

RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS

The chart below shows the Ratification, Accession (a), or Acceptance (A) of relevant international conventions for those countries that have ratified, acceded to, or accepted any such conventions between April 2015 and March 2016. A complete list that includes all of the countries covered by the 2016 *Trafficking in Persons Report* is available at: <http://www.state.gov/tipreport>

Country	UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons	Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography	Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Armed Conflict	ILO Convention 29, Forced Labour	ILO Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention*	ILO Convention 105, Abolition of Forced Labour	ILO Convention 182, Elimination of Worst Forms of Child Labor	ILO Convention 189, Domestic Workers
	Ratification, Accession (a), or Acceptance (A)	Ratification, Accession (a), or Acceptance (A)	Ratification, Accession (a)	Ratification	Ratification	Ratification	Ratification	Ratification
Bahamas	2008	2015 (a)	2015 (a)	1976		1976	2001	
Belgium	2004	2006	2002	1944		1961	2002	2015
Burma	2004 (a)	2012 (a)		1955			2013	
Chile	2004	2003	2003	1933		1999	2000	2015
Cuba	2013 (a)	2001	2007	1953		1958	2000	2015
Dominican Republic	2008	2006 (a)	2014	1956		1958	2000	2015
Kiribati	2005 (a)	2015 (a)	2015 (a)	2000		2000	2009	
Korea	2015	2004	2004				2001	
Mauritania	2005 (a)	2007 (a)		1961	2016	1997	2001	
Micronesia	2011 (a)	2012	2015					
Niger	2004	2004	2012 (a)	1961	2015	1962	2000	
Norway	2003	2001	2003	1932	2015	1958	2000	
Panama	2004	2001	2001	1966		1966	2000	2015
Portugal	2004	2003	2003	1956		1959	2000	2015
Singapore	2015 (a)		2008	1965		**	2001	
Sri Lanka	2015	2006	2000	1950		2003	2001	
United Arab Emirates	2009 (a)	2016 (a)		1982		1997	2001	
United Kingdom	2006	2009	2003	1931	2016	1957	2000	

* P029 Protocol to the Forced Labour Convention will enter into force November 9, 2016.

** Singapore: ILO C105 ratified in 1965, denounced on 19 April, 1979.

STOPPING HUMAN TRAFFICKING, SEXUAL EXPLOITATION, AND ABUSE BY INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPERS AND CIVILIAN PERSONNEL

As required by law, this section summarizes actions taken by the United Nations (UN), the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), and the Organization for Security and Co-Operation in Europe (OSCE) to prevent trafficking in persons or exploitation of victims of trafficking.

	UNITED NATIONS	OSCE	NATO
TOTAL NUMBER OF PEACEKEEPING AND SUPPORT PERSONNEL	105,314	2,330	17,209
TOTAL NUMBER OF MISSIONS	17	16	2
PREVENTION POLICY	"Special Measures for Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse" (SEA) (2003)	"Code of Conduct for Staff and Mission Members"	"NATO Policy on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings" (2004 and 2007)
LEAD OFFICE RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION	Office of Field Support	Office of Human Resources	NATO Political Affairs and Security Policy Division (PASP)
PREVENTION TRAINING	Pre-deployment and at mission	Pre-deployment	Pre-deployment and at mission "NATO Guidance for the development of training and educational programmes to support the policy on combating the trafficking in human beings" (2004)
NUMBER OF ALLEGATIONS IN 2015	99 [civilian (45), military (38), police (16)] 69 allegations were reported against personnel of UN peacekeeping and special political missions in the Central African Republic (22), Democratic Republic of Congo (16), Haiti (9), Liberia (6), Ivory Coast (6), Mali (5), Darfur (2), Sudan's Abyei Region (1), Cyprus (1) and Timor-Leste (1). The remaining 30 allegations were reported against UN staff members and related personnel not associated with peacekeeping operations and special political missions. An estimated 28% of the allegations against personnel of peacekeeping and other special political missions involved children under 18 years of age.	No reported allegations	No reported allegations – NATO relies on contributing countries to report allegations.

