are grateful for
and proud of all those who are
involved in fighting with us*



MAJOR MIKE STANNETT

HEAD OF THE SALVATION ARMY EU AFFAIRS OFFICE

THE SALVATION ARMY throughout Europe is continuing to develop its fight against human trafficking. There is a strong element of forces of goodness fighting against, greed, corruption, cruelty, exploitation and in some case outright wickedness.

The exploitation and enslavement of one human being by another is wickedness, matched only matched by the ignorance and complacency of a society which in most cases turns a blind eye.

This report shows the variety of services and actions taken by The Salvation Army, aimed at helping victims, supporting survivors, reducing demand, raising awareness, plus lobbying and advocacy at national and international levels. Good practices such as the 'Safe Heavens' project in The Netherlands, the Green Light project in Greece or the Job Verification Service in Poland are just a few examples of how The Salvation Army is committed to finding different approaches and strategies to tackle this rampant phenomenon.

As the EU Affairs Office, we will provide recommendations and proposals for future actions. It is also important to recognise the risks, understanding the push factors, such as poverty in and outside of Europe, the economic and political climate. These also have their influence on human trafficking and modern slavery.

We are grateful for and proud of all those who are involved in fighting with us – staff, volunteers, partners and friends who help us in our work and ministry.

*Restart
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We share our work ... in the hope that it may inspire you to join us in the fight against the exploitation of human beings

JEROEN HOOGTEIJLING

CHAIR OF THE EUROPEAN
ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE

OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS The Salvation Army in Europe carried out the 'Safe Havens' project to strengthen transnational cooperation with the aim to provide 'safe havens' for (potential) victims of trafficking. This project, with a specific focus on strengthening the anti-human trafficking work in Eastern Europe (Romania, Moldova, Ukraine, Georgia, Russia), has been funded with support from the European Commission. Other focal points in this project were the development of a support programme for victims without legal status, a care-programme for Roma minor victims of trafficking, a training manual

for frontline workers dealing with risks of trafficking among refugees and an educational film project as part of an international training programme for our staff and network partners.

The 'Safe Havens' project is just one example of how The Salvation Army is building its capacity to effectively respond to the needs of (potential) victims of trafficking.

The work of The Salvation Army anti-human trafficking network in the Europe Zone has grown since its launch in 2013, as can be evidenced by the many broken lives we serve throughout Europe. On a daily basis we witness despair, poverty, pain-filled lives, fear and brokenness. To the best of our abilities we side with (potential) victims, trying to support them in finding a way out, seeking to reintegrate them into their community, reaffirming their God-given human dignity.

Through this report we share our work and give our testimony in the hope that it may inspire you to join us in the fight against the exploitation of human beings as modern-day slaves.

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INTRODUCTION

About this report

The Salvation Army, motivated by its Christian faith to do justice, has a long history of working with people who are vulnerable, marginalised and exploited across the world. Prevention, protection and care for victims of trafficking are part of its global mission and have been since The Salvation Army's beginnings in the late 19th century. With a ministry in 131 countries worldwide, including in 22 of the 28 EU Member States, The Salvation Army is active in source, transit and destination countries and is uniquely placed to respond to the issue of human trafficking.

The aim of this publication is to display the work of The Salvation Army throughout Europe, and its efforts against trafficking in human beings, in order to get an overview of what work is done where. After a first edition in 2016, we have chosen to publish an updated version of this 'mapping', to include new projects which have been started and new countries where activities are now carried out or being planned.

We aim to summarise some of the challenges we face in this field of work, whether they be internal or external to the organisation. By identifying these challenges, we believe this publication will be useful to our own staff, as well as to policy makers and partner organisations in Europe: a tool to better learn from each other, exchange ideas and explain what we do, as well as a document that records the features and challenges of this action in different countries.

In this report we also include several personal testimonies from survivors of trafficking. This is not simply about proving the positive results of our work (although we hope to do that too), it is about giving a voice to those who have been voiceless and reinstating hope and restoring dignity to the survivors of the great evil that is human trafficking.

We aim to summarise some of the challenges we face in this field of work, whether they be internal or external to the organisation



This report has been drafted by The Salvation Army EU Affairs Office together with The Salvation Army's European AHT (Anti-Human Trafficking) Task Force. It is intended to support the advocacy work of the office at EU level as well as through the European AHT Network. The report should be used to help communicate and make visible the work undertaken by The Salvation Army in this field specifically to European decision-makers and European partners. For this reason, recommendations are included, made by our national experts working at grass roots/national level who have experience in the provision of anti-trafficking services as well and in advocacy and awareness raising.

On a practical level, this mapping report serves to strengthen our European AHT Network. By collecting information about successful projects and ways of working, the hope is that this mapping report supports mutual learning in The Salvation Army and that National Contact Persons (referred to from here on as NCPs) as well as Salvation Army leaders can be inspired by what colleagues in other countries are doing and will consider developing and advancing their own AHT work. For this reason, in Annex 2 we have included an updated list of National Contact Persons responsible for questions on AHT.

The contents of this report (namely country reports, challenges, and recommendations) have come from the NCPs who were sent a questionnaire to complete.

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

People trafficking is the fastest-growing means by which people are enslaved, the fastest-growing international crime and one of the largest sources of income for organised crime (*The UN Office on Drugs and Crime*)

It is widely accepted that human trafficking is a modern-day form of slavery. Reports show that millions of people around the world are subjected to either **prostitution/sexual exploitation** or **forced labour**. Other forms of exploitation involve forcing victims to **beg** and removing and **selling their organs**, although they are less common. Trafficking in human beings is often linked to other forms of **organised crime** and the UN estimates it is the second-biggest source of illicit profit after the drugs trade.

The Salvation Army uses the following UN definition of trafficking: *'Trafficking in persons' shall mean the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs.*



Migration and the refugee crisis

Migrants and internally displaced persons fleeing situations of conflict, abuse and crisis are particularly vulnerable to human trafficking – whether at home, in transit or upon reaching their destination. There is strong evidence that Europe's recent migration crisis has been exploited by criminal networks involved in trafficking in human beings to target the most vulnerable people, in particular women and children. Fuelled mainly by wars in the Middle East and conflict in Libya, the migration crisis has given trafficking gangs new opportunities for criminal exploitation. Furthermore, according to the European Commission's recent report¹, the phenomenon of **child trafficking** has been exacerbated by the ongoing migration crisis. A significant number of children seeking refuge are unaccompanied minors, and their vulnerability makes them an ideal target for the traffickers. Moreover, reports reveal that child trafficking for forced criminality and sexual exploitation is on the increase.

Research suggests that reception facilities in some Member States have been targeted, including cases where up to 60 per cent of **unaccompanied children have gone missing**, with a serious risk of them falling prey to trafficking networks. Europol indicates that there is a strong crossover between those smuggling refugees across borders and gangs trapping people for exploitation in the sex trade or as forced labour.

A number of Member States have also reported an increase in **male victims trafficked for labour exploitation**. This could also be seen as a result of the **economic crisis** whereby demand for cheap labour has increased for people trafficked into the EU to carry out unpaid or very low-paid work, living in conditions that violate their human rights. Austerity measures carried out by national governments as a response to the global financial crisis have also adversely affected the capacities of social services as public spending has been reduced in this area across a number of Member States. This again has created more vulnerable people at risk or experiencing poverty and therefore becoming easier targets for traffickers.

¹ Report on the progress made in the fight against trafficking in human beings (2016) COM (2016) 267 final

The picture of human-trafficking globally

- At any given time in 2016, an estimated 40.3 million people were in modern slavery, including 24.9 million in forced labour and 15.4 million in forced marriage.
- This means there are 5.4 victims of modern slavery for every 1,000 people in the world.
- 1 in 4 victims of modern slavery is a child.
- Out of the 24.9 million people trapped in forced labour, 16 million people are exploited in the private sector such as domestic work, construction or agriculture; 4.8 million persons in forced sexual exploitation; and 4 million persons in forced labour imposed by state authorities.
- Women and girls are disproportionately affected by forced labour, accounting for 99 per cent of victims in the commercial sex industry and 58 per cent in other sectors.

Source, ILO, Global Estimates of Modern Slavery, Geneva, September 2017

Data is an important tool to help ensure accountability of actions taken to address trafficking in human beings. And while there is growing recognition and awareness of the scale of the problem of human trafficking, there are still many 'dark numbers' and reliable data missing.

The European Commission report also points out that there are many challenges that remain to be addressed in gathering reliable data, such as different definitions being used, a wide range of actors that collect data, different methods for identification of victims, the complexity of the crime itself and the fact that many traffickers are convicted for other forms of crime rather than trafficking in human beings.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), adopted by global leaders at a United Nations summit in September 2015, specifically mention human trafficking in the targets of three goals – 5, 8, and 16 – condemning respectively 'all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation' (5.2); 'forced labour, modern slavery and human trafficking' and calling for the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and for an end child labour in all its forms by 2025 (8.7). In addition, target 16.2 calls for the nations to 'end abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children'.

5 GENDER EQUALITY



8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



HOW AND WHY THE SALVATION ARMY WORKS ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING

The Salvation Army EU Affairs Office

Based in Brussels, the EU Affairs Office represents the international Salvation Army's Europe Zone as part of the worldwide Salvation Army. The goal of the EU Affairs Office is to provide an EU-level platform for The Salvation Army to relate to the EU and to enable the Army to engage in advocacy, representing the organisation as well as the people it serves.

The Salvation Army EU Affairs Office carries out advocacy and awareness-raising activities, targeting mainly the European institutions but also other civil society organisations and individuals of the general public. It aims to identify pan-European challenges and to bring a cohesive response to those challenges. It also brings its expertise to the table in relevant areas of EU affairs among the European institutions and other civil society organisations and aims to highlight The Salvation Army's grass-roots work done across Europe to decision-makers in Brussels. The EU Affairs Office supports mutual learning among its European counterparts through the sharing of learning resources and expertise, as well as the exchange of knowledge and information on relevant EU policy developments, events and funding opportunities. The issue of human trafficking is one of its priority policy areas, so therefore the EU Affairs Office sits on the European AHT Task Force.

The EU Affairs Office has an **EU-AHT advocacy strategy of eight overarching goals:**

1. Have The Salvation Army recognised as a key player in AHT in Europe;
2. Monitor the situation across Europe and inform EU decision-makers and the wider public;
3. Influence the EU AHT strategy (post-2016);
4. Raise awareness about issues of human trafficking among EU decision-makers;
5. Provide examples of good practice to EU decision-makers, NGOs and academia;
6. Seek out sources of EU funding for The Salvation Army's work in AHT;
7. Develop and communicate specific EU-level policy recommendations;
8. Help support the development of our own internal expertise in AHT (capacity building and information).

European Anti-Human Trafficking Network and Task Force

The Salvation Army facilitates a basic infrastructure for reconnection programmes for survivors of trafficking. Its Europe-wide structure is based on a network of AHT **National Contact Persons** (NCPs) offering various levels of support to survivors of trafficking. The Salvation Army facilitates a range of different services and activities in both sending and receiving countries.

In 2013 The Salvation Army formed a **European Anti-Human Trafficking Network of National Contact Persons** to respond to the problem through a united and coordinated approach that works across borders and boundaries. The work of the network is guided and supported by the European Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force which meets several times a year.

The appointed NCPs (and, where possible, National Task Forces) are committed to implementing actions and coordinating national efforts to:

- **Prevent trafficking** through advocacy, education, training and poverty alleviation;
- **Protect survivors of trafficking**, offering practical help and support (outreach programmes, safe houses for survivors);
- **Reintegrate survivors of trafficking**, helping them to rebuild their lives in their community and assisting them in finding economic alternatives to provide for their livelihoods.

The Salvation Army EU Affairs Office ... aims to highlight The Salvation Army's grass-roots work done across Europe to decision-makers in Brussels

Cheap prices come at a high cost: designing a Europe-wide anti-trafficking campaign

The Salvation Army has always been strong in its advocacy, campaigning and practical responses to stop trafficking. For The Salvation Army in Europe the time has come to speak out on behalf of the thousands of (potential) victims of trafficking in its care, to challenge the evil of modern-day slavery in societies and to call for transformation.

The Salvation Army in Europe has recently decided to launch a three-year pan-Europe anti-human trafficking campaign, to increase awareness and to mobilise people across Europe to challenge the ongoing evil of modern-day slavery in their societies.

The campaign, with a pan-Europe umbrella message targets various groups, including potential victims (in mainly Eastern European countries) as well as citizens, consumers of services and predominantly young adults who can make a change in their generation.

Objectives of the pan-Europe anti-human trafficking campaign are to reduce the recruitment of victims in supply countries and to stop the demand in receiving countries by creating increased awareness of modern-day slavery and mobilising people to make a change.

Campaign concept

The campaign concept, 'Cheap prices come at high cost – the cost of human freedom', will use social media adverts in a clever way to reach a wide audience (mostly younger generation) to alert them to the risks behind 'great job offers' (prevention of recruitment of victims) and on the possible human tragedy of modern-day slavery behind 'cheap products' (stopping the demand).

People are given information about the true stories of modern-day slavery behind these seemingly lucrative adverts and are called to action (to inform them, to transform their lifestyle, to support The Salvation Army, to make a change in their communities and societies). The campaign will be developed by an external agency and will be coordinated and monitored by a joint campaign taskforce from The Salvation Army Europe Anti-Human Trafficking Network and Communication Network. The campaign is planned to be launched in October 2018.

International AHT Task Force

Since July 2015 The Salvation Army has an International AHT Task Force with the purpose of promoting, encouraging, supporting and coordinating an anti-human trafficking response within The Salvation Army around the world. A representative of the European AHT Task Force also has a permanent seat on this international Task Force to ensure a link between the work of the European network and the global work of the Army. It aims to:

- Be a resource for information about human trafficking and anti-human trafficking responses around the world, both by The Salvation Army and other organisations;
- Develop guidelines and minimum standards for anti-human trafficking work within The Salvation Army internationally;
- Encourage communication and sharing of best practice and lessons learnt between communities of practice, both within and between Salvation Army territories;
- Facilitate the coordination of anti-trafficking responses between territories where appropriate;
- Provide resources that educate and support The Salvation Army in an anti-human trafficking response (including posters, information leaflets, Bible studies, prayer resources and the website);
- Develop partnerships with other organisations involved in anti-human trafficking work at an international level.

Annual Day of Prayer for Victims of Human Trafficking

A Day of Prayer for Victims of Human Trafficking is held every year on the last Sunday of September. On this appointed day Salvation Army centres and churches across the world hold awareness-raising activities and offer prayers for the victims of trafficking, providing an opportunity for local church communities to gather and reflect on human trafficking, learning how they can directly help to eradicate it.

The website of The Salvation Army's International Headquarter provides a number of resources for teaching, as well as resources for communities to get involved in the fight against human trafficking. For more information go to www.salvationarmy.org/ihq/antitrafficking

restore broken dreams



SUNDAY
23 SEPTEMBER
2018

ANNUAL DAY
OF PRAYER FOR

**VICTIMS OF
HUMAN
TRAFFICKING**



Where The Salvation Army works on anti-human trafficking in Europe



Why The Salvation Army works on anti-human trafficking

The Salvation Army is deeply committed to fighting human trafficking however it may be manifested. It seeks to exercise care in restoring the freedom and dignity of those affected. Human trafficking is contrary to the principles of freedom and dignity. The exploitation of human beings dehumanises the individuals who are trafficked, rewards the inhumanity of the traffickers and weakens the moral and social fabric of society at large.

Restoring dignity to persons who have been exploited is not easy, and the danger of paternalising trafficked victims in the name of aiding them must be kept in mind. Traffickers need to be stopped and held accountable, but they also need people who will help them to a transformation of heart and mind. The Salvation Army is opposed to the corrupt abuse of power against other human beings that is inherent in trafficking for personal economic gain. It therefore has the responsibility, both individually and collectively, to work for the liberation of those who have been enslaved in this manner and to establish the legal and social mechanisms by which human trafficking can be stopped.

Basing its views on the Bible, The Salvation Army believes that humankind is created in the image of God (Genesis

1:26). Therefore all people are valuable to God, holding a special place in God's creation (Psalm 8:5). The Bible teaches that nobody should be exploited or damaged. Psalm 10 describes the wickedness of those who entrap others and the psalmist calls on God to intervene. This psalm is as relevant now as it was when it was written, many years before the birth of Jesus. Isaiah 42:22 says: 'But this is a people plundered and looted, all of them trapped in pits or hidden away in prisons. They have become plunder, with no one to rescue them; they have been made loot, with no one to say, "Send them back"' (*New International Version*). Joel 3:3 says: 'They cast lots for my people and traded boys for prostitutes; they sold girls for wine to drink.' Jesus taught that no one should live in physical or spiritual bondage. He said, 'The Lord has sent me to announce freedom for prisoners, to give sight to the blind, to free everyone who suffers, and to say, "This is the year the Lord has chosen"' (Luke 4:18-19 *Contemporary English Version*). He was referencing Isaiah 61:1-2.

See The Salvation Army's international website for its [International Positional Statement on Human Trafficking](http://www.salvationarmy.org/ihq/positionalstatements)
www.salvationarmy.org/ihq/positionalstatements

THE EUROPEAN FRAMEWORK

The EU

The legal and policy framework to address human trafficking at EU level was established in 2011 by Directive 2011/36/EU on preventing and combating the trafficking of human beings (THB) and protecting its victims. Then, in June 2012, the European Commission adopted a Communication on the EU Strategy Towards the Eradication of Trafficking in Human Beings 2012–2016 to support the implementation of the EU Directive 2011/36 and to set up a harmonised approach in realising this.

Periodical reports of the **European Parliament** have monitored the advancement of this implementation, and the state of trafficking in human beings in Europe.

An EU Anti-Trafficking Coordinator was appointed by the Commission to provide strategic policy orientation, to ensure consistent and coordinated planning among the Member States and third parties, as well as to monitor the implementation of the EU Strategy. The EU Strategy 2012–2016 identified five priorities to focus on:

1. Identifying, protecting and assisting victims of trafficking;
2. Stepping up the prevention of trafficking in human beings;
3. Increased prosecution of traffickers;
4. Enhanced coordination and cooperation among key actors and policy coherence;
5. Increased knowledge of and effective response to emerging concerns related to all forms of trafficking in human beings.

