



**Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting**

**PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF TRAFFICKED PERSONS**

**18-19 July 2022  
Vienna**

**FINAL REPORT**



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## 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The third Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting (SHDM) of 2022, organized by the Polish OSCE Chairmanship with the support of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (OSCE/ODIHR), was dedicated to “Protecting the Rights of Trafficked Persons.” The meeting served as a platform to discuss the current issues regarding trafficking in human beings (THB) in the OSCE region, including in armed conflict, the progress in implementing the States’ related human dimension commitments, as well as possible prevention and response efforts to be adapted. During the event, introducers, representatives of OSCE participating States (pSs), international organisations, international and national experts on anti-trafficking, representatives of civil society, and members of the International Survivors of Trafficking Advisory Council (ISTAC), as well as other survivors of trafficking, engaged in discussions in three different sessions: 1) protection of the rights of child victims of trafficking; 2) THB in the context of armed conflict; and 3) cyberspace and its intersection with THB.

Two hundred ninety-six individuals registered to participate in the meeting and 215 participants (83 men, 130 women, 2 persons not wishing to disclose their gender), including 134 delegates from 52 OSCE participating States (pSs), 7 representatives of 6 international organizations, 42 participants representing 34 civil society organizations (CSOs) as well as 32 participants from OSCE institutions and Field Missions, National Human Rights Institutions and others.

In addition to the main programme, 6 participating organizations, including 3 CSOs, organized side events at the SHDM, providing an opportunity for participants to discuss issues that have not been fully covered during the working sessions.

## 2. SYNOPSIS OF THE SESSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This section summarizes the discussions which took place during the opening session, the three thematic sessions and the closing session, and presents recommendations made by introducers and participants. The recommendations were directed towards a variety of actors, including pSs, OSCE institutions, and CSOs. While these recommendations have no official status and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the OSCE, they serve as useful indicators of how pSs can effectively meet their OSCE commitments pertaining to prevention and combatting of THB, as well as what follow-up activities could be implemented.

### OPENING SESSION

*Opening remarks:*

**Amb. Adam Halaciński**, Chairman of the OSCE Permanent Council, Permanent Representative of Poland to the OSCE

**Mr. Matteo Mecacci**, Director, OSCE/ODIHR

**Mr. Valiant Richey**, OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings

*Keynote address:*

**Mr. Mykola Kuleba**, Founder of Save Ukraine, former Presidential Commissioner for Children's Rights of Ukraine (2014-2021)

***Summary of opening and keynote remarks:***

In the opening session, speakers underlined that although identifying and protecting victims of trafficking is a legal obligation under international law and a political commitment of all OSCE pSs, less than 1% of all presumed trafficking victims is ever identified<sup>1</sup>, and too few of those who are identified receive the services and support they need. In light with the rise in child exploitation, speakers reaffirmed the need to take vigorous measures, including through better cross-border co-operation and exchange of information between countries.

In addition, speakers noted that armed conflict and associated refugee movements exacerbate the vulnerability to THB, especially of women and children. It was also noted that pSs have an obligation, both in general and in emergency situations, to ensure the appropriate identification and protection of victims of trafficking, including through the effective implementation of national referral mechanisms (NRMs) or equivalent systems. Moreover, the speakers highlighted the importance of co-operation and strategic partnerships between state authorities and civil society in various fields, as well as inclusion of survivors of trafficking in the anti-trafficking response.

The keynote address underscored that THB is a crime that specifically impacts women and girls and that special attention should be paid to it as women and children flee Ukraine. It called on states to establish effective safeguards to address the vulnerabilities of women and children fleeing armed conflict within their country of origin, in transit, and in destination countries across the OSCE region and beyond. In this regard, the keynote address referred to the need of registration and tracking systems for persons fleeing a country and noted the importance of NRMs, awareness raising and education, calling on states to implement and develop such tools.

Demand for sexual services and cheap labour was noted as one of the key drivers for trafficking for the purposes of sexual and labour exploitation. In this context, women and children who are fleeing Ukraine have been especially targeted by traffickers due to increased demand online and offline. Therefore, prevention efforts of pSs should strategically include targeted measures to address demand.

The keynote address further noted that children are at particular risk of THB and other forms of exploitation in times of conflict, as they experience the loss of family and friends and lack of stability and safety, which impacts their personal development and health and can cause long-term psychological trauma. It also raised concerns about the changes in legislation in the Russian Federation to enable Russian citizens to adopt children from Ukraine as well as to grant Russian citizenship to Ukrainian children, and called for their protection and reunification with their families.

