

National Programme of Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings for 2019 - 2023

Introduction

The fight against trafficking in human beings is among the priorities of fight against organised crime not only for the Slovak Republic but also for international organisations and the European Union, which is evident thanks to many important and binding documents and monitoring mechanisms. The Slovak Republic is a member of important international organisations and groupings (e.g. United Nations, Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe, European Union, and Council of Europe); the obligations from international documents are continuously reflected in practice through the binding regulations of the Slovak Republic. The International Labour Organisation (ILO) in its 2017 report estimates more than 40 million people to have become victims of human trafficking (hereinafter the “victim”) in 2016. Research shows that among the victims, about 25 million people were victims of forced labour and sexual exploitation, and 15 million were exploited for the purpose of forced marriage.

The existence of the “National programme of fight against trafficking in human beings for 2019 - 2023” (hereinafter the “National Programme”) is based in particular on international obligations¹, as well as on the national needs for coordinated approach in the fight against trafficking in human beings. The National Programme is oriented at the comprehensive and efficient fight against trafficking in human beings, which supports the development of coordinated activity of all stakeholders within the framework of risk reduction and prevention of the crime of trafficking in human beings, as well as in creating conditions for the provision of support and assistance to victims and provision of protection of their human rights, freedoms and dignity considering individual needs of every person. Within the implementation of activities we consider the following necessary: to maintain the principle of active participation of the Government, central and local government authorities, close cooperation with the respective organisations of civil society active in the fight against trafficking in human beings, as well as respecting the human rights and freedoms.

Active participation and working on tasks based on the areas to be covered may facilitate to achieve the goal which is the narrowing of the space for committing the crime of trafficking in human beings. The evaluation of tasks is every year negotiated by the interdepartmental Expert Group for the Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings (hereinafter the “Expert Group”) established at the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic. The overall evaluation of the fulfilment of tasks of the National Programme is also negotiated by the Government of the Slovak Republic. The comprehensive evaluations of the National Programme are also published at the website of the Ministry of the Interior of the

¹ The minimum list of legal acts of both legislative and non-legislative nature can be found in the documents for download at the website of the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic in the part Trafficking in Human Beings <http://www.minv.sk/?definiciaobchodovaniasludmi>.

Slovak Republic², therefore, they will not be included in the subject and content of this material.

Part A

Description of the situation of trafficking in human beings

1. Strategic vision

The main objective of the National Programme is to introduce a coordinated system with a view to reduce criminal activities of trafficking in human beings, i.e. to narrow the space for committing the crime of trafficking in human beings with respect to the current trends and development of situation in the area, which includes the orientation at the perpetrators and potential victims. To cover both sides, it is necessary to focus both on the strengthening of the existing instruments, which have proved good over the years, as well on new instruments of fight against trafficking in human beings, which reflect new trends in crime omitting the crime.

To reach the main objective, attention must be paid to partial areas covered by the already known expression of important areas or approaches, i.e. **“Four Ps”** – **“Prevention”**, **“Protection”**, **“Prosecution”**, **“Partnership”**.

For over a decade, an increased attention has been paid to the problem of trafficking in human beings in the Slovak Republic, which is also reflected by the results of evaluation of the Slovak Republic within the monitoring processes and observance of minimum standards. A great progress has been made in the fight against trafficking in human beings and many instruments have proved efficient.

In connection with the development in committing the crime of trafficking in human beings and fight against this criminal activity, and with respect to the national as well as international trends, in the next period 2019 – 2023, the National Programme will focus on the area of assistance and support, and the area of cooperation in the fight against trafficking in human beings. These are problematic areas that deserve an increased rate of attention. We have come to these conclusions based on the evaluation of the previous National Programme, by analysing the annual evaluations of the Programme of Support and Protection of Trafficked Victims (hereinafter the “Programme of Assistance”), as well as based on consulting with the entities working on the part of assistance to victims, as well as on the part of prosecuting the perpetrators. In helping and supporting the victims, attention must be paid to the services provided to victims as in the previous period there were many cases of victims with insurance premium debts and psychical problems requiring a permanent solution. Many victims were homeless, which also requires a long-term solution of their situation in order to eliminate re-trafficking and victimisation.

Taking into account that it is a dynamically developing criminal activity, communication between the subjects of assistance as well as between the law enforcement and criminal

² <http://www.minv.sk/?informacne-centrum-na-boj-proti-obchodovaniu-s-ludmi-a-prevenciu-kriminality>.

justice bodies both at national and international levels needs to be adapted to this situation. The cooperation between the country of origin of victims and the country of exploitation appears insufficiently adjusted in the long term, which (according to the data of application practice) concerns, in the Slovak Republic, the cooperation in particular between the Slovak Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (hereinafter “the Great Britain“). It is necessary to keep strengthening the international and transnational cooperation in order to fulfil the objectives and priorities in providing assistance to victims. Attention needs to be paid to other areas, too, such as investigation and prevention of human trafficking. The partnership of individual entities and its forms should also consider the trends in human trafficking that have been noticed. The elimination of demand for human trafficking and the cooperation with production and business sectors must not be neglected. The following chapters specify the areas, which the National Programme is focused on, in the form of particular objectives and tasks.

Taking into account the above mentioned, the National Programme focuses mainly on the strengthening of competences of central government authorities in order to keep a sensitive approach to the identification of human trafficking cases and needs of victims, as well as on the consistent sanctioning of perpetrators and on the strengthening of mutual cooperation of the entities providing assistance to victims, as well as the entities prosecuting the perpetrators of the respective criminal activity.

2. Development of the situation of trafficking in human beings

The first step, through which the Slovak Republic declared the fight against human trafficking, was Government Resolution of the Slovak Republic No. 668 dated 7 September 2005 adopted to the report on the activities of the Government of the Slovak Republic in 2005 focused on the prevention and suppression of human trafficking. Based on the above Resolution, the Minister of the Interior of the Slovak Republic appointed a **National Coordinator for Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings** and the first conceptual material at national level was adopted, which declared the fight against this serious criminal activity, in the form of a **National Action Plan of Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings for 2006 - 2007**. This material prepared by the Expert Group for the Prevention and Assistance to Trafficked Victims established at the Council of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Prevention of Criminality, was adopted by the Government Resolution of the Slovak Republic No. 3 dated 11 January 2006 and contained a summary of available information on situation in the field of human trafficking, and it also proposed measures in compliance with the trends and recommendations of international organisations and the European Union. The first task set by the Action Plan related to creation of mechanism of management and coordination of activities in the fight against human trafficking. With the objective to fulfil the above task, in October 2006 the **State Secretary of the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic** was appointed the National Coordinator for Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings. Subsequently, at the end of 2006, an internal regulation of the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic on establishing the **Expert Group**, which is an advisory, initiative and coordinating authority of the National Coordinator, was issued. It is made up of the representatives of competent ministries, Government Office of the Slovak Republic, Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Slovak Government for Roma Communities, General Prosecutor's Office of the Slovak Republic, Association of Towns and Municipalities of Slovakia, representatives of civil society, as well as of the International Organisation for Migration. The current regulation of operation of the Expert Group is contained in the internal act of governance, which is **Order of the Minister of Interior of the Slovak Republic No. 126** of 24 September 2012 **on the Expert Group for the Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings**. In compliance with the above regulation, the Chairman of the Expert Group, inter alia, establishes multidisciplinary working groups for solving practical problems and tasks related to the fight against human trafficking. The National Action Plan of Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings for 2006 - 2007 was followed by the **National Programme of Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings for 2008 to 2010** (Government Resolution of the Slovak Republic No. 251 of 23 April 2008). The following strategic document at national level was the **National Programme of Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings for 2011 - 2014** (Government Resolution of the Slovak Republic No. 96 of 16 February 2011), which was followed by another strategic document – **National Programme of Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings for 2015 – 2018** (approved by Government Resolution No. 52 of 4 February 2015). The evaluation of fulfilment of the tasks of the National Programme of Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings for 2015 - 2018 for the entire period represents a separate material, which is available for inspection at the website of the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic in the part discussing human trafficking, always after the

material for the period of validity of the particular national programme has also been negotiated by the Government of the Slovak Republic.