One of the actions in this EU strategy is to develop, together with the Member States, an EU-wide system for the collection and publication of data broken down according to age and gender. National Rapporteurs (or equivalent mechanisms) have been appointed and are responsible for monitoring the implementation of anti-trafficking policy at the national level and have a key role in data collection on trafficking in human beings at national and EU level. The tasks of such mechanisms include the carrying out of assessments of trends in trafficking in human beings and the measuring of results of anti-trafficking actions, including the gathering of statistics **in close cooperation with relevant civil society organisations** active in this field. Therefore, The Salvation Army (as part of civil society) is eligible to be consulted as part of this monitoring mechanism.

Periodical reports of the European Parliament have monitored the advancement of this implementation

During the past five years, the office of the EU Anti-Trafficking Coordinator has intensified its cooperation with civil society organisations engaged in the fight against trafficking, establishing the EU Civil Society Platform Against Trafficking in Human Beings (THB), which gathers twice per year, bringing together 100 European NGOs and organisations operating in this sector. A wider number of organisations take part in an online platform, where civil society organisations are consulted to comment on policy initiatives and send direct inputs concerning the implementation of the Directive. Since 2017, the EU Affairs Office of The Salvation Army represents all of the European territories in this platform, attending its events.

In this time, the EU Affairs Office has responded to consultations on the implementation of the 2011 directive on preventing and combating the trafficking of human beings (THB) and protecting its victims and, more recently, in a collection of opinions for victims' compensation.



The Council of Europe

In 2005, the Council of Europe adopted a **Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings** (ECAT), which entered into force on 1 February 2008. Today, all of the 47 member countries of the Council of Europe have ratified the Convention. ECAT's main focus is its human rights perspective and focus on victim protection, which goes beyond the minimum standards agreed in other existing international instruments. Due to its comprehensiveness, The Salvation Army finds it to be in line with its mission to fight for human dignity.

The main added value of the Convention is its human rights perspective and focus on victim protection. While building on existing international instruments, the Convention strengthens the protection afforded to victims.

Another added value of the Convention is the monitoring system set up to supervise the implementation of the obligations contained in it, which consists of two pillars: the Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA), which is responsible for monitoring the implementation of the convention; and the Committee of the Parties. Furthermore, the Convention is not restricted to Council of Europe member states: non-member states and the European Union also have the possibility of becoming Party to the Convention. Therefore, although less enforceable, its reach goes further than the EU Directive.

GRETA, which meets in plenary sessions three times a year, carries out visits and draws up and publishes country reports evaluating legislative and other measures taken by parties to give effect to the provisions of the Convention. The Convention of the Council of Europe also states that governments must cooperate with civil society, therefore The Salvation Army should be taking advantage of this opportunity for consultation, contacting the responsible ministry to ask to be invited to GRETA meetings. GRETA reports and recommendations, like the ones from the European Commission, are powerful instruments for Salvation Army territories involved in the fight against THB, as these can help The Salvation Army in figuring out whether gaps exist in the national context, allowing it to seek to fill such gaps where capacity allows.





A GOOD PRACTICE EXAMPLE: THE SALVATION ARMY IN SWEDEN AND ITS COOPERATION WITH GRETA

GRETA has published two reports on Sweden's work against actions on human trafficking. The first was issued in 2014, containing nine urges on actions to follow up.

In 2014 GRETA came to visit the government and other key actors in the work against human trafficking. The Salvation Army made sure to be invited to the table, in order to make its voice heard for the victims it fights for. Since then we have understood that this is a great opportunity and tool for building strategic success, sharing practical steps forward and sharing the stories from those whose reality we represent. Because the convention provides specific rights for victims of trafficking, such as to be identified as a victim, to be protected and assisted and to be given a recovery and reflection period of at least 30 days, to be offered a renewable residence permit, and to receive compensation for the damages suffered. These entitled rights have helped us in building up a systematic approach in our ultimatum for the Swedish government to act on.

In the beginning of 2014-2015 we gave seminars, wrote articles and gave training about the specific rights in our spheres of influence and engagements. During this time we have made sure to be in touch with experts and representatives from GRETA to keep them updated on our view on what actions need to be taken into account or which have been neglected by the Swedish authorities. This helped us to picture what we could strive for. In 2016 it enabled us to be a key stakeholder in the establishment of a Swedish National Referral Mechanism and, together with other NGOs in the Swedish Civil Society Platform, we initiated a complementary National Support Programme which could serve potential victims to gain the 30 days' reflection period without a condition to cooperate with the police.

I believe that it is through the scope of GRETA's mandate and the respect of the criticism thereof that Sweden is more willing to listen to NGOs. The last visit from GRETA was in 2017 – followed by recommendations – and we have been involved in the whole procedure. It was great to read GRETA's second report on Sweden, published in June 2018, that 'developments have been made since the last visit' and especially recognition of 'the establishment of the National Support Programme which allows presumed victims of trafficking to receive assistance through the Platform Swedish Civil Society against Human Trafficking.'

Consequently, the given opportunity to make voices straight from the grassroots and reality heard at the top monitoring level has helped us to raise our profile of our mission to fight for the unconditional victim's rights approach, access to justice and to fight for undocumented children and the need for more safe houses and initiatives of restoration in a new way.

MADELEINE SUNDELL

Human Rights Lawyer and National Coordinator
for Anti-Human Trafficking
The Salvation Army's Sweden and Latvia Territory

KEY CHALLENGES

The following key challenges have been drawn from the answers from The Salvation Army's mapping questionnaire and have been highlighted by several countries if not all. They concern external as well as internal (Salvation Army) challenges in the field of human trafficking.

1. LACK OF AWARENESS AND KNOWLEDGE

According to the responses of our mapping questionnaire, one of the major challenges in this work is a lack of awareness among the general public that trafficking exists and what it looks like. People are unaware of the risks and do not believe it could happen to them (both highly educated as well as low skilled). Also, within The Salvation Army there is a need for more awareness raising and training for staff, church leaders and volunteers to recognise potential victims of trafficking and how to respond. A lack of data on real numbers of people who are victims of trafficking is also problematic. The Salvation Army's social services also do not necessarily record numbers of people who have been/are being exploited when they receive them in their institutions, and therefore communicating the scale of the problem is not always easy.

2. LACK OF RESOURCES – FINANCIAL AND HUMAN

Although contact persons have been appointed in most countries, in some cases The Salvation Army does not necessarily have the financial or human resources to do more than very low-key AHT activities and staff may have the role of National Contact Person among many other roles and responsibilities. In a number of countries the government is not allocating sufficient resources for this work (ie Latvia) and is leaving it up to NGOs. In some cases funds allocated to this area of work are insufficient and given to only a few organisations which then 'monopolise' the help given (ie Poland).

3. REFUGEE CRISIS INCREASING THE RISK OF TRAFFICKING VICTIMS

The Salvation Army is aware that traffickers have taken advantage of the refugee crisis. It is concerned that migrants and internally displaced persons fleeing situations of conflict, abuse and crisis are particularly vulnerable to human trafficking – whether at home, in transit or upon reaching their destination. As people seek safe harbour, stability and economic opportunity, they may lack legal status, be socially marginalised, and be unaware of local languages or laws. These individuals are more vulnerable to exploitation by smugglers, unscrupulous recruiters and corrupt border officials on whom they must rely. Such intermediaries may take advantage of stark conditions by exploiting migrants and corrupting the migration and recruitment process or even directly subject these vulnerable populations to forced labour or sex trafficking.

4. LEGAL FRAMEWORK AND SYSTEMATIC FAILURES

Difficult national legal frameworks were cited as being problematic in several countries (see examples below) – for instance there may be a lack of victim status or victim status may be conditional on perpetrators being sentenced in court, or only provided if the victim cooperates with the police. In Norway you are only verified as a true victim of trafficking if your traffickers are sentenced in court and in Hungary children are handled as perpetrators rather than victims. In Moldova victims are reluctant to self-identify due to little recourse and protection, few convictions, and because they are registered as 'victims-marked-for-life-in-the-system'. Lack of protocol or coordination is also problematic in several countries. For example, in some countries there is poor organisation in dealing with victims of trafficking and roles and responsibilities are unclear (eg better coordination of the care for victims needed in Norway). Poor victim support services are also identified such as in Moldova and in Switzerland, where the lack of resources in specialised police forces and liberal laws concerning sexual services are a major concern.

On a European level, the lack of legal routes to Europe often pushes people coming from situations of poverty or conflict to turn to traffickers to reach their destination country. Long waiting times and heavy bureaucratic procedures leave asylum seekers particularly vulnerable to traffickers. Furthermore, many refugees placed in centres/shelters suddenly disappear, being transferred to other Member States by their traffickers. A number of refugees are victims of human trafficking and come to the EU trying to find safety and peace. Being a victim of human trafficking is not grounds for asylum in a number of Member States in the EU (including Sweden, for example) so according to Dublin they are sent back to the first EU country of arrival, although women are often escaping traffickers in those countries and the risk of re-trafficking is obvious.

5. TRAFFICKERS ARE GOOD AT NETWORKING AND INTIMIDATING VICTIMS

The professionalism and networking of traffickers was mentioned as a major challenge in several countries including Sweden and the UK. One of the greatest challenges when working in this field is the skills of traffickers to adapt, to move and to deceive or intimidate trafficked and enslaved people to keep silent even when rescued by the police.

6. POVERTY AND LACK OF OPPORTUNITIES

Lack of employment opportunities and poor education are cited as major challenges in a number of countries – made worse by the financial crisis and consequent austerity measures. Victims are lured away from their country by false offers of employment. In such cases there is a feeling that the choice of a parent to leave the country in order to send money back is a personal decision, and that even if he or she is under-employed, perhaps it is a 'noble sacrifice' for the family (Moldova).

7. INCREASE IN MALE LABOUR TRAFFICKING, CHILD BEGGING AND VICTIMS FROM EASTERN EUROPE

According to our NCPs, some countries have seen an increase in labour trafficking. In Norway, for example, this is partly due to the open sex market having been reduced because many of the Nigerian women are being sent back to Nigeria or Italy very quickly. Lithuania has seen an increase in younger people and even children (for begging) and more men being trafficked for labour exploitation. The Netherlands has witnessed an increase in people trafficked from Bulgaria. In Switzerland there is an increased number of potential victims from Eastern Europe and younger women in prostitution.



PERSONAL TESTIMONIES

Pavel from Poland – a trafficking victim in The Netherlands

Originally from Poland, Pavel (name changed for his protection) experienced modern slavery through exploitation in the agriculture sector in The Netherlands. His testimony, gathered through the Safe Havens project (see p 40), tells a story common among many Polish workers in Dutch greenhouses.

Could you tell us a little bit about your experience?

The living conditions were very bad, usually some sort of camping, although in The Netherlands there are very nice campsites nowadays ... they take advantage of us when it comes to the money, as there is a big difference in salaries between the Dutch and the Polish workers. A Polish person would work for longer shifts – a Dutch person would normally work only eight hours, but a Polish person in The Netherlands has to work between 12 and 17 hours a day. At the greenhouses you start working at three or four in the morning and you end at 11 pm. It's an awful abuse. There is a long break at 6pm for food. A Polish worker does have this break as well but, while a Dutch person goes home, he continues to work afterwards.

Did you think of yourself as someone who was exploited?

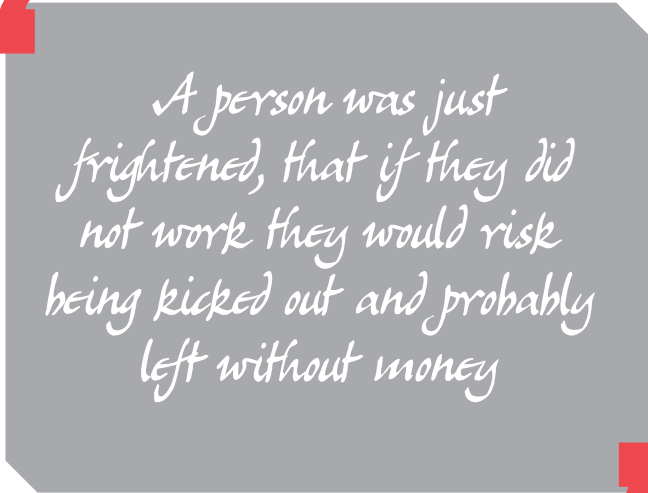

Yes. The work was obligatory and the accommodation was arranged by the employer. A person was just frightened, that if they did not work they would risk being kicked out and probably left without money. The employer withheld the money until I worked for the whole duration and I got the whole money just at the end. Of course you get some money weekly, for groceries, but the rest of it was given out at the end of the month, after you were done. Everything was based on stories, no written documents. The truth came out at the end.

How many people were in your situation?


We were many. At the camp there were hundreds of people, and about 90 per cent were in a similar situation.

What did you learn through this experience, and what you would say to others in similar situations?

First of all, if you're going somewhere – especially abroad – learn about the labour market and the labour law, because you can't do anything without knowing the law. And study the language. It helps a lot. By talking with people you can get to know what is actually going on. After working in the Netherlands for about four years, in the canteen I heard some Dutch people referring to me as 'a dumb Pole', saying: 'He works and doesn't understand anything.' I replied: 'I am sorry, I can understand you.' They were embarrassed and started treating me differently. Without the language, I would just be a Pole – 'do this, do that... be dumb, work'. But learning the language I broke the barrier.



A person was just frightened, that if they did not work they would risk being kicked out and probably left without money



Timi from Nigeria – a trafficking victim in labour and domestic servitude in the UK

Timi (not his real name) fled from Nigeria to the UK under the promise of a better life. Once in England, he was caught in the net of traffickers and domestic slavery.

I am 28 years old and I was a victim of modern slavery until I went to the Home Office for help. My life in Nigeria had been fine. I was a good student with a master in medical science and good prospects. Then I suffered some difficult personal issues which meant I was forced to look for a way out of Nigeria. I met some people who said they could help me. I had no idea that this 'help' would be much worse than what I was fleeing in Nigeria.

I arrived in the UK with a legitimate visa and some money, but the work didn't materialise and I soon ran out of money and became homeless. I saw some Nigerian ladies working in a hair salon in south London. They said they knew people who would help me because they were looking for some people to work for them in Scotland. They gave me money for the coach trip and the address of where I needed to go. This is when my life as a slave began.

I was forced to work in a house, cleaning, and washing ironing and teaching my trafficker's children because I had a science qualification. Then in the evenings I was forced to go and work in the clubs they owned. Here I had to socialise with the clients, clean the toilets and clean up if anyone was ill, sell aftershave and sweets in the toilets, basically anything they asked for. They gave me unmanageable targets to achieve and then beat me if I didn't make them. There were other men and boys working there and we all lived together. Most of them had beds and a better life than me because they had been there for years. As the new boy I had to sleep on the floor. All the money I earned went to my bosses and they gave me a little cash back but I had to pay that back anyway to cover my 'rent'. They controlled everything I did. They took away my phone and wouldn't allow me to make friends. Any time I complained to the other guys about my situation, it would get back to the boss and he would call me in and give me a hard time for complaining. He would threaten to get rid of me and tell

me that the police wouldn't help me, particularly now that my visa had run out. My boss had tentacles which spread everywhere!

Once I asked for help from the pastor at the local church, but even then my trafficker got to hear about this and beat me until my lips and nose were dripping with blood. That was when I decided to walk away. However I was again homeless until another Nigerian man I had met in the clubs said I could stay with him and that he would find me work in a town in the north of England. What I didn't know was that he was connected to my trafficker, who had put him up to it all. When I arrived at the new job, it was like moving from the frying pan into the fire.

The best decision I ever made was to go to the authorities. They put me in touch with The Salvation Army and I was immediately given somewhere to stay and support through their partners at City Hearts. I stayed in a couple of safe houses and then – when I met my fiancée and wanted to move in with her – they checked that it was safe and continue to support me every week.

When I was in the middle of being exploited it seemed like it couldn't be worse than being homeless and without food or shelter. But now, looking back, I am shocked at the thought that I was a slave to these people. I have told the police my story and I believe they are investigating. I find it difficult to trust anyone, particularly Nigerians, which is strange given that it is my home country. I feel safe right now in England.

When I think about the future I feel quietly confident that slowly but surely I will get there. I am receiving support from City Hearts and The Salvation Army. I am in a relationship and soon to get married. My fiancée and her family are an inspiration and are helping me to start to trust in other people again and to believe that not everyone is evil. I am volunteering wherever I can while I wait for a decision on my asylum application.





Jenny – trafficking victim, UK

'Jenny' spent her adolescence being abused and blackmailed by a man she trusted – but her life got even worse when she was preyed on by a vicious UK sex trafficking ring. Battered and bruised, in 2013 she hit an all-time low, eventually seeking the help of our Anti-Human Trafficking Unit. Now, at 23 years old, she is finally free and has bravely agreed to anonymously share her harrowing story.

'It's slowly getting easier to believe I deserve a happy future,' says Jenny. 'I now wake up feeling free.'

Jenny spent most of her teenage years being groomed by her elderly neighbour and registered sex offender, 'Keith'. When she was 17, Keith moved away and she was pawned off to a gang of men who illegally traded her as a sex slave. Although she was never paid – except in phone credit, cigarettes, or drugs – the gang made a lot of money out of her services, while she endured unimaginable horror and was thrown out of the family home.

After numerous hospital visits to treat horrific injuries, and having suffered a miscarriage, Jenny tried to seek help, explaining: 'My feelings of utter desolation grew. I tried to escape, but had nowhere to go, no money. Every exit was blocked. Even if I stepped just a few yards on my own, I was followed. When I ran away to domestic abuse refuges, I couldn't stay long because I didn't fit their remit of a domestic abuse victim. They classed me as a sex worker.'

The turning point came when police picked Jenny up after she was doused with petrol, thrown out of a car and nearly set on fire by the gang. Identified as a victim of trafficking, she was advised by Victim Support to call The Salvation Army's 24-hour confidential referral helpline. Two volunteers arrived to drive her hundreds of miles away to a safe house. Other trafficked women lived there too, some from Britain, some from abroad, all with their own shocking stories.