To counter and mitigate these challenges, the keynote address called for the development and amendment of action plans to address vulnerabilities to THB. It was also noted that responses need to be developed especially to address the risk of sexual exploitation of people fleeing Ukraine. The address noted that such plans should include measures to respond to material and

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<sup>1</sup> Global Report on Trafficking in Persons 2022 by the United Nations Office On Drugs And Crime, accessible at [https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/glotip/2022/GLOTiP\\_2022\\_web.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/glotip/2022/GLOTiP_2022_web.pdf)

health needs as well as those aimed at addressing trauma, and to ensure effective NRMs or equivalent systems, especially to support and protect child victims of trafficking.

## **SESSION I: Protecting the Rights of Child Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings**

*Introducers:*

**Ms. Nodira Karimova**, Director, ISTIQBOLLI AVL0D

**Ms. Iana Mattei**, Founder, Reaching Out Romania

*Survivor Introducer:*

**Ms. Sandra Norak**, Founder, GE-STAC and Member of the OSCE/ODIHR ISTAC

*Moderator:* Ms. Andrea Huber, Head, Human Rights Department, OSCE/ODIHR

This session focused on protecting the rights of child victims of trafficking who are in a particularly vulnerable situation, including those who are unaccompanied.

The first introducer, Ms. Karimova, Director at ISTIQBOLLI AVL0D, underlined the importance of having separate, adequate laws and policies dealing with child THB which recognize the specificities of this group's needs. She referred to the COVID-19 pandemic and the wide access to the internet as factors pushing for new approaches to deal with child THB. The introducer underlined the universality of the problem and called for joint action to tackle it.

The second introducer, Ms. Mattei, Founder of Reaching Out Romania, stressed the growing trend in child THB and indicated a number of issues in dealing with such cases, including: the faulty identification of victims, lack of assistance, the inclusion of traffickers in processes intended for the protection of trafficked children, the lack of child-friendly language, the lack of an adequate resting period before court hearings and the lack of psychological support in court proceedings.

The survivor introducer, Ms. Novak, drew attention to the special vulnerability of children to THB for the purpose of sexual exploitation and the methods used by traffickers to groom children, especially girls, such as the lover-boy method. She underlined the need for legislative efforts to tackle demand through a strict approach which criminalizes all demand for sexual acts, especially targeting the buyers.

Participants raised concerns about pornography and prostitution as evolving drivers for trafficking in adults and children, as well as child sexual abuse material (CSAM) on various websites. Special concerns about the vulnerability of unaccompanied children and child refugees from Ukraine to THB were raised, as well as other refugees and migrants from other regions who are often subjected to labour exploitation.

It was noted that Ukrainian children should be properly identified and enrolled in educational systems to mitigate their vulnerability and that child-friendly information and co-operation with civil society are essential to deal with child victims of THB. Participants also noted that guardianship programmes and legal aid should be granted free of charge, and that more attention should be paid to child refugees after disengaging from refugee care systems. The

discussion highlighted that THB survivors should be involved in the development of anti-trafficking legislation, which should be constantly updated to protect children effectively. In addition, participants emphasized that demand leading to THB for the purpose of sexual exploitation must be tackled, including through harmonization of relevant national legislation between countries. Special focus was also given to the problem of the low percentage of case identification.

***Recommendations for the OSCE pSs:***

- To keep updating international and national anti-trafficking laws regularly to fight human trafficking more effectively.
- To continue to improve NRMs, including for children, with a special focus on long-term rehabilitation services, including access to social services and psychological support, through ensuring the best interest of children.
- To criminalize the demand for sexual acts with greater focus on legislative and policy measures to tackle demand, including considering the benefits of the equality model.
- To ensure proper identification, protection, assistance, and support of THB victims, adults and children
- To provide adequate access to a recovery and reflection period for THB presumed victims, including children and provide referral pathway to the NRM and national child protection system.
- To provide adequate assistance to child victims of trafficking, including but not limited to child-friendly information, early, free, specialized legal aid and responsive guardianship programs, safe and child-centered accommodation as well as reunification with their families.
- To support and provide employment opportunities for refugees from Ukraine as well proper accommodation and access to education to children, in order to reduce the vulnerability to trafficking of women and their children.
- To ensure that law enforcement and criminal justice agencies are adequately equipped to combat THB, apply age estimation for potential cases of child trafficking with a child-friendly approach and apply seizure of property and freezing of assets of traffickers, with a focus on enhanced co-operation with survivors of trafficking.
- To strengthen labour inspectorates to effectively identify potential cases of trafficking of children for the purpose of labour exploitation.
- To ensure the protection of service providers working on prevention and combating THB.
- To recognize the inclusion of survivors of THB in all anti-trafficking efforts, including in the development and implementation of capacity building and training activities, as well as adopt measures in order to de-stigmatize victims of THB.

