

Черкас К., магістр ННІ № 1
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HUMAN TRAFFICKING AS A FORM OF TRANSNATIONAL CRIME AND STRUGGLE AGAINST IT

Human trafficking has recently emerged as a major international policy concern. Its consequences are far-reaching and diverse affecting social, political and economic life in countries across the globe. Trafficking is part of the larger phenomenon of international migration that has assumed an enormous scale in recent decades. But it is also a growing form of transnational crime. Some suggest that it is the most lucrative form of organized crime after the drug and arms trade. Yet human trafficking has an important distinction, often the human beings can be exploited repeatedly thereby generating significant long-term profits for the human traffickers.

Globalization, increased international mobility, trade and communications have also contributed to the rise in human trafficking. Human beings are now often trafficked long distances rather than the national and regional patterns of trafficking that characterized the phenomenon in the past. Increasingly, human traffickers move their victims across continents and oceans to markets where there is a demand for cheap labor, sexual services or children.

Population growth in the poorest and developing countries and the population decline in the most affluent countries create an incentive to leave Latin America, Africa, parts of Asia and the Middle East and the former socialist world for more prosperous and stable countries. A demand for laborers and sexual services in the developed world and oil rich countries creates a market for trafficked individuals.

Human trafficking has grown in public awareness as hundreds of thousands of desperate individuals seeking employment are

moved annually within countries and across borders to affluent countries. Pictures of these individuals show up with increasing frequency in the news media and films. Particular attention has been drawn to the large numbers of women and children forced into sexual slavery.

Opened International Organized Crime Intelligence and Operations Center (IOC-2) that will marshal the resources and to collectively combat the threats posed by international criminal organizations to domestic safety and security. IOC-2 Center will allow partner agencies to join together in a task force setting, combine data, and produce actionable leads for investigators and prosecutors working nationwide to combat international organized crime, and to coordinate the resulting multi-jurisdictional investigations and prosecutions. Understanding that international criminal organizations are profit-driven, IOC-2 will also work with investigators and prosecutors to target the criminal proceeds and assets of international criminal organizations.

The members participating in IOC-2 will include: the FBI; Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE); the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA); Internal Revenue Service (IRS); the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF); Secret Service; U.S. Postal Inspection Service (USPIS); Department of State, Bureau of Diplomatic Security; Department of Labor, Office of the Inspector General; and the Department of Justice, Criminal Division. IOC-2 will also partner with the Attorneys' Offices and the Department of the Treasury, Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence.

There has been a growing international consensus that this major international crime must be addressed and its victims must be assisted. Much has been done in recent years to adopt a legal framework to address trafficking but much less has been realized in prosecuting its perpetrators or helping its victims. The General Assembly of the United Nations in 2000 adopted a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and of accompanying protocols on Human Trafficking and Smuggling. These agreements have given the international community a common frame of

reference to address trafficking. Insufficient attention, however, is paid to the business of human trafficking—the traffickers, their modes of operation and the ways in which their proceeds are used and laundered.

International community has been slow to respond to the rise of human trafficking outside of the adoption of laws. Most countries have failed to allocate the needed resources for the scale of the problem nor shown the needed political will to address trafficking. The efforts against human trafficking mounted by both law enforcers and the intelligence community are frequently insufficient to combat human trafficking. In fact, many police and other law enforcement officials are often important facilitators of trafficking.

Список використаних джерел:

<http://www.interpol.int/Crime-areas/Trafficking-in-human-beings/Trafficking-in-human-beings>
<https://www.europo.europa.eu/content/europol-supports-fight-against-modern-day-slavery>
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