She recalled: 'At first, I was too scared to believe my nightmare could be over. It helped that the volunteers took my phone, releasing me from the constant threats, and that I was far away from home, so I stopped worrying

that every car I saw was prowling for me. But the relief was hard to process. I was finally in a safe house, with a clean bed, warm shower and someone to make me a cup of tea without asking for payment in sexual favours.'

Over the following months, The Salvation Army Anti-Human Trafficking Unit helped piece her back together, breaking her addiction to diazepam and giving her the medical attention she needed, as well as counselling and support applying for benefits.

At 23 years old, Jenny is now free and hopes to study at university so she can teach people how to spot and stop grooming. 'The thought that I might be able to prevent even one case drives me. But first, I'm learning how to live normally. One of the biggest challenges has been believing that I deserve a happy future. Eighteen months on from my escape, it's slowly getting easier. I now wake up feeling free – and I appreciate that more than anyone can imagine.'

(From an interview to Julie McCaffrey, Glamour Magazine)

Hope from Nigeria – a trafficking victim in The Netherlands

Hope came to The Netherlands in 1999. She had become a victim of trafficking and forced into prostitution. After working in several cities in The Netherlands she was arrested because of illegal prostitution and sent back to Nigeria. There she was again arrested because of her prostitution background. She was in a bad situation and afraid of what the police would do to her, having seen the violence to other prisoners. Desperate, she decided to call her trafficker. He bought her out of prison. Then, being mad at her, he molested and raped her. After this she had to undergo a voodoo ritual.

She was forced again to work as a prostitute in The Netherlands to pay back her debt. There was fear because of the voodoo ritual and fear that her family in Nigeria would be harmed. The Salvation Army project Recht in Zicht has helped her with judicial support and finding financial support.

Ferda from the Czech Republic – a trafficking victim in the UK

'I was working 12 hours a day, six days a week – for very little'.

Before Ferda was trafficked into the UK from the Czech Republic, he had been living on the streets for two years with no income, after falling into depression when his wife died. He was in his early sixties. He had lost touch with his children and so gladly accepted the help of a man who befriended him, offering somewhere to live and a part-time job. The subsequent promise of better work in the UK also sounded like a good opportunity.

Upon arrival in the UK, Ferda was told that he had to pay his traffickers back for travel. He worked more than 12 hours a day, six days a week in factories around England, earning about £300 a week. He didn't see much of this money as his trafficker demanded large amounts to repay debts and for accommodation. Ferda's major health issues, including severe heart problems, back and foot pain and depression were exacerbated by the long working hours and stress of debt repayment.

Once his health became a liability and he could no longer perform his job, he was evicted and left on the streets. He went into a hostel, where they recognised him as a trafficked victim and referred him to The Salvation Army. During his time at a safe house, Ferda took English classes, talked to other victims and his case worker, and had proper medical treatment. He took the chance to evaluate what he wanted to do next and decided to return to the Czech Republic and draw his pension.

The Salvation Army and other agencies supported Ferda to obtain documents needed to travel home, secured assistance for his journey, and helped find secure housing in the Czech Republic where he is now happily resettled.

Survivors are more than their 'victim stories' – a testimony of empowerment

There is a prevailing misconception that sharing his or her story is the a survivor's main contribution to the anti-human trafficking movement. This is far from the truth. Victims are not tied to their victimisation but, instead, they experience growth in being both survivors and through catching up with their stolen dreams.

The traumatic experience is devastating; however, it does not define an individual's lifepath or humanity. Survivors are resilient, phenomenal, skilled, and capable of making an impact in or outside of the human trafficking movement. For this reason, survivor-centered advocacy empowerment is crucial in anti-human trafficking organisations such as The Salvation Army.

Organisations need to look beyond offering basic needs such as food and shelter, instead engaging survivors as partners and experts in tailoring measures that will improve policies and the service provided to victims. This can be achieved by investing in both victims and survivors, by providing them with tools and resources such as education, scholarships and pilot programmes that deliver solid employment, professional growth and financial stability to empower them to utilise their potential. They can be silent advocates, who are willing to sign petitions for instance, or upfront advocates who are willing to show their faces and be the voice on behalf of other survivors, connecting with the diverse stakeholders in the struggle to end modern-day slavery.

There is a need to reorganize survivor autonomy because survivors are met in their exploited nature. Thus, service providers forget that, before they became victims, they were mothers, sisters, and dreamers. If we don't see that person holistically, then we miss out the sense of survivor-centered advocacy. Therefore we need to see them beyond their brokenness but strives to equip them with skills that will allow them to work steadily and give them opportunities that were never available to them. The ability to provide new skill sets, coupled with a paycheck, injects dignity and directly combats any undesirable connections of the past between work and making a living.

This is evident in my personal experience as a survivor. My self-reflection changed since The Salvation Army provided me with a desirable work atmosphere that looks beyond my 'victim story' and stimulates my desired dream to become a lobbyist and advocate for human rights. The opportunity to work both as an intern and participant in anti-human trafficking projects has helped me to dissolve the bondage that kept my spirit captive to the visible scars that came from my experience. This in turn changed the way I see myself in the world as a viable and valuable citizen, not a victim.

COUNTRY REPORTS

With the fight against trafficking on human beings at the core of The Salvation Army's activities, it has developed in Europe a taskforce which meets twice a year, comprised of members from different countries with special knowledge of the topic. In addition, almost every country in the Europe Zone where The Salvation Army is present has an appointed National Contact Person (NCP) for anti-human trafficking, with the aim of reporting and leading local strategy. Due to difference in capacity among EU territories of The Salvation Army, not all countries will have specific anti-human trafficking services or activities. Some territories may be engaged at a preliminary level in internal awareness-raising, while others hold several very developed projects which aim – through an increasingly holistic approach – to prevent trafficking, rescuing victims and guiding them towards inclusion in the society.

Each country report tries to summarise:

- National set-up, actions and partnerships;
- Project summaries (including where possible a website address for more information);
- Challenges and opportunities;
- Recommendations to national governments.

Although this mapping aims to display the work at EU decision-maker level, we hope that the recommendations to national governments found in this section of the report can also be taken into consideration.

BELGIUM

National Contact Person: Major Ruth Stannett

The Salvation Army's national set-up, actions and partnerships

Anti-human trafficking work within The Salvation Army in Belgium is currently quite limited due to the lack of resources, and reposes mainly on awareness raising. In the past two years, one of the main areas has been realising the importance of raising awareness of the reality, depth and diverse factors involved in human trafficking. For so many people, coming to realise that this is a problem 'happening on their doorstep' is quite shocking.

Therefore the National Coordinator has spoken to various groups of people about human trafficking. This includes speaking at two international schools to students aged between 16-18 years; women's groups, men's groups and also an invitation to speak at the Indonesian Embassy to a group of 50 Indonesian women who live and work in Belgium.

Together with the **EU Affairs Office**, the Belgium headquarters of The Salvation Army has participated in EU level events, providing speeches and explaining the work of the organisation at an international level. Thanks to cooperation with a local branch of the organisation **Serve the City**, a meeting to explain how to recognise signs of trafficking has been held for volunteers. There has been some anti-human trafficking training for Salvation Army corps (church) officers, raising awareness and helping them to recognise the signs. Workshops were also held at The Salvation Army's youth camp this summer (2018), raising awareness and highlighting the areas that are particularly used to attract and trap young women and men into being trafficked.

It has been important to forge links with other organisations involved in working in anti-human trafficking which have been able to help and cooperate with each other. This includes one of the main Belgian AHT organisations being able to send men who have been trafficked to receive help and accommodation at one of The Salvation Army men's hostels in Brussels. Another organisation has been linked with a Salvation Army officer in Antwerp so some practical help can be offered – particularly in providing clothing and furniture where needed. Partnerships which have been created with organisations including **PAG-ASA, Cheroot, Breaking Chains, Oasis Belgium, Serve the City, Dignity Watch** and **A21**.

In terms of advocacy, a prayer breakfast was held in 2017 by the local headquarters, sharing with other church leaders and members of Christian organisations for anti-human trafficking, who in turn have been encouraged to



do the same. The corps officers at **Liege** took an initiative in October 2017 to join with the anti-human trafficking organisation A21 on a '**March for Freedom**'. They had to travel to The Netherlands for this as there was no local contact in Belgium. A number of the congregation also wanted to join in. The aim was also to see what was involved, with the intention of raising awareness for anti-human trafficking and **holding a 'March for Freedom' in Liege in October 2018**, and encouraging members and volunteers of The Salvation Army in Belgium to join in as well. This is currently in the process of being arranged.

Social centres

Several of the social services centres working with vulnerable people help to prevent trafficking and protect victims. For example, in the residential centre for children and youth in Brussels, part of the training received by social workers raises awareness of how to spot potential trafficking victims. The accommodation is itself a protective measure taken by the mandating authority. The centre is made for this kind of situation and the institutional framework aims to be as safe and containing as possible. They also partner with services such as SOS Children, which specialises in the support of abused children, arranging support groups with a focus on prevention, protection of the body and self-esteem. Therapeutic counselling centres also give children an individual space to rest. The child is accompanied through police/court proceedings that allow the child to be legally recognised as a victim, which is very important for the healing process. For all residents, youth meetings are organised with educators working on prevention: how to protect his/her body, how to say no, what to do in case of an aggression, who to call.

Challenges and opportunities

Within Salvation Army corps (churches), perhaps the most effective area officers could be more involved in is raising awareness and education among their young people and adults. In social centres, awareness raising, prevention and protection against human trafficking should be a standard training module for all staff and volunteers (where this is not currently the case).

DENMARK

National Contact Person: Lieut-Colonel Gillian Cotterill

The Salvation Army's national set-up, actions and partnerships

The Salvation Army in Denmark and Greenland (*Frelsens Hær*) is an effective partner in AHT, working closely with the Danish Centre Against Human Trafficking (CCM) – the main national organisation working in the field. It also has a good cooperation with other partner agencies, including KFUF (a Christian women's NGO) and Reason International.

The main action in The Salvation Army's AHT work is to **provide short- and long-term accommodation for rescued victims in one of its hostels**. The centre manager at the hostel works closely with CMM. In 2015 they responded to a major rescue raid, giving emergency accommodation to 46 victims, men and women. International Headquarters (IHQ) Europe has a report on this, and how the territory worked with CMM and the police. As a result of this emergency response, they have put together a plan of action for next intervention. During the past year The Salvation Army provided shelter and care to 35 victims of human trafficking, extending its ability to care for long-term needs and covering 20 long-term accommodation cases and 15 short-term ones. One case involved a year-long journey alongside a victim and her young son, providing shelter, advocacy and supportive care as she concluded a successful court case against her perpetrators. Another involved a married couple from Eastern Europe trafficked as labourers. After one partner fell seriously ill they reached out for help, and The Salvation Army responded with shelter, advocacy, and by securing legal aid. For more information go to: www.frelsenshaer.dk

The territory continues to train employees to handle the special needs of trafficked persons. This has greatly increased its capacity to respond to the special needs of the most vulnerable within the community. There has also been training conducted among youth workers and family consultants that has increased their awareness of the issues and will allow the organisation to better respond in the future. >>

>> Future plans

Frelsens Hær continues to plan more training in consultation with other Nordic countries, aiming at increasing its capacity to respond to human trafficking emergencies as needs arise. The organisation's strengths in youth and family work will probably be used in the future to continue to bring greater awareness to the issues through advocacy and educational campaigns. Child protection programmes also include awareness of human trafficking and youth workers are briefed on how to approach the topic.

Challenges and opportunities

Broader awareness of the problem continues to be an issue in Denmark. People are surprised to find that Denmark can be a host and transit country, much less a source for human trafficking. Tightening immigration policies and nationalism can push immigrants (particularly those without status) into environments that cause them to be vulnerable for human trafficking. Limited resources both in personnel and funding limits strongly the Army's capacity. However, Denmark and Greenland continue to meet the challenge with prayer, the raising of awareness and support.

ESTONIA

National Contact Person: Anneli Aavik

The Salvation Army's national set-up, actions and partnerships

The Salvation Army in Estonia (*Päästearmee*) has recently begun to work out a strategy to address the issue of the trafficking of human beings, but has not yet developed a taskforce in the country (for this it refers to Finland). The preliminary work planned is to address awareness among members of The Salvation Army and to wider public through a few small campaigns, with a particular focus on the phenomenon of labour exploitation of Ukrainian citizens in Estonia. There are also plans to organise seminars on human trafficking in schools. Due to the very early stage of the commitment, there is no cooperation active with other NGOs.

The lack of resources, both in terms of financial means and human capacity, limits the action which can be done, but education and prevention represent an important contribution in this fight in Estonia, due to the lack of knowledge on human trafficking in the Baltic state.

Challenges and opportunities

Estonia is a transit country, often reached by men who are promised lucrative jobs in the Nordic countries, but it is also a 'receiving' country to some extent. Vietnamese and Ukrainian people are the main population of workers finding themselves trafficked across Estonia. Due to the lack of information in the country on how human trafficking happens, many people are also potentially at risk of exploitation, both for labour and for other services.

Recommendations to national authorities

The fight against human trafficking in Estonia is at a very early stage. National authorities must engage in raising awareness among Estonians and train the police and border control on the issue, in order to create conditions for opposing this phenomenon.

FINLAND

National Contact Person: Captain Tuula Takala

The Salvation Army's national set-up, actions and partnerships

The Salvation Army in Finland (*Pelastusarmeija*) recently (October 2017) set up a 'territorial' taskforce on anti-human trafficking, which supports the action of the Army on this topic both in Finland and Estonia. This taskforce, which supports the work of the AHT National Contact Person, meets about three times per year to discuss possible opportunities and explore national groups and organisations which could be joined by the Army to strengthen the fight against trafficking in human beings.

The newly formed taskforce is currently outlining a strategy, and action points will soon follow. The main goal concerns the organisation of successful awareness-raising actions, both internally – targeting Salvation Army corps (churches) and social units, adult and family ministries work/camps, children and youth work/camps through trainings and seminars – and towards the external public, via internet campaigns, street actions and the production of support such as flyers and visual material.

Recently, *Pelastusarmeija* joined the Finnish Civil Society Platform against Trafficking in Human Beings (IKV Platform), which will lead to a better awareness-raising network. Sharing the knowledge of partner organisations will enable The Salvation Army to redirect suspected victims to the right services. Another important partnership is the with the Finnish Evangelical Alliance, which has already its own action on human trafficking.

At the internal level, the learning process on anti-human trafficking has already started through the invitation of guest speakers from the UK and Sweden, who demonstrated successful actions by The Salvation Army in other countries. The Finland and Estonia Territory engages in the The Salvation Army's International Day of Prayer for Victims of Human Trafficking, and disseminates the information material produced by International Headquarters. Contacts are being set up with the authorities, including the national government and the police, through the participation in initiatives, with the goal of setting a base for future cooperation. Attending several events and trainings, *Pelastusarmeija*'s taskforce aims to build its own capacity and knowledge and to identify possible opportunities for common actions with new partners.

Challenges and opportunities

The lack of resources to fight human trafficking is the main limit of the local Salvation Army, due to the lack of dedicated personnel available to work full-time on this topic. As in many other European countries, in Finland a lot of people are not aware of trafficking in human beings. Estonian workers migrating to Finland are the main at-risk population, as are women leaving Estonia for Finland to practice prostitution.

Building up new partnerships and taking advantage of the current ones, *Pelastusarmeija* will be able to increase its capacity and participate in bigger actions.



FRANCE

National Contact Person: Colonel Eliane Naud

The Salvation Army's national set-up, actions and partnerships

The Salvation Army in France (*L'Armée du Salut*) organises training on how to fight human trafficking, in partnership with the Acsé coalition, to teach social workers in Salvation Army institutions. *L'Armée du Salut* is also a member of the collective association '*ensemble contre la lutte de la traite des êtres humains*' (translated as 'fight together against the trafficking of human beings'). For more information about this platform and its political recommendations to fight trafficking go to contrelatraite.org

Within its social services, The Salvation Army in France provides **ad-hoc reception/accommodation/protection/support to victims of human trafficking** as part of its partnership with the Acsé project. The Acsé system aims to:

- Protect victims of trafficking endangered locally, offering a welcome and support;
- Provide a resource centre on themes linked to trafficking to all stakeholders in touch with people who may be victims.

At the moment, a young officer in Marseille has joined the OCIM and other organisation in Nîmes, wing on the project 'Hope and Joy to help prostitutes.

Eliane Naud writes: 'It's sad to mention that one of the young women in our project was murdered, Nevertheless, the young women in our Sunday worship helped to be witnesses to come up with the case to sue the pimp in relation to the murder.'

Another success story regards a church member who gave a job to a woman with a trafficking background. At the moment there are no programmes established in France dedicated to AHT, so the local Salvation Army does not have a mid-term strategy. It holds information meetings, and training, workshops and resources are continuously available on a OneDrive exchange platform. Information is regularly shared among the leaders of the Congregation and the Foundation (the two branches of Salvation Army ministry in France).

L'Armée du Salut is also involved in research in its social institutions. A survey has started to identify the potential risks of having victims of trafficking in human beings among social services clients. It's a beginning. This survey will be carried out again soon, meaning managers and staff will be more informed, and invited to keep their eyes open on the serious issues that often go unnoticed.

Projects

All the projects that protect victims of human trafficking fall under social services, and are dealt with by The Salvation Army's Foundation in France. These include:

- Ad-hoc reception/accommodation/protection/support of victims of human trafficking;
- Training on how to fight human trafficking, in partnership with the Acsé project, aimed at social workers in Salvation Army institutions.

Eliane Naud was recently invited to talk about AHT to the COMEX (Executive Committee of the Foundation) to seek opportunities for funding and a project to open a dedicated service. It is only the beginning, but there is hope that this will be realised.

Raising awareness

A project similar to 'Thursday in black' was launched, by linking the idea to the fight against THB with wearing a black garment and the badge '**STOP human trafficking**'. Rather than handing out an information sheet and the badge, volunteers have distributed several kits, and there have already been some interesting returns. *L'Armée du Salut* is going to take part in the philanthropy project night, where 10 projects will be exposed to the public including one on the fight against human trafficking. The Social Foundation of The Salvation Army is counting on this project to secure sufficient funding from donors.