***Recommendations for the OSCE institutions and field operations:***

- To support the development, review and strengthening of legislation and policies, including national action plans to protect children, especially unaccompanied minors, taking into account the best interest of the child.

## **SESSION II: Countering Trafficking in Human Beings in the Context of Armed Conflict**

*Introducers:*

**Ms. Pramila Patten**, Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict

**Mr. Costas Yannopoulos**, President, The Smile of the Child<sup>2</sup>

*Survivor Introducer:*

**Mr. Jerome Elam**, Member, OSCE/ODIHR ISTAC

*Moderator:* Ms. Tatiana Kotlyarenko, Adviser on Anti-Trafficking Issues, Human Rights Department, OSCE/ODIHR

This session focused on various aspects of THB in the context of armed conflict, in particular within forced migration flows in and outside borders of a state affected by armed conflict.

The first introducer, Ms. Patten, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General (SRSG) on Sexual Violence in Conflict, highlighted existing needs in relation to prevention and combating of THB, including: provision of information and security to those fleeing conflict; safe migration pathways; adequate training of those providing assistance; sustainable protection in receiving and transit countries; effective partnership with the private sector; and ensuring investigation of THB is included in investigations of international crimes. The SRSG also urged pSs to ensure the adoption and immediate implementation of guidelines for vetting and registration of volunteers.

The second introducer, Mr. Yannopoulos, President of The Smile of the Child, shared good practices from this organization from Greece, such as voluntary participation for facilitation of tracking of unaccompanied minors as well as search and rescue of missing persons. The introducer stressed the need to address the uncontrolled and uncoordinated multiplication of initiatives by organizations, which is causing communication problems, and recommended the use of well-established tools such as the European hotline 116000 and the Call Centre for Missing Children instead. The discussion highlighted that CSOs and organizations active in addressing THB should not compete with each other.

Finally, the last introducer, a survivor leader of THB Mr. Elam, commended ODIHR's updated National Referral Mechanisms Handbook<sup>2</sup>, and urged everyone to join together and fight THB.

The discussion focused largely on THB in relation to the conflict in Ukraine and Ukrainian refugee flows. The lack of 24/7 free hotlines with Russian/Ukrainian-speaking operators was mentioned as a problem in some countries. At the same time, some participants mentioned the existence of interpretation services and information in Ukrainian when accessing hotlines and websites that help victims and survivors of trafficking as a good practice.

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<sup>2</sup> OSCE/ODIHR National Referral Mechanisms - Joining Efforts to Protect the Rights of Trafficked Persons: A Practical Handbook – Second Edition, accessible at <https://www.osce.org/odihhr/NRM-handbook>.

Particular focus was paid to unaccompanied children in relation to the armed conflict in Ukraine, who should be properly registered at borders and locally in consultation with Ukrainian authorities. There is a need for a regional registration and tracking system as well as stronger monitoring of guardians and volunteers assisting children. Moreover, countries should revise and harmonize legislation relating to unaccompanied children of 16 to 18 year-olds crossing the Ukrainian border.

***Recommendations for the OSCE pSs:***

- To ensure immediate identification, registration, tracing and protection of groups at-risk in transit and destination countries and provide training for humanitarian aid organizations and authorities to detect, identify, assist and refer victims and potential victims of THB.
- To provide long-term assistance to refugees, to put in place social safety measures, to provide access to housing, language training, and to ensure refugee children acquire identity documents.
- To prioritize safe spaces and shelters, information, legal assistance to those fleeing conflict through well-targeted awareness-raising campaigns in the countries of origin, transit and destination.
- To establish guidelines for vetting and registration of volunteers, such as those currently developed by the Regional Anti-Trafficking Task-Force, co-chaired by United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and International Organization for Migration (IOM).
- To establish mandatory registration of all children entering the country at national level and not only at the border, and develop and implement a regional database through which children can be tracked, especially unaccompanied or separated children and children without documents.
- To address the overlapping of initiatives by organizations and enhance coordination among child protection specialists, using the well-established tools such as the European hotline 116000 and the Call Centre for Missing Children.
- To ensure co-operation of that local authorities with local civil society, including women's Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) to establish horizontal links, share and provide information, including on hotlines and services available to survivors and witnesses, and to receive assistance from law enforcement authorities when needed.
- To create and strengthen partnerships with the private sector, including technology companies, to identify, monitor and proactively address indicators of THB-related activities.

