2021

HUMAN TRAFFICKING REPORT



Department of International Affairs and Migration

Ministry of Interior and Administration

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2. Introduction

As in previous years, we are presenting this Report on human trafficking in Poland. The year 2021 is another year in which we have to face the SARS-CoV-2 virus pandemic. As a result, the economic conditions and the rules for movement have changed, which has affected the situation of the victims of human trafficking, as well as the behavior of the perpetrators of this crime. The impact of the pandemic on the economy and on employment has further increased the risk of human trafficking for labor exploitation. As many workers experience a dramatic drop in their incomes, they may have no choice but to incur debt, which increases the risk of becoming victims of human trafficking and forced labor.

It should be noted that since June 2021, a new blatant conduct has been observed, the purpose of which is to destabilize the European Union and its member states. Belarus, in retaliation for the sanctions imposed by the EU, has been organizing state-sponsored smuggling of migrants into the EU by air from over ten third countries (located in the Middle East and Africa). There is no doubt that the actions of Belarus, including those directly targeting foreigners present at the external border of the EU with Belarus, can be considered as instrumentalization of illegal migration and have the characteristics of a hybrid aggression.

The aforementioned actions taken by Belarus clearly constitute a violation of humanitarian law and human rights. The migrants brought to Belarus are treated by the Belarusian authorities in an instrumental manner and are in an extremely bad situation, which puts them at risk of becoming victims of human trafficking, as well as other crimes. It can be assumed that such actions by the Minsk regime are aimed at creating a humanitarian and migration crisis.

In the context of human trafficking, due to its geopolitical location, Poland is at the same time a country of origin, a transit country, and a destination for victims of human trafficking. Polish citizens, both men and women, can be recruited within our country and then used for forced labor, prostitution, begging, theft, or extortion of benefits and loans abroad. Poland may also be a destination for human trafficking organizers. In this sense, exploitation of foreigners does take place in Poland. Most victims are citizens of European countries such as Ukraine, Bulgaria, Belarus, and Romania, Asian countries including Vietnam, the Philippines, and Sri Lanka, and countries of South America such as Colombia, Mexico, and Venezuela. Foreigners are used for forced labor, prostitution, or begging, and are sometimes also victims of domestic slavery and criminal exploitation.

The year 2021 seems to confirm that for several years the predominant purpose of human trafficking has been the use of people for forced labor. Accordingly, the activities of institutions that combat the crime of human trafficking have been directed mainly against forced labor, through both active prosecution of the perpetrators and conducting information and education activities.

3. Legal grounds

International law



Poland is one of the numerous countries that actively counteract human trafficking; moreover, it also provides care and support for people who have fallen victim to this practice. Poland is a party to many acts of international law, including the following:

Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings;

<u>Directive 2011/36/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims;</u>

<u>Directive 2012/29/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing minimum standards</u> on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime

Council Directive 2004/81/EC of 29 April 2004 on the residence permit issued to third-country nationals who are victims of trafficking in human beings or who have been the subject of an action to facilitate illegal immigration, who cooperate with the competent authorities;

Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly;

<u>Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations</u>
Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly;

<u>United Nations Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the</u>
Prostitution of Others;

International Labour Organization Convention no. 182 Concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour;

International Labor Organization Convention no. 105 Concerning the Abolition of Forced Labour.

National law

In addition to its international obligations, Poland has adopted a number of national laws related to countering human trafficking. The Polish legal grounds for combating human trafficking are:

the Polish Penal Code

The concept of human trafficking has been regulated in a multi-element definition, which obligatorily consists of three parts: the manner of action of the perpetrators, the means and methods used by them, and the purpose - the exploitation of a person.

According to Article 115 (22) of the Criminal Code (hereinafter referred to as CC):

"Human trafficking is the recruitment, transportation, delivery, transfer, harboring, or receipt of a person using:

- 1. violence or an unlawful threat;
- 2. abduction;
- 3. deception;
- 4. misinformation or the exploitation of a mistake or the inability to properly comprehend the action taken;
- 5. abuse of a relationship of dependence, taking advantage of a critical position or a state of helplessness;
- 6. giving or accepting a material or personal benefit, or the promise thereof to or from a person having custody of, or supervision over, another person;
- for the purpose of exploitation of that person, even with his or her consent, particularly in prostitution, pornography, or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labor or services, begging, slavery, or other forms of exploitation that are degrading to human dignity, or for the purpose of obtaining cells, tissues, or organs in violation of law.

If the perpetrator's behavior involves a minor, it constitutes human trafficking, even if the methods or means listed in points 1 - 6 are not used."

However, the last paragraph of the cited law refers only to situations where the victim is a child. Accepting the need to provide special protection to minor victims, the legislator has limited the legal qualification of the perpetrator's act to the aim of his or her action only. Thus, in the case of minor victims, the second element of the definition (relating to the methods and means) does not have to be identified for an act to qualify as human trafficking.

In Poland, according to Article 189a of the CC:

- § 1 Whoever commits human trafficking shall be subject to the penalty of imprisonment for not less than 3 years.
- § 2 Whoever makes preparations for the commission of the crime specified in § 1 shall be subject to the penalty of imprisonment for 3 months to 5 years.

In the light of Article 189a (1) of the CC, human trafficking carries the penalty of imprisonment for no less than 3 years, which means it is a crime. The upper limit of the statutory penalty is imprisonment for up to 15 years. Due to the high degree of social harm, the legislator has also introduced the punishment of a stage of the crime, i.e. preparation for the crime of human trafficking (Article 189a (2) of the CC).

Crimes associated with human trafficking:

Other crimes regulated by the Criminal Code that are often associated with human trafficking include:

- deprivation of liberty (Art. 189 of the CC)
 Whoever deprives a person of his or her liberty shall be subject to the penalty of imprisonment for 3 months to 5 years; however, if the deprivation of liberty lasts more than 7 days, the perpetrator shall be subject to the penalty of imprisonment for 1 to 10 years. In addition, if the deprivation of liberty lasts more than 7 days, involves a person who is incapacitated due to his or her age, or mental or physical condition, the perpetrator shall be subject to the penalty of imprisonment for 2 to 12 years. On the other hand, if the deprivation of liberty is combined with special tormenting, the perpetrator shall be subject to the penalty of imprisonment for no less than 3 years;
- forcing a specific behavior (Article 191 (1) of the CC)
 Whoever uses violence against a person or an unlawful threat to force another person to perform a specific action, commit an omission, or to tolerate something, shall be subject to the penalty of imprisonment for up to 3 years.
- forcing prostitution (Article 203 of the CC)
 Whoever, by means of violence, an unlawful threat, or deception, or by taking advantage of a relationship of dependence or critical situation, leads another person to engage in prostitution shall be subject to the penalty of imprisonment for 1 to 10 years.
- pimping and pandering (Article 204 of the CC)
 Whoever, with the aim to achieve a financial gain, induces or facilitates another person to engage in prostitution, shall be subject to the penalty of imprisonment for 3 months to 5 years.
 The same punishment shall be imposed on anyone who derives a material profit from the practice of prostitution by another person. If such person is a minor, the perpetrator shall be subject to the penalty of imprisonment for 1 to 10 years.

Act on foreigners

The legal act that ensures compliance with the law applicable to, among other things, countering human trafficking is the Act on foreigners of December 12, 2013.

The Act on foreigners (hereinafter referred to as AOF) contains rules on the entry, transit, and stay of foreigners in the territory of the Republic of Poland, as well as the departure of foreigners from that territory. The Act specifies the procedure to be followed and the authorities that have jurisdiction over these matters. It indicates, among other things, that:

- a foreigner who is presumed to be a victim of human trafficking within the meaning of Article 115 (22) of the CC shall be issued a certificate confirming the existence of such a presumption [Art. 170 of the AOF];
- the stay in the territory of the Republic of Poland of a foreigner presumed to be a victim of human trafficking shall be considered legal for the period of validity of the certificate referred to in Article 170 of the AOC issued to that foreigner. The stay of a foreigner to whom the certificate has been issued shall cease to be considered legal as soon as the minister competent for the interior records information in the relevant register that the foreigner: actively, voluntarily, and on his or her own initiative, re-established contacts with persons suspected of

- committing the crime of human trafficking (Article 189a (1) of the CC) or crossed or attempted to cross the national border in violation of the law.
- the certificate issued by the authority competent to prosecute the crime of human trafficking (Article 189a (1) of the CC) shall be valid for a period of 3 months from the date of its issuance, and in the case of a minor foreigner for a period of 4 months from the date of its issuance [Article 172 of the AOF];
- a temporary residence permit for a foreigner who is a victim of human trafficking shall be granted after all of the following conditions have been met: he or she resides in the territory of the Republic of Poland; he or she has cooperated with the authority competent to prosecute the crime of human trafficking (Article 189a (1) of the CC), and in the case of a minor foreigner, he or she has been granted the status of a victim in a case concerning the crime of human trafficking (Article 189a (1) of the CC); and he or she has severed contacts with persons suspected of committing the crime of human trafficking (Article 189a (1) of the CC). [Article 176 of the AOF];
- the minimum validity period of a temporary residence permit shall be 6 months [Art. 177 of the AOF];
- a permanent residence permit shall be granted to a foreigner for an indefinite period of time in response to his or her application, if: he or she is a victim of human trafficking within the meaning of Article 115 (22) of the CC and: he or she has resided in the territory of the Republic of Poland immediately before applying for the permanent residence permit for a period of no less than 1 year on the basis of a temporary residence permit for victims of human trafficking, has cooperated with law enforcement authorities in criminal proceedings in a case concerning the crime of human trafficking (Article 189a (1) of the CC), and has a well-founded fear of returning to his or her country of origin [Article 195(1)(5) of the AOF].

Act on granting protection to foreigners in the territory of the Republic of Poland

Article 68. 1. If an application for international protection concerns a person who may be vulnerable, in particular a person being:

- 6) a victim of human trafficking
- the Head of the Office shall assess whether that person is vulnerable in international protection or social assistance proceedings.
- 2. The applicant or the person on whose behalf the applicant is acting shall be considered to be vulnerable with regard to social assistance, where there may be a need to:
- 1) accommodate him or her at a center that:
- a) is adapted to the needs of persons with disabilities;
- b) provides accommodation in single rooms;
- c) is intended exclusively for women or women with children;
- 2) place them in a nursing and treatment facility, a nursing and care facility, or a hospice;
- 3) place them in foster care that corresponds to the psycho-physical situation of these persons;

- 4) adjust the diet according to their health.
- 3. The Head of the Office, in order to assess whether the person referred to in par. 1 is vulnerable, may order medical or psychological examinations, the cost of which shall be covered by the national budget from the part at the disposal of the minister competent for the interior, from the funds at the disposal of the Head of the Office.
- 4. If the Head of the Office does not order the medical or psychological examination referred to in par.
- 3, he or she shall inform the person who may be vulnerable that he or she may, on his or her own initiative and at his or her own expense, undergo such an examination.
- 5. A person who has not consented to the medical or psychological examinations referred to in par. 3 shall be considered a person who is not vulnerable.
- 6. The Head of the Office shall make the assessment referred to in par. 1 immediately after the submission of an application for international protection and at any time until the completion of the proceedings, in case new circumstances concerning the applicant or the person on whose behalf the applicant is applying come to light.