Collaboration and partnerships

L'Armée du Salut is part of the collective '**Ensemble contre la traite**' which edited a book (*Les Nouveaux Visages de L'Esclavage*) and created two 15-minute campaign videos linked to the hashtags #INVISIBLES and #DEVENIR. There is willingness to undertake more actions together in the close future. Each year, the focus on the fight against human trafficking has different resources, and the annual day of prayer at the end of September, with resources provided by International Headquarters, gives the opportunity to speak about the subject in Salvation Army corps (churches), on Salvation Army websites and among Social Foundation workers.

Right: participants at the last meeting of Gemeinsam gegen Menschenhandel (2018)

GEORGIA

The Salvation Army's national set-up, actions and partnerships

The Salvation Army in Georgia is taking its first steps in response to human trafficking, after a few years spent mainly focusing on raising awareness and prevention. At the moment, it is leading seminars with different categories of stakeholders, such as afterschool programmes for children from disadvantaged families, and the 'Cupcake ministry', which mainly works with prostitutes. Through this programme a warm welcome and a snack are offered, to build up friendly relationships and show prostitutes that they can see The Salvation Army as an open community where they can feel protected and find consolation. Despite the large number of sex workers in Georgia, very few show interest in being helped. The cupcake ministry, where volunteers and Salvation Army officers build relationships by sharing coffee and cake, represent a first step to attempt to create a new service and verify possibilities for bigger engagement. This follows the successful examples of the Green Light Project in Greece, and ministry in Hungary

Reluctance and fear from women working in brothels have prevented, so far, the opportunity to visit these facilities

Projects

An **after-school project**, among others, is working on informing pupils about both labour and sexual exploitation. The Salvation Army aims to reach children from unstable families and homeless young people since they are potential victims and vulnerable to human trafficking. The

aim of this project is to take children from the streets and show them another side of life, where they will have a chance to change their lives. It also collaborates with the **Georgian Young Lawyers' Association**, the commercial sex worker support organisation **Ketevan Tchelidze 'Tanadgoma'**, and Tamar Ivaniadze, 'Initiative for Social Changes'. Unfortunately, there are not yet partnerships with other NGOs operating in the field.

Challenges and obstacles

In Georgia people are not aware of human trafficking and do not recognise that there is a problem, especially Georgia is generally a 'transit country' for a lot of victims of human trafficking. Prostitution represents a very big problem. Furthermore, it seems that the government and NGOs cannot communicate and work with each other, which makes the work even more difficult.

GERMANY

National Contact Person: Major Angela Fischer

The Salvation Army's national set-up, actions and partnerships

The Salvation Army in Germany (*Die Heilsarmee*) is increasingly involved in the fight against human trafficking, thanks to the work of its office for social justice, which coordinates the work in the area of anti-human trafficking. >>



>> As the centre of its 'territory', The Salvation Army in Germany also oversees the work of the organisation in Poland and Lithuania, where many anti-human trafficking activities take place.

The German Salvation Army does not have a counselling centre or safe house. It works together with other organisations, is represented in various German networks involved in anti-human trafficking and is part of the organisation *Gemeinsam gegen Menschenhandel* (Together against Human Trafficking), a German coalition which was founded by a former Salvation Army officer who is currently a member of the German Parliament. Together with partners such as Mission Freedom, SOLWODI, Stop the Traffick, World Relief and EFN, The Salvation Army contributes to advocacy and awareness-raising actions, and tries to focus on prevention. An important action for Heilsarmee is the is The Salvation Army's annual International Day of Prayer for Victims of Human Trafficking, which is used to raise awareness and inform the public and community members about the issue. On several occasions, lectures and workshops on anti-human trafficking complemented the prayer focus. The anti-human trafficking National Contact Person also supports many Salvation Army officers dealing with this issue in their own communities. Thanks to good relations with the International Justice Mission (IJM), legal support is provided to local Salvation Army employers who face the issue of helping people being trafficked. UN Women is another partner in this work.

Late-night ministry in Hamburg

Late-night ministry is the main anti-human trafficking project of *Die Heilsarmee*, and takes place in the red-light district of Hamburg. Trying to meet prostitutes who are victim of human trafficking and offering support, The Salvation Army aims at building contacts and relationships, explaining to women that they are not alone and informing them about the support they can get. The Mission Team in Hamburg trains its employees, teaching them about human trafficking and regularly visit brothels to bond with women and men working there. People who want to exit prostitution can be redirected to appropriate counselling centres. In some cases, people leaving prostitution have been placed into families in contact with The Salvation Army, being integrated in Salvation Army corps (churches) to provide community service. A good cooperation with a lawyer who can help people coming from a trafficking background has been developed. The action of the late-night ministry in Hamburg does not limit itself to prostitutes, but tries to reach also brothel owners, bouncers and security workers in the facilities, to build up confidence. To avoid endangering these contacts, this work is not advertised and is carried out with discretion.

Challenges and opportunities: the German situation

Among the main challenges which affect the work of anti-human trafficking organisations in Germany is national legislation: the laws around prostitution make it very hard to distinguish between those who made their choice voluntarily and the victims of human trafficking. German laws opened the door to human trafficking and this stays wide open. As long as prostitution is legal, major changes will be very difficult to achieve, especially due to the common perception of public opinion, which tends not to see this as a problem.

The topic of trafficking in human beings and forced prostitution has recently gained more attention in the German media, also following new legislation which is meant to protect prostitutes (although its implementation languishes), so countless women continue to be sexually exploited every day. A large amount of women fleeing poverty and conflicts are brought to Germany with the promise of a good job but end up in prostitution. As women are forced to move from one city to another they stay vulnerable and remain dependent on their pimps. Refugee women are a new rising group in the profile of trafficking victims, as they present multiple vulnerabilities and are often victims of rape, both on their way to Europe and in refugees' hostels.

One at-risk group is represented by very young German girls, victims of the phenomenon of 'loverboys', who prey on the vulnerability of their victims, forcing them into prostitution and blackmailing them through promises of love. People from *Die Heilsarmee* have participated in a nationwide educational programme working with schools, *Liebe ohne Zwang* (Love without Coercion).

As The Salvation Army in Germany is sometimes too small to be heard, it does not have the capacity to devote the due time and resources to this topic, and generally focuses its action on awareness-raising. In some corps (churches) contact can be established with prostitutes, involving people who have been trained to approach them.

Recommendations to national government

- Target poverty in the countries of origin;
- Ban legal prostitution, which creates a 'grey zone' of uncertainty between people who have been victims of trafficking and people who have freely chosen their activity, and introduce the Nordic model which has been successfully implemented in Sweden since 1999, banning the buying of sex and punishing clients instead of the women.

GREECE

National Contact Person: Major Rachele Lamont

The Salvation Army's national set-up, actions and partnerships

The Salvation Army in Greece focuses on helping victims of sexual exploitation and informing refugees and vulnerable individuals about the risks of human trafficking. It runs the 'Green Light Project' which focuses directly on addressing victims of sex trafficking and sexual exploitation throughout holistic support. Addressing labour and sexual exploitation of both adults and children, The Salvation Army also collaborates with social services, other agencies and NGOs in advocacy initiatives, awareness-raising projects, fundraising events and joint conferences. Yearly workshops and seminars are also organised with other faith-based organisations, churches, NGOs and healthcare providers. It also participates with other agencies in conferences, lectures, and awareness/advocacy-raising events.

Meetings with the Greek National Rapporteur and with different foreign embassies (USA and France) have taken place in the past.

Supporting women in the red-light district: the Green Light Project

From a state of surviving to thriving, the Green Light Project builds relationships and holistically supports women in the red-light district of Athens to transform souls and communities, through a wide range of services in the centre of the city. The project aims to build trustful relationships, while providing a safe and supportive environment where physical, social, emotional/mental and spiritual needs are addressed and met through a victim-centred (trauma-informed), strength-based approach. In addition, it provides workshops, life-skills training and additional opportunities for capacity-building, empowerment, prevention and protection of these women. Last but not least, the Green Light Project identifies and develops potential community-based partnerships and stakeholders to ensure long-term sustainability.

The **drop-in coffee** programme runs weekly and provides a safe place where girls can receive emotional, mental and spiritual support, while a plurality of services is available in different days of the week. This drop-in facility aims to meet basic physical, social, emotional/mental and



spiritual needs through the creation of a safe, supportive, welcoming environment while providing workshops, life-skills training and additional opportunities for capacity-building, empowerment, prevention, and protection. It provides a space for women to come and spend time, and there is a **weekly medical clinic**, free and confidential HIV/STI testing, weekly activities, spiritual care and nutritious snacks. When needed, The Salvation Army is able to connect girls in need of legal advice with a lawyer and network.

A free **psychologist consultation** is available weekly to the girls, in a completely confidential environment which provides the opportunity for repeated sessions and follow-ups. Trained to listen to their needs and building an atmosphere of trust and confidentiality, the psychologist helps women who are kept in bondage emotionally and mentally to re-establish control over their lives, and to grow in their understanding of self-worth, self-esteem, and confidence. Group sessions and one-to-one consultations are offered for free, to help people to feel comfortable. Weekly meals are organised every Sunday to any woman who turns up at the Green Light Project, while during the week baked goods are distributed. Practical assistance – clothing, monthly adult and children hygiene care packages, and reliable information on where to find what in the city – are also provided.

Street Ministry – every Thursday evening, a group of trained and dedicated women hits the streets (a designated route) to build relationships, providing practical (toothpaste, deodorant etc), spiritual and emotional support to people in prostitution. They also stop at the police station to connect with girls who have been picked up and to provide them with clothes and blankets. Every week, a Sunday service/coffee church is held specifically for girls on the street who want to attend a non-threatening >>

>> church service. It's a time where they are able to invest spiritually, finding an open door which leaves outside prejudices and exclusion.

Weekly workshops are offered to open up new opportunities to those women who want to change their lives but need to invest in self-confidence and build up their capacities. A sewing workshop teaches women sewing as a good resource for their employability, while beginner computer classes are offered to teach basic skills, enabling them to access further training. In the past, free photography classes have been provided to girls as an instrument to express (and gain healing from) a wide range of emotions, hurts and experiences through photos. At the end of each year there is an exhibition open to the public and members of the government and NGOs.

Emergency assistance is provided in many cases, and even pimps and traffickers will get hold of The Salvation Army, to ask for emergency assistance for 'their' girls in the form of medical attention, clothing, transportation etc. **Post-natal assistance is offered** through the provision of Moses baskets full of practical baby items when girls give birth.

A similar project was active in the past years in **Thessaloniki**, through a drop-in/coffee time from Monday to Friday in the mornings where women could receive emotional, mental and spiritual support, while a small team used to go out on Friday nights on the streets to build relationships, establish trust and address needs of women in prostitution. Currently, the project is not operating on a weekly basis, but local Salvationists are still in contact with the women and organises meetings with them.

Preventing human trafficking among asylum seekers: refugees' day centre

The Salvation Army in Athens also runs a community day centre for refugees and asylum seekers, which among its goals aims to prevent trafficking in human beings. The day centre aims to contribute to the ongoing humanitarian effort in Greece by focusing specifically on urban asylum applicants and their social integration. Practical assistance is offered through supportive case management and building relationships, strategic programming on-site and referrals and follow-up to other frontline organisations. On top of this, education and awareness on the **risk of labour and sexual exploitation** is provided through workshops, training and information material that is available in Arabic and in Farsi.

A particular range of services is dedicated directly to women and mothers, offering three-month programmes on breastfeeding and formula feeding. In this time, mothers

are given a dairy items, fresh vegetables and fruit, or portions of formula. Through a partnership with the NGO Amurtel (professional midwives, feeding consultants and pre/post-natal care specialists) each mother is assessed, accompanied and advised. They are provided with follow-up appointments to address and discuss the challenges and problems that mothers face with nourishing their newborns. At the appropriate time, professionals from the project help mothers to transitioning their babies to regular milk. Finally, the 'breastfeeding and milk formula programme' provides practical hygiene items that will aid in the care of their babies – diapers (nappies), baby shampoo, soothing cream and baby wipes – through a



Right: The Green Light Project team prepares a meal for clients



Left: A day at the refugees' day centre – Salvation Army volunteers meet clients and provide information

start-up kit at the beginning of each programme. A weekly mother and baby programme is offered, to teach mothers experiencing vulnerabilities how to better care for their babies and providing fun activities. On top of this, initiatives are organised to create a safe space where mothers can engage with their babies in fun, healthy ways while connecting with other mothers.

Besides the work with mothers and children, a weekly medical clinic is offered in partnership with the organisation **DocMobile**, thanks to the commitment of volunteer doctors and health professionals. To empower people, budgeting classes on how to manage one's finances are taught, alongside fun activities, discussions and field trips. Content is provided in Farsi and Arabic, with a special focus on refugee women. Computer and sewing classes are also part of the educational offer for learning new skills.

Challenges and opportunities

The greatest obstacles to any action aiming at reducing trafficking in human beings in Greece are corruption in the police and government. Other challenges The Salvation Army faces are trying to find the right way to communicate and develop interactions with the police, the government, but also with pimps and traffickers.

It is very complicated to try to understand and know the plans of the pimps/traffickers in their dealings with the girls. They always seem to be one step ahead. As well, it is a challenge to maintain consistent contact with girls, pimps and traffickers.

Because of the economic and refugee crisis in Greece, more and more people are being forced into sexual exploitation. In the past, a certain culture, gender, nationality would work in a particular section of Athens, but Salvation Army officers are witnessing that these geographical 'invisible boundaries' are getting less defined and that it has become more complicated to put together a profile of trafficking victims. This has caused a lot of tension, friction and conflict. The Salvation Army is seeing more and more of the extremely fragile and vulnerable population being exploited, such as refugees and underage children. Some

women working in the streets are from different cultures and have different world perspectives, values, and roles in their home countries. 'More women from the Middle East are being trafficked, and we are understanding right now more and more what this looks like, what it entails and how their culture plays into this,' says Ray Lamont, National Contact Person of The Salvation Army's international taskforce on trafficking in human beings in Greece. The change of the profile of women being trafficked makes it more difficult to approach and build a relationship with them, assist with practical needs, and establish credibility. Also The Salvation Army has seen an increase of HIV/Aids, Hepatitis A and other sexually-transmitted infections.

In Athens, as the local area learns of The Salvation Army's presence and begins to trust the workers, an increasing number of women are coming to the project with their children. The refugee situation in the area is more visible in the streets as the building is located very close to Omonia Square in central Athens. The area has changed, with local hotels being rented at high prices to Syrian families arriving in large numbers. The Salvation Army distributes diapers (nappies) and milk to refugee families as well as in the red-light district. Every two-three days small vans appear in the area to take families to the train and bus station in order for them to keep travelling towards their destination country.

'The role of The Salvation Army is to stay focused despite what's going on around us. We need to know what our mission and mandate is and not mix up our role with that of a doctor or police officer or social worker, etc. We need to live that out and be that light in the midst of darkness and exercise justice in accord to the Word of God.'

National Contact Person Major Rachele Lamont

The Salvation Army struggles to communicate with survivors and potential victims and to provide them support as it is not easy to have resources in many languages (it gets more and more important to provide understanding in Farsi, Arabic, Urdu, Turkish, Bengali and French). For this reason the work requires translators, and often this is necessary to understand how the trafficking experience has impacted a person and how to heal him or her.

Recommendations to national government

- Strengthen the laws against human traffickers and pimps;
- Contrast and fight corruption in police at local and national level, and investigate the origins of this issue;
- Provide more funding and training for NGOs, first responders and aftercare services/programming.

HUNGARY

National Contact Person: Edina Toth

The Salvation Army's national set-up, actions and partnerships

The Salvation Army in Hungary (*Üdvhadseg*) is still continuing to grow in the area of prevention, protection, and reconnection. It responds to requests from victims on an ad-hoc basis and runs training and awareness-raising projects. The Salvation Army AHT Task Force in Hungary has a team of five officers and leaders who are dedicated in the field of prevention programmes and services. Since 2016, a 'Rahab Hungary' outreach service has focused on raising awareness of sexual exploitation. It is imperative to mention that collaboration is vital in reaching The Salvation Army's goals. A closer permanent relationship with Church Foundations exists, and relationships have been formed with NGOs. In 2018, *Üdvhadseg* was invited for the first time to an NGO Roundtable discussion at Hungary's Ministry of the Interior.

Projects

Rahab Hungary is one of the newest projects, reaching out to support girls and women on the street, providing them with counselling services and helping them with basic needs. The aim of this project is: to be present regularly on the field, becoming a reference for people in need; to reach the girls directly on the street; to build up relationships and trust with them; and, in case of need, to be available for them. With this project, The Salvation Army has managed to reach 260 people, rescuing one victim of human trafficking and giving short-term accommodation to two victims in our safe haven Salvation Army facilities. Having developed a relational trust, The Salvation Army observed that girls and women in need started directly approaching The Salvation Army's officers and volunteers.

Modern Day Slavery was a project aiming at raising awareness for two target groups. One is teenagers, with awareness-raising sessions carried out in schools. The other target group for awareness-raising training is Salvation Army officers, social institution leaders and deputy managers. This project started in October 2015 and ended in February 2016. It reached 200 teenagers in schools and Salvation Army churches. A further 22 officers and leaders of Salvation Army churches also received training. As a result of this, a training handbook was produced.

Technical assistance missions on combating human trafficking in Budapest

The main objective of this project is to support prevention and protection mechanisms in rural areas of Hungary through training and knowledge exchanges. The Embassy of The Netherlands in Hungary had (limited) funds available for knowledge exchanges or training in 2016. The Dutch Embassy offered to fly in one or two Dutch experts for a short mission of two or three days with a specific assignment. Missions did not have to be focused on the government but could be in cooperation with NGOs and training institutes as well. The embassy would assist in finding experts and NGOs in The Netherlands.

'In this time when every child has their mobile phone and access to internet pornography is available to anybody and anywhere, I have heard that boys are watching porn during school days and the youngest I heard of is eight years! The problem is bigger and darker than we realise.'