Act No. 583/2008 Coll. on prevention of criminality and other antisocial activity and on the amendment to certain acts (hereinafter the “Act on Prevention of Criminality“) established a centre of the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic (Article 7 (3) of the Act on Prevention of Criminality), which started performing its activity in 2010. The Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic fulfils the tasks of the **national rapporteur** within the working group established at the European Commission and it is, inter alia, the **coordinator** of the information system about human trafficking, and the coordinator of the Programme of Assistance, through which the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic, with the participation of service providers, ensures assistance and support to people, for whom there is a justified conclusion of becoming victims. The Programme of Assistance has been regulated in the internal act of governance of the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic already since 2006, when the first order solving the Programme of Assistance was Order No. 65/2006 on the assurance of a **programme of support and protection of trafficked victims** effective from 1 January 2007. Over the years, the Programme of Assistance has been modified in order to adequately react and adapt to changes and needs both at a national and international level. Every year, a statistical summary is prepared on the victims included in the Programme of Assistance, which is published at the website of the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic³ and submitted for negotiation of the Expert Group. The Programme of Assistance is based on the principle of non-discrimination and equal approach, respecting the basic human rights. It provides assistance to adults, as well as to child victims, both to Slovak citizens and foreigners. To consolidate the procedure for child victims - foreigners, in 2016 an updated version of the methodical instrument “**Methodical instrument for the procedure of assistance provision to trafficked victims with a special focus on children and foreigners**“ was prepared. Based on the needs of the application practice resulting from the legislative changes, as well as on the implementation of principles of current international directives and regulations, the internal procedure of the authorities of social-legal protection of children and social guardianship in performing measures in this area for trafficked victims was regulated in a new internal standard “**Performance of measures of social-legal protection of children and social guardianship for trafficked victims - guidance and recommended procedure No. 6-3/2016**“, with effect from 1 November 2016. The above procedure follows the “Methodical instrument focused on the procedure of all entities interested in the cases of provision of assistance to trafficked victims, with a special focus on the specific details of procedure in the case of trafficked victims - foreigners, as well as in the case of minor trafficked victims“ prepared by the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic in cooperation with members of the Expert Group.

The **National Line of Assistance to Trafficked Victims** with the telephone number **0800 800 818** (hereinafter the “National Line“) has been an efficient tool of assistance and provision of information to a wide spectrum of people already since 2008. The task of the free

³ http://www.minv.sk/?program_podpory_a_ochrany_obeti.

National Line is to provide professional consulting and information on trafficking in human beings.

Within the Police Force, human trafficking is covered by a **specialised police unit**, which since 1 July 2013 has been performing, at national level, operational search activity, acquiring knowledge, taking part in the operational detecting and clarifying of the criminal activities; it disposes of specialised investigators for this area, provides and coordinates cooperation with partner foreign services in solving the internationally organised criminal activity connected with human trafficking and also cooperates with central government authorities and third sector.

At national level, all the competent ministries and institutions operating in the Expert Group are involved in the fight against trafficking in human beings through the tasks contained in the Action Plan of Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings of the National Programme of each programme period. These tasks overlap the tasks fulfilled by individual ministries and institutions within their competences in the area of human trafficking also from other partial or strategic documents, which are proposed by them, based on cooperation, to individual Action Plans of Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings of the National Programme.

In 2015, the Expert Group approved the updated version of the **National Reference Mechanism (NRM)** or the national reference framework, which represents a structure of cooperating entities, through which the state authorities fulfil their obligations in connection with the protection and promotion of human rights of people who became victims, while coordinating their efforts within the strategic partnership with civil society. The NRM's objective is to reach transparency in the area of competences and responsibility of individual entities and also flexible response to the changing conditions. The document is based on the international and European legal standards for the fight against trafficking in human beings, to which the Slovak Republic is committed, in particular from the **Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings**, the Protocol to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime, i.e. **Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children** (the Palermo Protocol) or **Directive 2011/36/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims, and replacing Council Framework Decision 2002/629/JHA** (hereinafter "**Directive 2011/36/EU**").

The implementation of **Council Directive 2004/80/EC of 29 April 2004 relating to compensation to crime victims and Directive 2012/29/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime, and replacing Council Framework Decision 2001/220/JHA** in the conditions of the Slovak Republic was carried out by Act No. 274/2017 Coll. on victims of crime and on the amendment to certain acts (hereinafter "Act No. 274/2017 Coll.") with effect from 1 January 2018.

The crime of human trafficking according to the internationally recognised definition is based on the above-mentioned *United Nations Convention* and Palermo Protocol. The definition includes three mutually interconnected elements characterising the human trafficking mechanism, i.e. the **action** (recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons), the **means** (threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person), and the **purpose** (exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs)⁴. The solving of the problem of trafficking in human beings is also among the priorities of the European Union and its Member States. In its Article 2, **Directive 2011/36/EU** specified trafficking in human beings. Act No. 204/2013 Coll. of 25 June 2013 amending Act No. 300/2005 Coll. **Criminal Code** as amended, and amending certain acts, represented a partial transposition of Directive 2011/36/EU. Act No. 204/2013 Coll. came into effect on 1 August 2013. **Basic merits of the crime of Human Trafficking** are provided in Article 179 (1) of the Criminal Code as amended. Within the basic merits, the offence is punishable by four to ten years of imprisonment.

Modus operandi in human trafficking cases

Sexual exploitation – with the promise of a well-paid job, persons are attracted to work as lady-companions, hostesses, barmaids, waitresses and subsequently they are forced to provide sexual services, they are controlled, restricted on personal freedom, intimidated, mental and physical pressure is used, often narcotic substances are administered to them, they are forced to hand over the earning to the trafficker. Children are another target group of traffickers.

Labour exploitation – cases of labour exploitation occur mostly in the territory of the Great Britain, recruitment of victims in the Slovak Republic is carried out by members of families staying in the territory of the Great Britain in the long term. They look for victims among socially vulnerable people without knowledge of the language of the country, in which they are abused (e.g. to create the biggest possible rate of dependence on the exploiter), long-term unemployed, homeless people. Potential victims are offered a convenient job abroad, with the provision of accommodation and food. The recruiters help the victims arrange any necessary formalities related to departure, provide the transportation (by bus, by car, by plane), subsequent accommodation abroad, opening an account in the country of exploitation, and the bank cards from the accounts, to which the weekly wage of victims is paid, are retained by the perpetrators. When travelling abroad, the documents are withdrawn from the victims with a deceptive explanation that it is necessary to arrange the insurance, bank account, work permit, and subsequently an employment is intermediated through employment agencies, which are mostly owned by Pakistan citizens. The documents are kept for the entire period of exploitation. The victims receive only GBP 5 - 20 per week for their own needs, the rest of their wage is disposed of by the perpetrators with the reasoning that a part of their wage covers the costs connected with arrival, accommodation, provision of employment, transport

⁴ Article 3 (a) of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime.

to work, food, and the rest part remains on the account and it will be handed over to them before they travel home. The persons to whom no employment can be provided are usually used to perform various household work, often they are forced to commit volume crime. The documents of many victims are abused for drawing various social benefits provided to aliens by the Great Britain.

Forced begging – the perpetrators seek victims in particular among handicapped people, disabled people or homeless people, with a visible handicap in order to raise sympathy. Under various threats, people are subsequently forced to beg and hand over any money obtained by begging to the trafficker, they are controlled, intensive mental and physical pressure is applied to them, they live in inhuman conditions, they have no access to medical care, they suffer from a lack of food. The perpetrators abuse various substance addictions of victims, mostly dependence on alcohol and cigarettes. They beg at places with many people present in order to obtain the biggest possible earnings. In case of resistance or refusing to beg, they are threatened by bodily injury, mental and physical pressure is applied to them.

Forced marriage – the objective is to legalise the stay of nationals of third countries in the European Union through the marriage with a citizen of the European Union. The Indians and the Pakistanis living in the Great Britain represent a persisting trend, however, forced marriages are also contracted in other countries, such as Denmark, Ireland or Belgium. According to information found, the “price for a wife” is about GBP 7,000, however, there were cases, where the price was as much as GBP 20,000. To obtain the resources back, the bridegroom often forces his partner to provide sexual services for money thus becoming slaver himself. In the Great Britain, there is a great demand for Slovak women in the Indian and Pakistani communities, in which they choose mainly women with Roma ethnicity, with a certain physical resemblance. It is not an exception that in the Great Britain forced marriages are contracted with already pregnant victims, which is an advantage in case of an interest in obtaining residence due to family reunification.

3. Priority areas for 2019 – 2023

The subject of this chapter is to pay attention not only to the key instruments for achieving the set priorities falling under the group of “Four Ps” but also to examples of good practice, which proved good, in particular in prevention, prosecution, assistance and protection, as well as in the partnership of the entities involved in the fight against trafficking in human beings.