***Recommendations for the OSCE institutions and field operations:***

- To provide support in strengthening and harmonizing anti-trafficking policies applicable in times of armed conflict or other crises, with a view to improve the identification and protection of victims of THB.
- To provide advice to national authorities with regard to the granting of residence permits to victims of THB taking into account humanitarian and compassionate factors as well as co-operation with law-enforcement.



## **SESSION III: Combating Trafficking in Human Beings in Cyberspace**

*Introducers:*

**Ms. Laila Mickelwait**, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Justice Defense Fund

**Ms. Anastasiya Dzyakova**, former Adviser on Protection of Children in Digital Environment to Vice Prime Minister's Office and author and expert on online child protection

*Survivor Introducer:*

**Ms. Regina Lee Jones**, Member of the OSCE/ODIHR International Survivors of Trafficking Advisory Council (ISTAC)

*Moderator:* Mr. Valiant Richey, OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings

This session focused on the worrying trend of THB in cyberspace and the need to effectively tackle it at the international and national levels.

The first introducer, Ms. Mickelwait, Founder and Chief Executive Officer at Justice Defense Fund, discussed the existence of child sexual abuse material (CSAM) and materials produced through sexual exploitation in mainstream pornographic websites, as well as the enormous demand for such websites and lack of moderation and/or age and consent verification, as well as online immunity.

The second introducer, Ms. Dzyakova, former Adviser on Protection of Children in Digital Environment to Vice Prime Minister's Office and author and expert on online child protection, discussed the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, which have left many women vulnerable and opened up opportunities for traffickers online. She also underlined the lack of content removal and the livestream trend. She stressed the need for international collaboration, as well as the need to focus on prevention and proactive action and tackling fraudulent offers resulting in exploitation.

The third introducer, a survivor leader of THB Ms. Lee Jones, emphasized that the internet is currently an enormous arena for THB, while cyber strategies are still not updated to tackle this challenge. She referred to the issue of anonymity on the internet which hinders criminal investigations, and called for better laws and policies to tackle THB in cyberspace.

It was highlighted that THB in cyberspace is rampant, both for sexual or labour exploitation. The discussion included some current issues such as the COVID-19 pandemic and the vulnerabilities that it has created for some women and children due to unemployment, as well as the flow of Ukrainian refugees and the accompanying demand of Ukrainian women's pornographic content in mainstream porn websites. The session also focused on the lack of updated cybersecurity strategies, measures to tackle demand and fraudulent offers online resulting in exploitation, and the lack of coordination to address this issue. The debate brought attention to the need to develop multidisciplinary approaches to tackle THB especially in cyberspace, as well as awareness-raising on the risks of THB on the internet.

The speakers highlighted that while trafficking expands online, anti-trafficking systems remain largely unequipped to address this new reality. According to an OSCE/OSR CTHB survey,

only seven OSCE participating States reported having laws that make technology companies criminally liable for knowingly facilitating trafficking on their platform.<sup>3</sup> In this regard, participants welcomed Policy responses to technology-facilitated trafficking in human beings: Analysis of current approaches and considerations for moving forward | OSCE<sup>4</sup>.

### ***Recommendations for the OSCE pSs:***

- To strengthen national legislation regarding THB in cyberspace and implement policies that require age verification, identification documents and consent verification for all depicted persons in sexually explicit material, including for companies operating in the information and communication technology (ICT) sector.
- To develop, review and strengthen appropriate legislation and policies to combat THB and child sexual abuse in cyberspace, including establishing a whole-of-government approach to searching for, assessing and assisting in the elimination of exploitative and non-consensual material, establishing reporting mechanisms for CSAM, and addressing the demand that leads to THB in cyberspace.
- To criminalize online grooming of children and watching and possessing CSAM.
- To invest in capacity building for law enforcement and criminal justice practitioners regarding THB for sexual exploitation and addressing stereotyping and stigmatization of victims.
- To develop online campaigns and awareness raising to tackle THB.
- To monitor online job markets that facilitate THB for labour exploitation.
- To establish co-operation between different law enforcement units in pSs such as specialised anti-trafficking units and cybercrime units.

