

EMERGING PROBLEMS WITH GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT

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Globalisation can be seen as a multidimensional phenomenon. It leads to a deepening of the immediate exchange of information due to technological development, but it also starts to become problematic in the context of human rights. But how can this be in the 21st century? Because global development is accompanied by disenfranchisement and exploitation and other forms of human rights violations (Rabet, Delphine, 2009 cited in Arfat, 2013: 18). At the same time, the impact of global transformations has helped to enforce and implement human rights in economic, political, and social responses.

NATURE AND IMPACT OF THE PROBLEM

Globalisation has presented extraordinary opportunities for human rights progress around the world, but the main form of globalisation we have today is capitalist globalisation, which weakens the ability of the proletariat to pursue its rights. Since the ashes of World War 2, human rights have been seen as a form of protection from states.



In 1948, they developed the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Annas, 2007: 427). The UN and UDHR argued human rights are inherent to all human

beings to protect the dignity of the individual and to resist powerful institutions that torture or discriminate against people. Moreover, "human rights became an important signifier of a coalition around sanctions against crimes" (Okosun and Kibiswa, 2013:482).

But how do all these aspects interact together and what kind of countries suffer from this? There is often a relationship between one aspect of human rights and another of globalisation. For instance, the way in which globalisation interacts with governments and states may lead to crimes. Rotberg (2004) believes that many countries with poor human rights records may be considered weak and failing states. Such circumstances are prevailing in Colombia or Afghanistan which both have weak states.

Colombia falls into the severest category of the political terror scale and is considered the most dangerous country for human rights defenders" according to Amnesty International (Curtis, Gill and Robinson, 2021). As Englehart (2009:165) shows, numerous insurgent groups and drug gangs contribute to human rights violations.

The Colombian state has neither the power nor the authority to mediate social conflicts or enforce the law. The situation is similar in Afghanistan, where military interventions, physical and political instability and economic devastation prevail because of the level of lawlessness, especially when it comes to women's lives and rights (Ahmed-ghosh, 2006:111). Moreover, legal interventions such as the codification of law or the reconstruction of infrastructures like courts and