	UNITED NATIONS	OSCE	NATO
NEW INITIATIVES	<p>The UN Secretary-General's (SYG) 2016 annual report (A/70/729) includes, for the first time, the list of nationalities of UN personnel affected by allegations. In January 2016, the UN began requiring troop contributing countries certify operational readiness, including conduct of pre-deployment training according to UN standards, and that personnel nominated have not engaged in previous misconduct while on a peacekeeping mission. The UN Office of Field Support's Misconduct Tracking System was enhanced to support the expanded certification and vetting efforts. The SYG instituted a six-month timeline for UN investigating offices to complete investigations of sexual exploitation and abuse and is urging impacted Member States to do the same. The SYG appointed a Special Coordinator on Improving the UN's Response to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse.</p>	<p>The OSCE TIP Special Representative traveled to Eastern Ukraine on three occasions, in the context of the crisis situation, to raise awareness and build capacities of the Special Monitoring Mission (SMM) personnel in identifying victims of human trafficking, providing support, and strengthening cooperation with local officials. During the last visit, the Special Representative conducted "training-of-trainers" for SMM personnel on domestic violence in conflict situations and human trafficking.</p>	<p>NATO's Operations Division created the Section for Protection of Civilians to serve as a focal point for human rights issues, including human trafficking. This new section is expected to take over NATO's Counter Trafficking in Human Beings Coordinator role, which resided in another division of NATO.</p>
LINKS FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	http://cdu.unlb.org/unstrategy/remedialaction.aspx	http://www.osce.org/what/trafficking	http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/topics_50315.htm

MULTILATERAL ORGANIZATIONS COMBATING TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

ORGANIZATION	FRAMEWORK DOCUMENT RELEVANT TO TIP	TIP FOCAL POINT
<p>United Nations www.un.org www.unodc.org www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/chr/special/themes.htm</p> <p>www.ilo.org http://www.ilo.org/sapfl/Informationresources/ILOPublications/Byregion/Global/lang--en/index.htm</p>	<p>Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, Supplementing the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime (A/RES/55/25) (2000)</p> <p>United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons (A/RES/64/293) (2010)</p> <p>ILO Conventions: -C29 Forced Labour Convention, 1930 -P029 Protocol of 2014 and Recommendation R203, supplementing the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 -C105 Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 -C182 Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 -C189 Domestic Workers Convention, and its Recommendation R201, 2011</p>	<p>Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children</p> <p>Special Rapporteur on Contemporary Forms of Slavery</p> <p>Special Rapporteur on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution, and Child Pornography</p>
<p>African Union (AU) www.africa-union.org/</p>	<p>Ouagadougou Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings, Especially Women and Children (2006)</p> <p>AU Commission Initiative against Trafficking Campaign (AU.COMMIT)</p>	N/A
<p>Association of Southeast Nations (ASEAN) www.aseansec.org www.aseansec.org/4966.htm</p>	<p>ASEAN Declaration Against Trafficking in Persons, Particularly Women and Children, 2004</p>	N/A
<p>Bali Regional Ministerial Conference On People Smuggling, Trafficking In Persons And Related Transnational Crime (Bali Process) www.baliprocess.net</p>	<p>Co Chairs' Statements of the first (2002), second (2003), third (2009), fourth (2011), and fifth (2013) Bali Regional Ministerial Conference On People Smuggling, Trafficking In Persons And Related Transnational Crime</p>	N/A
<p>Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) www.cis.minsk.by/ (in Russian only)</p>	<p>Agreement on the Cooperation of the CIS Member States in Combating Trafficking in Persons, Human Organs and Tissues (2005)</p> <p>Program of Cooperation between the CIS Member States against Trafficking in Persons for 2014–2018</p>	N/A
<p>Coordinated Mekong Ministerial Initiative against Trafficking (COMMIT) www.no-trafficking.org/index.html</p>	<p>COMMIT Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation Against Trafficking in Greater Mekong Sub-Region (2004)</p> <p>COMMIT 3rd Sub-Regional Plan of Action (COMMIT SPAIII, 2011–2013)</p>	<p>UN Inter-Agency Project on Human Trafficking (UNIAP)</p>
<p>Council of the Baltic Sea States (CBSS) http://www.cbss.org/civil-security-the-human-dimension/tfthb/ www.childcentre.info/egcc/</p>	<p>A Vision for the Baltic Sea region by 2020, CBSS Summit 2010.</p> <p>Expert Group for Cooperation on Children at Risk: Priority paper 2011 – 2013</p> <p>Human Trafficking 2013 – Baltic Sea Region Round-up</p>	<p>Task Force against Trafficking in Human Beings with Focus on Adults (TF-THB)</p> <p>Expert Group on Children at Risk</p>