### ***Recommendations for the OSCE institutions and field operations:***

- To assist pSs by developing recommendations for national legislation to promote corporate responsibility of ICT companies, including their involvement in combating CSAM.
- To help promote tools for reporting CSAM and for setting up hotlines for all pSs.

## **CLOSING SESSION**

### *Closing remarks:*

**Ms. Kateryna Ryabiko**, First Deputy Director, OSCE/ODIHR

**Mr. Marcin Czaplinski**, Deputy Permanent Representative of Poland to the OSCE, 2022 Polish OSCE Chairmanship

The closing remarks of, First Deputy Director, OSCE/ODIHR emphasized the urgency to adopt and strengthen prevention and response efforts to address vulnerabilities and the underlying

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<sup>3</sup> Survey Report 2021 of Efforts to Implement OSCE Commitments and Recommended Actions to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings, accessible at <https://www.osce.org/cthb/522934>.

<sup>4</sup> Accessible at <https://www.osce.org/cthb/514141>.

push factors for THB, in particular armed conflict. The breakdown of the rule of law and the disruption of regular state institutions as a result of sustained armed conflict exacerbates the socio-economic vulnerability of the population and thus the risk of THB. The massive displacement of people underscores the importance of implementing sustainable and effective strategies and practical measures not only in the affected state, but also in countries of transit and destination for displaced persons.

It was noted the need to step up anti-trafficking efforts, especially in addressing demand for THB. While women and children are targeted for THB even in peacetime, traffickers exploit the increased vulnerability caused by armed conflict and subsequent refugee flows. It was further emphasized that authorities must pay specific attention to children, and take appropriate measures including establishing registration systems for tracking children, especially unaccompanied minors, throughout countries of origin, transit and destination, as well as providing child-appropriate accommodation and information services online and offline, including child-friendly hotlines.

While recent years have seen an increase in the use of the internet by criminals for the recruitment and exploitation of women and children in particular, including the production of pornographic and child sexual abuse material, traffickers appear to be taking advantage of the increased vulnerability and instability caused by the ongoing armed conflict. Comprehensive safeguards in cyberspace are needed as well as targeted responses incorporating social media platforms to counter these developments.

It was highlighted that all efforts to counter THB must be trauma-informed, evidence-based and tailored to address the specific vulnerabilities and needs of women, children, persons belonging to national minorities, persons with disabilities and the elderly. Such measures should encompass access to information for affected persons about their rights as well as appropriate support mechanisms, including through hotlines. For these efforts to be effective, governments and civil society need to coordinate their anti-trafficking efforts well, including in terms of sharing information and promising practices.

Finally, it was pointed out that the inclusion of trafficking survivors' expertise in the development, review and strengthening of anti-trafficking policies is essential to ensure their effectiveness and sustainability.

The closing remarks of Mr. Marcin Czapliński, Deputy Permanent Representative of Poland to the OSCE, 2022 Polish OSCE Chairpersonship recognized the timely relevance of the event as Europe is facing the biggest refugee wave since World War II, which exacerbates vulnerability to trafficking in human beings. He commended ODIHR for bringing the human rights perspective to the topic, as well as for ensuring the inclusion of the voices of survivors. They noted the recommendations issued by OSR/CTHB to address challenges stemming from the Russian aggression in Ukraine and to support their project to address these challenges. The contribution of civil society organizations and human rights institutions was recognized.

It was reaffirmed that the biggest challenges for the humanitarian and human rights situation have been caused by the Russian aggression in Ukraine and has been the focus of SHDM I and SHDM II. SHDM III has provided an opportunity to discuss a newest threat stemming from the Russian aggression against Ukraine – trafficking in human beings. Furthermore, it was emphasized that it is important to ensure the human centered perspective and to recognize the people impacted by the war in Ukraine and their rights.