In context of priority areas, several key instruments were identified, they include in particular:

- a) increasing the sensitivity of the involved entities and general public to the problem of trafficking in human beings, which will strengthen the identification of victims and provision of assistance and protection to victims (assistance and protection)
- b) timely identification of victims and identification of root causes of human trafficking (assistance and protection)
- c) strengthening the cooperation between the entities engaged in the fight against trafficking in human beings (partnership)
- d) systematically raising awareness and providing information to the general public on human trafficking, its forms and assistance to victims (prevention)
- e) coordination of procedure of police authorities in the fight against trafficking in human beings (prosecution)

3.1 Assistance and protection

Based on the international commitments, the Slovak Republic is obliged to build a comprehensive system for the protection and assistance to victims built on the principles of observance of human rights.

Act No. 485/2013 Coll. amended Act No. 448/2008 Coll. on social services and on the amendment to Act No. 455/1991 Coll. on trade licensing (Trade Licensing Act) as amended (hereinafter the “Act on Social Services“) introduced a whole new range (separate group) of social services, whose objective is to provide crisis intervention. This term expresses more comprehensively the scope and diversity of adverse social situations, which are to be solved by the above social services, including the services for the provision of necessary conditions to satisfy the vital needs. Social services of crisis intervention are also provided to the natural person endangered by the behaviour of other natural persons or becoming victim of behaviour of other natural persons. The term also includes human trafficking.

Act No. 274/2017 Coll. assigned victims of the crime of human trafficking to the category “especially vulnerable victim“, to whom “specialised professional assistance” is provided. The term in the act means the provision of general professional assistance, provision of crisis psychological intervention, and if the provided psychological assistance is not sufficient for the especially vulnerable victim, the assessment of the threat to the life or health, as well as the intermediation of provision of social services in a facility of emergency accommodation and specialised social consulting, if the life or health of the especially vulnerable victim is immediately endangered. At the same time, this act also includes the

process of indemnification of victims, in particular Part Three - Indemnification of Crime Victims⁵ (Articles 10 to 22). For the victims of the crime of human trafficking, for the indemnification in accordance with Act No. 274/2017 Coll., the fulfilment of the condition of making claim for indemnification in the criminal procedure is not required like for the other violent crimes in accordance with Article 11 (4) of Act No. 274/2017 Coll. The victim of the crime of human trafficking is entitled to indemnification payment for the caused moral damage in the amount of ten times the minimum wage at the time of the act occurrence. The decision on the provision of the indemnification is made and the indemnification is paid on the basis of a written application of the victim of the crime of human trafficking by the decision-making authority, which is the Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic⁶.

The procedure used in identifying the victims in the Slovak Republic as well as in including them into the Programme of Assistance, is regulated in the NRM. The Programme of Assistance is covered by the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic in close cooperation with the other ministries and partner organisations. In the area of assistance to victims, the first regulation ensuring the Programme of Assistance entered into effect on 1 January 2007. The Programme of Assistance has been altered several times, the alterations reflected the changing state, trends and international commitments of the Slovak Republic. In the period 2015 – 2017, total 65 victims were included in the Programme of Assistance; they were provided with adequate assistance, support and protection⁷. In providing assistance to the victims within this programme in the previous years the provision of healthcare to victims appeared problematic. At the same time, the growing number of homeless victims and victims with permanent mental problems was recorded, which requires close cooperation of several ministries and also search for permanent solutions of victims' situations.

⁵ Act No. 274/2017 Coll. also defines the victim of a violent crime as a natural person to whom a moral damage has been caused by the crime of human trafficking. The claim for indemnification of a victim of the crime of human trafficking pursuant to Act No. 274/2017 Coll. comes into existence when in the criminal proceedings, a judgement or order of punishment has come into legal force, through which the perpetrator is found guilty of the commitment of the crime, which caused moral damage to the victim of the crime of human trafficking, or the judgement through which the accused person has been set free from accusation because they are not criminally liable for the lack of age or insanity. In addition to the above cases, the claim for indemnification also comes into existence when criminal prosecution is interrupted for reasons according to the [Article 228 \(2\) \(a\) to \(e\)](#) Code of Criminal Procedure, when criminal prosecution is stopped for reasons according to the [Article 215 \(1\) \(d\) to \(f\)](#) Code of Criminal Procedure or for the reason according to the [Article 215 \(2\) \(a\)](#) Code of Criminal Procedure, or when the case is postponed for the reason according to the [Article 215 \(2\) \(a\)](#) Code of Criminal Procedure, and the results of investigation or accelerated investigation by law enforcement and criminal justice bodies do not raise reasonable doubt that a crime was committed, through which a moral damage was caused to the victim of the crime of human trafficking.

⁶ The victim of the crime of human trafficking must file an application for indemnification with the Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic within one year from the date of legal force of one of the decisions defined above or if the court in the criminal proceeding refers the victim of the crime of human trafficking to civil proceedings, within one year from the date of legal force of the decision made on the title of the victim of the crime of human trafficking in civil proceedings. After the expiry of the above period the title will cease to exist, however, this period will not lapse in particular during the civil proceedings and distraint procedure, in which the victim of the crime of human trafficking makes a claim for indemnification directly from the perpetrator of the crime.

⁷ The statistical summary of victims included in the Programme of Assistance for 2008 – 2017 is included in Annex No. 1 hereto.

EXAMPLE OF GOOD PRACTICE IN ASSISTANCE TO AND PROTECTION OF VICTIMS

For the purpose of timely identification of victims, which is the precondition of provision of adequate assistance to victims, the workers of the Information Centre for the Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings and Prevention of Criminality (hereinafter the “Information Centre“) carried out specialised trainings concerning human trafficking for selected target groups. In 2017, they focused on the employees of the National Labour Inspectorate and individual Labour Inspectorates throughout Slovakia, who perform joint controls also in cooperation with the members of the Police Force. Focusing on this target group is more than meaningful because the inspectors in performing their jobs can come into contact with potential victims as the first ones. The problem of human trafficking and examples of human trafficking indicators, which can be recognised already during an initial interview with a potential victim, as well as the possibility to use the National Line was presented to the trainees on particular examples and interactive activities. The growing portfolio of entities involved in the NRM also includes the workers of rescue medical service who have been trained in the basic identification of human trafficking. With respect to the positive feedback, the system of continual education in this area for the workers of operational centres and mobile units of rescue medical service will be further built.

The provision of basic human rights and dignity of victims is dependent on their timely identification. For that reason, it is necessary to ensure timely identification of all victims in the country. It is almost certain that not all victims have been identified in the Slovak Republic, whether the citizens of the Slovak Republic or aliens, whether exploited abroad or on the home ground. Within this finding, it is necessary to strengthen the process of identification of victims in the Slovak Republic and their further motivation for participation in the Programme of Assistance. With respect to the changes in the system of assistance to victims in connection with the adoption of the Act on Victims of Crime and the changing number and structure of victims, it is also necessary to adapt the provided services to the needs of victims.

Taking into account the above mentioned it can be stated that to improve the quality of provided services and to provide timely identification of victims, in the area of assistance and support to victims it is necessary to focus on the following:

- a) Analysis of efficiency of the services provided to victims and search for a sustainable solution**
- b) Update of the Programme of Assistance with respect to the legislative changes in the area**
- c) Improvement of efficiency of timely identification of victims in the conditions of the Slovak Republic by improving the NRM processes and NRM extension**

3.2 Partnership

The problem of trafficking in human beings requires a quick reaction, comprehensive and systematic measures involving all the relevant stakeholders engaged in the fight against trafficking in human beings, their coordination and also incorporation of international standards for the fight against trafficking in human beings into national rules. The exchange of information between the entities engaged in the fight against trafficking in human beings is the basic precondition for the achievement of objectives of the National Programme.

The informal network of national rapporteurs or similar mechanism serves to the States of the European Union for mutual cooperation, exchange of information and determining meaningful common procedures for the future, which logically copy the current trends. The European Commission also established an internet platform, where the States can communicate more readily. In this network, the Slovak Republic has its representation through the Information Centre of the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic.

Members of the **National Unit to Combat Illegal Migration of the Bureau of Border and Alien Police of the Police Force Presidium** (hereinafter the “National Unit“) cooperate in detecting and clarifying the criminal activity of human trafficking with foreign partner units, becoming familiarised with their methods and procedures during the criminal procedure within individual cases. The police units dealing with the detection of the crime of human trafficking cooperate in the long term through the Bureau for International Police Cooperation of the Presidium of the Police Force with international institutions, such as Europol, Interpol, and also through police attaches sent to perform state service abroad.

