

**Regional Implementation Initiative  
on Preventing & Combating Human Trafficking**

*Institute for the Danube Region and Central Europe - IDM*

**Improving National and Transnational Coordination and Cooperation in Preventing and Combating all Forms of Human Trafficking;  
Developing and Strengthening National and Transnational Networks and Partnerships**  
*supported by the Austrian Federal Ministers for Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection, for Education and Women, and of Health*

Dialogue Forum

STOP HUMAN TRAFFICKING

## **Mission Impossible?**

Challenging Current Assumptions and Policy Responses to Human Trafficking

*Under the Auspices of the Austrian Federal Minister for Transport, Innovation and Technology, and the Governor of Styria*

**Hotel de France, Vienna, 1<sup>st</sup> District, Schottenring 3**

**21 November 2014, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.**

### **Draft AGENDA**

#### **10.00-10.30 Registration and Networking Breakfast**

#### **10.30-12.30 Panel Discussion\*: STOP HUMAN TRAFFICKING - *Mission Impossible?***

*Panelists will discuss issues such as: human trafficking a quasi-intractable problem? Do narrow viewpoints, conflicting interests, ignorance and misunderstanding undermine current anti-trafficking efforts? Is the fight against human trafficking in need of substantial redefinition and re-focus? Do we need to dissolve certain existing models? Do we need a more robust and politically ambitious vision of anti-trafficking? What new ideas and findings do we have to bring into focus?*

**Anneliese Rohrer**, Journalist and Filmmaker, Austria/USA

*'The victims of human trafficking are abused twice: Once by their tormentors and then by our indifference.'*

**Mike Dottridge**, Expert and Consultant, Global Alliance against Traffic in Women

*'When I was director of Anti-Slavery International in the 1990s, I was convinced that criminal justice responses (prosecuting criminals) were going to play a relatively minor role in stopping human trafficking, forced labour, the exploitation of prostitution or begging and other unacceptable forms of exploitation. Nothing has happened to change my opinion.'*

**Roger Plant**, Chair, FLEX - Focus on Labour Exploitation

*'The Mission is possible, if we fully understand it. It is not only to protect victims and put offenders behind bars, but to implement the laws and policies that address the real roots of trafficking for both labour and sexual exploitation.'*

**Kiril Sharapov**, Marie Curie Research Fellow, Central European University/Lecturer, Glasgow Caledonian University

*'The eradication of trafficking is likely to remain 'mission impossible' unless we acknowledge the relationship between consumers, 'ordinary' citizens, business and corporations on the one hand, and exploitative labour – trafficked, off-shored, subcontracted and hidden behind the façade of anti-trafficking initiatives and 'modern slavery' battles, on the other hand.'*

**Kristiina Kangaspunta**, Head of the UNODC Global Report on Trafficking in Persons

*'We need to understand the economic realities of trafficking in persons: the main reason for human trafficking is the fact that traffickers are trying to maximize their profits by exploiting those who are in a vulnerable situation.'*

**Austin Choi-Fitzpatrick**, Ass. Prof. of Political Sociology, Central European University, Hungary/USA (tbc)

Moderation: **Helga Konrad**, Coordinator of the 'Regional Implementation Initiative on Preventing & Combating Human Trafficking'

#### **12.30-14.00 Lunch Break**

*(Lunch hosted by the Austrian Federal Minister for Transport, Innovation and Technology)*

#### **14.00-16.00 Debate Session**

## Comments by

- **Jürgen Nautz**, Univ. Prof., Germany
- **Albin Dearing**, Expert
- **Astrid Winkler**, ECPAT
- **Markus Zingerle**, MEN VIA
- **Katharina Beclin**, Ass.Prof, Univ. Vienna
- **Beatrix Attinger**, Senior Gender Expert