Article 69. 1. In the case of a foreigner who is a vulnerable person, the activities in the proceedings concerning granting of international protection shall be performed:

- 1) in conditions that ensure the foreigner's freedom of expression, in a manner
- tailored to his or her psychophysical condition;
- 2) within a timeframe appropriate to his or her mental and physical state, designated taking into account the dates for the foreigner's use of the health services;
- 3) at the foreigner's place of residence, where it is justified by

his or her health;

- 4) with the participation of a psychologist, a physician, or an interpreter, if necessary.
- 2. At the request of a foreigner who is a vulnerable person, in cases justified by his or her needs, the activities carried out in the proceedings concerning granting of international protection:
- 1) shall be performed by a person of the same sex;
- 2) shall be performed with the participation of a psychologist, a physician, or an interpreter of the sex indicated by the foreigner.

Article 69a. When providing social assistance to a foreigner who is a vulnerable person, the accommodation and food needs of such a person shall be taken into account.

Article 69b. When providing social assistance to a minor, the need to safeguard his or her interests shall be considered, taking into account in particular:

3) the safety and security considerations, particularly where there is a risk that the minor is a victim of human trafficking.

Act on social assistance

Another act that provides protection and has the appropriate tools to meet the basic needs of Polish and foreign victims of human trafficking is the Act on social assistance of March 12, 2004 (hereinafter referred to as ASA).

The most important provisions of the Act that concern the issue of human trafficking are:

- foreigners residing in the territory of the Republic of Poland on the basis of the certificate referred to in Article 170 of the AOF or on the basis of the permit referred to in Art. 176 of the AOF shall be entitled to benefits in the form of crisis intervention, shelter, a meal, the necessary clothing, and a purpose-specific benefit [Article 5a of the ASA];
- social assistance shall be provided to individuals and families because of the need to protect victims of human trafficking [Article 7(7a) of the ASA];
- the tasks of the provincial governor include coordination, within the framework of the social assistance system, of the activities related to the prevention of human trafficking and the support provided to victims of human trafficking [Article 22 (15) of the ASA];

Legislative changes concerning human trafficking

On January 1, 2021, the Act of December 10, 2020, amending the Act on the entry into, residence in, and exit from the territory of the Republic of Poland of citizens of the Member States of the European Union and members of their families, and certain other acts came into force (Journal of Laws, item 2369). As of January 1, 2021, that Act amended the Act on the entry into, residence in, and exit from the territory of the Republic of Poland of citizens of the Member States of the European Union and members of their families by introducing provisions analogous to the provisions of the Act of December 12, 2013, on foreigners, which consisting in the possibility of issuing to a citizen of a Member State of the European Union (as well as a citizen of the EEA or the Swiss Confederation) and a member of his or her family a certificate confirming that there is a presumption that he or she is a victim of human trafficking within the meaning of Article 115 (22) of the CC. According to Article 41b (2) of the amended Act of July 14, 2006, on the entry into, residence in, and exit from the territory of the Republic of Poland of citizens of the Member States of the European Union and members of their families, the first certificate may be issued for a period of 3 months, and in the case of a minor EU citizen or a minor family member who is not an EU citizen, for a period of 4 months from the date of its issuance. According to Article 41b (3) of the aforementioned Act, another certificate may be issued for a period of at least 6 months, but no longer than for a period of 3 years, if the following conditions are met for an EU citizen or a member of his or her family:

- 1) he or she is staying in the territory of the Republic of Poland;
- 2) he or she has cooperated with the authority competent to conduct proceedings in the case of the offense referred to in Article 189a (1) of the CCC and, in the case of a minor foreigner, has been granted the status of a victim in proceedings in the case of the offense referred to in Article 189a (1) of the CC;
- 3) has broken off contacts with persons suspected of committing the offense referred to in Article 189a (1) of the CC.

These provisions are modeled on the relevant provisions of the Act on foreigners, i.e. Articles 170-176.

The Act also introduced relevant amendments to the Act on social assistance of March 12, 2004 (Journal of Laws of 2021, item 2268, as amended), which allow the exercise of the right to social assistance benefits in the form of crisis intervention, shelter, a meal, the necessary clothing, and a purpose-specific benefit also by EU/EEA/Swiss citizens and their family members holding the certificate issued to victims of human trafficking pursuant to the Act of July 14, 2006, on the entry into, residence in, and exit from the territory of the Republic of Poland of citizens of the Member States of the European Union and members of their families. These provisions constitute an implementation of Article 11 of Directive 2011/36/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims.

4. Organization of the anti-human trafficking system in Poland

National Action Plan



The National Action Plan Against Human Trafficking (hereinafter referred to as NAP) is the basic document on the functioning of the system for combating and preventing human trafficking in Poland. This is a government document adopted by the Council of Ministers that obliges its addressees to perform certain tasks related to the fight against human trafficking. The addressees of the NAP are individual units of the central administration and other institutions and NGOs that

are voluntarily involved in anti-human trafficking activities in Poland. The goal of the NAP is to ensure the necessary conditions for effectively countering human trafficking in Poland and supporting the victims of this crime. In this context, the objectives of the NAP are:

- to raise the awareness of the problem of human trafficking;
- to raise the standard of support provided to the victims of human trafficking (including minor victims of human trafficking);
- to improve the effectiveness of the institutions responsible for prosecuting the crime of human trafficking by improving the legal tools and the structures, and implementing best practices;
- to improve the skills of the representatives of institutions and organizations involved in countering human trafficking and supporting victims of this crime;
- to extend the knowledge of the problem of human trafficking and to improve the effectiveness of the actions taken;
- strengthening international cooperation.

On November 17, 2021, the Council of Ministers adopted the NAP for 2022-2024. This is a government plan, effective as of January 1, 2022, which defines the directions for the activities in the area of countering human trafficking.

Institutions involved in the system for combating and preventing human trafficking

Anti-Human Trafficking Team

Pursuant to Order no. 6 of the Minister of Interior and Administration of February 15, 2019, an Anti-Human Trafficking Team was established. The Team is an auxiliary body of the Minister of Interior and Administration and continues the activities of the Inter-Ministerial Human Trafficking Combatting and Prevention Team established in 2004.

The key tasks of the Team include:

- to evaluate the implementation of programs aimed to combat and prevent human trafficking;
- to initiate actions aimed to combat and prevent human trafficking;
- to prepare draft NAPs related to human trafficking, to monitor the feasibility of the planned tasks, and to draft annual reports on the implementation of the NAPs.

Two permanent groups were established within the Team. In addition, in accordance with the rules of procedure governing the work of the Team, two ad hoc groups were formed.

Permanent groups

- Working Group for Monitoring the Implementation of the NAP
- Working Group for the Support for Victims of Human Trafficking

Ad hoc groups

- Working Group for the Handbook for Judiciary and Law Enforcement Authorities, as well as
 other bodies involved in the fight against human trafficking, as regards the handling of human
 trafficking cases
- Working Group for the Development of Guidelines for Labor Inspectors on the Methodology of Conducting Inspection Activities in Cases of Suspected Human Trafficking, Particularly Forced Labor (In 2021, the aforementioned guidelines for labor inspectors were drafted, along with an accompanying list of indicators for identifying possible victims of human trafficking for forced labor. The guidelines for labor inspectors are the result of several months of work carried out by members of an ad hoc working group established at the Ministry of Interior and Administration within the Anti-Human Trafficking Team, which included representatives of the State Labor Inspectorate (Department of Employment Legality), the Ministry of Interior and Administration, the Border Guard, the National Police Headquarters, and the La Strada Foundation Against Human Trafficking and Slavery. The document adopted by the working group on December 23, 2021, was forwarded to all district labor inspectorates for use in the ongoing inspection activities of the State Labor Inspectorate.)

As of 2021, the Anti-Human Trafficking Team, consisted of representatives of the following institutions: the Ministry of Interior and Administration, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Family and Social Policy, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Science and Higher Education, the Ministry of Funds and Regional Policy, the Ministry of Education, the National Police Headquarters, the National Border Guard Headquarters, the Office for Foreigners, the Government

Plenipotentiary for Equal Treatment, the National Prosecutor's Office, the Chief Labor Inspectorate, the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights, the Office of the Ombudsman for Children, the Center for Education Development, the National School of Judiciary and Public Prosecution, the La Strada - Foundation Against Human Trafficking and Slavery, the Immaculate Mary PoMOC Association for Women and Children, the ITAKA Foundation - Center for the Search for Missing People, the Halina Nieć Center for Legal Aid, the Salvation Army, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the Light House Foundation, and the Empowering Children Foundation.

Institutional level

Ministry of Interior and Administration



The structure of the Department of International Affairs and Spraw Wewnętrznych Migration of the Ministry of Interior includes an Anti-Human Trafficking Coordination Team, which is responsible for:

- monitoring the work related to the performance of the tasks provided for in the National Action Plan Against Human Trafficking;
- proposing tasks in future editions of the National Action Plan;
- monitoring the performance of public tasks concerning support for and protection of victims of human trafficking commissioned by the Minister of Interior and Administration, (currently the task appears under the name "Running the National Intervention and Consultation Center for Victims of Human Trafficking");
- supporting the work of the Anti-Human Trafficking Team and the Working Groups;

(In connection with Order no. 182 of the Prime Minister of September 24, 2021, amending the Order on granting statutes to the Ministry of Interior and Administration, the Department of Analysis and Migration Policy was abolished and the tasks arising from the NAP were subsequently transferred to the new structure of the Department of International Affairs and Migration.)

Office for Foreigners



The Office plays an important role in the preliminary identification URZAD DO SPRAW of possible victims of human trafficking among foreigners seeking international protection in Poland. As part of the ongoing asylum proceedings, the Office's staff can obtain information indicating that

a foreigner has been a victim of human trafficking. A part-time human trafficking coordinator responsible for coordinating activities and ensuring proper flow of information has been appointed at the Office.