At national level, the Expert Group also serves to exchange information, involving the representatives of state authorities and private organisations. There are also ad hoc working groups for solving particular problems of application practice.

EXAMPLE OF GOOD PRACTICE IN PARTNERSHIP

In the period 2015 – 2017, the Slovak Republic joined the international project **HESTIA**: “Preventing human trafficking and sham marriages: A multidisciplinary solution”. The outputs included the research report for the Slovak Republic on the issue of sham marriages, which created a part of the complex research report of the involved States. The complex report as well as the National Report can be found at the website of the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic in the part of Human Trafficking – science and research activity. At the same time, within the support of international cooperation, the Slovak Republic joined the TACT project and TeamWork! project. In 2016, the Slovak Republic along with Luxembourg and Malta joined the project of the Netherlands **TeamWork⁸**! - Strengthening multidisciplinary cooperation against trafficking for labour exploitation. The objective of the project was to support common efforts in the fight against trafficking in human beings for the purpose of forced labour through the multidisciplinary cooperation among various institutions and organisations at both national and international levels. The work resulted in the preparation of a manual for multidisciplinary cooperation in the fight

⁸ <https://www.teamwork-against-trafficking-for-labour-exploitation.nl/>.

against trafficking in human beings for the purpose of forced labour for the implementation authorities. The manual contains proposed best practice solutions, well arranged in logical units. The **TACT**⁹ project represented the Transnational Action - Safe and sustainable return and reintegration for Victims of Trafficking returning from France, Greece, Italy, Poland and Spain to priority countries (Albania, Morocco and Ukraine). The overall objective of the project was to contribute to the improvement of the safe return and reintegration conditions of victims of trafficking returning from France, Greece, Italy, Poland and Spain to priority countries: Albania, Morocco and Ukraine. The project's output is a manual of victims referring.

The international projects HESTIA and TACT were supported from the financial resources of the European Union. The national project TeamWork! was completely funded from the financial resources of the Netherlands within the framework of their presidency of the Council of the European Union.

Labour inspection authorities actively participate in suppressing the phenomenon of human trafficking. In this connection, the participation means in particular the performance of labour inspections focused on the control of illegal employment, during which the inspectors note the so-called identifiers of human trafficking, in particular whether the controlled natural person does not have access to their documents, whether they are instructed how to answer (justify their presence at the workplace, submit information, explanation) or whether the employer removes the right to speak without the presence of a witness (employer's representative). At the same time, an internal regulation regulates the duty of labour inspectors to report to law enforcement and criminal justice bodies the facts found, which were mentioned above, or indicia or evidence that the natural person is forced to perform the work under pressure (involuntarily) or to perform other work than promised or agreed, their wage is withheld or a part of wage is taken from them, they are forced to repay a debt (e.g. for the journey, accommodation, intermediation of job), they do not have the freedom of movement or are intimidated or tortured by the employer.

Based on an agreement between the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic and National Labour Inspectorate, joint controls of business entities are performed with the objective to reveal illegal employment and human trafficking. In 2015 – 2017, in total 1,211 controls of business entities were performed. In total 7,173 persons were controlled, of it 4,334 citizens of the Slovak Republic and 2,839 foreigners. The joint controls resulted in the identification of 614 illegally employed persons, of it 160 citizens of the Slovak Republic and 454 foreigners. No trafficked victim was identified during the controls.

The Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic and the Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veteran and Social Policy of the Republic of Serbia entered into the Protocol of Cooperation (hereinafter the "Protocol") in force from 13 November 2017 for an indefinite period. The Protocol is a follow-up to the Memorandum of Cooperation between the Slovak Republic and the Republic of Serbia from 2 March 2012 and it discusses

⁹ <https://www.iomfrance.org/tact/the-tact-project.html>.

the extension of cooperation between both countries focusing in particular on the areas of labour and employment, with the objective to suppress illegal employment.

EXAMPLE OF GOOD PRACTICE IN PARTNERSHIP

In 2015, a working group was created, which meets on a regular basis in order to solve the current problems in providing care to victims; it involves representatives of the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic (concretely, the representatives from the National Unit and Information Centre) and other ministries as necessary (in particular the Ministry of Health of the Slovak Republic and the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic), and representatives of the non-government sector providing care and assisted voluntary returns to victims. The above group meets on a regular basis in three-month intervals. The working group represents and excellent platform for solving the current problems in providing care to victims, exchange of information and planning of further procedures.

During the sessions of national rapporteurs or a similar mechanism of the European Commission, and throughout the active cooperation with the other States of the European Union, difficulties in mutual cooperation of the Member States have been recorded. The referring of victims and individual reference mechanisms solve the situation in the international cooperation only partially. To make progress in the area and reach efficient cooperation of the entities providing the whole complex of instruments starting from prevention, assistance and repression, it is necessary to improve the international partnership and communication. In order to ensure trouble free operation of the national instruments of assistance to victims, it is necessary to further develop and improve the cooperation at national level among the entities of the state and private sectors.

With respect to the dynamics of situation development in the area of fight against trafficking in human beings, it is necessary to further carry out targeted research also contributing to a high-quality revision of the National Programme. In order to provide for the sustainability, efficient and comprehensive implementation of the National Programme, the financial, staffing and technical support of individual tasks is necessary.

It can be stated that considering the above, it is necessary to focus on the following in order to make progress in partnership:

- a) To ensure the sustainability of good international cooperation**
- b) To ensure efficient exchange of information among the cooperating entities at national level and for that purpose, to create cooperation with the production and commercial sectors and employers**
- c) To strengthen cooperation and communication with the States, which are transit or target countries for the Slovak victims of trafficking**

3.3 Prevention

Well-adjusted and functioning prevention in various forms and shapes has an unsubstitutable task in the fight against trafficking in human beings. The cooperation in prevention of trafficking in human beings between the state sector and civil society is a key element in the fight against this crime. Based on the outputs from the preventive campaigns executed so far, the cooperation between the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic and the civil society turns up to be the correct direction for prevention adjustment. In 2015 - 2017, 17 entities obtained financial resources from the subsidies of the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic in total amounting to EUR 291,500.

Through a contractor, the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic also provides for the operation of the National Line, and in the period 2015 - 2017 the line was used for 2,850 calls.

EXAMPLE OF GOOD PRACTICE IN PREVENTION

In 2015 and 2016, the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic in cooperation with the civil association “Brániť sa oplati Slovensko (Defending is Worthwhile, Slovakia)” executed a preventive educational campaign “Everybody can become slave...Even today!“, which consisted of two consequential activities. The first one was the creation of a “catching“ web www.superzarobok.sk. Through it, the endangered target groups could experience themselves the risks and hazards waiting for them if they believed the perpetrators - human traffickers. Everybody who registered at the site as persons interested in job also provided e-mail address of another relative in addition to their own e-mail address. Subsequently, in a shocking way they were sent basic information on the problem, risks and hazards of work abroad with the motivation to recognise and avoid them through the web www.novodobiotroci.sk. Within another phase, the portal Guardian Angels was created (www.anjelistradni.sk), which involves in prevention the closest people to potential victims. The guarded person provides in registration also their guardian angel, who can monitor whether the guarded person performs any activity on the internet. If they have not carried any activity for a longer time, the system warns the Guardian Angel to check them.

The primary objective is to reduce the risk that an individual will become victim, in particular for the most vulnerable groups of population, such as Roma people living in concentrated poverty, by improving the awareness of the existence of the human trafficking problem, as well as by adopting supporting socio-economic measures. It is also necessary to further improve the expertise of representatives of both state and private entities, children, local government, and non-governmental organisations in identifying the victims of individual forms of human trafficking and their following referring to the system of assistance. It means systematic raising of awareness and providing information to the general public on human trafficking, its forms and assistance to victims.

Prevention inseparably includes trainings for various professional groups that register a positive response of the persons involved, which builds and extends the NRM. Every year, several tens to hundreds of people are trained in identifying human trafficking who can

identify victims in the field and also provide adequate information regarding the possibilities of assistance and prevention how to eliminate the risk of becoming victim.