A Salvation Army AHT worker

Üdvhadseg benefited from this project and provided training on 'Empowering those in need: working with homeless people, (ex) victims of human trafficking and (ex) sex workers'. The two-day training is based on programmes created by Salvation Army in The Netherlands for homeless people, former victims of human trafficking and former sex workers. With the Dutch experts they exchanged knowledge, methods and experiences on topics such as holistic support, communication methods, professional skills, development, preparation for reintegration and setting up a special women's shelter. The project has run for one year. There have been 48 applicants from Salvation Army institutions and corps interested in receiving the training.

Observation

Internal trafficking is a growing phenomenon which concerns especially the poorest areas of the country such as Borsod–Abaúj–Zemplén County, Szabolcs–Szatmár–Bereg County (north-eastern Hungary) and Baranya County (south-western Hungary), but Tolna County (south-western Hungary) and Békés County (south-eastern Hungary) are also significant source regions.

Most of the victims of all forms of human trafficking or exploitation are women who lived in child protection institutions, correctional or educational institutions previously. Boys and girls are usually removed from these institutions after reaching the age of 18.

This usually affects young girls, and rarely also boys, who are especially vulnerable and at risk of (sexual) exploitation. There have been examples of attempts by pimps to recruit young girls living in correctional-educational institutions in Budapest during the few hours the girls had to leave the institutions. Most of the victims are girls between the age of 14 and 16. Some of them tried to persuade their peers into prostitution.

The majority of cases involve sexual exploitation; most of the victims are young women (18–25 years old) whose history almost always contains dysfunctional families, alcohol or drug abuse by the family, domestic violence and sexual abuse – almost without exception. In many cases, victims know they have to work as prostitutes but they are not aware of the fact that they will be exploited, beaten, or will not receive any money.

From a progress report on the Hungarian Government's anti-trafficking efforts (2014-2016)

Obstacles

Hungary does not yet have a protocol for helping victims of trafficking and currently there is no political will for changing this. The lack of an appointed victim-support organisation leaves all this burden on civil organizations, but this does not ensure transparency. Moreover, during the execution of our project, The Salvation Army faces several challenges:

- Financial difficulties of NGOs (The Salvation Army in Hungary is not an NGO, but has official church status);
- The low number of professional staff at NGOs;
- Underfinanced reintegration processes;
- The period of reintegration in a shelter is not long enough (maximum 3 + 3-month period);
- There is no special shelter for children victims of human trafficking;
- Hungarian authorities should amend Hungarian law to extend trafficking provisions for minors who have just turned 18 and get involved in prostitution work regardless of the level of consent.

Recommendations to national government

- Increase funding for and provision of specialised victim services and provide consistent funding to NGOs to offer victim care, address the vulnerability of children residing in state-run institutions and individuals who leave these institutions;
- Increase proactive identification of and assistance for child victims exploited within Hungary;
- Bolster protection for victims who face serious harm and retribution from their traffickers, including the development of longer-term care options to improve reintegration; enhance the collection and reporting of reliable law enforcement and victim protection data; and increase victim-centred training of law enforcement, prosecutors and social workers.



ITALY

National Contact Person: Major Estelle Blake

The Salvation Army's national set-up, actions and partnerships

The Salvation Army is getting stronger in outreach work and it is a founding member of a national network. The Italian NCP is also a member of The Salvation Army's International Task Force and the experience from the ENSS Network shows that regular contact and clear guidelines can make a difference. Networking is one of the most important developments. This includes government agencies, other Christian response groups and professional businesses that are looking to support, learn and partner with The Salvation Army. Meetings with politicians and local agencies happen as a result of persistent writing and calling. It was also part of the launch of a new 'evangelical' (Protestant) network and continues to be a part of the training and development of projects nationally and locally.

The Salvation Army is seen as the expert and the leader in this area of work in Italy. It has hosted training days for agencies covering topics such as Rescue and Empowerment, Sexualisation of Culture, Language Use and Personal Care. It has focused on teamwork, how to stay safe and that AHT work is not a one-person mission.

Esercito della Salvezza has focused its strengths on several issues, but many projects have crossovers, and sexual exploitation is covered in other situations – opportunities for training and raising awareness often arise in local projects dealing with other themes. Several Salvation Army officers meet victims in their daily programmes through outreach services for refugees and corps ministries, including **women's ministries, Lentini Corps (church) prison ministry, Connection to the Roma Community in Pisa, and at Atena Lucana Refugee Centre**, where it has been identified that some of the refugees have also been victims of trafficking.

Green light Project: The Salvation Army has a weekly outreach to the sexually exploited community – has reached an increasing number of LGBT people – and it is meeting more people who say they have been victims of human trafficking. Within the Romanian-Roma Community they are noticing more signs of trafficking in the behaviour of the women who are frightened in some way. It has kept the name Green Light Project as this is the name of the already established project in Greece.

Since 2016, **new projects have been developed** in Sicily, focusing on women who have been 'freed' by traffickers along with their children, and who are part of The Salvation Army's community. Support to reintegrate in the society has been provided.

Recommendations

It is more and more urgent to introduce programmes to raise awareness on trafficking in countries of origin where victims come from – the most-at-risk countries' – so human trafficking can be prevented before it happens.

*Destina
Bro
Drea*

LATVIA

National Contact Person: Inese Krastiņa

The Salvation Army's national set-up, actions and partnerships

The Salvation Army in Latvia (*Pestīšanas Armija*) is part of the AHT platform 'Patvērums Droša māja' (www.patverums-dm.lv/en/) that consists of seven NGOs and municipalities and has a national taskforce putting together the national players against trafficking in human beings. The anti-human trafficking ministry works together with the main organisation which is driving the specialised project in Latvia called 'Shelter Safe Haven'. This is the fourth year of collaboration, and is now joined by a collaboration with the organisation 'Freedom 61' and contacts with the 'Marta' support centre for women, which is also working against human trafficking. When a representative from GRETA visited Latvia in 2016, The Salvation Army was invited to the seminar to share information about its work to prevent human trafficking.

The Salvation Army in Latvia focuses on preventative measures by running information seminars. These are targeted at all groups of potential human trafficking victims, and are held in corps (churches) and social centres. The aim of the project is to inform people about what human trafficking is, what types of human trafficking there are and what the consequences and risks are. They also consider where people can get help if they find themselves in this situation and what safety measures people need to take if they want to work abroad. The first seminar was started in the spring of 2015 and it is an ongoing project. They have held three seminars/working groups up to now with approximately 25 people in each group. In addition,

training on the different kinds of human trafficking are being held, to teach Salvation Army social workers to notice signs of human trafficking and what to do next. Unfortunately, there is no Salvation Army strategy on AHT in Latvia. Developing a more consistent strategy on AHT will be the next step in The Salvation Army's document for the next years.

Although not working directly with the victims of human trafficking, *Pestīšanas Armija*'s anti-trafficking coordinator recognises that forced marriages with non-EU citizens have decreased in the past years, but that the increase in refugees coming into the EU has heightened the risk of refugees falling into trap of labour exploitation.

Projects

Pestīšanas Armija's projects focus on prevention/protection, reintegration and research. The government's ombudsman is carrying out research and raising the issue of human trafficking issue on a governmental level, but it is not possible for The Salvation Army to take part in consultations or stakeholder meetings. Across the international Salvation Army, a special Sunday in autumn has been dedicated to raise awareness about trafficking issues. Since 2017, *Pestīšanas Armija* set a dedicated Sunday in autumn to raise awareness among Salvation Army corps and communities specifically about human trafficking issues in Latvia. This year, the country's Army is planning to get involved in European project Safe Havens. >>



>> Obstacles and challenges

Society, including the government, does not see human trafficking as a considerable problem in Latvia. People have also turned their backs on prostitution. The view is that, in many cases, it is the person's fault or choice. Any kind of government initiative is slow and not extensive. As The Salvation Army lacks human resources in its team to carry out the work in the country, it aims to gradually raise awareness on this issue and help society to change its perspective on the victims of human trafficking.

'People are not aware of the risks of human trafficking and think that it would not happen to them. As a result, recommendations and advice (for example before travelling for a job opportunity in another country) are not taken seriously.'

National Contact Person, Lithuania

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
<http://pestisanasarmija.lv/>



Recommendations to national government

- Support more informative seminars in schools, especially in rural areas where the risk of becoming a victim of human trafficking is much higher.
- Widen awareness-raising through training and campaigns, reaching out beyond Riga to villages and smaller towns;
- Educate people who are working in local municipalities and schools and inform communities about human trafficking so people are aware of the risks and of the best ways of understanding when they are in trouble and how to react to it.



MOLDOVA

National Contact Person: Galina Ketroy

The Salvation Army's national set-up, actions and partnerships

As one of the poorest European countries, Moldova has one of the highest rates of citizens working abroad, with an important share of the population working in the EU, often illegally. With such a situation, and an incredible amount of job offers available which promise Moldovans a better and easier future in richer countries, the risk of trafficking in human beings is rampant.

The Salvation Army in Moldova is still growing its awareness-raising initiatives and training. At present, it is very resourceful in the country with regards to human trafficking awareness. Since it started its work, it has impacted a lot of peoples' lives, through various social programmes and services. It continues to work hand in hand with the International Organisation for Migrations

(IOM) to make a first-hand assessment of victims and connect them with follow-up support, cooperating with the NGO Open Heart and participating in forums with the Ministry of Family and Social Welfare of Moldova and with the British Embassy's Charity Forums.

Since January 2018, The Salvation Army has had a national taskforce in Moldova and four trained people who meet quarterly to discuss the activity report, progress and future plans. The group consists of the territorial headquarters programme secretary, divisional leader, divisional children's ministries officer, and the AHT National Contact Person.

Projects and services

A 'train the trainers' focus aims to prevent human trafficking and to protect and reintegrate victims. The project, part of Safe Havens, is managed by two employees and more than 10 volunteers (including physicians and >>



Above: Job advertisements in Moldova for opportunities abroad

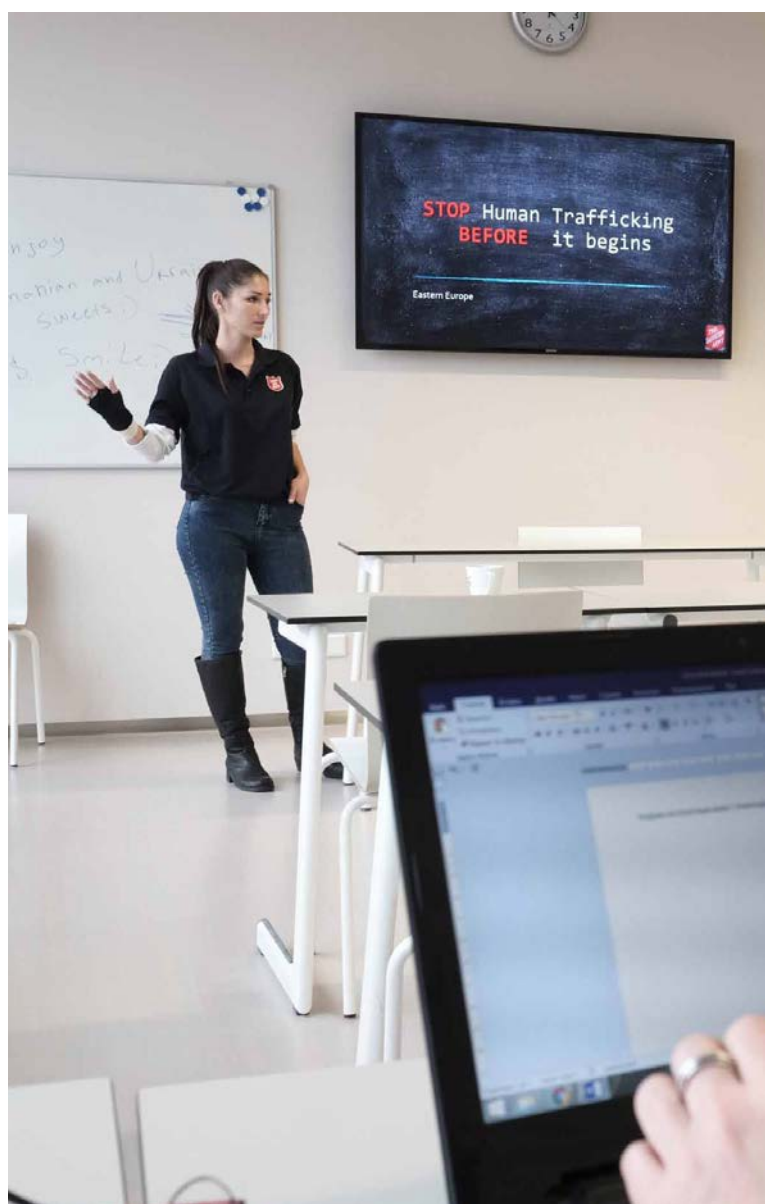
>> psychologists) in cooperation with Open Heart and Nazarene Church Moldova. Managed as a media campaign, initiative uses a fake advertisement for jobs and training opportunities abroad. The announcement, which appears to be a real advert, aims to attract jobseekers who naively would accept very attractive job offers without guarantees. Those who decide to participate in an information meeting for this job and training are given a questionnaire that asks if they are willing to give their passport numbers, visas, work permits and personal identification to the interviewer. Many people provide their personal data without any proof of what job they will be offered, before they are all invited to go into a second room where they are given education on how trafficking works and its dangers.

The 'train the trainers' project also discusses the opportunities and procedures for safe migration, as well as providing services to those who have been victims. The training and workshops have been very positively welcomed by local authorities and orphanages (prevention actions have a special emphasis on orphanages). A psychologist was also invited to talk about the mental impact of trafficking on individuals.

Home visits, food distribution and private counselling to victims of trafficking in human beings are also undertaken by The Salvation Army. Other services seek to raise awareness of THB and recognising its victims, along with an **HIV/Aids/Drug Awareness initiative**, which cooperates with the anti-trafficking project.

'**Together We are Stronger**' is a project that aims to build networks and strengthen cooperation with other services. Thanks to its cooperation with IOM, The Salvation Army is able to go to a location to make a first-hand assessment of victims and connect them with local officials first; then government taskforces are set up to help victims (offering criminal law support for victims and temporary monetary support). The Salvation Army also carries out home visits and provides food and counselling.

'A man is beaten, and has returned to his family in a small village from the farm in Russia where he had been working as slave labour. He is now on the national register and is awaiting a trial [note: very few cases are prosecuted]. The IOM, Open Heart and The Salvation Army have provided support and practical humanitarian aid. The local mayor had contacts with a local church who offered the man a job on a farm near his own home. The end result: farm wages in Moldova ended up being less than he was making in Russia. The man has developed a drinking problem and is considering returning to Russia, leaving his wife and child. We find that many of our contacts have less-than-perfect outcomes.'
Report from a Salvation Army AHT worker



The Salvation Army also runs a **mobile medical clinic**, consisting of a highly organised medical team that treats more than 9,000 patients per year. In the course of visits the team often recognises signs of 'conditions whose origin came about as a result of being trafficked'. It treats HIV-positive babies, adults with addictions and communicable diseases, etc. Each is given a diagnosis and a course of treatments with three follow-up visits (each quarter) and prescriptions as needed. Services are recommended and registrations are made with the government for anyone found to be exploited

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

armatasalvarii.md/en/proekty/mobile-clinic



Left: Galina Ketroy providing training for jobseekers on how to recognise the risk of human trafficking

Success story

In August 2017 I held a seminar with young adults about signs of labour exploitation, risks of trafficking and steps to be prepared and safe when looking for a job. After the seminar, one of the young guys told me that some of the risks described in the training happened to him a few times, although he didn't know that he was a potential victim of labour trafficking. As he plans to go abroad looking for a job, I recognised how the seminar had been helpful for him and taught him to beware and act with caution.

Galina Ketroy, National Coordinator

Greatest obstacles and challenges in fighting human trafficking

Funding is based on statistics, which are just the tip of the iceberg. The biggest vulnerable group in regards to sexual trafficking are not only females – labour trafficking includes both men and women. Another thing is that in villages, children are exploited for work. This brings a dilemma and conflict of interest in finding solutions because child labour is also embedded in the Moldovan culture. Therefore, there is no discussion on the topic of children being exploited.

Recommendations to national government

- There is a need for more governmental engagement in helping NGOs to find opportunities to set up projects that will help to develop AHT work;
- Registration as a victim needs to be confidential, convictions need to be enforced and laws must protect victims.

Restarting
Broken
Dreams

THE NETHERLANDS

Name of National Contact Person: Ineke Van Buren

The Salvation Army's national set-up, actions and partnerships

With nine social services projects in The Netherlands, *Leger des Heils* provides well-developed assistance to victims of trafficking, some of which are focused on people in prostitution. The Salvation Army has a national strategy formulated in a vision document and has a **national task force**, which was started in 2012 and consists of the different entities of The Salvation Army (church, social work, probation office, international development) which are active at different levels in anti-trafficking. Thanks to the growth of this task force, which meets three times a year, an expert group has been formed, with the different areas of social work represented. The task force exchanges national and regional policies related to care, treatment and support and the return of victims of trafficking, with colleagues from all regions of the country. Best practices but also bottlenecks and challenges are shared.

Advocacy/awareness raising actions are done mainly in collaboration with other organisations lobbying in the National Strategic Council (*Strategisch overleg mensenhandel*). The Salvation Army participates in a strategic consultation of 14 national (external) organisations that offer care, treatment, reception, policy/ coordinating activities and a representative of the Ministry of Justice. The consultation intends to share signals (trends, if any) and national and international policies, both successful and those which aren't working; discusses changes in the number of victims who have been registered at the national coordination centre and the number of victims residing in care and reception. Some Salvation Army projects are carried out with sponsorships or donations. They are in (mostly indirect) contact with the National Rapporteur on AHT (governmental contact point). Contact with other NGOs on the issue of AHT varies in the different regions.

Leger Des Heils is in direct contact with the responsible ministries, attending national meetings to draw attention to the needs of victims. It receives funding from national and local authorities for many of the services provided. Concerning partnership with other organisations, The Salvation Army is member of the national network. It works in close cooperation with other NGOs in several projects. Major partners in addressing human trafficking are **Comensha**, **Defence for Children (Ecpat)**, **Unicef**, **Fier**, **HVO**, **Shop**, **Humanitas** and **Moviera**.