The decision of the Chief Commander of the Police of January 22, 2014, established the Anti-Human Trafficking Department of the Criminal Service Office (now Criminal Office) of the National Police Headquarters. The Department's main tasks are to combat crimes related to human trafficking, pedophilia, and child pornography, as well as crimes against sexual freedom and morality. In the performance of its tasks, the Anti-

Human Trafficking Department cooperates with justice system authorities, public administration and state audit bodies, non-governmental organizations, community organizations, and public institutions. In addition, the Department carries out activities of an international nature through operational and investigative cooperation with law enforcement agencies of other countries. The work of the Anti-Human Trafficking Department includes supervision and coordination the work of anti-human trafficking units established by the Order of the National Police Headquarters¹ in the criminal departments of provincial police headquarters. The tasks of the anti-human trafficking units include, in particular, detection of human trafficking, supervision and coordination of the tasks performed by district police headquarters and their subordinate police units in detecting human trafficking, identification of and support for the process of identification of victims of human trafficking, participation in international operations, in particular in joint investigation teams formed to detect human trafficking, non-police cooperation, and organization and conduct of in-service training classes for criminal service officers on the detection of human trafficking. Representatives of the Anti-Human Trafficking Department participate in the work of international teams/working groups/expert groups, among others as:

- national coordinator/expert of the Europol Analysis Work File AWF SOC AP Phoenix focused on combating the crime of human trafficking;
- national coordinator/expert of Europol's analytical working project AWF SOC AP Twins (combating sexual exploitation of minors and child pornography);
- national coordinator of the EU priority EMPACT THB (European Multidisciplinary Platform Against Criminal Threats Trafficking in Human Beings), which is an implementation of the tasks set by the Ministry of Interior and Administration and one of the elements of the EU Security Policy for 2021-2023;
- national coordinator of the EU priority EMPACT CSE (European Multidisciplinary Platform Against Criminal Threats Child Sexual Exploitation) "cybercrime combating sexual exploitation of children"

as part of the EU Security Policy Cycle in the area of combating serious and organized crime for 2021 - 2023.

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¹ Order no. 14 of the Chief Police Commander of September 22, 2016, on the performance of certain tasks by the Police in the detection of human trafficking (Official Gazette of the NPH, item 61).

Border Guard



The Border Guard plays a special role in the fight against human trafficking with regard to foreigners. It is Border Guard officers who very often make the first contact with victims of this crime and, as a result, they often identify these victims. Like all the institutions described herein, the Border Guard participates in carrying out the tasks included in the NAP. The Operational and Investigative Board of the National Headquarters of the Border Guard coordinates the performance of projects arising from the NAP, as well as substantively supervises the activities of the organizational units of the Border Guard that involve combating and preventing human trafficking in Poland.

In addition, the structures of the Operational and Investigative Board of the National Headquarters of the Border Guard include Section I, existing within Department I, which focuses on illegal migration and human trafficking and is responsible for, among other things, coordination of and supervision over the actions taken by the Border Guard with the aim to counter human trafficking. In each Border Guard unit, in the Operations and Investigations Department, a part-time anti-human trafficking coordinator has been appointed who is responsible for coordination and cooperation between the relevant organizational units of the Border Guard, the Police, and other institutions involved in the fight against this crime.

Public Prosecutor's Office



Prokuratura Krajowa The Department for Organized Crime and Corruption is responsible for combating human trafficking at the National Public Prosecutor's Office. The unit coordinates the actions taken by the Public Prosecutor's Office's to prosecute human trafficking. A special prosecutor-coordinator for human trafficking has been appointed. Since 2007, the former Appellate Public Prosecutor's Offices and

now each of the Regional Public Prosecutor's Offices and Circuit Public Prosecutor's Offices have appointed prosecutors to act as consultants on human trafficking. In 2014, the *Guidelines for Investigating Human Trafficking Cases* were presented for use by prosecutors handling human trafficking cases.

Ministry of Family and Social Policy



Social assistance plays a key role in supporting the victims of human trafficking. Social assistance allows for carrying out crisis intervention directly due to the need to protect the victims. In 2014, the Ministry of Family and Social Policy (MFSP) adopted the *Standards for Safe Shelter for Victims of Human Trafficking* drafted

by the expert group on supporting victims of human trafficking and distributed them to the participants of special training courses titled "Support for Victims of Human Trafficking" as a source of expert knowledge in this area. Since 2008, the MFSP, together with the Ministry of Interior and Administration, the Border Guard, and NGOs, has been conducting an annual series of training courses for staff of social assistance organizational units on the support for victims of human trafficking, including on the principles and cooperation with the National Intervention and Consultation Center.

State Labor Inspectorate



The State Labor Inspectorate (SLI) is a body established to monitor compliance with labor laws, including occupational health and safety laws, and the legality of employment. The SLI's tasks include activities aimed at identifying cases of work performed in violation of applicable laws. Labor inspectors of the SLI, within the framework of their powers authorizing them to enter work premises at any time, obtain information from employees and other persons on the premises, and, through their powers to inspect labor and temporary

employment service providers and the user employers, are able to identify possible victims of human trafficking for the purpose of forced labor and notify the authorities competent to combat this crime. Since foreigners are often the victims of human trafficking for the purpose of forced labor, the SLI's inspection activities are carried out - in justified cases - in cooperation with Border Guard officers. Cooperation with the Border Guard is carried out based on, among other regulations, based on the provisions of an agreement on the principles of cooperation between the State Labor Inspectorate and the Border Guard of December 10, 2018 (which replaced the previous agreement of May 12, 2015). The agreement provides not only for the performance of joint inspections concerning the legality of employment of foreigners, but also for joint information and educational activities addressed both to entities that employ foreigners and to foreigners who work in Poland. Thanks to their cooperation, the identified cases of human trafficking for the purpose of forced labor can be investigated by the Border Guard. At the central level, representatives of the Chief Labor Inspectorate participate in the work of both the Anti-Human Trafficking Team supporting the Minister of Interior and Administration and the Working Groups that operate within that Team. SLI bodies perform - both centrally and at the local level - the tasks included in the National Action Plan Against Human Trafficking. What is also important for the performance of the tasks of the SLI in the area of prevention and combating of human trafficking for the purpose of forced labor is the SLI's cooperation with other institutions and organizations as part of provincial anti-human trafficking teams and its cooperation with the LA STRADA Foundation.

Ministry of Funds and Regional Policy



The Ministry of Funds and Regional Policy has a Team for Sustainable Development and Corporate Social Responsibility, which is an auxiliary body supporting the minister competent for regional development. In its current form, the Team was established by an Order of the Minister of Funds and Regional Policy of January 21, 2020. The Team is a platform for cooperation between the government administration and representatives of the

business, as well as partner community and economic organizations with the aim of adaptation to the challenges of sustainable development through the dissemination of social responsibility in market practices. According to ISO 26000, the concept of social responsibility, on which the Team's work is focused, refers to the areas of organizational governance, human rights, labor practices, environment, fair operating practices, consumer issues, community involvement, and local community

development. At the heart of social responsibility in the broadly defined areas of human rights and labor practices is the need to ensure that forced labor, which is the gravest form of violation of workers' rights, does not occur.

Regional level

Provincial Anti-Human Trafficking Teams



The Provincial Teams include representatives of various public institutions, law enforcement agencies, and NGOs operating at the regional level. The participation of representatives of individual institutions depends on the decision of the province governor. The work of the teams established so far involves, first and foremost, representatives of provincial offices, the Police, the Border Guard, public prosecutor's offices, labor inspectorates, labor offices, local

governments, school superintendents of schools and educational institutions, and non-governmental organizations.

The representatives of the institutions participating in the work of regional teams improve the effectiveness of their activities through the ongoing exchange of information and coordination of all undertakings, including those of a preventive nature.

Level of non-governmental organizations

Non-governmental organizations support for state authorities and institutions in their efforts to combat human trafficking, assist victims, and educate the public.

Nation-wide Network of Non-Governmental Organizations Against Human Trafficking



Non-governmental organizations involved in combating human trafficking form the Nation-Wide Network of Non-Governmental Organizations Against Human Trafficking, which was established in July 2014 as part of the implementation of a project funded by the Norwegian Fund. Currently, the Network brings together 19 non-governmental organizations. The main intention of the Network is to create a highly specialized network of anti-human trafficking organizations in order to

improve the quality and efficiency of their work, professionalize their activities, and strengthen their capacity, so that they can become partners of public institutions and law enforcement agencies in joint activities aimed at preventing human trafficking and supporting the victims of this crime. The Network's activities include strengthening provincial anti-trafficking teams, developing standards for the provision of services to victims of trafficking, in particular maintaining security, privacy, and respect for the victims' choices, and organizing a series of workshops on human trafficking for non-governmental organizations. Thanks to the Network's activities, selected NGOs from all over Poland are being prepared to work with victims of human trafficking.

La Strada Foundation Against Human Trafficking and Slavery



The goal of the Foundation, established in 1996, is to work for the respect of human rights, to combat human trafficking, slavery, and forced labor, and to counter the exploitation of prostitution, as well as crimes against the freedom and health of individuals. The Foundation has been actively working to help victims since its inception. In 2020, the La Strada Foundation won a competition organized by the Ministry of Interior and Administration for an organization who would run the National Intervention and Consultation Center

for Victims of Human Trafficking, which provides specialized staff and a shelter for victims in Warsaw.

Immaculate Mary PoMOC Association for Women and Children



The mission of the Association, established in 1998, is to provide comprehensive assistance to women in crisis by providing them safe shelter, supporting them in the process of personal development, and conducting preventive and educational activities on violence, human trafficking, and forced prostitution. The main goal of the

Association is to help women and their children at risk of or affected by sexual, physical, and psychological violence, victims of trafficking in women, and their families. The Association is involved in the operation of the National Intervention and Consultation Center, as part of which it runs a shelter for disadvantaged women and women with children in Katowice.

Halina Nieć Center for Legal Aid



A non-governmental public benefit organization founded in 2002 in Cracow. The Halina Nieć Center for Legal Aid (HNCLA) works to protect human rights, primarily by providing free legal assistance to people from groups at risk of social exclusion and discrimination, including the poor, victims of domestic violence, foreigners, and refugees. It conducts monitoring of compliance with human rights standards, undertakes

legal interventions and advocacy activities, and implements research and education projects. The Center is also working to counter human trafficking, including in children, by organizing public campaigns and providing legal support to victims. The Center also publishes periodic reports on human trafficking in Poland, in which, in addition to providing an analysis of the scale and picture of the problem, it also assesses the system of assistance to victims of the crime.

Empowering Children Foundation



The Empowering Children Foundation (formerly named Nobody's Children Foundation), which has been in operation since 1991, supports children and their families by providing assistance in cases of abuse. Its facilities offer psychological and legal assistance to children who have experienced abuse (physical violence, psychological abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, or cyberbullying) and their families. Support is also offered to parents of young children aged 0-6 who, for various reasons,

are unprepared to provide informed and safe care and upbringing to their children. The Foundation's

goal is to support children in overcoming the traumas caused by the harm they experienced. The Foundation actively cooperates with the Police with the aim to combat the crime of sexual abuse of children. The Foundation runs the Helpline for Children and Adolescents (tel. no. 116 111), and is the initiator of the stopseksturystyce.fdds.pl website, where incidents of sexual abuse of children can be reported directly to the Police.