However, recently no extensive analysis has been performed in the area of the already provided trainings, the need of the superstructure training activities or the need to modify the existing training module or the possibility to carry out e-learning. The mapping of the current human trafficking situation on the labour market in connection with evading or non-observing the administrative measures focused on discouraging from potential human trafficking is also missing. The Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic as the coordinator for the area of fight against trafficking in human beings arranges every year the preventive and informative campaigns with the objective to bring the problem of human trafficking closer to the general public focusing on the most endangered groups. As the cooperation with the civil society turned up efficient, it is necessary to further look for new possibilities of presentation of this topic with the objective to reach as many recipients as possible. The interdepartmental partnership and cooperation with the private sector should also be further extended with the effort to incite private companies to the responsibility in preventing human trafficking. The state sector should keep supporting the activities of the civil sector and local governments in the prevention of human trafficking through the subsidy schemes with the intention to increase the efficiency of the executed preventive activities.

It can be stated that considering the above, it is necessary to focus on the following in order to make progress in prevention:

- a) mapping the current situation in the area of human trafficking on the labour market**
- b) intensive support of preventive campaigns executed in cooperation with the other resorts, civil society, and private sector**
- c) analysis of the current training module**

3.4 Prosecution

Each of the human trafficking forms, whether it is sexual exploitation, forced labour, forced begging or forced marriage as the purposes of human trafficking occurring most frequently, has its specific features. The fact is that a narrow boundary between human trafficking for the purpose of forced labour and bad working conditions causes certain complications in practice. When combating human trafficking for the purpose of forced labour, cooperation of several components is necessary, i.e. the police, labour inspectors, and bureaus of labour, social affairs and family. Moreover, if aliens are concerned, the service of alien police is another segment. In addition to the necessary cooperation, these components must inform each other about the dynamically changing legislation and procedures applied. An interpretation, which the inspectors and investigators could lean on, is missing. The cooperation with foreign countries is also problematic, for the reason, too, that there is no uniform interpretation of terms and the definition of human trafficking in individual jurisdictions is different. The statistical data on the investigated cases of human trafficking for 2015 – 2017 are provided in Annex No. 2 hereto. As a supplementation, Annex No. 3 provides the statistical outputs concerning the number of persons accused of the crime of

human trafficking for 2015 – 2017, and Annex No. 4 provides the statistical outputs concerning the number of persons convicted of the crime of human trafficking for 2015 – 2017.

EXAMPLE OF GOOD PRACTICE IN PROSECUTION

On 14 October 2016, an agreement on the establishment of a joint investigation team between the Slovak Republic and the Great Britain (Scotland, England and Wales) under the name of the operation “SYNAPSIS“ was signed for the purpose of simplification and improvement of efficiency of investigation of the organised criminal group operating in the area of the criminal activity of human trafficking for the purpose of contracting forced marriages of Slovak nationals with nationals of third countries, mostly coming from Asia with the place of marriages in England, Wales, and Scotland, with the objective to legalise their stay in the European Union countries. In the case, the Slovak and British police jointly accused 11 persons of the crime of human trafficking in February 2017, of it 10 Slovak citizens (6 men and 4 women), and one Pakistani citizen. In total 12 Slovak victims were identified at the age of 18 to 28 years.

The intention in this area is to improve the quality of detection and investigation of the crime of human trafficking with the objective to punish the perpetrator, compensate the harm of the victim, to increase the rate of success of criminal prosecution of perpetrators also through the deepening of cooperation with other States and international institutions in the area of mutual exchange of information and replies to requests. In the interest of successful prosecution of the perpetrators of the crime of human trafficking, the special protection system for the victims ready to lodge file a complaint against the perpetrators or cooperate within the criminal procedure must operate effectively, which means the interconnection with the area of assistance to and protection of victims. It is also important to efficiently apply the provisions on the seizure and subsequent forfeiture of the perpetrator’s property, which should operate as a very efficient form of punishment for the perpetrator and as general prevention in compliance with the idea that “crime does not pay”.

It can be stated that considering the above, it is necessary to focus on the following in order to improve the process of revealing during investigation:

- a) definition of the boundary between human trafficking for the purpose of forced labour and bad working conditions**
- b) summarising and analysis of judgements of the courts of the Slovak Republic**
- c) joint controls of business entities**

Part B

Action Plan of Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings for 2019 - 2023

4. Tasks

The subject matter of this chapter is to set particular tasks for the achievement of goals mentioned in Part A of the National Programme. It also includes the provision of a particular entity responsible for the implementation of the task, as well as for the subsequent evaluation after the execution deadline. The financial resources for the execution and fulfilment of tasks of the National Programme of Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings for 2019 - 2023 will be provided within the approved limits of the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic. For other entities, there will be no direct impact on the public finances. The tasks are descriptive, briefly defined.

The tasks are divided into four areas (according to the “Four Ps” rule) in such a way as to cover the whole spectrum of human trafficking. The current National Programme contains in total 21 tasks that will be continuously evaluated, and every year the Expert Group will be informed about the state of fulfilment; subsequently, after the expiry of the effect of the current National Programme, the evaluation of fulfilment of the tasks from Part B will also be negotiated by the Government of the Slovak Republic.

Assistance and protection

Based on the international commitments, the Slovak Republic is obliged to build a comprehensive system for the protection and assistance to trafficked victims built on the principles of observance of human rights. The provision of basic human rights and dignity of trafficked victims is dependent on their timely identification. For that reason, it is necessary to ensure timely identification of all trafficked victims in the country. It is necessary to increase the sensitivity of the involved entities and general public to the problem of trafficking in human beings, which will strengthen the identification of victims and provision of assistance and protection to victims.

Task No. 1	
Task name	Overview of the area of human trafficking
Task objective	Providing the professional as well as general public with the overview of situation in the area of human trafficking
Task description	Preparation of annual reports in the area of human trafficking
Responsible entity	Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic, General Prosecutor's Office of the Slovak Republic, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic, providers of services of the Programme of Assistance
Fulfilment deadline	every year by 30 April

Performance indicators	Submission of report for the negotiation of the Expert Group and publishing at the website www.minv.sk in the part of Human Trafficking
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Task No. 2		
Task name	Analysis of efficiency of the provided services	
Task objective	Obtaining knowledge of the efficiency of the services provided to victims and search for a sustainable solution	
Task description	Based on the cooperation with the providers of services of the Programme of Assistance, to prepare an overview of the efficiency of utilised services of the Programme of Assistance with the proposal for solving the deficiencies	
Responsible entity	Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic	
Fulfilment deadline	Beginning of execution	04/2019
	End of execution	12/2019
Performance indicators	Proposals for the modification of the provided services of the Programme of Assistance	

Task No. 3		
Task name	Update of the Programme of Assistance with respect to the legislative changes in the area	
Task objective	Amendment to the regulation regulating the Programme of Assistance	
Task description	The summarisation of legislative and non-legislative changes in the area of provision of assistance to victims and taking them into account in the process of services provision and operation of the Programme of Assistance so that there is no duplicity of provided services and that efficient approach to assistance is ensured	
Responsible entity	Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic, General Prosecutor's Office of the Slovak Republic, Ministry of Health of the Slovak Republic, Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic	
Fulfilment deadline	Beginning of execution	01/2020
	End of execution	12/2020
Performance indicators	Amendment of the regulation on the Programme of Assistance	

Task No. 4	
Task name	Creation of binding mechanisms ensuring the cooperation between the state authorities and private organisations in assistance to trafficked victims and criminal prosecution of the crime of trafficking in human beings.

Task objective	Improvement and better efficiency of assistance to trafficked victims
Task description	To carry out the selection of service providers in order to ensure the assistance to trafficked victims in compliance with the rules of public procurement, and at the same time, to enter in the contracts of provision of services for the purpose of provision of assistance to trafficked victims.
Responsible entity	Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic
Fulfilment deadline	Continuously
Performance indicators	Contract of provision of services

Task No. 5		
Task name	To harmonise the existing system of assistance to child victims of trafficking and to ensure that the measures of assistance and protection are adapted to their needs.	
Task objective	To adapt the procedure of assistance to child victims	
Task description	Consideration of assistance provided to children so that provision of services is also ensured in relation to children.	
Responsible entity	Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic in cooperation with the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic	
Fulfilment deadline	Beginning of execution	01/2019
	End of execution	12/2020
Performance indicators	Modification of measures of assistance to and protection of child victims	

Partnership

Strengthening of cooperation between individual stakeholders. The problem of trafficking in human beings requires a reaction, comprehensive and systematic measures involving all the interested stakeholders, their coordination and also incorporation of international standards for the fight against trafficking in human beings into national rules. The exchange of information between the stakeholders engaged in the fight against trafficking in human beings is the basic precondition for the achievement of objectives of the National Programme. In order to provide for the sustainability, efficient and comprehensive implementation of the National Programme, the financial, staffing and technical support of individual tasks is necessary.