## Q & A Session

### 16.00 Closing of the Meeting

#### *Panelists, Commentators, Experts, Researchers, Practitioners:*

##### **Beatrix Attinger Colijn**, Senior Gender Adviser

She worked for 10 years in field operations of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Africa, Latin America and South Eastern Europe. In her capacity as Senior Adviser on Gender Issues of the OSCE (1999-2007) she was tasked with gender mainstreaming in the Organization and advising field operations and other OSCE structures on the implementation of gender-related commitments and international standards and organizing staff training on relevant issues. She was also a member of the expert coordination team of the Stability Pact Task Force on Trafficking. In 2008 she took up an assignment with the United Nations in Guinea, coordinating gender related programs of the UN country team for the Gender Capacity project of the UN Interagency Standing Committee (IASC). Subsequently she served mediator for the Council of Europe. She then returned to the UN and led the Sexual Violence Unit of the Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo for two years. In 2012 she returned to the IASC Gender Capacity project and worked with the UN humanitarian country teams of the Sahel based in Niger, Senegal and Mali. She holds additional diplomas in negotiation, mediation and conflict resolution.

##### **Katharina Beclin**, Ass.-Prof. University of Vienna, Faculty of Law, Department of Criminal Law and Criminology

She has studied law in Vienna. After gaining some practice in court she became scientific assistant at the Institute of Criminal Law and Criminology of the Faculty of Law at the University of Vienna in 1993. Since 2006 she has been assistant professor for criminology, her main research focusing on youth crime on the one hand and gender aspects on the other, especially sexual assault, domestic violence and stalking.

**Austin Choi-Fitzpatrick**, Assistant Professor of political sociology at the School of Public Policy at Central European University. He specializes in social movements and human rights in both the United States and in the Indian subcontinent. His current project, funded by the National Science Foundation, explores the impact that social movements have on human rights violators in rural India. Recent thinking along these lines can be found in a volume co-edited with Alison Brysk: *From Human Trafficking to Human Rights: Reframing Contemporary Slavery* (University of Pennsylvania Press Series on Human Rights). He is a member of the editorial staff at *Mobilization*, the leading journal of social movements and is a member and contributor to the *Mobilizing Ideas* blog collective.

##### **Albin Dearing**, Programme Manager, European Union Fundamental Rights Agency

He worked as a lawyer in various Austrian Ministries and positions (Federal Chancellery, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of the Interior). For the EU Commission he implemented projects relating to fundamental rights, policing and the judiciary in Poland, Croatia and Turkey. From 2009 to 2011 he was legal assistant at the CJEU before joining the EU Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA) in September 2011.

##### **Mike Dottridge**, Independent Expert/Consultant

He spent 25 years working with human rights non-governmental organizations. For the past decade he has been active as independent consultant on human rights and child rights issues. His work takes him to different parts of the world, particularly regions where human trafficking is regarded as a major problem, such as South East Europe and South East Asia and has focused on various forms of exploitation, whether it concerns child labour, the commercial sexual exploitation of children, forced labour or trafficking in human beings. In 2002 he was one of the experts invited by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights to prepare a set of Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights and Human Trafficking. In 2007 he edited a report entitled *Collateral Damage. The Impact of Anti-Trafficking Measures on Human Rights around the World* for the NGO coalition 'Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women', for whom he also acted as visiting editor on the most recent edition of the *Anti-Trafficking Review*, on the topic of 'Following the Money'.

**Kristiina Kangaspunta**, is currently heading the preparation of the Global Report on Trafficking in Persons at the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in Vienna, Austria. The first edition of the Report was launched in 2012 and it will be published biannually presenting the global human trafficking trends and patterns. Previously, she was the Deputy Director of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) leading the Research Programme of the Institute in Turin, Italy. Before UNICRI, she worked with UNODC, as the Chief of the Anti-Human Trafficking Unit. She moved to UNODC from the Ministry of Justice of Finland where she worked at the European Institute for Crime Prevention and Control, affiliated with the United Nations (HEUNI).

**Jürgen Nautz**, Prof., teaches economic history at the Department of Economics, University of Vienna and Business Science at the Hochschule Ostwestfalen-Lippe, University of Applied Sciences; member of the research platform "Migration and Integration Research" of the University of Vienna; member of the interdisciplinary working group "Religion – Violence – Politics" of the

Austrian Research Association; fellow at the Social Science Research Center Berlin in 2004, 2005 and 2006, 2008-9; visiting professor at the Institute for German Studies, University of Amsterdam, 2005-06 and 2009; speaker of the interdisciplinary working group "Civil Society in Austria" of the Austrian Research Association (with Ambassador Emil Brix). Worked as historical adviser in the EU-project "W.E.S.T." (Women East West Smuggling and Trafficking) and as one of the organizers of the ASO research network "Women Forced Migration, Sex Work and Exploitation".