'Safe Havens': sustainable integration and safe return for survivors of human trafficking

In 2016, *Leger des Heils* started the the multi-national EU safe return project 'Safe Havens', together with The Salvation Army in Sweden. The project, which aims to reinforce cooperation through The Salvation Army network on the topic of anti-human trafficking, is a three-year programme focusing on survivors' reintegration. Its structure revolves mainly around the following points:

- Carrying out a pilot programme for sustainable integration and safe return of (undocumented) non-EU victims of trafficking in a partnership between The Salvation Army in The Netherlands and Sweden, incorporating existing best practices among the two countries in legal support of undocumented victims;
- A special focus and research on (undocumented) Roma minor victims of trafficking;
- Replicating and contextualising the outcomes of the pilot programme on (undocumented) non-EU victims and (undocumented) Roma minor victims of trafficking through the wider European anti-human trafficking network of The Salvation Army, and its NGO partners;
- Strengthening transnational cooperation with non-EU countries within The Salvation Army's AHT network with a primary focus on Romania, Moldova and Ukraine (a high number of victims trafficked into the EU come from Moldova and Ukraine, with Romania being a major transit country);
- Developing and implementing a sustainable training development programme for AHT National Contact Persons and fieldworkers.

Actions in the field: social projects

The Salvation Army has projects in several cities of The Netherlands, some of which are directly dedicated to people in prostitution.

- **Recht in zicht (part of Meetingpoint), Amsterdam**

The aim of this project is to provide protection and reintegration. The Salvation Army assists victims of trafficking in legal affairs and other domains. One-third of the people end up with a legal status and some return to their country of origin. As it addresses undocumented victims, this project is an example of best practice in serving people with strong vulnerabilities.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

www.facebook.com/meetingpointlegerdesheils/

- **Levenskracht, in Eindhoven**

This programme supports people in prostitution who want to change their condition and their means of earning a living. 'Life Force', as it translates literally, helps sex workers in a comprehensive and integrated way to take more responsibility for their lives and to improve their living conditions. In the most favourable cases, sex workers walk away from prostitution. To reduce the risk of relapse, The Salvation Army seeks to tackle the network of people the sex workers are dependent upon and to provide guidelines for the future.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

www.legerdesheils.nl/limburg-brabant/levenskracht

- **Meetingpoint (living room), Amsterdam**

The aim of this project is prevention, protection and reintegration. By creating and opening a living room, The Salvation Army provides a safe and friendly environment to build relationships of trust, offering hope and giving a new perspective to sex workers, who can access coffee, materials for work (like condoms) and information and assistance in the areas of work, income, health, safety and reintegration. A voluntary return programme and job-inclusion programme are also offered in this centre. Within this initiative, The Salvation Army also reaches out to people in prostitution. The project provides referrals to sex workers, and looks for signs of trafficking.

The Meetingpoint institution has also been coordinating research projects to better understand the habits of trafficking victims and perpetrators in immigrant communities. It recently started to cooperate with a university department specialised on **African Studies**, to research the role of religious leaders in exploitation of Nigerian victims. A previous research on West African victims provided precious information for the Army's experts to reach out to this particular group.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

www.facebook.com/meetingpointlegerdesheils/

- **Living room for people in prostitution – 'Xenia', Leeuwarden**

This ongoing project, based in the north of the country, has the aim of prevention, protection and reintegration. The project seeks to provide a safe and friendly environment to build relationships of trust, offering hope and a fresh perspective through opening a living room to people working in prostitution.

- **The village two beds for victims, Rotterdam**

The aim of the project is to protect victims of human trafficking through the provision of housing and support.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

www.legerdesheils.nl/mcr

- **Jannahuis (two beds for victims), Amsterdam**

The aim of the project is to protect victims of human trafficking through the provision of housing and support. The home is for women aged 18-65 who need support to be able to live independently. These are women with complex issues such as a history of (sexual) violence or debt-related problems, for example. During the stay in the house the women receive psychological and help to find accommodation while working on becoming independent.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

www.legerdesheils.nl/goodwillcentra-amsterdam/jannahuis

In addition to what is above, The Salvation Army supports the work of authorities and fellow NGOs in fighting the criminal exploitation of Roma children, through a network of 'Guardians'. >>

>> Obstacles and challenges

The problem of trafficking is complex and many times not directly visible. Real solutions on a personal level have a lot to do with offering alternatives to victims. This can be a big hurdle to overcome. To fight human trafficking well takes resources and is therefore also a matter of capacity. The root of trafficking is making money while exploiting others. Forms in which this is done vary and there is still a battle with many 'dark numbers' [where official numbers don't reflect the actual scale of the problem]. The Salvation Army has seen changes in prominent source countries, and now the numbers coming from Bulgaria are rising – although this can of course change quickly.

Solving cases of trafficking is very time-consuming for the police – it is a matter of urgency, capacity and priority. Due to structural reforms during the past years, capacity and expertise were lost by the forming of the national police. In addition, it is very hard to protect victims and survivors who have passed through trauma of trafficking. In The Netherlands, the police focus mainly on policies and criminals, while victims are more and more seen as precious and important witnesses. The result is an overburdening of victims, who have to tell their stories over and over again in a re-traumatizing process.

The change of the profile of traffickers and victims also represents a challenge, which means continuously adapting the ways of approaching victims. The Salvation Army has witnessed a change in the traditional prostitution codes, which sometimes makes it even harder to identify trafficking victims. 'Old-fashioned' approaches are disappearing, to be replaced by online prostitution. Sexting – using digital technology to send sexualized text, images or videos – which has increased in recent years among under-18s, often represents a way to attract potential victims. An increase in male trafficking and the number of males in prostitution has also been registered.

Recommendations to national government

- A more specialised police, with knowledge about foreign behaviour and cultures, is needed (for example specialised in West Africa or Asia) in order to be able to work with traumatised people;
- A lot can be learned from the British system: victims should be protected and defended, and should not be forced to tell their stories to different agencies over and over again;
- More education to promote critical thinking with regards to purchasing cheap manufactured goods and the relation to modern slavery.

FOCUS ON SAFE HAVENS

A training kit for frontline staff working with refugees and victims of human trafficking

Within the framework of the Safe Havens project, training has been developed to equip social workers with tools to focus on prevention, raising awareness/ advocacy, education, training, protection and care for victims of human trafficking.

A manual has been put together for The Salvation Army's service providers, aimed at helping them to recognise and serve victims of human trafficking in a holistic manner. It is created in cooperation with frontline police and immigration officers, detention centre workers and service providers and practitioners in The Salvation Army's anti-human trafficking task force, especially those who come into contact with the trafficked persons in their everyday work. A collective contextual input was gathered from the AHT National Contact Persons about the situation and context in different countries. Subsequently, the information was further developed into the training manual and information materials.

The training kit promotes The Salvation Army's European AHT Network in the area of prevention, protection, and reintegration to effectively respond to the needs of survivors of human trafficking, through a united and coordinated approach that works across international borders and boundaries. Hence, the manual provides background information about the existing international prevention tools and their relevance to law enforcement and NGOs. Practical tools include lists of indicators, checklists to help identify if a person is trafficked or smuggled, and recommended questions for interviewing trafficked persons – with the possibility of referrals and recommended assistance to trafficked victims.

The manual also addresses the main challenges provided by Salvation Army contact persons such as: what is the difference between trafficking in persons and migration?; why does trafficking in persons continue to be a high-profit, low-risk crime?; what role and opportunities do law enforcement agencies play?; why are refugees vulnerable to human trafficking?; and what can we do to prevent it before it happens? Also addressed are the causes of vulnerability, with guidelines to identify potential victims among vulnerable populations. The role of Salvation Army service providers and volunteers in the anti-trafficking field is considered, illustrating the importance of having culturally competent caregivers.

NORWAY

National Contact Person: Petra K. Brooke

The Salvation Army's national set-up, actions and partnerships

A national task force is organised within the Norwegian Salvation Army (*Frelsesarmeen*). Led by the National Contact Person's line manager as leader, it includes participants from social services. Task force members discuss suggestions from the National Contact Person regarding new projects or ideas. They also provide and look over the two-year action plan and the National Contact Person reports yearly to the task force.

Advocacy/awareness-raising actions on AHT have been carried out both internally and together with the NGO A21 and with other churches. Political lobbying is mostly done by participating with the national coordination unit and supporting its proposals. Some lobbying happens through the 'Filemon' project. The Salvation Army is part of the national coordination unit, together with others who work against trafficking. It has also initiated a network for faith-based NGOs. In 2016, a **website on trafficking in human beings**, which focuses on prevention and training for experts, was realised thanks to a government grant. This has been used not only by The Salvation Army, but also by a bigger network of churches.

As it is not part of the EU, Norway does not have a National Rapporteur. There are two people, one from the national coordination unit for victims of trafficking and one from the Home Office who function as rapporteurs. The coordinator of The Salvation Army's work against trafficking is in regular contact with these two persons.

Projects

'Trafficking Fængsel' (prison ministry) in Stavanger, Sarpsborg, Oslo and Kongsvinger

The overarching goal of this project is the protection of victims. The aim of the project is to identify and give information about rights and opportunities. It started in 2009 and is now a part of the ongoing prison ministry. On average it reaches about five victims per year. Women in prison are less likely to talk about their situation than men. Through this programme help has been provided to people who are in prison because of false papers, having been forced into labour. They have been given a fair trial or be returned to their home country through the 'Safe Way Home' programme.

Through this project The Salvation Army has built a good relationship with the prison authorities and the justice system in Norway. It also confirms that is very difficult in Norway to be verified as a victim and that a crime is often more important than the person's status as a possible >>



>> victim, so people in prison face additional problems in accessing a reflection period and to get victim status.

'Filemon' (labour exploitation safe house), Oslo

In 2016, a safe house for men who are victims of labour exploitation was opened by *Frelsesarmeen*, aiming at their protection and reintegration/repatriation, through a process of stabilisation, psychological support and training for developing new work skills. The project is also focusing on learning more about trafficking and to prevent people from ending up as victims of labour trafficking, through dialogue with the service clients. It has also had to learn about labour trafficking in Norway and is developing other side projects, such as providing training and resources to churches that meet victims of trafficking through welfare centres and social ministry.

Rehabilitation project, Stavanger

A pilot project was run in 2016 with one person. At the time it was not a formalised project, but staff were recruited and trained to work with a victim of sexual exploitation. The success achieved with the person who had been rescued, and who was helped to get back on track in her life, pushed the organisation to look for the resources to replicate this experience on a bigger scale. Negotiations are now ongoing with the authorities for the possible funding of a three-year project.

'We have had amazing results with the lady that went through our programme in 2016. The victim was very ill when she started the programme, with extensive mental health issues, and today she is back in school and lives independently. This sort of treatment is rare and very needed. Nevertheless, we still have a lot to learn, especially as most of these women are being sent back, and it may not be possible to link up to international treatment centres.'

Comment by a Salvation Army AHT worker

A protected location for victims human trafficking is used by the Norwegian Salvation Army as a safehouse. This provides high-quality trauma treatment for women who have experienced sex trafficking.

Challenges and opportunities

On the national level the legal system and the system of identifying victims is a big obstacle. In Norway you are only verified as a true victim of trafficking if your traffickers are sentenced in court. That alone will give you rights for protection as a victim further than the six months' reflection period. There is also a lack of organisation on how to deal with victims of trafficking and who has what role. The Salvation Army in Norway feels that an individualised reflection period would work better with the needs of the person. Most of the men hosted in Salvation Army facilities are victims of modern slavery, but do not get access to help. The Salvation Army is currently working together with other churches to push for an 'Anti-slavery Act' that could help this problem.

In The Salvation Army the challenges it faces are the lack of time to work on this issue, which is only part of all other things it does, but the work is growing. The Salvation Army needs to dedicate time and people to lobbying, building capacity, and working with projects involving repatriation and supporting victims.

The greatest national obstacle is the immigration policies that apply to this group. They are they are often sent out of the country – despite clear evidence of trafficking – due to lack of police evidence.

Recommendations to national government

Better coordination of the care for victims and a new directive in identifying and verifying victims' to access to rights.

POLAND

National Contact Person: Joanna Trela

The Salvation Army's national set-up, actions and partnerships

The Salvation Army in Poland (*Armia Zbawienia*) is a rather small organisation, present in only a few cities, with an AHT focus on preventing labour exploitation. However, it has quickly been affirmed as one of the main players at the national level, due to its good cooperation with other NGOs and with the national authorities.

An advocacy and research project for anti-human trafficking was started in July 2016 through a CPMS project led by The Salvation Army's United Kingdom Territory with the Republic of Ireland². The project, expected to run over two years, was aimed at developing advocacy, data collection, training and practical help to victims and potential victims, and developed into the Job Verification Service.

The resulting report showed what the characteristics of human trafficking looks like in Poland and highlighted the institutional panorama of competencies from NGOs and public administration.

Based on this research, *Armia Zbawienia* started building its capacity in the field, establishing cooperation with non-governmental organisations and state institutions involved in combating the problem of human trafficking, becoming a member of the National Network of Non-Governmental Organisations Against Trafficking in Human Beings. It engaged in prevention activities amongst young, poor and homeless people and took part in public awareness campaigns about the dangers of human trafficking.

Preventing labour exploitation

Following the research carried out in 2016, *Armia Zbawienia*, with the support of the British Embassy in Poland set up the **Job Verification Service**, a project aimed at prevention of labour exploitation and protection of victims across the country. The project provides practical support for jobseekers in Poland, which is in many cases a 'sending' country in the net of human trafficking. Salvation Army experts verify job offers on behalf of applicants and on the basis of a developed framework, and provide information about workers' rights and obligations in given countries for those who are looking for a job abroad. In addition, general information on the main signs to detect modern slavery conditions are provided to all job applicants who approach the service, together with basic advice on how to protect themselves and emergency contacts in case of need once abroad. The conditions are verified and job conditions are monitored at the beginning of the working experience abroad, in order to allow people who find themselves in troubles to call for help.

The holistic approach of the Job Verification Service makes it a good practice, as – despite being relatively low-budget – it raise awareness among people of the risks of modern slavery when accepting a job offer, gives them practical tools to protect themselves from exploitation and can be carried out remotely.

Besides the job verification, *Armia Zbawienia* is also active in employment support for repatriates and the victims of human trafficking. This action aims at reintegrating people who experienced human trafficking back in the Polish job market, preventing the risk that they could once again >>



² The CPMS system is The Salvation Army's tool for managing and supporting community projects which receive international support



>> fall in the trafficking net and equipping him/her with the practical skills to maintain a job. The majority of victims are survivors coming back to Poland from western Europe, in particular the UK. The Salvation Army gets in contact with survivors through an NGO which carries out governmental services against THB. The employment support service builds up links with survivors, allowing them to have a long-term contact person.

Advocacy and partnership with authorities

The Salvation Army in Poland works against trafficking in human beings in four cities where The Salvation Army has corps (churches). Rising awareness initiatives were organised jointly with the British Embassy in Warsaw, the city council of Radom and the NGO La Strada. A bigger, nationwide awareness-raising campaign on THB will be launched on the European Day against Trafficking in Human Beings – 18 October 2018 – and will involve as partners the police, border guards, the prison service and a national magazine.

Concerning its cooperation with the authorities, *Armia Zbawienia* has been invited onto the intergovernmental team to fight and prevent human trafficking, which holds three meetings per year. Periodical contacts are taken with the Department for European Migration and Counteracting Trafficking in Human Beings, from the Polish government.

Challenges and opportunities

Awareness of modern slavery is rather low in Poland, and often people do not take into account the risk of labour exploitation abroad, even if they know about it. The work of the Job Verification Service, for instance, represents an excellent resource but needs more and better promotion to attract users and convince applicants of the importance of checking the job offers they receive. It is also a problem that Polish people normally know very little about the work of The Salvation Army.

The projects are currently ending their pilot phases, and *Armia Zbawienia's* engagement in work against trafficking in human beings will soon enter its second phase.

The research carried out in 2016 showed that non-governmental organisations and governmental institutions expect practical help for victims and not just prevention, while the Polish government is committed to combating



trafficking, but funds allocated to the area are not sufficient and are provided to only a few organisations which are not able to address the problem alone.

Building trust with victims

Human trafficking in Poland is a risk for a wide range of groups, with a prevalence of manual workers in their late careers who do not speak foreign languages, and are therefore more vulnerable when travelling to work abroad. Younger people are also at risk of heavy exploitation, although this normally happens for shorter times. Women and men experience very different paths in term of recruitment by traffickers and exploitation.

Building trust is key with victims of trafficking. In its work with young people in Warsaw some resistance is already easing – and The Salvation Army wants to build on that.

Recommendations to national government

- Improve the space and opportunities for NGO and police cooperation in the national anti-human trafficking strategy, opening up to a wider amount of organisations on the basis of the UK model of the fight against trafficking;
- Update the legal definitions of 'labour exploitation', 'modern slavery' and 'human trafficking' to clarify the aspects of these phenomena. In Poland, labour exploitation is not recognised as a crime comparable to human trafficking. Updating legislation and broadening the scope of 'human trafficking' will allow more effective prosecutions and better compensation for survivors.

ROMANIA

National Contact Person: Roxana Sandu

The Salvation Army's national set-up, actions and partnerships

The Salvation Army in Romania (*Armata Salvării*) is working to prevent trafficking in human beings, raising awareness with children, teenagers and young adults – the most at-risk groups – at children's camps, after-school day centres, social enterprises and mobile clinics. At the same time, activities are carried out at the level of the church community (Salvation Army corps) and feature in gatherings of young people, as in the case of an annual spring weekend, in which social awareness, spiritual services and Salvation Army values are shared in the framework of a spring weekend retreat. In all of these initiatives, *Armata Salvării* tries to include information about human trafficking prevention.

Following the participation by *Armata Salvării* in anti-human trafficking training in the framework of the Safe Havens project at the University of Applied Sciences in Ede, Netherlands, the organisation increased its consciousness of the need for better engagement in this challenge. The Salvation Army is now preparing a few project proposals to improve its reaction and activity in the fight against sexual and labour exploitation in the country.