Task No. 6	
Task name	Collection of statistical indicators
Task objective	Improvement and better efficiency of collection of data on human trafficking
Task description	Improvement of collection of statistical indicators of human trafficking through the innovations of the statistical information system Human Trafficking

Responsible entity	Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic, General Prosecutor's Office of the Slovak Republic
Fulfilment deadline	Continuously
Performance indicators	Spectrum of statistical data on human trafficking

Task No. 7		
Task name	To ensure the sustainability of good international cooperation	
Task objective	Active participation and exchange of information at international forums and regular meetings	
Task description	Representation of the Slovak Republic at international conferences on the problem of human trafficking, sessions of national rapporteurs etc. Cooperation with the GRETA group at the Council of Europe, EUCPN and collaboration with the national rapporteurs at the European Commission, as well as with the national rapporteur for the Slovak Republic.	
Responsible entity	Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic, Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic, Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic, General Prosecutor's Office of the Slovak Republic	
Fulfilment deadline	Beginning of execution	01/2019
	End of execution	12/2023
Performance indicators	Networking of contacts, Slovak representation at international forums	

Task No. 8		
Task name	To ensure efficient exchange of information between cooperating entities at national level	
Task objective	Improvement of efficiency of information exchange within the Expert Group and at other national forums	
Task description	Definition of tasks for the resolutions of the Expert Group and other national forums	
Responsible entity	Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic	
Fulfilment deadline	Beginning of execution	03/2019
	End of execution	12/2019
Performance indicators	Fulfilment of the tasks from the resolutions	

Task No. 9	
Task name	To ensure cooperation in order to improve the efficiency of services for victims
Task objective	Improvement of information exchange efficiency within the working group
Task description	Provision of collaboration meetings of state authorities and

	providers of services to victims	
Responsible entity	Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic	
Fulfilment deadline	Beginning of execution	01/2019
	End of execution	12/2023
Performance indicators	Draft measures leading to improved efficiency of provision of services to victims	

Task No. 10		
Task name	Strengthening of international cooperation	
Task objective	Strengthening of cooperation and communication with the States that are transit or target countries for Slovak victims	
Task description	Based on the evaluation of the Programme of Assistance, to prepare a summary of the riskiest transit and target countries for Slovak victims, and starting a closer cooperation with risky countries, networking of contacts	
Responsible entity	Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic	
Fulfilment deadline	Beginning of execution	01/2019
	End of execution	12/2023
Performance indicators	System of contacts	

Prevention

Systematically raising awareness and providing information to the general public on human trafficking, its forms and assistance to victims. The primary goal is to reduce the risk that a person becomes victim, in particular for the most vulnerable groups of the population, by raising the awareness of the existence of the problem of human trafficking. It is also considered necessary to improve the expertise and sensitivity of representatives of both state and private entities, local governments and non-governmental organisations to identify the victims of individual forms and to refer them to the system of assistance. The administrative control instruments must include extensive enforceable measures implemented in cooperation with the respective central government authorities with the objective to discourage from potential human trafficking and to map the current situation in human trafficking on the labour market in connection with evasion or non-observance of administrative measures.

Task No. 11	
Task name	To perform promotion campaigns
Task objective	Raising the awareness of the problem of human trafficking in the general public
Task description	To perform campaigns with national coverage focused on the general public, with a special focus in particular on the victimologically most vulnerable groups of population, such as for example members of marginalised Roma communities. To issue promotional and educational materials and to provide for

	the promotion of successful cases of human trafficking prosecution in media.
Responsible entity	Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic
Fulfilment deadline	Continuously
Performance indicators	Number of media outputs, e.g, a TV spot, internet banner, billboard campaign, interviews in media, etc.

Task No. 12		
Task name	Mapping the current situation in the area of human trafficking on the labour market	
Task objective	Obtaining knowledge of the current situation in the area of human trafficking on the labour market with draft solutions	
Task description	The preparation of a summary of the current human trafficking situation on the labour market in connection with evading or non-observing the administrative measures focused on discouraging from potential human trafficking is also missing	
Responsible entity	Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic (Bureaus of Labour, Social Affairs and Family)	
Fulfilment deadline	Beginning of execution	01/2021
	End of execution	12/2021
Performance indicators	The material on the topic submitted for the negotiation of the Expert Group and published at the website www.minv.sk in the part Human Trafficking	

Task No. 13		
Task name	Summarisation of the projects supported from the financial resources allocated for the fight against trafficking in human beings and assessment of their fitness for the purpose	
Task objective	To create an overview of the projects supported from the financial resources allocated for the fight against trafficking in human beings and assessment of their fitness for the purpose with respect to the efficiency of use of the financial resources	
Task description	Creation of overview of the projects supported from the financial resources allocated for the fight against trafficking in human beings and assessment of their fitness for the purpose	
Responsible entity	Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic	
Fulfilment deadline	Beginning of execution	01/2019
	End of execution	12/2023
Performance indicators	Inclusion of the overview of the projects supported from the financial resources allocated for the fight against trafficking in human beings and assessment of their fitness for the purpose to the negotiation of the Expert Group.	

Task No. 14

Task name	Education of state and private entities	
Task objective	Update of the training module and expansion of professional skills in the area of human trafficking	
Task description	Modification of the training module taking into account the needs and specific features of the target groups	
Responsible entity	Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic	
Fulfilment deadline	Beginning of execution	01/2019
	End of execution	12/2023
Performance indicators	Update of the training module for the problem of human trafficking, number of trained persons, issue/creation of a methodical instrument	

Task No. 15		
Task name	To provide current sources and information on the risks related to the problem of human trafficking to pedagogues and students at schools and in school facilities with the emphasis on the risks of work abroad and prevention of abuse	
Task objective	Execution of educational measures for the groups endangered by human trafficking	
Task description	Pedagogical organisational instructions for each current school year, discussions, meetings with professionals at schools, preventive activities of the Centres of Pedagogical and Psychological Consulting and Prevention, thematic call within the framework of development projects “Health and safety at schools“, offer of available updated sources utilisable in teaching the human rights topics at schools and school facilities in cooperation with professionals.	
Responsible entity	Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic, Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic	
Fulfilment deadline	Continuously	
Performance indicators	Number of schools, number and focus of the targeted preventive activities	

Task No. 16		
Task name	Execution of research focused on the missing data concerning the forms of human trafficking with respect to the current trends and awareness of possible risks in the general public.	
Task objective	To prepare and publish the reports from the performed research.	
Task description	Preparation of research reports focusing on the missing data and information. Subsequent publishing of the final report from the executed research.	
Responsible entity	Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic	
Fulfilment deadline	Continuously	
Performance indicators	Final report from the executed research published at the website	

	www.minv.sk
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Prosecution

The intention is to improve the quality of revealing and investigating the crime of human trafficking with the objective to punish the perpetrator, compensate the harm of the victim, to increase the rate of success of criminal prosecution of perpetrators also through the deepening of cooperation with other States and international institutions in the area of mutual exchange of information and attending to requests, as well as the coordination of procedure in the fight against trafficking in human beings.

Task No. 17		
Task name	Definition of the boundary between human trafficking for the purpose of forced labour and bad working conditions	
Task objective	Analysis of cases of human trafficking for the purpose of forced labour and violation of the provisions of the Labour Code in connection with bad working conditions to specify the boundary between the phenomena	
Task description	Existence of sufficient quantity of source information concerning the cases of human trafficking connected with information on particular detected violations of the provisions of the Labour Code identified in these cases.	
Responsible entity	Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic in cooperation with the General Prosecutor's Office of the Slovak Republic, Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic, Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic (Bureaus of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, National Labour Inspectorate)	
Fulfilment deadline	Beginning of execution	01/2023
	End of execution	12/2023
Performance indicators	Evaluation of the violations of provisions of the Labour Code in the cases of identified human trafficking processed in the form of a manual for control authorities.	