Itaka Foundation - Center for the Search for Missing People



This NGO, established in 1999, deals with the problem of missing persons in Poland. The Foundation is a public benefit organization. Itaka finds missing persons, helps their families, and prevents disappearances. It maintains an online database of missing persons, a 24/7 support line for missing persons and their families, and the *Missing Child Helpline*. Itaka provides all assistance free of charge.

The Foundation cooperates with the National Police Headquarters and is a member of the Missing Children Europe Federation.

Light House Foundation



The Light House Foundation is a Christian human rights organization founded in 2017, but with 10 years of experience in the fight against human trafficking and contemporary slavery on an international scale.

The goal of the Light House Foundation is to prevent and combat human trafficking, modern slavery, forced labor, and forced prostitution, to provide assistance to victims of these and other similar crimes, and to support the

victims in reconstructing their lives.

The Foundation offers shelter, counseling, and support for victims and their families, including direct support in contacts with law enforcement agencies. An important goal of the Foundation is to create new solutions and standards of assistance, including training for law enforcement agencies, institutions, and organizations. The Foundation works by creating networks and actively raising public awareness through lectures, training courses, and social campaigns.

Other

The above list of non-governmental organizations is not complete. Assistance to victims of human trafficking is provided by dozens of entities, including Caritas, the Polish Red Cross, the Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights, the St. Brother Albert's Aid Society, and many other organizations, foundations, and associations that provide various forms of support to victims, including those affected by the crime of human trafficking.

Institutional support

National Intervention and Consultation Center for Polish and foreign victims of human trafficking



The National Intervention and Consultation Center for Victims of Human Trafficking (hereinafter referred to as NICC) is a public task we Centrum Interwencyjno-Konsultacyjne implemented and financed by the Ministry of Interior and Ofiar Handlu Ludźmi Administration, intended for Polish and foreign victims of human trafficking. Each year, the Ministry of Interior and Administration

announces an open contest to run the NICC. In 2020, the Center was run by the La Strada Foundation Against Human Trafficking and Slavery and the Immaculate Mary Po-MOC Association for Women and Children.

The NICC was established to help victims of human trafficking in Poland. Its tasks include identification of human trafficking victims, intervention, preventive counseling, consultation for institutions and organizations, and running a specialized shelter for victims. The staff of the NICC provide counseling not only to victims of human trafficking, but also to their relatives, organizations and institutions, and people at risk of human trafficking.

Crucial in providing assistance to victims of human trafficking is their initial identification, which in most cases is done by law enforcement agencies. Once a victim has been identified, it is necessary to ensure his or her safety, isolate him or her from the perpetrators, and place him or her in a safe place. This is the most important objective of the work carried out by the NICC: comprehensive assistance to victims of the crime, provided by NGOs. The person who benefits from the assistance can count on full support, including accommodation, medical and psychological care, and legal consultation.

National Office of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Warsaw



The International Organization for Migration (IOM), based on the Agreement concluded in 2005 between the Minister of Interior and Administration and the IOM, and annexed in November 2011, implements a program of assistance in voluntary return and reintegration. Under the program, people identified as victims of human trafficking can receive assistance in returning to their country of origin and reintegration. The IOM provides, among other things, return counseling

to facilitate an informed return decision, individualized return risk assessments, medical assistance, assistance in obtaining travel documents and organizing the necessary return formalities, lodging and meals before and during the trip, and return travel arrangements and financing. Upon their return, the beneficiaries can receive reintegration assistance for their first needs and to take up employment or vocational training.

5. Statistical picture of the problem

Due to the different data collection methodologies adopted by entities dealing with human trafficking, the following statistics are presented separately for clarity. Information from non-governmental organizations working with law enforcement agencies and the judiciary to support victims of this crime is also an important addition to the current picture of the problem.

Police

The Police, as a law enforcement agency, makes every effort to detect and prosecute the perpetrators of crimes. In 2021, the intensive activities of the Police resulted in the initiation of 21 proceedings concerning human trafficking, the identification of 9 crimes, and the disclosure of 38 crimes. Twenty-two people were charged with the crime of human trafficking. Twenty-three victims were identified.

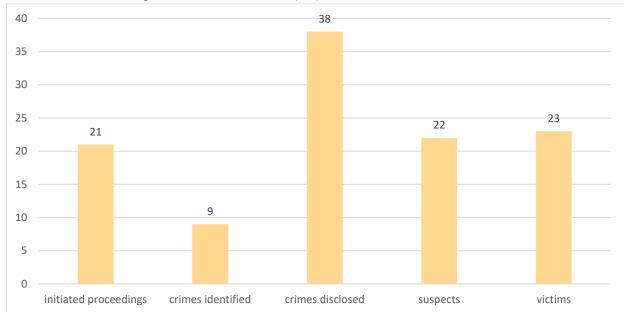
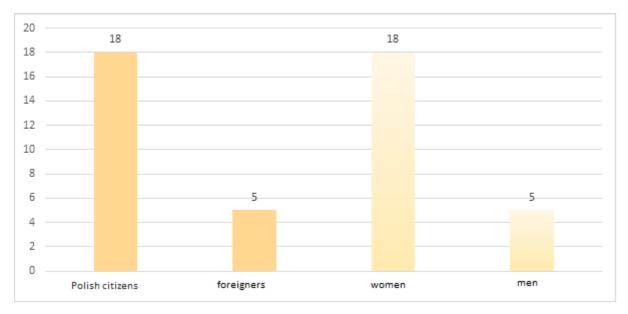


Chart 1. Human trafficking. Crime under Article 189a (1-2) of the CC in 2021.

 ${\it Prepared on the basis of the data\ provided\ by\ the\ National\ Police\ Headquarters}$

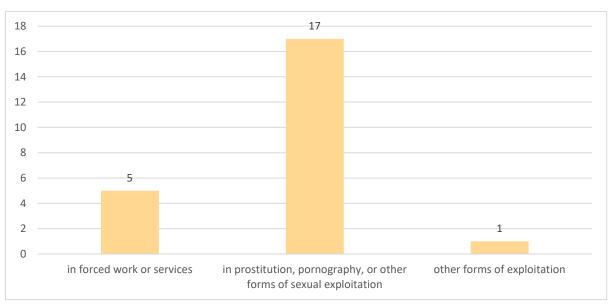
In 2021, 23 alleged victims of human trafficking were identified: 18 women and 5 men. The majority of the victims, 18 persons, were Polish citizens and 5 were foreigners (4 Bulgarians and 1 Ukrainian). 5 persons were exploited in forced labor or services, 17 people were exploited in prostitution or pornography, and 1 person was exploited in begging. Of the total number of alleged victims of human trafficking identified in 2021, 18 may have been exploited in Poland, 1 - in the Federal Republic of Germany, 3 - in the United Kingdom, and 1 - in Tunisia.

Chart 2. Number of alleged victims of human trafficking identified in 2021.



Prepared on the basis of the data provided by the National Police Headquarters

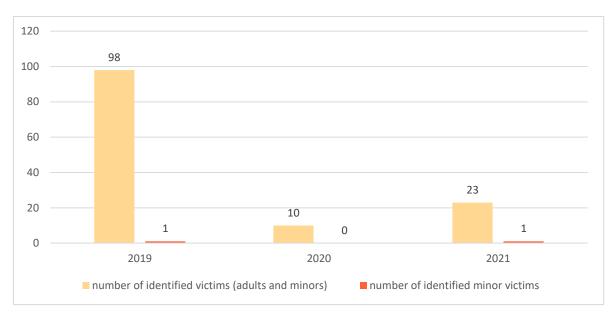
Chart 3. The nature of exploitation of possible victims of human trafficking in 2021.



Prepared on the basis of the data provided by the National Police Headquarters

In 2021, 1 minor was identified as an alleged victim of human trafficking. The same situation also took place in 2019.

Chart 4. The number of possible victims of human trafficking identified in 2019 - 2021.



Prepared on the basis of the data provided by the National Police Headquarters

Example proceedings/investigation:

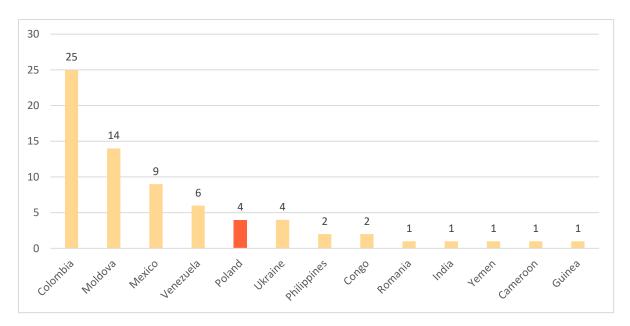
"... In the course of the investigation, it was determined that a 29-year-old Polish citizen contacted a 22-year-old Ukrainian citizen by phone in order to find women of Ukrainian origin to work in Poland. After contacting the victim and obtaining her photographs from her, the Ukrainian national sent them to the Polish citizen. Subsequently, the Polish citizen sent the Ukrainian citizen PLN 200, which was to be transferred to the victim so that she could pay for her trip to Poland. At the same time, the Polish citizen ordered the Ukrainian citizen to inform the victim that she was to come to Rzeszów, from where she would then be taken by car to her place of work... The victim arrived by bus from Kiev to Rzeszów, where the 22-year-old Ukrainian citizen waited for her and indicated to her the car in which she was taken to Nowa Sól by a driver who offered to provide transportation through the Bla Car service. In Nowa Sól, the 29-year-old Polish citizen waited for the victim. He transported the victim to Świebodzin and there he placed her in a rented apartment where a Polish citizen working for him as a prostitute was staying. The Polish citizen stated that the victim would live in that apartment together with the Polish woman already staying there and that he would give her a ride to work on the next day..."

Source: National Police Headquarters

Border Guard

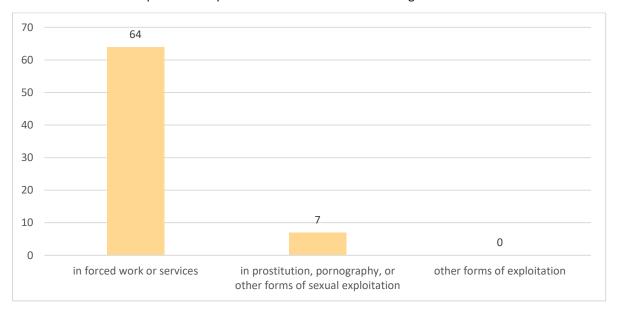
The Border Guard was another law enforcement agency that identified 71 possible victims of human trafficking, 49 men and 22 women, in 2021. Sixty-four people were forced to perform labor while seven were forced into prostitution, pornography, or other forms of sexual exploitation.