Challenges and opportunities

The local Salvation Army is very small and lacks the finances, human resources and capacity to work on this issue, which is extremely serious in Romania. It is willing to improve its work on the topic in the future, educating women and girls about their worth as people, and providing income-generating opportunities for individuals and families. These are steps towards preventing desperate choices which endanger vulnerable people's lives.

Recommendations to national government

- Better assistance and support of Romanian NGOs through adequate funding and support; including the third sector in consultations about governmental responses to the issue;
- Improve victim access to medical assistance, regardless of their legal status, and work on the quality of psychological counselling;
- Prevention: keep people informed about cases of human trafficking in the media and through campaigns.
- Identify potential victims among vulnerable populations, such as undocumented migrants, foreign workers, Roma and children involved in begging;
- Operate the anti-trafficking hotline on evenings and weekends;
- Ban prosecution of victims for crimes committed as a direct result of their being subjected to human trafficking;
- Improve operational efficiency and eradicate corruption in this matter.



Right: The participants of one of the workshops, held by Mike Stannett (TSA Belgium)

Projects

One of the main ongoing projects for 2018 started in May and will end in March 2019. The focus of this project is to raise awareness about the risks and dangers of human trafficking during the 2018 World Cup – an event which was expected to boost the prostitution business – in order to reduce the exposure of vulnerable groups to exploitation. This project entails training Salvation Army officers, soldiers and members of specialised NGOs in five cities (Moscow, St Petersburg, Rostov-On-Don, Volgograd, and Samara), which hosted football matches and had a good presence of Salvation Army corps. The campaign did not just finish with the championship, but follow-up actions were planned for afterwards.

RUSSIA

National Contact Person: Major Elena Shulyanskaya

The Salvation Army's national set-up, actions and partnerships

The Salvation Army in Russia focuses on preventative work, and in raising awareness about the risks of street begging, prostitution, and slave labour. Recently, more attention has been given to the issue of raising awareness for men as potential consumers of sex services, also throughout a campaign on the occasion of the Football World Cup in Russia, which targeted men's attitudes towards women.

In June 2018, the Russia Command held a men's camp to talk about how men's behaviours have indirectly and directly boosted the sex industry. Since 2016, The Salvation Army in Russia has widened its scope of raising awareness and has seen a lot of progress in the prevention of human trafficking. On 24 September 2017, all the Salvation Army corps (churches) in Russian participated in the International Day of Prayer for Victims of Human Trafficking. Some people took part in a flash mob on the International Day for the Abolition of Slavery. On 6-8 October 2017 – with an NGO called Safe House Foundation, The Salvation Army in Russia held a preventive AHT seminar for 25 girl teenagers from Petrozavodsk in northern Russia.

Collaborations and partnerships

The Salvation Army in Russia has several partners on preventative work. It engages with **the Safe House Foundation, Nevoli.Net, Social Service 24/7 and IHOP**. During the campaign about the risks and dangers of human trafficking during the 2018 World Cup, men from five different cities were involved, from The Salvation Army and partner NGOs. Selected participants from each city were members of The Salvation Army and of other organisations, while male activists, volunteers, Salvation Army officers and soldiers (at least 20 participants in each city) with experience in the field of violence led group workshops for men. Participants were also trained to identify and assist the victims of trafficking.

Obstacles

The greatest obstacles in fighting human trafficking in Russia is that citizens are not informed enough about the problem. The country has a low level of cooperation between NGO and law enforcement agencies. The law enforcement agencies have trouble in solving crimes because they do not have enough legislative base,



information or statistics in these cases. The role of The Salvation Army in overcoming these obstacles is to inform and work with people, social organisations and the government on the problem of human trafficking.

Recommendations to national government

- Increase awareness about the problem of human trafficking;
- Carry out preventative work with risk groups (vulnerable victims and potential clients);
- Create more social shelters/safehouses for human trafficking survivors;
- Conduct training for social workers, on recognising and helping the victims of human trafficking.

SWEDEN

National Contact Person: Fanny Ljungholm

The Salvation Army's national set-up, actions and partnerships

The Salvation Army in Sweden (*Frälsningsarmén*) is a big and acknowledged player in the fight against trafficking in human beings. Since 2013, the Swedish branch of the organisation has adopted a national anti-trafficking strategy, interconnected to the European strategy of prevention, protection and reintegration with a focus of restoration of individuals, human dignity and to meet the needs and respect victims' human rights and God-given value. With its national strategy, the Swedish Salvation Army has set up an anti-trafficking task force called AMOS, consisting of seven to nine local experts meeting on a regular basis and equipped with a budget and a three-year strategy. The task force is formed of participants with different backgrounds: the national Salvation Army leadership, the national coordinator for anti-human trafficking, the National Contact Person, an international development expert and representatives of the local safe houses and social services.

Since the first territorial anti-trafficking conference, 20 local 'ambassadors' based in different locations throughout the country joined together. Their aim is to be feet on the ground in prevention activities and to be ready for referrals of support according to the national policy and action plan. Since 2016, frontline members and officers receive training material on how to identify and react to what they suspect are signals of trafficking.

Advocacy and relations with other NGOs and the authorities

The Salvation Army has a key role in the Swedish civil society in raising awareness about the issue of trafficking in human beings: it cooperates with 20 other NGOs in the Swedish Civil Society Platform against Human Trafficking and is recognised as a trustworthy role model and expert, as the leader of the steering group. A close dialogue is >>

>> ensured with the National Rapporteur and the National Coordinator against Human Trafficking in Sweden, as The Salvation Army comments on legislation, national reports, and expert consultations and other regional, bilateral and international bodies and stakeholders, such as the Council of Europe. Thanks to the engagement of The Salvation Army, the first formal National Referral Mechanism was set up in Sweden.

In Sweden, partnerships are held with many different public and private bodies, depending on different prevention, protection and reintegration activities, both at national, regional and local level. *Fralsningsarmen* has joint cooperation with the Migration Board, the police, social services, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, civil society platforms, law firms, regional coordinators, taxi companies and hotels. For more information, go to www.manniskohandel.se

Advocacy is mainly carried out in cooperation with 20 other NGOs through a group called Swedish Civil Society against Human Trafficking. The Salvation Army is seen as an expert within civil society in Sweden and most invitations come through the Swedish Civil Society against Human Trafficking, where it has one out of four seats in the steering group. As part of this steering group it comments on legislation, national reports and expert consultations with the EU Coordinator's country visits as well as GRETA's country visits. It is trying to push for local engagements through networking and municipalities. Through the civil society group it works with the County Administrative Board (National Co-coordinating Authority).

The Strategy

The work of The Salvation Army in Sweden aims to fight for all human beings to have the right to freedom without exploitation. All the programmes in Sweden are mainstreamed to focus on all forms of trafficking in human beings (THB), including sexual, labour, criminal actions,

forced begging (with restrictions to safe houses focused on different genders, adults, children etc). The strategy equally pays attention to the three pillars of AHT: prevention, protection and reintegration. The Salvation Army's aims are:

- **Prevention:** to end, diminish and disturb human trafficking from occurring in Sweden. Goals: (1) to educate professionals and volunteers working with vulnerable target groups to learn how to identify, react and act; (2) to educate the general public on what human trafficking looks like; (3) to legislators and government: how to make better laws in focusing on how to ensure victim's rights; (4) how to end demand; and (5) how to raise money and awareness about it;
- **Protection:** to identify, meet and support potential victims to get out of exploitation and receive social and legal support (during judicial procedure or outside of it);
- **Reintegration:** helping to start anew life with dignity and freedom in a home country or new destination.

In terms of **prevention activities**, it runs training sessions to frontline officers and gives information to the general public, stakeholders, schools and municipalities etc. It also carries out advocacy and seminars for politicians and others. It has had regular contact with National Rapporteur since 2013. For more information, see www.fralsningsarmen.se/manniskohandel

Since 2014, the national headquarters runs information, policy, lobbying and education programmes. In 2016, *Fralsningsarmen* produced educational material and a manual, *A Safe Hand – A Method on how to Identify, React and Act on Human Trafficking*. In 2017, a new local project, **Re-start on ending pornography**, was developed through a webpage for information, chat opportunities for consumers and a helpline for counselling those who experience a dependency.





Concerning the **protection of victims**, the action includes outreach, such as the **Gothenburg Project Jesaja street work**, which aims at giving direct support to women in street prostitution (a weekly presence in the street, building relationships of trust, disturbing sex-buyers and telling the police and public about The Salvation Army's support and presence). The **Helsingborg project** is a local city network set up by The Salvation Army with local coordinators and local actors from various sectors, reacting against prostitution and THB. To provide a direct support, The Salvation Army also set up a number of drop-in centres. The Safe Havens Drop-in Centre opened in Stockholm in January 2018 – as part of the EU project Safe Havens (see the report from The Netherlands) – and there is a drop-in centre in Gothenburg. These facilities offer the opportunity to meet the direct needs of vulnerable EU citizens where potential victims of trafficking can be identified (staff are trained to notice indicators, establish action plans, provide access to contacts and give statistics). To respond to the needs of the most vulnerable victims, reserved spots are available in Salvation Army safe houses: at the **Gothenburg safe house** (two reserved spots for male trafficking victims), at the **Stockholm safe house**, (*new since 2017*, five spots – with potential room for 18 – for women and children), and at the **Mälardalen safe house**, (three reserved spots – potentially up to 10 – for men, women, children). The **Rehabilitation and Safe House, Skogsbo and Västerås/Sala** offers empowerment programmes, individually-based rehabilitation plans, methods of internships, job training and social contacts.

Moving on to **reintegration** schemes, *Frlsningssarmen* cooperates with IOM for voluntary repatriation (in accord with the national authorities), organises repatriations within the international network of The Salvation Army and through the European NCP network. When possible, it supports reintegration into Swedish society. Within the European network of Salvation Army National Contact Persons, reconnection and reintegration is arranged at the request of victims or relatives.

The **National Support Programme**, an individually tailored support for people vulnerable to trafficking and exploitation, is now run by The Salvation Army on behalf of the Civil Platform and is paid for by the County Administrative Board of Stockholm. National support programmes aim to provide improved and additional assistance for victims of trafficking and exploitation. The support is to be individually matched to the victim's needs, and provides opportunities for livelihoods that allow better social reintegration and prevent victims from being re-trafficked. The aid programme also means that individuals in the current situation who are not getting their rights recognised by the formal system – identification, reflection period and temporary residence – are given an opportunity to have their needs met and their rights respected.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

www.frlsningssarmen.se/Verksamhet/Socialt-arbete/Manniskohandel/vart-arbete-mot-manniskohandel/nationellt-stodprogram/

Challenges and opportunities

Due to the Dublin mechanism for asylum, The Salvation Army in Sweden found out that many victims of trafficking are very reluctant to report to the police, even after the assistance of NGOs, which normally have to approach and identify them out of their own resources. This means that these victims are not and will not be included in the National Referral Mechanism (NRM), because of their fear of being sent back to the EU country of access and application, where they fear the risk of being re-trafficked.

In recent years, the share of victims from third countries (often undocumented) have increased a lot: more and more minors, and especially children coming from Nigeria and western Africa, have been rescued from Ttrafficking and slavery conditions. Other frequent nationalities are Moroccan and Afghanistani. More and more cases of modern slavery being registered concern minorities, including many child-marriage and begging cases identified in the Roma minority. Lastly, a lot of people who happen to fall into the trafficking net are trying to escape from honour-related violence and persecution, especially in countries such as Albania and Kosovo.

Recommendations to national government

Thanks to its activity within the civil society platform, every year The Salvation Army produces a comprehensive and detailed list of recommendations, both to the national government and to the Council of Europe. The recommendations, referring to national policy on identification assistance and data collection on THB, cooperation, funding and research and the functioning of a legal procedure, are available at www.manniskohandel.se

SWITZERLAND

National Contact Person: Katharina Baumberger

The Salvation Army's national set-up, actions and partnerships

The Salvation Army is a well-established institution in Switzerland, with more than 50 church communities and 30 social projects in French-speaking and German-speaking Switzerland, and a tradition of assisting and supporting people who have been trafficked, with a special focus on victims of sexual exploitation.

Since 2012, The Salvation Army in Switzerland has had an AHT task force. Hosting officers from the three social projects that focus on AHT are represented, as well as the Communications Department from territorial headquarters. The task force encourages programmes to raise awareness and observe the International Day of Prayer for Victims of Human Trafficking. They have established a housing project and seek to improve networking about reconnection programme. Awareness is raised among Salvation Army officers, Salvationists and employees.

In terms of government relations, the Swiss task force on AHT participates regularly in the **Basel Round Table on Prostitution** (a government initiative), where workshops on AHT are offered by the recently founded organisations 'ACT212' and 'Trafficking Victim Unit'. The Round Table also functions as a networking platform, among the organisations in Switzerland covering THB. In addition, The Salvation Army cooperates with FIZ (Zurich), an organisation which helps migrants and victims of trafficking to prepare for trial and/or return to their native countries

Advocacy and awareness-raising

The Swiss Salvation Army organises workshops and lectures about human trafficking, especially in social services institutions, and networks systematically with NGOs in Switzerland and abroad. Occasional distribution of leaflets through local volunteers has helped to raise awareness.

Materials for supporting the work has been developed throughout the years. Guidelines and procedural manuals have been compiled for the Rahab outreach and for accompanying teams of volunteers, along with a language tool for interviews of potential victims and a 'visual dictionary' for communicating with potential victims.



FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO:
www.rahab.ch and www.rahab-basel.ch

The aim of this project is prevention/information. The Salvation Army aims to raise awareness on this and other topics pertaining to social justice at territorial level for coordination and local (corps/church) action. The project was launched in 2014 and is ongoing. Currently there are 12 ambassadors. The project is run in collaboration with the Mission and Development Department, and in the future it will come under Integrated Mission. The first project run by ambassadors took place in February. Ambassadors often conduct the Day of Prayer for Victims of Human Trafficking.

General obstacles include poverty, unemployment in poorer countries and the demand for cheap labour and products in consumer countries. There is a lack of awareness and concern in society. The Salvation Army has seen a lack of resources in specialised police forces and liberal laws concerning sexual services. It is also concerned that open borders within Europe have facilitated trafficking. In the Rahab project a challenge is earning the trust of potential victims from Nigeria. Hungarian victims are often trafficked and exploited by their own families. Another challenge is the pimps who prevent victims from going to trial or even seeking help. We see increased numbers of potential victims from Eastern Europe and younger women in prostitution.

The Salvation Army sees potential in its role in writing about social justice, raising awareness via Ambassador Projects and encouraging local governments to improve and strengthen their police forces and optimise their victim-interview methods.

- Keep people informed about cases of human trafficking in the media;
- Use posters in public transport and toilets to raise awareness and to advertise the national hotline and help centres;
- Provide more training for investigators and prosecutors;
- Change the federalist legislation on trafficking and dissent to Dublin rules on suspected trafficking victims;
- Ask the government to provide better protection for potential victims of trafficking among refugees and provide more specialised care and shelters;
- Invite specialised, trained prosecutors to train people in the EU.

THE UNITED KINGDOM

National Contact Person: Kathy Betteridge

The Salvation Army's national set-up, actions and partnerships

The Salvation Army's **Anti-Trafficking and Modern Slavery Unit (ATMS)** has a high profile position within England and Wales as, since 2011, it has been the main contract holder for the coordination of care to victims of modern slavery, from the British government. It manages 12 not-for-profit subcontractors as well as a direct service provider. The Salvation Army has trained up, and acts as, first responders, conducting interviews for the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) and Initial Assessment (IA) risk management for potential victims.

In this role, The Salvation Army conducts numerous training presentations to frontline workers including legal, social, medical and police agencies, while it is often invited to provide speeches to churches, schools and universities. The Salvation Army is also well present in the media, giving interviews to local and national newspapers, radio stations, and television networks, reaching, more than 116.7million people in 2017. On top of this strong engagement, weekly involvement in the fight against trafficking in human beings is dealt with at the local level, through local Salvation Army corps and churches speaking to raise awareness and increase involvement in volunteering.

The department is part of the Human Trafficking Forum advisory group which lobbies the government and has regular meetings with the office of the Anti Slavery Commissioner, Kevin Hylands. Moreover, it is present on various government committees for AHT stakeholders. It has been invited to the Home Office to address international groups of civil servants and to promote work against trafficking in human beings in their own countries.



The international dimension of the UK Salvation Army

The Salvation Army has capitalised on its expertise and capacity after many years of work on modern slavery and sexual exploitation in the country. It has a number of international programmes building capacity and resources abroad to better address trafficking in human beings. In the past 20 years, several programmes have been started in many extra European countries, while technical support and capacity building was provided to Poland and Ukraine in the recent years. Safe houses, community awareness campaigns, survivors' recovery programmes, prevention actions towards children, vocational training programmes for survivors and provision of legal support to survivors are a few of the services provided in Nigeria, the Philippines, Malawi, Tanzania, Ghana, Bangladesh, east India and Nepal. After initial starts as project-based services, many of these programmes have been taken over by local professionals and Salvation Army officers in the countries, and have become part of the tactical response to the plague of trafficking.

The UK programmes **provide support for all victims of trafficking and modern slavery**, whether labour or sexual exploitation, domestic servitude, forced marriage, forced criminality, organ removal or any other form of trafficking and enslavement. The only international programme exclusively for sexually exploited people is in Bangladesh.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

www.salvationarmy.org.uk/human-trafficking



Responding to trafficking across the whole country

The Salvation Army's action in rescuing, protecting and reintegrating victims of THB counts on more than 40 safe houses across the country, based around England and Wales in confidential locations and coordinated from the office base in Birmingham. The service runs under a government funded project, commenced in 2011 with periodical assessments and renewals (the next one will be in 2019). Seven of these houses are directly managed by The Salvation Army, which is committed to providing a holistic approach to victims' needs, with safe accommodation, medical support, counselling, legal support and support to education.