ORGANIZATION	FRAMEWORK DOCUMENT RELEVANT TO TIP	TIP FOCAL POINT
Council of Europe (COE) www.coe.int www.coe.int/t/dghl/monitoring/trafficking/default_en.asp	COE Convention on Action Against Trafficking in Human Beings (2005)	Group of Experts on Action Against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA)
Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) www.ecowas.int Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) www.ceeac-eccas.org/	Declaration on the Fight against Trafficking in Persons, 2001 ECOWAS Initial Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons (2002-2003), extended until 2011 Joint ECOWAS/ECCAS Regional Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children (2006-2008)	Anti-Trafficking Unit
European Union (EU) http://ec.europa.eu/anti-trafficking/index.action	Brussels Declaration on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, 2002 Directive on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Human Beings and Protecting Victims	European Union Anti-Trafficking Coordinator
League of Arab States (LAS) www.arableagueonline.org/las/index.jsp (in Arabic only)	Arab Framework Act on Combating Trafficking in Persons (2008) Arab Initiative to Combat Trafficking in Persons, 2010	N/A
Organization of American States (OAS) www.oas.org/en/default.asp www.oas.org/dsp/english/cpo_trata.asp	Work Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons in the Western Hemisphere 2010-2012 (AG/RES. 2551 (XL-O/10))	Coordinator Against Trafficking in Persons
Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) http://www.comcec.org/TR/Yeni_Site_Dokumanlar/ana_dokumanlar/IKT_Sarti.pdf	Charter of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, 2008	N/A
Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) www.osce.org/ www.osce.org/cthb	OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings (2003) Platform for Action Against Human Trafficking (2007) Decision No. 1107 Addendum to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings, Decision No. 1107, 6 December 2013	Special Representative and Co-ordinator on Trafficking in Human Beings
Regional Conference on Migration (RCM) (Puebla Group) www.rcmvs.org/	Regional Conference on Migration Plan of Action	N/A
Southern African Development Community (SADC) www.sadc.int/ www.sadc.int/index/browse/page/531	SADC Regional Plan of Action on Trafficking in Persons, 2009-2019	N/A
South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) www.saarc-sec.org/ http://www.saarc-sec.org/userfiles/conv-trafficking.pdf	SAARC Convention on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Women and Children for Prostitution, 2002	Regional Task Force

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS

ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EU	European Union
EUROPOL	European Police Office
GRETA	Council of Europe's Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings
ILO	International Labour Organization
ILO-IPEC	International Labour Organization's International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour
INTERPOL	International Criminal Police Organization
IOM	International Organization for Migration
LGBTI	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and/or Intersex
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
OSCE	Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
2000 UN TIP PROTOCOL (PALERMO PROTOCOL)	Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, Supplementing the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime

NOTES:

- Local currencies were converted to U.S. dollars (\$) using the currency exchange rates reported by the U.S. Department of the Treasury on December 31, 2015. The rates can be found here: <https://www.fiscal.treasury.gov/fsreports/rpt/treasRptRateExch/itin-12-31-2015.pdf>

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A CLOSING NOTE

No matter how frequently we confront the indignity of human trafficking, we have not become desensitized to its cruelties. Like the readers of this Report, we find many of the photos and stories horrifying and hard to comprehend. But they also compel us to continue to shed light on this awful crime and work to ensure victims of human trafficking are treated with compassion and fairness.

While we understand the many ways human trafficking victims suffer at the hands of their traffickers, we need to acknowledge that they may also suffer from their treatment by governments, including by the criminal justice systems that should protect them. It is a fact that traffickers force victims to engage in prostitution, theft, and drug trafficking, and to commit immigration violations. As documented throughout this Report, governments in every region of the world have prosecuted such trafficking victims, often unwittingly, due to the lack of proper screening and identification of victims of sex or labor trafficking. Some government treatment of victims—such as restricting their freedom of movement, summarily returning victims to countries they fled, and prosecuting them for crimes committed as a direct result of being trafficked—compounds their plight and results in further victimization.



Traffickers increase their leverage over victims by warning that if they notify police of their exploitation, they will be deported or punished as criminals. When justice systems treat victims as criminals or do not allow them to leave government shelters or the country until they testify against their trafficker, they have reinforced traffickers' threats and discouraged victims from seeking help. Fear of the system hampers identifying and assisting trafficking victims, prosecuting perpetrators, and, ultimately, stopping traffickers from harming others. Wrongful convictions also impede survivors' ability to rebuild their lives, in particular by limiting their options to find housing or qualify for credit and employment.

For trafficking victims to receive justice and needed services, governments must adopt a victim-centered approach to combating human trafficking, one that understands the dynamics of exploitation and goes beyond traditional law enforcement efforts. With the Palermo Protocol as their guide, all countries should incorporate the principle of non-criminalization of victims into their anti-trafficking strategies and offer victims a clean slate for crimes committed under duress. Law enforcement and immigration officials need proper training to actively screen for victims so they are not driven back into the grip of their former captors, but rather properly identified and given a chance to recover from their trauma and move forward.

Although the terror of modern slavery is indelible, no survivor deserves to be locked up, deported, or haunted by the past when applying for a job, apartment, or loan. We hope this Report serves as a call to action for governments, legislatures, and criminal justice systems worldwide to provide meaningful support to the vulnerable, support that starts by not penalizing victims for crimes they did not choose to commit.

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