## ANNEX 1: AGENDA



### Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting

#### on Protecting the Rights of Trafficked Persons

18-19 July 2022  
(Vienna)

#### Day 1

13.00 – 14.00

#### OPENING SESSION

*Opening remarks*

**Amb. Adam Halaciński**, Chairman of the OSCE Permanent Council,  
Permanent Representative of Poland to the OSCE

**Mr. Matteo Mecacci**, Director, OSCE/ODIHR

**Mr. Valiant Richey**, OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator  
for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings

*Keynote address:*

**Mr. Mykola Kuleba**, Founder of Save Ukraine, former Presidential  
Commissioner for Children's Rights of Ukraine (2014-2021)

*Technical information:*

**Ms. Kateryna Ryabiko**, First Deputy Director, OSCE/ODIHR

16.00 – 18.00

#### SESSION I: Protecting the Rights of Child Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings

*Introducers:*

**Ms. Nodira Karimova**, Director, ISTIQBOLLI AVLOD

**Ms. Iana Mattei**, Founder, Reaching Out Romania

*Survivor Introducer:*

**Ms. Sandra Norak**, Founder of GE-STAC and Member of the  
OSCE/ODIHR ISTAC

*Moderator:* Andrea Huber, Head of Human Rights Department, ODIHR

[16.30 – 17.30 - side events]

## **Day 2**

[9.00 – 10.00 – side events]

10.30 – 12.30      **SESSION II: Countering Trafficking in Human Beings in the Context of Armed Conflict**

*Introducers:*

**Ms. Pramila Patten**, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict

**Mr. Costas Yannopoulos**, President, The Smile of the Child

*Survivor Introducer:*

**Mr. Jerome Elam**, Member, OSCE/ODIHR ISTAC

*Moderator:* Ms. Tatiana Kotlyarenko, Adviser on Anti-Trafficking Issues, Human Rights Department, OSCE/ODIHR

[13.15 – 14.15 - side events]

14.30 – 16.30      **SESSION III: Combating Trafficking in Human Beings in Cyberspace**

*Introducers:*

**Ms. Laila Mickelwait**, Founder and CEO, Justice Defense Fund

**Ms. Anastasiya Dzyakova**, former Adviser on Protection of Children in Digital Environment to Vice Prime Minister's Office and author and expert on online child protection

*Survivor Introducer:*

**Ms. Regina Lee Jones**, Member, OSCE/ODIHR ISTAC

*Moderator:* Mr. Valiant Richey, OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings

16.30 – 17.30      **CLOSING SESSION**

*Rapports from the working sessions*

*Comments from the floor*

*Closing remarks:*

**Ms. Kateryna Ryabiko**, First Deputy Director, OSCE/ODIHR

**Mr. Marcin Czapliński**, Deputy Permanent Representative of Poland to the OSCE, 2022 Polish OSCE Chairmanship

17.30                      Closing of the meeting

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## **ANNEX II: LIST OF SIDE EVENTS: Topics and Conveners**

**Protection of Victims of Trafficking, especially Women and Children, in Central Asia**  
The Legal Center for Women's Initiatives "Sana Sezim"

**Are countries making progress on combating trafficking in human beings?  
Findings of the 2021 Survey Report**  
OSCE Secretariat; Office of the Special Representative/Co-ordinator for  
Combating Trafficking in Human Beings

**Ukrainian Women's NGOs' Response to the Russian invasion of Ukraine**  
Democracy Development CenterFive

**A closer look at how the human rights of trafficked persons are negatively  
affected by the Dublin III Regulation**  
The Justice Project e.V.; Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII

**Combating human trafficking in conflict situations: the role of frontline  
workers and National Referral Mechanisms**  
OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

**Displacement of Ukrainian citizens as a result of Russian aggression:  
refugees and deportation of adults and children**  
Ukrainian Helsinki Human Rights Union; Center for Civil Liberties

## **ANNEX III: BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: Speakers, Introducers and Moderators**

### *Opening remarks:*

**Amb. Adam Halaciński** is Chairman of the OSCE Permanent Council, Permanent Representative of Poland to the OSCE. He is a graduate of the University of Warsaw (Faculty of Modern Languages and the Faculty of Journalism and Political Science). He joined the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1989. Between 1993 and 1999 he served in the Permanent Mission of Poland to the OSCE in Vienna. After returning to the country he headed the Department of Central and Southern Europe and the Department of Western Europe, following which he served as Deputy Director of the Department of Europe, in charge of cooperation with Western European countries. From 2002 to 2007 he was the Deputy Head of the Embassy of Poland in Austria. In 2007-2010 he served as Deputy Director of the Department of Europe, and then as Director of the Department of Central and Southern Europe. From 2010 to 2014, he was the Polish Ambassador in Sweden. In 2015-2016 he served as Deputy Director, and then Director of the Office for Preparation of the NATO Summit in Warsaw and Head of the Host Nation Task Force. From April 2017, he headed the MFA's Security Policy Department. Appointed by the President as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary he assumed duties of the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Poland to the OSCE on 20 January 2020.