**Roger Plant**, Independent Expert/Consultant, Chair of FLEX - Focus on Labour Exploitation, Between 2002-2009 he was Head of the ILO's Special Action Program to Combat Forced Labour since its inception, spearheading the ILO's work against forced labour and human trafficking. His book *Sugar and Modern Slavery*, published in the 1980s, was one of the first to draw attention to new forms of forced labour and human trafficking in today's global economy. He has consulted on issues such as human rights and labour standards, migrant workers and contract labour, rural development, indigenous people and ethnic minorities, and corporate social responsibility for a range of international organizations, governments, financial institutions, private companies and NGOs.

**Anneliese Rohrer**, political journalist, worked for "Die Presse" from 1974 to 2005, eventually as head of the international department. From 2005 to 2009 she was co-producer of "Fatal Promises", a documentary that takes a close and critical look at human trafficking.

**Kiril Sharapov**, Marie Curie Research Fellow, Central European University/Lecturer, Glasgow Caledonian University, His areas of expertise in human rights and equality were developed through international research assignments in countries as diverse as Hungary, Ukraine, Kosovo, East Timor and UK. Mr Sharapov comes to CEU from Glasgow Caledonian University, where he was Lecturer in Sociology and Programme Leader for MSc Citizenship and Human Rights – one of the University flagship programmes. In 2012, he secured two years of research funding from the Marie Curie Actions of the European Commission's Seventh Framework Program to explore how trafficking in human beings is understood by the general public in countries of the enlarged EU and its neighboring states. He is a Fellow of the UK Higher Education Academy and of the Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce (RSA)

**Astrid Winkler**, Program Coordinator and Director of ECPAT Austria, the Austrian branch of the international child rights organization ECPAT International (End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography and Trafficking of Children for Sexual Purposes). She is member of the international Board of Directors of the 'Child protection-Code' organization, and senior trainer and lecturer on different topics of child protection in national and international settings. Her main fields of expertise are protection of children against sexual exploitation; working with local, regional and international stakeholders on preventing and combating child trafficking; cooperation with the private sector (i.e. travel and tourism, internet service providers) on CSR and child protection. Education: Master Study in Sociology, Psychology and Communication Sciences; additional training in adult education, prejudice reduction and violence prevention; journalism.

**Markus Zingerle**, Sociologist, staff of the Men's Health Center MEN in Vienna, which published the first study on 'Male Victims of Human Trafficking in Austria' in 2013. On behalf of the Austrian Federal Minister for Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection, Markus Zingerle and colleagues started to establish and offer special support for male victims of human trafficking this year with the pilot project MEN VIA.

*More Information on the 'Regional Implementation Initiative on Preventing & Combating Human Trafficking' and its recent and previous Activities/Events at: [thbregionalimplementationinitiative](#) and the [Platform.NET](#)*

*We would also like to draw your attention to the recently established online Platform*

**[Beyond Trafficking and Slavery](#)** - 'an editorial partnership between openDemocracy and researchers from Africa, Asia, America, Australia and Europe, that will challenge 'both the empty sensationalism of mainstream media accounts of exploitation and domination, and the hollow, technocratic policy responses promoted by businesses and politicians'. More information and links for access at our homepage'.

*[Contribution by Helga Konrad, Posted October 2014](#)*

*[Part I](#)*

<https://www.opendemocracy.net/beyondslavery/helga-konrad/narrow-viewpoints-and-conflicting-interests-undermine-antitrafficking-eff>

*[Part 2](#)*

<https://www.opendemocracy.net/beyondslavery/helga-konrad/ignorance-and-misunderstanding-undermine-current-antitrafficking-initiati>

*[Part 3](#)*

<https://www.opendemocracy.net/beyondslavery/helga-konrad/combating-trafficking-requires-addressing-social-inequality-qa-part-iii>