Chart 5. The nationality of possible victims of human trafficking identified by the Border Guard in 2021.



Prepared on the basis of the data provided by the National Headquarters of the Border Guard

Chart 6. The nature of exploitation of possible victims of human trafficking in 2021.



Prepared on the basis of the data provided by the National Headquarters of the Border Guard

In 2021, 12 new investigations were started: 7 concerning exploitation for forced labor, 3 concerning exploitation for prostitution, and 2 concerning other forms of exploitation (exploitation in begging and sham marriages). In the course of the investigations conducted in 2021, 6 suspects were charged with human trafficking: 4 citizens of Poland and 2 citizens of Yemen.

Based on statistics on the number of identified victims, as well as the number of pre-trial proceedings initiated, it should be noted that forced labor continues to be the predominant form of exploitation. Handling human trafficking cases is a complex and lengthy process. The need to comprehensively clarify the circumstances of a specific human trafficking crime and to gather evidence and record it for the court requires a series of procedural steps, which are also accompanied by covert, operational and exploratory activities.

Example proceedings/investigation:

"In 2021, the Border Guard identified the largest number of victims of exploitation for forced labor as part of an investigation launched by the Bieszczady Branch of the Border Guard. The numbers are as follows: 25 citizens of Colombia, 6 citizens of Mexico, and 9 citizens of Venezuela. The pre-trial proceedings were initially conducted together with the Circuit Public Prosecutor's Office in Lublin and are now conducted jointly with the Branch Division of the Department for Organized Crime and Corruption of the National Public Prosecutor's Office in Lublin. The main sector of exploitation in this case was vegetable and agricultural processing..."

Source: National Headquarters of the Border Guard

Public Prosecutor's Office

According to the data provided by the National Public Prosecutor's Office, the most common forms of exploitation of people in 2021 were forced labor and other forms of exploitation, such as forced extortion of social benefits, as well as prostitution and other forms of sexual exploitation. The number of victims of the crime of human trafficking in 2021 was 447 people, including 30 minors.

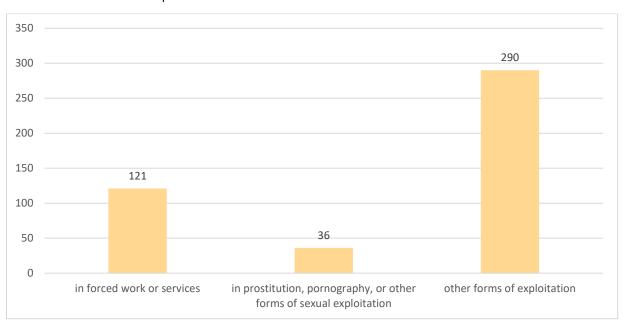
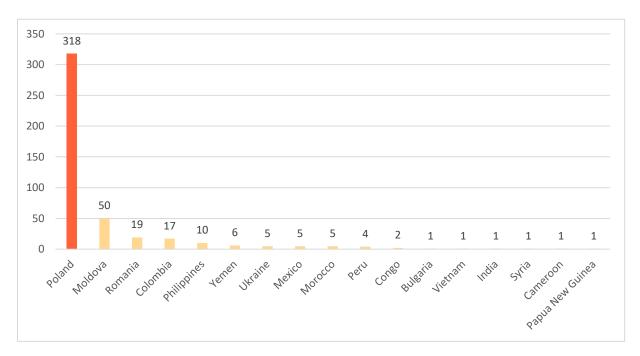


Chart 7. The nature of the exploitation of victims in 2021.

Prepared on the basis of the data provided by the National Public Prosecutor's Office

The data provided by the National Public Prosecutor's Office in 2021 specify the citizenship of the adult victims, which makes it possible to illustrate it in the chart below. The largest number of victims were citizens of Poland (318 people) and Moldova (50 people). The fewest victims were reported among citizens of Bulgaria, Vietnam, Syria, India, Cameroon, and Papua New Guinea (1 person).

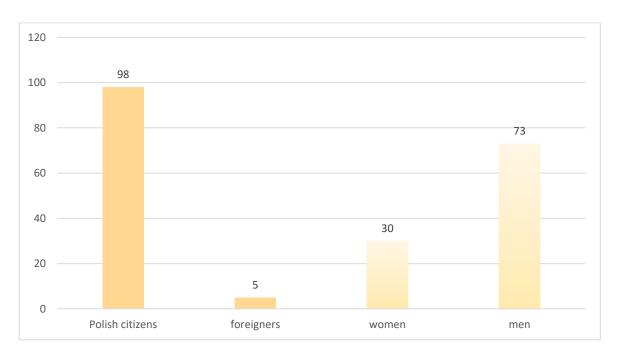
Chart 8. The country of origin of adult victims in 2021.



Prepared on the basis of the data provided by the National Public Prosecutor's Office

In 2021, 103 suspected perpetrators of human trafficking were recorded, including 73 men and 30 women. Among the suspects, there were 98 Polish citizens and 5 foreigners (citizens of Moldova, Bulgaria, Yemen, Saudi Arabia, and Ukraine).

Chart 9. The number of suspects identified in 2021.



Prepared on the basis of the data provided by the National Public Prosecutor's Office

According to the data provided by the Ministry of Justice, 31 people were convicted in 2021 on the basis of Article 189a (1) of the CC (human trafficking), including 2 women and 29 men. Also, 128 victims of this crime (49 women and 79 men) were identified.

National Intervention and Consultation Center for victims of human trafficking

According to the data provided by the NICC for victims of human trafficking, 210 people (51 Polish citizens and 159 foreigners), including 19 minors, benefited from the center's support in 2021. Most of those receiving the support were women.

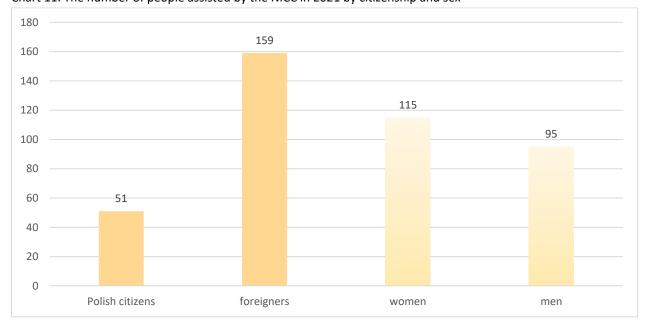


Chart 11. The number of people assisted by the NICC in 2021 by citizenship and sex

 ${\it Prepared on the basis of the NICC data}.$

The chart below shows the number and origin of the victims of human trafficking in 2021. The most represented groups of people receiving support from the NICC were citizens of Poland (51 people), Colombia (23 people), and Belarus (19 people). Other sizable groups of beneficiaries were citizens of Ukraine (15 people), Moldova (14 people), Mexico (12 people), Uganda (12 people), the Philippines (10 people), and Bulgaria (10 people).

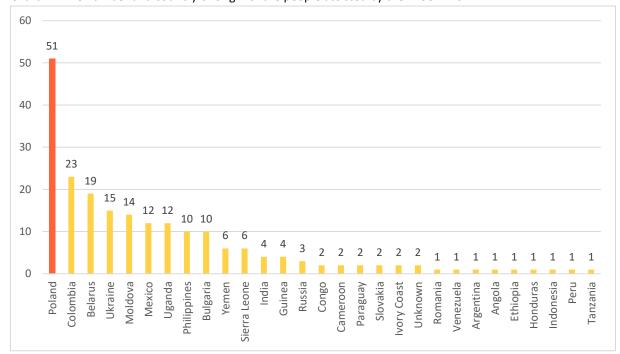
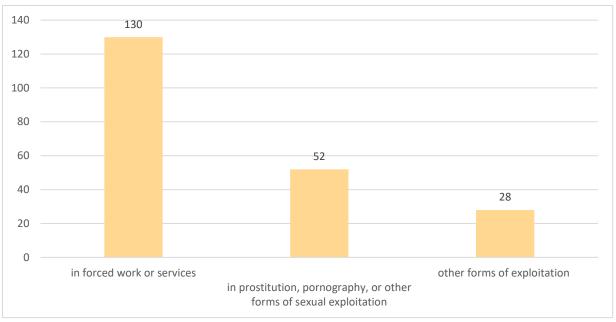


Chart 12. The number and country of origin of the people assisted by the NICC in 2021.

Prepared on the basis of the NICC data.

The chart below illustrates the forms of exploitation of the persons assisted by the NICC in 2021. The predominant forms of exploitation were forced labor and sexual exploitation. On a much smaller scale, people were exploited as domestic slaves, for violence, and forced to marry or commit crimes.

Chart 13. The forms of exploitation of the people assisted by the NICC in 2021.



Prepared on the basis of the NICC data.

Ministry of Family and Social Policy

The statistics for 2021 on the support provided to victims of human trafficking in the social assistance system are the following:

due to the need to protect victims of human trafficking, 348 families received social assistance; support was provided to 22 foreign victims of human trafficking, including:

- 19 foreigners who received purpose-specific benefits in the form of cash and
- 5 foreigners who received assistance in kind (shelter, meal, necessary clothing).

Office for Foreigners

In 2021, workers conducting proceedings concerning provision of international protection identified possible victims of human trafficking in 2 cases (Ethiopia, a female, an adult, the likely form of exploitation could not be determined; Cameroon, a female, an adult, likely form of exploitation - prostitution).

In addition, the Office for Foreigners is required to identify those victims of human trafficking who are persons with special needs, not only immediately after they file their applications, but also during all stages of the asylum procedure.

The assessment of whether a foreigner is a vulnerable person who requires special treatment during the procedure for granting protection in the territory of Poland with regard to social assistance is made by:

 a physician, during a special, preliminary, three-step procedure in an epidemiological filter facility at a reception center;

- a psychologist or a physician doctor, if new circumstances arise in the course of provision of social assistance;
- a psychologist, at the request of an employee of the Refugee Proceedings Department of the
 Office for Foreigners, if new circumstances arise during the procedure for granting international protection;
- employees of the Department of Social Assistance of the Office for Foreigners present at all centers for foreigners, based on their daily conversations and observations; and
- employees of the Refugee Proceedings Department of the Office for Foreigners on the basis
 of the foreigner's statements made in the application for international protection and during
 the status interview.

6. Activities carried out in 2021

In 2021, the Ministry of Interior and Administration, in cooperation with other ministries, institutions, and non-governmental entities, carried out a number of activities intended for both the general public and specific social and professional groups that are particularly vulnerable to the problem of human trafficking, including youth and unemployed persons, as well as foreigners looking for work in Poland. As in the previous year, due to the pandemic caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, most activities, such as conferences, training sessions, and workshops, were held in an online format.

Selected important projects

Awareness campaign "Human Trafficking is a Crime!"