The aim of this vast network is to allocate victims of modern slavery to suitable support during a reflection and recovery period. A caseworker tailors support to the needs of the client within the provisions set out in the Palermo Protocol³, helping to restore dignity, self-worth, and independence and facilitating a safe move-on out of the service. The average support for those staying in a safe house is 136 days, and for those receiving outreach support it is 312 days. The first contact takes place thanks to a referral telephone line operating 24/7, with first responders conducting phone interviews of potential victims to enable access to National Referral Mechanism (NRM) support. About 60 volunteers of this hotline have also been trained by the ATMS unit as first responders to conduct face-to-face interviews to get potential victims into the NRM. Around 600 volunteers are included in a database managed

from the Birmingham offices as drivers and chaperones around England and Wales, with journeys organised as necessary to conduct victims to a place of safety. A national coordinator operates an efficient system to contact volunteers and arrange journeys.

Since 2011, more than 7,000 people have been supported through this project, with yearly increases linked also to the better public awareness built up around the subject. The success of the project is proved by the big share of users who are able to rebuild their lives after the traumas and move on. In year six (from July 2016 to June 2017) the majority of people passed through the service moved into asylum accommodation, were set in private accommodation, lived with family and friends returned to a country outside the UK or were moved into supported accommodation with NGOs or local authorities. Unfortunately, a minority of clients, predominantly Chinese and Vietnamese, absconded or were deemed missing. Sub-contractors are putting in added effort on the work with these communities to persuade them to stay safe and not go missing.

Since April 2018, six Salvation Army corps (churches) across England have initiated **post-exit support hubs for victims of modern slavery**, with the goal of reintegrating into society those clients who are extremely vulnerable when they leave the support of a safe house. The sudden end of the programme risks leading many of them to being re-trafficked or finding themselves homeless and destitute. The post-exit support hubs aim to provide a safe place once survivors leave the support provided under the National Referral Mechanism, and will be staffed by hub managers and volunteers who will help people to move successfully into independent living.

Awareness raising and prevention training

Awareness-raising work is conducted all over England and Wales, addressing frontline staff (including the police), church and Salvation Army groups/social services, various charitable groups, colleges and schools. This action is provided directly by the **Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery Unit**, based in territorial headquarters in London. Interviews on local and national radio, newspapers and magazines also help to raise awareness. The training has led to increased detection of enslavement and trafficking situations, leading to increased rescues – although there are no figures available as the impact of training of a police force, or border agency staff is not measurable. Between 2016 and 2017, about 60 training events were conducted, reaching around 3,000 people. An estimated 11.7million people were reached throughout the media. >>

³ The protocol aims to prevent, suppress and punish trafficking in persons, especially women and children, and was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 2000 and entered into force on December 25, 2003

>> Increased awareness leads to increased demand for training, presentations and media interviews – new work for The Salvation Army – and consequently an increasing of staff to cope with this. A coordinator for all volunteers working on behalf of the AT&MS unit and as transport volunteers will be hired.

An Introduction to Human Trafficking Awareness course was designed to improve awareness of human trafficking among the global public, considering the causes which drive it and the effects it has on victims' lives. The 20-minute online course can be found on the website of The Salvation Army in the UK: www.salvationarmy.org.uk/toolkits/hta/

The Victim Care Fund (VCF) gift package provision

To better provide material support and increase the effectiveness of reintegration, in 2011 The Salvation Army set up the Victim Care Fund, a tool to show respect and help a client to feel valued. Based in Birmingham and monitored by The Salvation Army's headquarters in London, the fund gives financial support for a variety of applications including material needs, initial rent deposits, educational programmes and baby gift packs, which provide what is required for new mothers. The distribution of gift packs to clients of safe houses is accompanied by social support from Salvation Army local corps (churches). The church community takes part in the distribution of goods and tries to build relationships with clients, befriending and mentoring them. Salvation Army corps currently act as drop-in centres in the Midlands. The impact on both those involved in providing and the clients who receive these services has been extremely positive.

Challenges and opportunities

Traffickers and perpetrators are devious and well networked, and can change location and *modus operandi* when law enforcement agencies appear to be closing in, while they deceive or intimidate trafficked and enslaved people to keep them silent even when rescued by the police. Traffickers are often very well off, and can also afford good defence lawyers. Modern technology enables international communication to occur easily and confidentially so that cross-border and continent arrangements can be easily arranged. Greed will always fuel new initiatives to exploit other human beings.

The current migrant crisis – including refugees from war-torn countries and those escaping repressive regimes – has led to a huge number of people being vulnerable to deception and exploitation, to kidnap and forced enslavement. The Salvation Army does what it can to raise awareness, to train others spot the signs, to advise victims that they can receive support if they escape, and to support victims who escaped slavery.

A significant change of the profile of trafficking victims has also modified the strategies that Salvation Army officers, employees and volunteers need to adopt to communicate and respond to the needs of the new victims.

Below: Princess Eugenie of York, from the British royal family, visiting a victim of trafficking in human beings



Restart Broken Dreams

The gap between men and women victims has steadily decreased over the past 5 years until they are almost equal (46 per cent males in 2015). The trends in nationality of origin have also changed. Vietnamese people have taken over in the share of people being exploited and, although Albania is still the most-often detected, Vietnam is now the country of origin of the second-largest group. Vietnamese are generally smuggled into the UK to be exploited in farming – generally illegal cannabis farming – to work in nail bars and to be exploited in the sex industry. Despite a large number of men being detected, they are still less likely than women to accept assistance and help. A very small minority of transgender clients started to be seen in safe houses in the past year.

As the government contract addresses adult victims, the major problem of teenage grooming for sexual exploitation, and for drug trafficking across countries is not addressed. The highest age group coming to the National Referral Mechanism is between 26 and 39 years

old (743), followed by 18 to 25 (523) and 40 to 55 (253). The National Crime Agency (NCA) states that – including minors – UK citizens were the highest number of trafficked and enslaved victims within the UK in 2017 (755), with Albania second (747), followed by Vietnam (630) and Nigeria (248). The total number of victims registered by the NCA in 2017 was 4,714. This is a worrying statistic. Among these people, 195 were exploited in domestic servitude; 606 in labour exploitation; 741 through sexual exploitation; and 1 for organ harvesting. 549 were male, 1,002 female and three transgender.

After the introduction of the Modern Slavery Act in 2015, prosecution procedures were simplified, sentences for traffickers were increased and large companies are now obliged to investigate their supply chains. The government has implemented the Palermo Protocol requirements within its Modern Slavery Care and Coordination Contract. It appoints an Anti-Slavery Commissioner to raise awareness across police forces and other agencies, as well as to develop projects to try to improve situations in source countries with the hope of reducing enticement of vulnerable people.

Recommendations to national government

- Bring up to standard NASS accommodation provided for asylum seekers, including outreach support for victims of trafficking (the R&D department of The Salvation Army in the UK is carrying out a survey into the standard of NASS accommodation with the intention of presenting findings to the Home Office);
- Increase financial support for victims and a freedom to work while applying for asylum plus a designated 'leave to remain' period for all receiving a positive Conclusive Grounds decision;
- Strengthen post-exit support to prevent people becoming vulnerable and endangered of falling prey to re-trafficking after their stay in safe houses;
- Allow those who are first rescued to choose different options of recovery, rather than being immediately confronted with the NRM option only.



UKRAINE

National Contact Persons: Yulia Khoroshilova, Tamara Myrnododska

The Salvation Army's national set-up, actions and partnerships

The Salvation Army in Ukraine has recently started a amount of initiatives against trafficking in human beings (THB), with the aim to inform about the risks and dangers of THB and its different shapes, including labour and sexual exploitation. Several programmes are under way across the country, in Kiev, Lviv, Dnipro, Pischyn, Kharkiv, and Kropyvnytsky, including awareness raising (seminars, distribution of leaflets, often in cooperation of other NGOs), prevention of THB and protection of victims of trafficking. The lack of mass information on this subject pushed The Salvation Army to undertake a role in drawing attention to the issue to public authorities and to other organisations.

Fruitful cooperation has been developed with the police, public orphanages and several charity organisations such as Caritas and the Red Cross (which hosts common

projects in a few crisis centres) and local organisations such as Femeli, Malva and Zhinocha Gromada). Contacts with the government has been put in place, to follow the implementation of the national strategy against trafficking in human beings. The Salvation Army's National Contact Persons keep track of the work of government agencies and services through online resources.

The number of initiatives varies in size and among the cities/regions. A **theatre show** has been produced by The Salvation Army's theatre studio in Dnipro, to inform people about trafficking in human beings. The show, *13th Star*, represented a first initiative of public campaigning. A project for the **reintegration of survivors** of trafficking is held in Lviv, with the main purpose to provide material assistance for the rapid and effective restoration of victims' lives.

Preventing THB among vulnerable children and orphans

Many Salvation Army corps (churches) have offered lectures in schools to raise awareness of human trafficking, while an **orphan programme**, aimed at keeping orphans





Left: Vietnamese children in a Ukrainian orphanage: The Salvation Army engaged in several activities to accompany their detention

off the streets and being trafficked (funded by The Salvation Army's Australia Eastern Territory) is going to be activated through the CPMS system (The Salvation Army's tool for managing and supporting community projects which receive international support). The centre, which will be based in Kropyvnytsky, aims to create a safe and emotionally stable environment for orphans, supporting them to integrate in a promising but dangerous society while learning life skills which they would not access at an orphanage. A **safe place for children** is also the aim of projects in Kiev, Kharkov and Pischyn, helping vulnerable children to leave the street and protect themselves from the related risks. Informal education initiatives, through games and group talking help the children becoming conscious and cautious citizens. After running for seven successful years in Kharkov, the initiative has been replicated in Kiev, and is designed for about 20 children in each city.

With the aim of developing children's life skills, The Salvation Army provides information and seeks to prevent them from falling victim to traffickers. Therefore, it reduces the number of children being trafficked post-exit.

Challenges and opportunities

One main challenge highlighted by The Salvation Army in Ukraine is that government bodies are not interconnected and different authorities make up their own rules as they go along. Corruption is rife and bribes are common. At the moment the focus needs to be on prevention and raising awareness, as the issue is not known enough in the country, with many people at high risk due to low salaries and the lack of opportunities for many young people. Some soldiers (full members) from The Salvation Army have personally experienced forced labour, including intimidations and the denial of holidays. The organisation tries its best to

inform everyone of their legal rights and trains people to recognise the signs of exploitation. Although many Salvation Army experts feel it is pretty much impossible to change the minds of the older generations about work and the risks of THB, it is possible to raise awareness among younger generations from an early age. Creating a safe haven for people is the aim of The Salvation Army in all its projects across the country, and especially when dealing with internally displaced people. Although the main profile of the target group is made up of nationals who are not aware of the dangers in fake job offers abroad and the risk of exploitation in the country, Salvation Army corps have also been supporting foreigners and especially vulnerable children. Recently, a group of Vietnamese children detained by the migration service were visited by volunteers from The Salvation Army, who provided clothing and personal hygiene products, and returned regularly to play sports and games, and to support them more broadly throughout their detention.

Recommendations to national government

- Improve operational efficiency and eradicate corruption;
- Focus on better prevention and awareness-raising campaigns across the country.



CONCLUSIONS

GIVEN THE CURRENT POLITICAL CONTEXT, in particular the refugee crisis, high migration flows towards western Europe and ongoing repercussions of the financial and economic crisis, it is clear that the risk of trafficking has increased. People in vulnerable situations, in particular those experiencing poverty, conflict and unemployment, are being reached by traffickers before receiving the support they need. Given that poverty and unemployment (throughout Europe) is seen as one of the main causes of vulnerability that leads people into the hands of traffickers, The Salvation Army must keep this in mind in terms of its prevention work. However, it is clear that in some Member States the legal frameworks (national or EU) prove to be a hindrance to the protection of victims or potential victims. National governments need to improve their coordination of handling victims and, importantly, ensuring that particularly vulnerable people such as asylum seekers (or those with failed asylum claims) or unaccompanied children do not go missing, falling into the hands of traffickers because of their situations of marginalisation and destitution. The lack of coordination of asylum at EU level and the lack of political will to receive refugees and migrants force people into vulnerable situations. It is clear from many tragic deaths in the Mediterranean that people are willing to risk their lives to get to Europe, and the lack of assistance once inside the EU is not an effective or acceptable deterrent (see The Salvation Army's International Positional Statement on Refugees and Asylum Seekers: www.salvationarmy.org/ihq/positionalstatements).

A number of **trends and challenges** have been identified by The Salvation Army which are backed up through international research as outlined in the Challenges section of the introduction. However, missing data and the need for more-coordinated research have been mentioned by several NCPs as areas for improvement. It could be also useful for The Salvation Army to record internally in a more systematic way the trends of people it is receiving in order to improve prevention work. In regards to the role

and responsibility of The Salvation Army, it is clear from the NCPs that they see their role as being complementary, needing to identify what services already exist and where there are gaps to be filled. Cooperation and partnership with governments as well as NGOs will be essential for this. Many countries do already collaborate with other civil society and national or local authorities, but most NCPs acknowledge this is a key priority area to be developed. Where financial and/or human resources are lacking, The Salvation Army is doing what it can, even if it only through low-key activities such as awareness raising and providing a National Contact Person to maintain the European Network and reconnection programme.

It is clear that **lack of resources** internally but also lack of financial resources from the state are restricting the effectiveness of this work for The Salvation Army. There is a feeling from NCPs that more could be done if they had the resources. It could therefore be interesting for The Salvation Army to explore alternative funding sources for this work, but also to lobby governments to allocate sufficient money to this issue. A cost-benefit analysis could be helpful to convince governments to spend public money on this issue. Despite the cited lack of resources, The Salvation Army remains an important actor in the fight against human trafficking.

One of the assets of The Salvation Army is its global presence and its international and European networks

While in many countries The Salvation Army's AHT work is well developed and has high impact, there is still a need for basic **awareness raising** among the general public, as well as internally within Salvation Army corps (churches) and social services. This is an area of opportunity for The Salvation Army, which can carry out awareness-raising activities as a basic preventative measure in all countries. Training on AHT issues to church leaders, staff and volunteers could be more systematic to ensure that The Salvation Army is optimising its resources and expertise, to celebrate the good work done and to strengthen the work where needed.

One of the assets of The Salvation Army is its **global presence (131 countries)** and its **international and European networks**, which is a particular strength in AHT work, given that it is often (but not always) cross-border in nature. Connections with the work of The Salvation Army's International Social Justice Commission, the International AHT Task Force and the European Task Force are important to strengthen the global reach of the work, and in particular to coordinate cohesive policy responses and recommendations.

EU level advocacy by the EU Affairs Office is recognised by NCPs as having an important role in raising issues of concern and keeping the issue of human trafficking as a policy priority for the EU. It is clear to The Salvation Army that the EU has an important role to play in terms of human trafficking, asylum and migration policy, to coordinate and monitor the Member States and to better protect its people. Where Member States are failing to meet their international agreements, the EU must address those responsible. NCPs want the EU Affairs Office to continue to make visible the work done by The Salvation Army and to inform them of EU level developments in this field, including funding opportunities.



RECOMMENDATIONS

The Salvation Army believes that the EU plays a key role in prevention, protection and rehabilitation of (potential) victims of trafficking. It supports the EU Strategy Towards the Eradication of Trafficking in Human Beings and proposes the following recommendations for the renewal of this strategy:

The Salvation Army's recommendations for the EU

- Keep focused on fighting *all* forms of human trafficking even if new important issues emerge;
- Continue to monitor periodically and push for the actual implementation of the EU Strategy, the EU Directive 2011/36/EU as well as the United Nations Palermo protocol;
- Improve conditions in countries of origin and addresses push factors leading to migration to stem the tide of those risking their lives in pursuit of safe harbour, offering stability and opportunity, and including the fight against human trafficking as a priority in its external relations and development aid;
- Provide funding opportunities for long-term (5-10 years) prevention and rehabilitation programmes for (potential) victims of trafficking;
- Ensure Member States respect at least the minimum reflection period, but The Salvation Army recommends extending it throughout Europe to at least 45 or even 90 days (necessary to recover from the trauma and psychological pressure for the victims);
- Strengthen the monitoring and protection of unaccompanied children among refugees in EU countries;
- Strengthen the control of people who have access to refugee camps for better identification of traffickers;
- Develop an EU-wide System for Data Collection – there is a need for closer cooperation with researchers;
- Pay closer attention to the children of victims of trafficking who are a very vulnerable group. The safety of children must be included in all risk assessment and the well-being of the children and their best interests should also be highlighted;
- Ensure a *victim first* principle is carried out when a victim of trafficking from a third country is exposed in one Member State and identified in another (Dublin regulation).

Restarting Broken Dreams

Recommendations for The Salvation Army

- Provide more training and awareness raising among church leaders, staff and volunteers;
- Ensure, through ad-hoc training and information material, that staff of The Salvation Army's social services institutes are aware of the risks of trafficking and able to recognise its signs;
- Ensure that even in those countries where it is not directly active with social projects, The Salvation Army corps (churches) and social centres are in contact with local organisations which work in protecting the victims of human trafficking;
- Activate concrete actions and capacity building in those European countries which have a National Contact Person but are not yet active in prevention and victim protection – through capacity-building mechanisms such as the CPMS (project management) system;
- Have a systematic approach to social services (ie hostels and centres) to gather data on how many residents are at risk, have been or are being trafficked;
- At national level, map what work already exists (state-run and NGO) in the country/region and seek to complement it as part of a national strategy;
- Create materials to raise awareness among children and youth groups, developing different training for different audiences and translating in different languages materials to be shared among Salvation Army territories;
- Advance networks and partnerships where relevant with NGOs and national/local authorities;
- Get The Salvation Army involved with national GRETA meetings as part of monitoring the implementation of the CoE Convention;
- In EU countries, get in touch with relevant National Rapporteurs for the implementation of the 2011 Directive for preventing and combating the trafficking of human beings (THB) and protecting its victims;
- Use EU funding opportunities to start new projects and support the implementation of national work.

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INTERNATIONAL MISSION STATEMENT

The Salvation Army, an international movement, is an evangelical part of the universal Christian Church.

Its **MESSAGE** is based on the Bible.

Its **MINISTRY** is motivated by the love of God.

Its **MISSION** is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in his name without discrimination.

Restarting Broken Dreams



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