Task No. 18		
Task name	Summarisation and analysis of judgements of courts of the Slovak Republic	
Task objective	Obtaining the summary of judgements of courts of the Slovak Republic concerning human trafficking	
Task description	Preparation of a comprehensive report on the existing judgements of courts of the Slovak Republic concerning human trafficking	
Responsible entity	Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic	
Fulfilment deadline	Beginning of execution	03/2020
	End of execution	03/2021
Performance indicators	The report submitted for the negotiation of the Expert Group and published at the website www.minv.sk in the part Human	

	Trafficking
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Task No. 19		
Task name	Joint controls of business entities	
Task objective	Provision of disclosure of business areas that can be affected by human trafficking.	
Task description	To continue continually in the adjusted system of control of business entities violating the ban on illegal employment.	
Responsible entity	Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic (Bureaus of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, National Labour Inspectorate), Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic	
Fulfilment deadline	Beginning of execution	01/2019
	End of execution	12/2023
Performance indicators	Number of performed controls, number of victims identified	

Task No. 20		
Task name	Deepening the international police cooperation also through joint investigation teams	
Task objective	To deepen the international cooperation among the law enforcement and criminal justice bodies within the framework of the investigated cases of human trafficking with an international element	
Task description	Cooperation with the countries of exploitation of trafficked victims, continued cooperation within the concluded joint investigation teams and creation of an initiative leading to the conclusion of new partnerships within the investigated cases with an international element with the objective to increase the possibility of success in the criminal prosecution of persons committing the crime of human trafficking	
Responsible entity	Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic	
Fulfilment deadline	Beginning of execution	01/2019
	End of execution	12/2023
Performance indicators	Creation of joint investigation teams	

Task No. 21		
Task name	Consistent observance of legislative procedures concerning the examination of trafficked victims	
Task objective	Reduction of secondary victimisation of victims during interrogations	
Task description	Executing the examination of trafficked victims with the utilisation of technical devices intended for acoustic and visual recording.	
Responsible entity	Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic	

Fulfilment deadline	Continuously
Performance indicators	Number of interrogations using technical devices

Annex No. 1

Table No. 1

Statistical summary of victims included in the Programme of Support and Protection of Trafficked Victims for 2008 – 2017

Year	Number of included victims	Purpose of exploitation	Target country
2008	17 women	Sexual exploitation (17)	unregistered
2009	25 of which 16 women (of which 1 child) 9 men	Sexual exploitation (17) Forced labour (7) Forced begging (2)	The Great Britain (11) Germany (5) Czech Republic (2) Italy (1) The Netherlands (1) Greece (1) Belgium (1) Denmark (1) Ireland (1) Slovakia (1)
2010	26 of which 15 men 11 women (of which 1 child)	Forced labour (15) Sexual exploitation (9) Forced begging (2)	The Great Britain (17) Germany (4) Italy (2) Czech Republic (1) The Netherlands (1) Denmark (1)
2011	31 of which 18 women (of which 1 child) 13 men	Sexual exploitation (12) Forced labour (12) Forced criminal activities (4) Forced begging (2) Forced marriages (2)	The Great Britain (13) Germany (9) Slovakia (4) Czech Republic (2) Austria (1) Spain (1) Switzerland (1) Luxembourg (1) Poland (1) Hungary (1) Sweden (1)

2012	22 of which 16 women (of which 3 children) 6 men	Sexual exploitation (15) Forced begging (5) Forced labour (3) Forced marriages (3)	The Great Britain (9) Italy (3) Austria (2) Belgium (2) Slovakia (1) Germany (1) Ukraine (1) Hungary (1) Unspecified (2)
2013	30 of which 21 women (of which 2 children) 9 men	Sexual exploitation (15) Forced labour (10) Forced marriages (7) Forced begging (2)	The Great Britain (15) Germany (5) Slovakia (3) Sweden (2) Czech Republic (2) Belgium (2) Hungary (1) The Netherlands (1) Ireland (1)
2014	34 of which 22 women 12 men	Sexual exploitation (13) Forced labour (12) Forced marriages (9) Forced begging (6) Forced criminal activities (1) Slavery and slavery-like practices (1)	The Great Britain (16) Germany (8) Czech Republic (2) The Netherlands (2) Austria (2) Slovakia (1) Slovenia (1) Italy (1) Sweden (1) Switzerland (1) Poland (1)
2015	25 of which 17 men 8 women	Forced labour (17) Forced begging (5) Forced marriages (4) Sexual exploitation (2) Forced criminal activities (1)	The Great Britain (18) Germany (4) Slovakia (2) Kuwait (1)
2016	21 of which 17 men (of which 3 children) 4 women	Forced labour (12) Forced begging (2) Forced marriages (1) Sexual exploitation (3) COMBINATIONS Forced labour and forced begging (1) Forced labour and forced marriage (1) Sexual exploitation, forced labour and forced marriage (1)	The Great Britain (12) Germany (4) Hungary (3) Poland (1) Czech Republic (1)

2017	19 of which 11 men 8 women	Forced labour (9) Sexual exploitation (6) Forced begging (2) Forced marriages (1) COMBINATIONS Forced labour and sexual exploitation (1)	The Great Britain (12) Slovakia (3) Germany (2) Austria (1) Switzerland (1)
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Annex No. 2

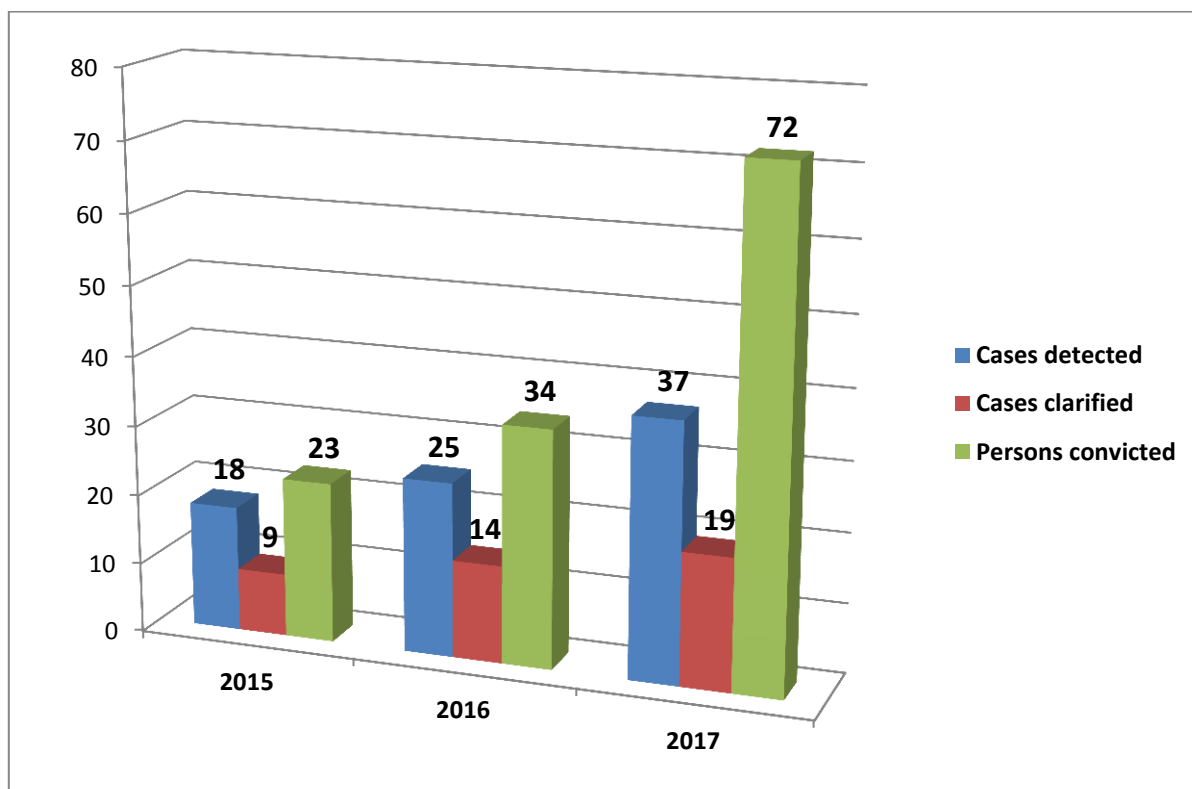
Table No. 2

Statistical data on the investigated cases of human trafficking for 2015 – 2017

Year	Number of cases detected	Number of cases clarified	Number of persons accused
2015	18	9	23
2016	25	14	34
2017	37	19	72