In 2021, the Ministry of Interior and Administration organized a prevention campaign titled "Human Trafficking is a Crime!" and intended mainly for foreigners. Its purpose was to draw the attention of the Polish public to the fact that the crime of human trafficking still exists.

Between March and April, 35,850 flyers and 100 informational posters in Polish, Ukrainian, Vietnamese, and English were commissioned to be prepared for printing and printed. The materials were distributed in 60 locations, i.e. provincial offices, provincial labor offices, the Police and the Border Guard throughout the country. Also, 2,750 posters with tips for identifying victims of human trafficking were distributed to the Border Guard and the Police. The substantive content of the materials was prepared by employees of the Ministry of Interior and Administration and the Working Group for the Support for Victims of Human Trafficking operating within the Anti-Human Trafficking Team.



Photo: A banner, Chopin Airport - Warsaw

An important part of that campaign was the display of banners at international airports in Poland. The campaign was aimed at drawing attention to the problem of human trafficking and indicating the telephone number of the NICC. It was displayed on FIDS displays in all areas of the Warsaw Okęcie, Cracow Balice, and Modlin airports.

In addition, a poster for the "Human Trafficking is a Crime" campaign was placed on the e-consulate website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which was displayed in the language of the site visitor's choice, i.e. Polish, Ukrainian, Russian, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Arabic, German, or Vietnamese. It redirected the visitor to the kcik.pl website where victims/possible victims can find detailed information about the assistance provided by the NICC.

Training titled "Identifying and Supporting Victims of Human Trafficking. The Role of the Aviation Industry"

In the period from May to October 2021, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), commissioned by the Ministry of Interior and Administration, prepared and conducted training titled "Identifying and Supporting Victims of Trafficking. The Role of the Aviation Industry" for LOT Polish Airlines cabin crew members. A total of 9 training sessions were held and 95 cabin crew members of varying rank and seniority were trained.





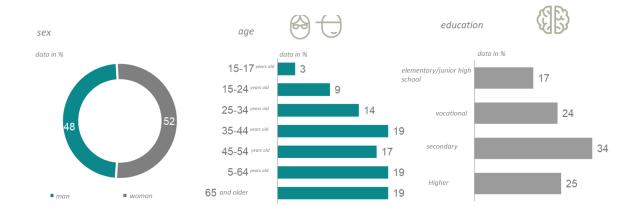
Training materials - information leaflets

The training was intended to achieve the following objectives: to broaden and organize the participants' knowledge of the problem of human trafficking, to increase their ability to recognize and respond to situations bearing the hallmarks of human trafficking at the workplace (on board an airplane), in the context of the procedures and methods of action adopted by the airline, and to increase the motivation of the participants to broaden their knowledge of the problem and actively work to counter it.

Survey on "Public Awareness of the Risks of Human Trafficking and Employment Abroad"

In 2021, Kantar Public, commissioned by the Ministry of Interior and Administration, conducted a quantitative social survey on the public awareness of the phenomenon of human trafficking and carried out a comparative analysis in relation to the state measured by the surveys conducted in 2010 and 2015.

The survey was conducted on a nationwide representative sample of 1,005 Poles aged 15 and over, using the technique of computer-assisted personal interviews (CAPI) as part of the Omnibus survey, on October 8-13, 2021.



Prepared by: KANTAR PUBLIC

The purpose of the survey was to identify the current state of public knowledge and awareness of the problem of human trafficking, in particular:

- 1. The general knowledge of the problem of human trafficking;
- 2. The knowledge of various forms of exploitation;
- 3. The attitudes toward the problem of human trafficking;
- 4. The awareness of the risks associated with human trafficking;
- 5. The attitudes toward labor emigration; and
- 6. The knowledge of the possibility for victims of human trafficking to get help.

Key findings:

In spontaneous statements, Poles associate human trafficking primarily as prostitution, selling people, and activities involving women. The situations identified by the respondents as human trafficking also include organ trafficking, exploitation of other persons for sexual services, and illegal arrangement of adoption of children. According to the respondents, the children and adolescents under the age of 18 who have become victims of human trafficking are mainly at risk of being coerced into providing sexual services or participating in the making of pornographic videos or photos.



Prepared by: KANTAR PUBLIC

Almost a half of Poles believe that there are cases of human trafficking in Poland. The largest percentage of the respondents estimate that there may be between 10 and 100 such cases per year in Poland. Most respondents believe that the scale of human trafficking has remained unchanged over the years. According to the majority of the respondents, women are more likely to become victims of human trafficking than men, while age is not a very important factor; Poles in other countries are also more likely to become victims than citizens of other countries in Poland. It can also be seen that knowledge of human trafficking and its scale is not widespread; additionally, it can be concluded that these are not easy topics for respondents.

Most Poles know that there are institutions and organizations in Poland that provide assistance to victims of human trafficking. The organization that the largest number of the respondents is familiar with is ITAKA. Assistance to victims, according to the respondents, should be handled mainly by NGOs and government institutions, as well as the Police, the Border Guard, and the Public Prosecutor's Office. The latter institutions should also deal with combating human trafficking and it is the Police that the majority of the respondents would contact to report cases of human trafficking.

Nearly a third of those surveyed have been abroad in the past five years, but the vast majority would not decide to work abroad. Moreover, the willingness to take unreported jobs and jobs below their qualifications has dropped significantly compared to previous surveys.

Preventive actions taken in the regions

Podkarpackie Provincial Office

- Within the framework of the campaign carried out in July-October 2021, a EURES advisor worked as an expert on duty at the District Labor Offices in Sanok, Jarosław, Brzozów, Rzeszów, Tarnobrzeg, Nisko, Lubaczów, Łańcut, Ustrzyki Dolne, Lesko, and Krosno;
- Within the framework of the "Culture of Safety" program, the State Labor Inspectorate, Regional Labor Inspectorate in Rzeszów - Krosno Branch, organized educational meetings, the subjects of

which included the types of bases for employment, including employment contracts and civil-law contracts, and the rights and obligations arising from them, as well as the consequences of illegal employment and payment of wages "under the table," i.e. without recording and distinguishing between gross and net amounts. The subject of one of these meetings was the risks associated with human trafficking, forced labor, and illegal employment. They were conducted for students of the East European State Higher School in Przemyśl;

- The Podkarpackie Province Headquarters of the Voluntary Labor Corps carried out a series of meetings with managers and young people on the problem of human trafficking, with the aim of raising public awareness of the risks associated with this problem. The topic of human trafficking was raised and discussed with young people on an ongoing basis, especially before the summer vacation, as well as during meetings with employment agents and EURES assistants. Meetings were conducted at the Voluntary Labor Corps, youth education and labor centers, youth employment offices, youth career centers, training and education centers, and school complexes;
- The Provincial Labor Office in Rzeszów organized informational meetings with students, which were held, among others, at the University of Rzeszów, the Rzeszów University of Technology, the University of Information Technology and Management in Rzeszów, the State Higher Vocational School in Tarnobrzeg, the Carpathian State College in Krosno, the State Higher School of Technology and Economics in Jarosław, the East European State Higher School in Przemyśl, the Jan Grodek State University in Sanok, and the Blessed Władysław Findysz Subcarpathian Higher School in Jasło. During the meetings, information was provided on how to seek legal employment, on issues related to preparation for going to work abroad, the existence of risks associated with going to work abroad, as well as on living and working conditions abroad. Information materials on the risks associated with human trafficking were also distributed.

Łódzkie Provincial Office

- Organization of a promotional and informational booth of the Light House Foundation at the "Follow Up" conference in Legnica in July and in November;
- Organization of a promotional and informational booth of the Light House Foundation at a conference in Szczecin;
- Participation in the SLOT Gdynia outdoor event;
- Lectures on human trafficking in churches;
- The Light House Foundation launched a mobile exhibition titled "Faces of Human Trafficking" at its headquarters, where it continues to be made available to employees and customers using the same building.

Świętokrzyskie Provincial Office

- The mobile exhibition "Faces of Human Trafficking" was moved to the Jędrzejów District where it is used, among other things, for the organization of the district campaign against human trafficking and where it continues to perform an informational function within the premises of the Jędrzejów District office and the public institutions cooperating with the local government;
- A prevention meeting was held at the family allotment gardens in Sandomierz;
- Outdoor meetings with residents were held in parks and artificial lakes of the Sandomierz District;

Prevention meetings were organized at commune offices in the Kazimierz District.

Małopolskie Provincial Office

- Training courses were conducted on issues related to the employment of foreigners and the worker rights of foreigners working in Poland. Two training sessions (in May and June 2021) were held in cooperation with the Zustrich Foundation. In each case, the labor inspectors conducting the training drew attention to the problem of human trafficking and indicated how to proceed when practices that may indicate the occurrence of this problem are noticed;
- In September 2021, training was conducted at the construction site of the Science Center in Cracow. The training was intended for employees (Polish citizens and foreigners), managers, and employers performing tasks at construction sites. The labor inspectors conducting the training drew attention to the problem of human trafficking and indicated how to proceed when practices that may indicate the occurrence of this problem are noticed;
- In 2021, a mobile exhibition titled "Faces of Human Trafficking," which addressed the topic of human trafficking and the fight against this problem, was presented in the premises of the Provincial Police Headquarters in Cracow, the District Police Headquarters in Wadowice and Miechów, the Carpathian Unit of the Border Guard in Nowy Sącz, and the Cracow Balice Airport.

Warmińsko-Mazurskie Provincial Office

- In 2021, the exhibition was displayed at the following 2 locations: the District Court in Olsztyn (from January to October 2021) and the Warmińsko-Mazurskie Provincial Office in Olsztyn.
- On November 17, 2021, at the University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn, a lecture was held as
 part of the 25th Days of Legal Education on the Protection of the rights of victims of human
 trafficking and crimes against sexual freedom;
- At the Nation-wide Scientific Conference "Woman and the Law" held in Bydgoszcz on March 8,
 2021 (an online conference), a paper was presented titled Woman as a victim of human trafficking, Kazimierz Wielki University in Bydgoszcz.