**Mr. Matteo Mecacci**, is Director of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), since December 2020. Prior to that he spent 7 years as President of the International Campaign for Tibet. He headed the OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Mission to Georgia in 2013 and was a Member of the Italian Parliament, Foreign Affairs Committee and of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly from 2008– 2013. From 2000 to 2008 he was Representative to the United Nations in New York of “No Peace Without Justice” and the “Transnational Radical Party”. He holds a JD in International Law at the University of Florence.

**Mr. Valiant Richey** is the OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings. He represents the OSCE at the political level on anti-trafficking issues, and assists the 57 pSs in the development and implementation of anti-trafficking strategies and initiatives. His Office also has a co-ordinating function among OSCE structures and institutions involved in combating trafficking in human beings.

Before joining the OSCE, Val worked for thirteen years as a prosecutor in Seattle handling sexual assault, child exploitation and human trafficking cases. He led a coalition of law enforcement, NGOs, academics, service providers, philanthropists, and policy makers focused on the eradication of commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking in Washington State, and he was appointed by the Attorney General to represent prosecutors on the Washington State Trafficking in Persons Coordinating Committee. He has a Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts in Political Science from Boston University and a Juris Doctor from the University of Washington.

*Keynote speaker:*

**Mr. Mykola Kuleba** is Founder of Save Ukraine and former Presidential Commissioner for Children's Rights of Ukraine (2014-2021).

Mr. Kuleba is Director of iDemocracy for Human Rights and President of the International Charitable Organization Child Rescue Service. He is also Co-founder of the National Alliance “Ukraine without Orphans”. He has served as Ombudsman for Children with the office of the President of Ukraine. Previously, he was Head of the Office for Children’s Affairs of the executive body of Kyiv City Council and President of the international charity organization “Save the Children”, Kyiv, among others.

*Session I:*

**Ms. Nodira Karimova** is Director of the Tashkent Social Information Center Istiqbolli Avlod, founded in 2001 with the goal of ending trafficking in human beings and other forms of violence. Ms. Karimova was able to build partnerships with other NGOs, and especially with the Ministry of Internal Affairs in Uzbekistan, as well as the Office of Consular Affairs. She has worked with IOM as the regional coordinator for a project combating human trafficking and has held several trainings for consular officials.

**Ms. Iana Mattei** helps victims of human trafficking in Romania through the organization she founded Reaching Out Romania, which seeks to rescue and rehabilitate trafficked girls. Ms. Matei’s NGO helps girls receive medical attention, psychological assistance, schooling, and professional training, for the ultimate purposes of reintegration into society. Since 1999, they have provided services and support to hundreds of victims of human trafficking. In 2006, Ms. Matei was named as a TIP Hero in the 2006 Trafficking in Persons Report for the work she had completed.

**Ms. Sandra Norak**, Founder of GE-STAC and Member of the OSCE/ODIHR ISTAC, is a human trafficking survivor who finished her law studies in July 2021 with a specialisation in European and Public International Law. She raises awareness regarding the mechanisms of trafficking, the system of prostitution and different forms of human trafficking like the "loverboy" method. She gives lectures at schools to educate young people about the danger of loverboys. She also trains social workers and police officers, among others, on the topic. Her goal is to publicly clarify the grievances in prostitution and to influence legislation on the subject.

*Session II:*

**Ms. Pramila Patten**, is the Under Secretary General of the United Nations and SRSG on Sexual Violence in Conflict since 2017. Prior to this, Ms. Patten served as a member of the Committee on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women since 2003. She was also the Chairperson of the Working Group on General Recommendation No. 30 on “Women in Conflict Prevention, Conflict and Post-Conflict situations”, as well as a member of several High-Level Panels and Projects, including the High-Level Advisory Group for the Global Study on the Implementation of United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on Women, Peace and Security.