Chart No. 2

Statistical data on the investigated cases of human trafficking for 2015 – 2017



Annex No. 3

Table No. 3

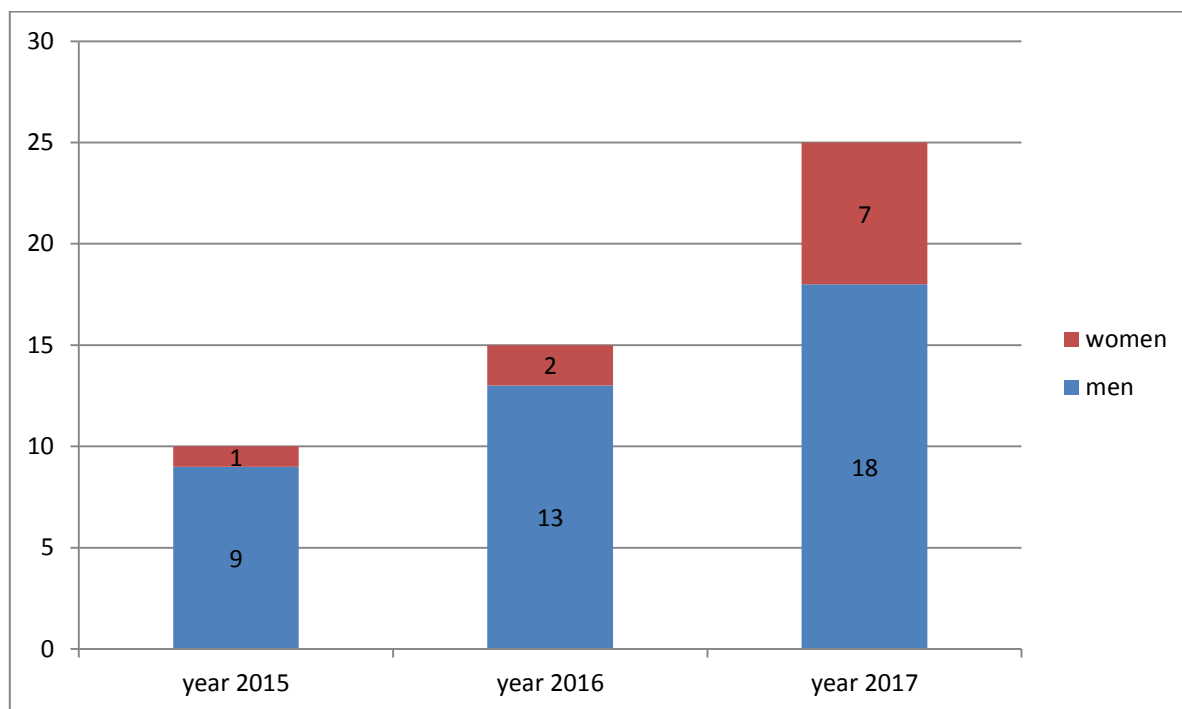
Number of persons accused of the crime of human trafficking for 2015 – 2017 pursuant to Act No. 300/2005 Coll. Criminal Code (Article 179)

Year	Number of persons accused
2015	10 (of which 1 woman and 9 men)
2016	15 (of which 2 women and 13 men)
2017	25

	(of which 7 women and 18 men)
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Chart No. 3

Number of persons accused of the crime of human trafficking for 2015 – 2017 pursuant to Act No. 300/2005 Coll. Criminal Code (Article 179)



Annex No. 4

Table No. 4

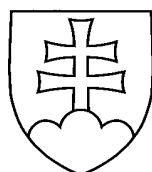
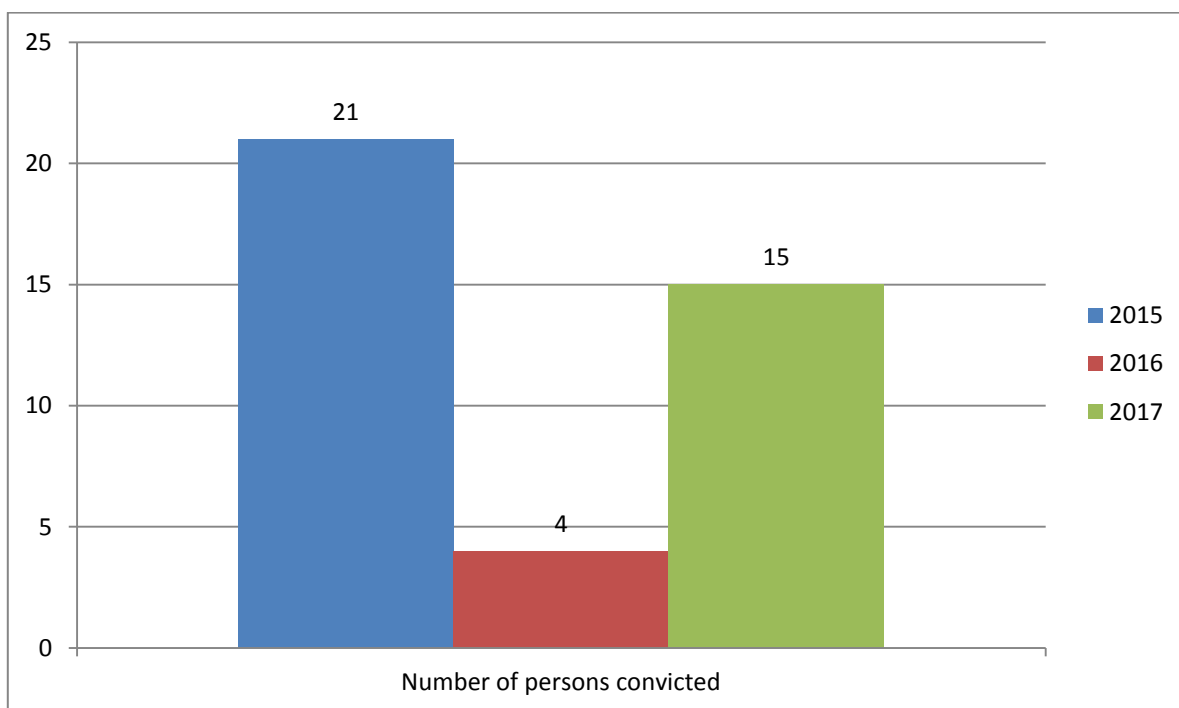
Number of persons convicted of the crime of human trafficking for 2015 – 2017 pursuant to Act No. 300/2005 Coll. Criminal Code (Article 179)

Year	Number of persons convicted
2015	21 (9 women and 12 men)
2016	4 (1 woman and 3 men)

2017	15 (1 woman and 14 men)
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Chart No. 4

**Number of persons convicted of the crime of human trafficking for 2015 – -2017
pursuant to Act No. 300/2005 Coll. Criminal Code (Article 179)**



GOVERNMENT RESOLUTION OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC

No. 495

of 6 November 2018

**to the National Programme of Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings
for
2019 - 2023**

The Government

A. approves

- A.1. the National Programme of Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings for 2019 - 2023;

B. imposes the following tasks upon

Minister of Foreign and European Affairs

Minister of Interior

Minister of Defence

Minister of Justice

Minister of Labour, Social Affairs and Family

Minister of Education, Science, Research and Sport

Minister of Health

Minister of Culture

- B.1. to ensure the fulfilment of the tasks resulting from the National Programme of Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings for 2019 - 2023 (Minister of Interior)
- B.2. within the approved limit of expenditure or the respective budget chapter, to provide for the resources for the fulfilment of the tasks resulting from the National Programme of Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings for 2019 - 2023
by 31 December 2019
- B.3. every year, in preparing the state budget, to earmark for the respective budget year the financial resources for the fulfilment of the tasks resulting from the National Programme of Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings for 2019 - 2023 without additional claims for state budget
control date as at 31 December every year
- B.4. to coordinate the fulfilment of the tasks resulting from the National Programme of Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings for 2019 - 2023
by 31 December 2023
- B.5. to submit to Government negotiation a report on the fulfilment of the tasks resulting from the National Programme of Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings for 2019 - 2023 with the draft update for the next period
by 30 April 2024

C. recommends that

General Prosecutor

Chairman of the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic

Chairman of the Association of Towns and Municipalities of Slovakia

- C.1. cooperate, based on the requirements of individual ministries, in fulfilling the tasks resulting from the National Programme of Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings for 2019 - 2023

To be performed by:

Minister of Foreign and European Affairs

Minister of Interior

Minister of Defence

Minister of Justice

Minister of Labour, Social Affairs and Family

Minister of Education, Science, Research and Sport

Minister of Health

Minister of Culture

For information:

Chairman of the National Council of the Slovak Republic

General Prosecutor

Chairman of the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic

Chairman of the Association of Towns and Municipalities of Slovakia