Podlaskie Provincial Office

- A mobile exhibition titled "Faces of Human Trafficking" was organized at the Faculty of Education
 Sciences of the University of Bialystok and the Podlasie Unit of the Border Guard in Białystok;
- On September 1, 2021, employees took part in a broadcast of the Polish Radio Białystok in the series titled "You Have the Right" where they discussed topics related to compliance with the law on the legality of employment and commissioning work in the countries of the European Union to Polish citizens and foreigners, as well as on posting of foreign workers in the provision of services;
- On September 22, 23, and 24, 2021, expert were on duty at the headquarters of the Circuit Labor Inspectorate in Białystok and in the Branches of the State Labor Inspectorate in Łomża and Suwałki to discuss problems related to the legality of employment of Polish citizens and foreigners and issues related to human trafficking; this was organized for possible organizers of seasonal work, entrepreneurs commissioning work to foreigners and Polish citizens, and foreigners interested in working for entrepreneurs, including seasonal work;

- Employees of the Circuit Labor Inspectorate in Białystok popularized the issue of legal performance of work and distributed leaflets, brochures, and other materials related to the topic of the legality of employment among entrepreneurs, employers, employees, individual farmers, school children and students, as well as organized information and advisory stands during the celebrations organized by other offices and non-governmental organizations, including the following: on September 4-5, 2021, an information booth of the State Labor Inspectorate was organized during the Open Days; on September 12, 2021, an information booth of the State Labor Inspectorate was organized at the Provincial Harvest Festival organized in Dąbrowa Białostocka; in the October issue of the monthly magazine "Podlaskie AGRO" published for individual farmers who, in many cases, increasingly employ foreigners, especially for seasonal work (published in a circulation of 14,000 copies), there was an article titled "Law is not seasonal," which presented the essential information on the legal employment of foreigners, including for seasonal work. The magazine also informed about the possibility of obtaining legal advice over the phone and in person from CLI specialists and at various training sessions and seminars on such topics as the principles of employment in accordance with the current legislation, choosing legal work over employment in the "shadow economy" and illegal work, the problems and dangers of using people for illegal work and of human trafficking;
- At the District Labor Office in Sejny, an officer from the Border Guard Post in Sejny and a representative of the District Police Headquarters in Sejny met with unemployed persons interested in leaving and taking up work abroad; during the meeting, issues of human trafficking and exploitation for slave labor were discussed;
- An open day titled "Safe Departure, Safe Return" was organized by the District Labor Office in Sejny to provide relevant information and distribute promotional materials; this was done in cooperation with the Municipal Police Station in Sejny;
- An informational meeting with unemployed persons and job seekers was organized at the District Labor Office in Kolno;
- An online information meeting titled "Labor Rights and Conditions of Seasonal Work in the Netherlands" was organized for unemployed persons and job seekers;
- An information meeting with unemployed persons and job seekers, titled "Safe Departure Safe Return - Rights4allSeasons," was organized by the District Labor Office in Suwałki in cooperation with the Municipal Police Station in Suwałki;
- Information meetings with unemployed persons and job seekers were organized by the District Labor Office in Łomża in cooperation with the Municipal Police Station in Łomża;
- An informational meeting with unemployed persons and job seekers was organized at the District Labor Office in Kolno;
- Together with the District Labor Office in Kolno, a training course was organized on human trafficking titled "Safe Departures - Safe Returns"; the meeting was intended for unemployed residents of the of Kolno District.

Lubelskie Provincial Office

 In the Lubartów district, meetings were held in parishes to inform people about the risks associated with human trafficking;

- On October 7, 2021, a meeting was held at the Municipal Center for Social Services in Świdnik, during which issues related to the national minority residing in the Świdnik district were discussed;
- During the joint activities of the community police officer and the employees of the Social Fishery Guard in the area of the Wieprz River, the rights and duties of foreigners living in the Świdnica District were discussed;
- On October 20, 2021, a meeting was organized for the wards of the Youth Education Center in Podgłębokie (Police Station in Łęczna), during which an educational film was presented, a presentation prepared as part of the European Day Against Human Trafficking and Slavery was discussed, and leaflets and comic books related to the discussed topics were distributed;
- On October 20, 2021, issues related to the prevention of forced labor exploitation were discussed with employees of the District Labor Office in Łęczna;
- On October 28, 2021, a meeting was held for children at the Public Kindergarten no. 3 in Łęczna, during which the dangers of contacts with strangers were discussed;
- As part of a local vocational training at the Lubartów Police Station, a training course was held for community police officers, during which they were acquainted with the issue and scale of human trafficking, and information was provided on institutions/organizations established to combat human trafficking and provide assistance to its victims.

Wielkopolskie Provincial Office

 Forty-five lectures on the issue of human trafficking were held in public places (including companies employing foreigners and commune/municipal offices).

Kujawsko-Pomorskie Provincial Office

- On September 9, 2021, an online meeting was held on the projects implemented by the La Strada Foundation titled "Learn, think and be safe," as well as the SAFE project and the rules of the board game "Szczęściara" (Lucky Girl) (designed by students of the University of Arts in Poznań);
- On December 10, 2021, an informational and educational meeting was held on the issues of human trafficking and safe travel abroad in search of employment. The activities were intended for adult students of the Group of Construction Schools in Włocławek. The educator presented the characteristics of the crime of human trafficking as a modern form of slavery that violates the fundamental values of freedom and dignity of every person. During the meeting, the educator made the students aware that human trafficking consists not only in the use of a person against his or her will. This crime can also take the form of sexual exploitation, forced labor, and trafficking in human organs. During the meeting, attention was drawn to the widespread problem of begging in the streets of our cities, which is often organized by criminal groups. The educator also discussed the most important rules for safe travel abroad for work purposes. She stressed that it is very important for a young person to be fully aware of how to prepare for such trips, what to pay attention to when looking for a job, and where to seek help when necessary. The students listened to the lecture with great interest and certainly all the information provided will help them plan their safe trips abroad. During the meeting, the young people received informational brochures titled "You Are Not for Sale," which the school received from the Representative Office

of the Kujawsko-Pomorskie Provincial Office and which was prepared by the Ministry of Interior and Administration.

Mazowieckie Provincial Office

- A mobile exhibition titled "Faces of Human Trafficking" was presented at the new location of the
 Mazowsze Social Policy Center in Warsaw. The exhibition is still on display there;
- On 9 September, 2021, the Chairwoman of the Team participated in a training organized by the La Strada Foundation for members of provincial teams, where the SAFE application and the "Szczęściara" (Lucky Girl) game were presented;
- As part of the performance of the project titled "Anti-Modern Slavery Gallery" by the La Strada
 Foundation in 2021, the following events were held: Anti-Modern Slavery Art Day: on June 30,
 prominent artists Katarzyna Stanny, Andrzej Pągowski, and Prof. Mieczysław Wasilewski produced
 poster designs at the Faculty of Media Arts of the Academy of Fine Arts. Female students' projects
 were also presented. A video report from the event was recorded and is available on Facebook
 and on YouTube;
- "Warsaw Eats Slaves" happening: on July 30, to mark the World Day against Human Trafficking, a
 happening directed by Bartek Frackowiak was presented in Warsaw's urban space. A video report
 from the happening is available on Facebook and on YouTube.

Śląskie Provincial Office

- Presentation the mobile exhibition titled "Faces of Human Trafficking" at the Katowice Pyrzowice International Airport, with wide access to the exhibition for people who may be affected by the problems in question (Silesian Border Guard Unit in Raciborz); presentation of the exhibition at a high school in Katowice (Provincial Police Headquarters in Katowice);
- Organization by the Śląskie Provincial Office in Katowice of the second edition of an art contest for elementary and secondary schools in the Śląskie Province, concerning the broadly defined issues of human trafficking and Internet safety, as well as cyberbullying. The "Safe Internet Window to the World" contest enjoyed even greater interest than last year's edition, artistic level of the submitted works was high, and the number of new schools participating in the contest was large. The contest was organized in cooperation with the Provincial Anti-Human Trafficking Team, the Provincial Police Headquarters in Katowice, and the Silesian Border Guard Unit in Racibórz;
- "Safety Culture" online training was organized in late March and early April 2021: 4 training sessions on issues related to the threat of human trafficking, forced labor, and illegal employment.
 The training sessions were intended for secondary school students and teachers.

Zachodniopomorskie Provincial Office

- A mobile exhibition entitled "Faces of Human Trafficking" was presented at the Szczecin-Goleniów Airport;
- an information campaign titled "Rights for all seasons" was carried out by the Provincial Labor
 Office in Szczecin in cooperation with district labor offices in the Zachodniopomorskie Province;
- a total of 220 meetings intended for young people were conducted. During the meetings,
 attention was brought to the current threat, the forms and abilities of the perpetrators, the most

common ways of recruitment, as well as the ability of the Police to prosecute this type of crime and the support that possible victims can receive. As part of ongoing prevention projects, information was provided on the proper forms of response and possibility of cooperation with the Police. The meetings were held at educational and academic institutions. On more than one occasion, teachers and academic workers also participated in those meetings;

- a number of meetings were held for representatives of schools and educational institutions, including two that focused directly on the problem of "Internet Safety." The meetings were held during the 2020/21 school year in an online format, using the MS Teams application, on January 22 and 29, 2021.
- informational and educational activities were carried out, intended for school-age youth and university students, as part of the educational program "Safety Culture" conducted by employees of the Circuit Labor Inspectorate in Szczecin. A total of 14 training sessions were organized in cooperation interested entities. During the training sessions, the young attendees were familiarized with the issues of legal labor protection and the legality of employment, as well as informed about the risks associated with failure to complete the formal and legal requirements related to employment. Awareness was raised among the young people of the safe use of employment agencies, especially for jobs taken in other countries.

Institute of Pedagogy, University of Szczecin

- Ten educational meetings (20 hours in total) were held with students of pedagogy and social work at the Institute of Pedagogy pf the University of Szczecin, where issues related to human trafficking were discussed.
- In January-June 2021, 5 meetings were held (1 meeting 2 teaching hours), attended by 94 students. In October-December 2021, 5 meetings were held (1 meeting 2 teaching hours). At the meetings, knowledge about human trafficking was promoted and disseminated to future teaching staff of educational institutions and social assistance workers. The topics discussed included the risks associated with human trafficking for particular groups of people with whom the current students will work in the future. These groups are primarily people at risk of social exclusion, such as wards and former wards of socialization, prevention, and rehabilitation institutions for children and adolescents, former prisoners, unemployed people, homeless people, people in difficult social situations, etc. The activities were also aimed to enable students to gain and extend knowledge on worker rights, risky behavior, and contemporary threats in the labor market and psychosocial functioning related to human trafficking.

Pomorskie Provincial Office

- On January 8, 2021, the chairman of the Pomeranian Provincial Anti-Human Trafficking Team acquainted members of the Intersectoral Team for the Roma People and the Housing Team with the problem of human trafficking, and in particular with its impact on people engaged in begging;
- On February 11, 2021, the chairman and members of the Team attended a meeting aimed to summarize the work on the guidebook titled "Life in the Pomorskie Province." The publication was drafted as part of the project titled "Support for foreigners from outside the European Union in the Pomorskie Province in 2018-2020" funded by the National Asylum, Migration, and Integration Fund Program. The members of the Team participated in the preparation of the chapter that contained information on the problem of human trafficking, identification of victims

of human trafficking, the associated crimes, as well as aid institutions. During the meeting, the chairman of the Team gave a lecture titled "The Problem of Human Trafficking as a Modern Form of Slavery."