**Mr. Costas Yannopoulos** is the President of the Greek NGO The Smile of the Child, a Member of the Board of Directors of the International Centre for Missing and Exploited children (ICMEC), and President of the European Antibullying Network, based in Brussels. He worked in the business field until 1995, when his younger son Andreas, aged 10, was diagnosed with cancer. Andreas dreamed of an organization which mission would be to support all children. After his loss, Costas Yannopoulos dedicated himself to fulfilling his son's vision. The business world, the people, the Greek society as a whole became supporters and embraced the wish of Mr. Yannopoulos' son. Today, the The Smile of the Child is the largest internationally recognized non-profit Organization in Greece in the field of child protection.

**Mr. Jerome Elam** is President and Chief Executive Officer of Trafficking in America Task Force and a member of OSCE/ODIHR ISTAC. He is a survivor of child abuse and child sex trafficking. After working for eight years in the United States Marine Corps, Mr. Elam attended the University of Florida and spent several years working in the Biotechnology sector. Today, Mr. Elam is a public speaker, a staff writer, and known columnist for Communities Digital News. He has received the Award for Courage presented by the National Council of Jewish Women for his work in the advocacy arena. In 2015, he was appointed as a Special Advisor to the Utah Attorney General on human trafficking.

*Session III:*

**Ms. Laila Mickelwait** is the Founder and CEO of the Justice Defense Fund and the Founder of the global #Traffickinghub movement, which fights to hold the largest pornography website in the world accountable for enabling and profiting from sex trafficking. Laila has been combating sex trafficking for over a decade and is a leading expert in the anti-trafficking field with a special focus on criminal exploitation in the Big Porn industry. She has advocated for legislative reform at the United Nations and to lawmakers around the globe.

**Ms. Anastasiya Dzyakova** is the Founder of the biggest in Ukraine educational project on child online safety #stop\_sexting, author of the first in the region book for parents on children online safety, founder of Harvard Kennedy School women's network. In 2022, she launched an educational project for teachers, parents, and volunteers "It is time to talk". The project gives skills and support in leading peer-to-peer social and psychological mini-groups. From 2017-2021 Anastasiya worked in the government of Ukraine as an adviser to Deputy-Prime Minister and project coordinator in Children Commissioner's Office. She led the field of combating child abuse and initiated reform on child online safety. She led the successful advocacy campaign on child sexual abuse materials watching and possession, and grooming criminalization by the national law.

**Ms. Regina Lee Jones** is a survivor leader and member of OSCE/ODIHR ISTAC. She holds a Bachelor in psychology and is currently taking another Bachelor in Digital Forensics. Ms. Jones works in the Norwegian Labor and Welfare Administration. In addition, she owns her own company, KelRa Team. Together with some other survivor leaders, Ms. Jones is in the process of starting a new non-profit organization that will focus on finding finances to support survivor leaders in their projects all over the world.

*Closing remarks:*

**Ms. Kateryna Ryabiko** is First Deputy Director at OSCE/ODIHR. Previously, she served with the US Agency for International Development, Freedom House, the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs and other public and private entities, leading projects and teams, as well as providing technical assistance and policy advice. On top of her strong project management skills in international settings, she possesses expertise in the fields of democracy, human rights and elections. Kateryna's work has been recognized by multiple awards, including for outstanding achievements in promoting democratic development and her leadership in guiding democracy assistance efforts. She holds an MPA from the State University of New York at Binghamton, is a Stanford University Draper Hills Fellow for Democracy, Development and the Rule of Law, and graduated from the Stanford's University Leadership Academy for Development.

**Mr. Marcin Czaplinski** is Deputy Permanent Representative, 2022 Polish OSCE Chairmanship. Mr. Czaplinski has been a member of the Polish diplomatic service since 1993. His previous posts at the Polish Ministry for Foreign Affairs include: Deputy Director of the Department of European Policy, Head of Unit for South East Europe (SEE) and EU Enlargement, National Coordinator for Central European Initiative and Visegrad Cooperation, political officer at the Polish Embassy in Zagreb, Croatia and desk officer for the countries of the former Yugoslavia. He also served as Head of the SEE Unit at the OSCE Secretariat in Vienna and as a Senior Political Adviser and Head of Area Team at the Office of OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities in the Hague. Mr. Czaplinski holds a master degree in international relations and law, as well as a Ph.D. from the Faculty of Law at Tilburg University. He has lectured on South-Eastern Europe, the OSCE, conflict prevention, security policy and minority rights at a number of professional institutions across Europe.

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