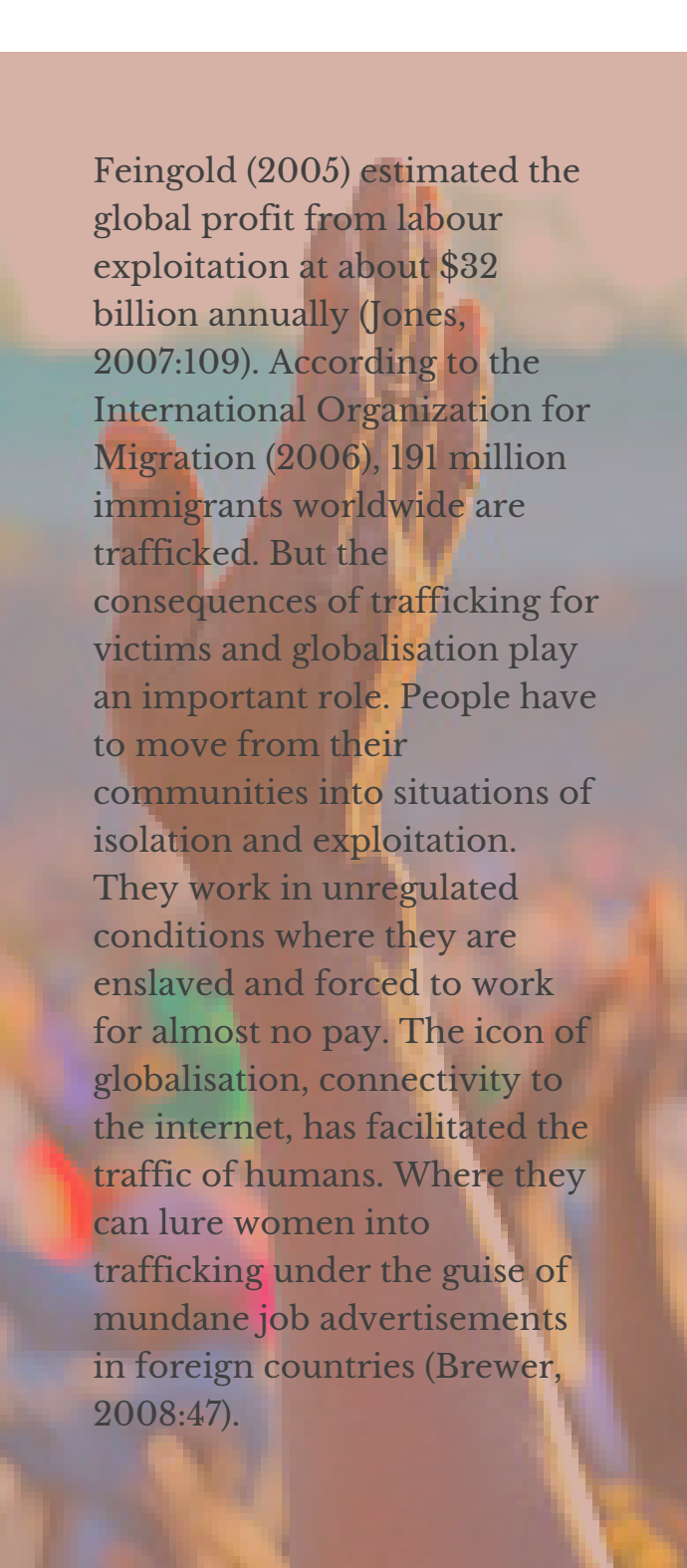
and prisons have been undertaken by foreign governments and international organisations (De Lauri, 2013: 261), so globalisation has helped Afghanistan to improve the system. The dynamics seen in Colombia or Afghanistan are an example of how globalisation is opening up a gap for the protection of human rights. This is visible through politicians, academics or human rights activists calling on private companies to protect human rights. Globalisation will also help spread the campaigns of non-governmental organisations and make the public aware of the real abuses.

GLOBALISATION IS A FACILITATOR

Moreover, as human rights violations are themselves crimes, these violate the core

of human rights and achieve the status of just cogens. This means criminals can be prosecuted and punished by any state within international law (VM, 2020: 156). But how does globalisation affect crime and human rights?

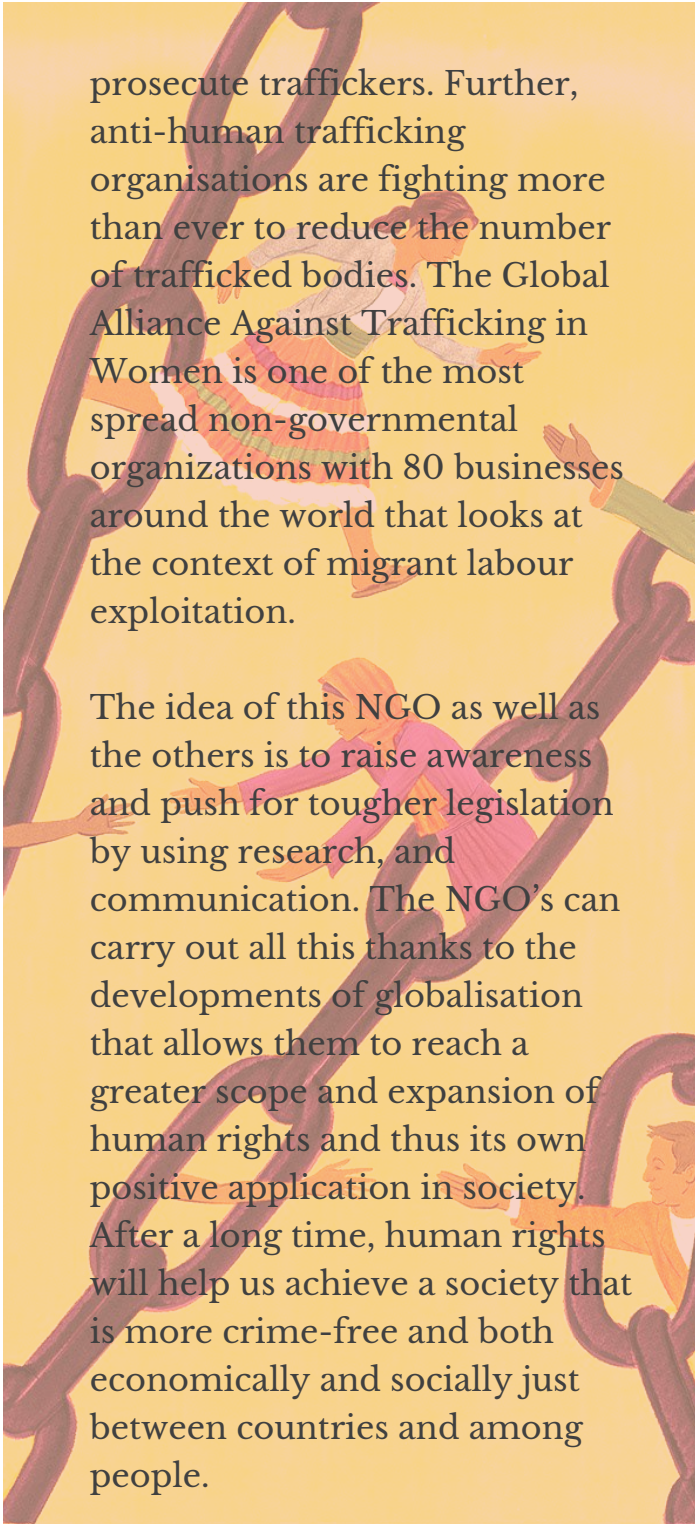
Human trafficking is one of the most obvious crimes and human rights violations that have developed as a result of globalisation. It is mainly for prostitution, street begging, domestic work, marriage, adoption, armed conflict and other forms of exploitative labour or services (Jones, 2007:108). Most victims of trafficking are immigrants who live predominantly under slavery and are coerced under sexual services. Among illicit businesses, human trafficking is second after drugs dealings (Jones, 2007) because it is an extremely profitable business as it has a low cost and high non-taxable monetary returns.



Feingold (2005) estimated the global profit from labour exploitation at about \$32 billion annually (Jones, 2007:109). According to the International Organization for Migration (2006), 191 million immigrants worldwide are trafficked. But the consequences of trafficking for victims and globalisation play an important role. People have to move from their communities into situations of isolation and exploitation. They work in unregulated conditions where they are enslaved and forced to work for almost no pay. The icon of globalisation, connectivity to the internet, has facilitated the traffic of humans. Where they can lure women into trafficking under the guise of mundane job advertisements in foreign countries (Brewer, 2008:47).

REDUCING HUMAN TRAFFICKING

There is no doubt that human rights are a powerful tool for positive social change. Human rights movements help to reduce inequalities in power and wealth. However, weak states need to be strengthened so that they can protect human rights while imposing more international obligations on non-state corporations. In this way, states will ensure the protection of human rights, and non-state actors will be held accountable when human rights violations occur (Shelton, 2002: 322). More than ever, laws against labour exploitation are extremely important to achieve positive social changes. States have to enact new anti-trafficking laws to propagate awareness of the problem and prevent and protect victims as well as



prosecute traffickers. Further, anti-human trafficking organisations are fighting more than ever to reduce the number of trafficked bodies. The Global Alliance Against Trafficking in Women is one of the most spread non-governmental organizations with 80 businesses around the world that looks at the context of migrant labour exploitation.

The idea of this NGO as well as the others is to raise awareness and push for tougher legislation by using research, and communication. The NGO's can carry out all this thanks to the developments of globalisation that allows them to reach a greater scope and expansion of human rights and thus its own positive application in society. After a long time, human rights will help us achieve a society that is more crime-free and both economically and socially just between countries and among people.

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