- On February 22-28, 2021, a member of the Team a representative of the OVUM Association, within the framework of the "Week of Assistance to the Victims of Crime," provided support and free legal assistance to victims of violence, including victims of human trafficking. Support in the area in question was provided at the Crisis Intervention Center in Kartuzy, the District Family Assistance Center in Kościerzyna, the Town Hall in Władysławowo, and the Pro Bono Foundation in Wejherowo;
- In July 2021, a member of the Team participated in the preparation of 10 infographics with content related to anti-human trafficking;
- On October 26, 2021, members of the Team participated in the Job Fair for Seniors, which was held at the Amber Expo in Gdańsk. During the fair, posters were displayed and leaflets were handed out with information on the problem of human trafficking and the possibility of obtaining support offered by the NICC and other aid institutions. Also, a comic book titled "You Are Not for Sale" was distributed;
- In the period of July 19 October 31, 2021, members of the Team, through the Provincial Labor Office in Gdańsk, participated in the campaign of the European Labor Authority (ELA) on the rights of seasonal workers in the EU. The purpose of the program was to carry out information and promotional activities to provide information on the search for safe seasonal work in EU/EFTA member states and to encourage the use of the EURES network services as a source of safe work and useful information on working conditions in EU/EFTA member states (online activities, information on websites, social media pages, printing of posters, informing customers, using the press, radio, television, etc. where possible);
- A mobile exhibition titled "Faces of Human Trafficking" was presented in February at the Elementary School in Władysławowo, in June, at the Department for Legalization of Employment of Foreigners of the Pomorskie Provincial Office in Gdynia, in October at the headquarters of the Pomorskie Provincial Office in Gdańsk and at the headquarters of the District Public Prosecutor's Office in Gdańsk.

Opolskie Provincial Office

An information campaign for seasonal workers titled "Rights for all seasons" was carried out from July to October 2021 through the EURES network. The subject of the campaign was seasonal work in the EU. The campaign was a part of a Europe-wide awareness campaign launched by the European Labor Authority. Together with eleven district labor offices of the Opolskie Province, information and promotional activities were carried out to raise awareness of mobile seasonal workers and employers regarding their rights and obligations, and the available advisory services. The campaign highlighted the need for information on fair and safe working conditions for seasonal workers who are employed in EU countries. On September 20-24, 2021, the so-called "Week of Action" took place as a part of the campaign, where a number of events related to the campaign were organized in all member states. During the campaign, prevention activities were carried out, drawing attention to the risks associated with human trafficking.

- A webinar was held on the goals of the seasonal labor campaign, the cooperation carried out as part of the campaign, and the information activities intended for employers and job seekers.
- A workshop was held on safe seasonal work, organized by the District Labor Office in Opole. At
 the invitation of the District Labor Office, a EURES assistant from the Provincial Labor Office in
 Opole took part in the workshop and provided information on safe travel for seasonal work and
 tips on how to respond to crisis situations, including those related to human trafficking;
- A conference was held in Głubczyce titled "Seasonal Work with EURES"; the District Labor Office in Głubczyce invited young people from secondary and vocational schools from the Głubczyce district who are were to complete their education in the school year 2021/2022, as well as unemployed people and job seekers, to attend the conference. The speakers included employees of the labor office, representatives of the Voluntary Labor Corps, and a EURES advisor from the Provincial Labor Office in Opole, who gave a presentation on starting safe seasonal work;
- A series of broadcasts, along with spots informing people about the broadcasts, was aired on Radio Opole. In each series of the radio broadcasts, the deputy director of the Provincial Labor Office in Opole - the EURES Line Manager presented the purpose of the information campaign, and discussed the safe rules for seeking work abroad and where to look for useful information on employment. The audience was able to learn about EURES services and organizations that help, among others, victims of human trafficking or of dishonest employers. Number of broadcasts: 3, number of spots: 9, 6. "Radio Loge" of Radio Opole;
- During another broadcast, information was provided to the listeners about, among other things,
 the ongoing campaign on seasonal labor, safe travel to work abroad, and anti-human trafficking;
- A seminar for employment agencies was organized; the participating entrepreneurs were familiarized with the issue of human trafficking and received information on the institutions and organizations that combat this crime and help victims of human trafficking;
- A training for employees of district labor offices on the performance of EURES services and safe
 work abroad performed by clients of district labor offices. The participants of the training were
 familiarized with the issue of human trafficking and received information on the institutions and
 organizations that combat this crime and help victims of human trafficking;
- A mobile exhibition on the problem of human trafficking was presented in the building of the Provincial Labor Office in Opole as part of educational and preventive activities aimed at broadening the knowledge and enhancing the safety of unemployed persons, job seekers, and young people.

Lubuskie Provincial Office

On October 18, 2021, a conference was held at the Lubuskie Provincial Office. The speakers were experts from institutions involved in combating and preventing human trafficking. The following issues were discussed: Human trafficking in the 21st century; Forms and faces of the fight against crime, identification of and assistance to victims. A presentation was prepared and given by an officer of the Operational and Investigative Department of the Odra Unit of the Border Guard in Krosno Odrzańskie); Detention as a way to secure foreigners. The issue was discussed by a representative of the Department for Foreigners of the Odra Unit of the Border Guard in Krosno Odrzańskie); The place and role of the State Labor Inspectorate in the system for counteracting

human trafficking and forced labor. The issues were presented by a representative of the Circuit Labor Inspectorate in Zielona Góra; The United States as a new market for the sexual exploitation of Polish women. This issue was addressed by an officer of the Central Investigation Bureau of the Police, Board in Gorzów Wielkopolski. The event was very popular. The conference was attended by more than 50 people. They were mainly representatives of social assistance units, district family assistance centers, and district offices from the Lubuskie Province. The participants received - for further distribution - informational materials on the issues addressed.

Dolnośląskie Provincial Office

 Police officers from the Lower Silesian garrison carried out activities to raise public awareness of modern slavery by posting messages on public websites and in social networks. They cooperated with local newspapers and radio stations. As part of prevention of and combat against human trafficking, Police officers conducted inspections of places at risk and initiated discussions with residents, providing them with educational materials - leaflets.

7. Conclusion



Human trafficking is a crime that is closely linked to migratory movements and is often transnational in nature. It is an extremely dynamic phenomenon that affects the whole world and is primarily due to the existence of problems and differences of a social, economic, or cultural nature. Therefore, an escalation of this problem can be expected in regions with political tensions as well as economic and military crises (victims' countries of origin), but also in regions of relative calm and economic

equilibrium (countries of destination). In general, a trichotomous division of the world in terms of the presence of human trafficking can be adopted. One can distinguish between countries of origin, transit countries, and destination countries. As a rule, countries of origin are located in poorer regions affected by wars or economic crises. Citizens of these countries are most often recruited and transported to richer parts of the world.

An analysis of the data submitted by organizations dealing with the problem of human trafficking in Poland shows that the problem of exploitation of people for forced labor is the main challenge faced by these organizations. At the recruitment stage, the victims are misled about the working and housing conditions. In the course of their work, they are not paid or are paid less than declared, they are detained at their place of residence, placed in accommodations that are often of low standard, their freedom of movement is restricted, their conversations are monitored, their cell phones and identity documents are taken away, and they are forced to cover the costs of housing, food, and transportation, which results in a growing spiral of debt. In forced labor cases, the problem is broad interpretation of the causal behavior, from violation of workers' rights through exploitation for forced labor or services, to the attributes of slavery.

It should not be forgotten that in Poland, victims of human trafficking also become victims of sexual exploitation and are forced to commit crimes, beg, and extort credit and social benefits. The most common victims of human trafficking in Poland are young people (both women and men) with elementary education and unemployed. In the overwhelming number of cases, human trafficking is the work of organized criminal groups, which either focus on this crime or treat it as one of their convenient sources of income.

The pandemic caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus and the migration crisis on Poland's the border with Belarus may increase the likelihood of the crime of human trafficking taking place. Therefore, institutions involved in the fight against it must adapt their activities to the dynamically changing situation. An effective fight against human trafficking is possible thanks to, among other things, coordinated implementation of the NAP and inter-institutional cooperation.

8. The ABC of Help

Contact details of institutions and non-governmental organizations that provide assistance to victims of human trafficking

Ministry of Interior and Administration

National Intervention and Consultation Center for victims of human trafficking

As part of the public task titled "Running the National Intervention and Consultation Center for Victims of Human Trafficking," which aims to secure the needs of victims of human trafficking - Polish citizens, EU citizens, or foreigners, as well as persons at risk of becoming victims of this crime, a 24-hour helpline and preventive telephone counseling is provided.

Tel. +48 22 628 01 20

24/7 helpline

National Police Headquarters
Anti-Human Trafficking Department

Tel. +48 22 60-148-33 (office)

E-mail: handelludzmibsk@policja.gov.pl or call: +48 664 974 934.

Police officers staff the hotline from 6 AM to 10 PM. During the night hours, reports on the crime and any information can be recorded on an answering machine and officers contact those interested in providing information.

In emergencies involving risks to life or health, the emergency numbers 112 or 997 should be called.

National Office of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Poland

Poland has been a member of the IOM since 1992. The IOM's National Office in Warsaw has been operating since 2002 and runs projects that primarily involve assisting migrants, supporting irregular

migration and integration of migrants, combating human trafficking, countering irregular migration, and raising awareness of migration phenomena.

Migrant Info Helpline: 22 490 20 44 - open Monday through Friday from 9 AM to 5 PM.

Foreigners interested in obtaining assistance with voluntary return are asked to call IOM staff at:

+48 22 628 24 13

+48 22 623 81 76

or send an email message to: iomwarsawavr@iom.int

https://poland.iom.int/kontakt

Non-governmental organizations

La Strada - Foundation Against Human Trafficking and Slavery

Helpline: +48 22 628 99 99* (assistance, advice)

- Monday through Thursday from 9 AM to 6 PM
- Fridays from 9 AM to 2 PM

Telephone number for Vietnamese-speaking clients: +48 22 621 56 18

Foundation office: +48 22 622 19 85 (administrative and office phone number)

E-mail: strada@strada.org.pl

https://www.strada.org.pl/

Immaculate Mary PoMOC Association for Women and Children

Hotline: +48 511 801 161

Information on possible assistance - pomoc@Po-MOC.pl

Association's office: tel. +48 32 255 38 69

E-mail: biuro@Po-MOC.pl

https://www.po-moc.pl/pl

Light House Foundation

^{*}Wednesdays from 2 to 6 PM, the person on duty speaks Russian

E-mail: biuro@fundacjalighthouse.pl

Hotline: +48 881 22 33 33

Salvation Army

E-mail: armia.zbawienia@armia-zbawienia.pl

Halina Nieć Center for Legal Aid

E-mail: biuro@pomocprawna.org, porady@pomocprawna.org

Empowering Children Foundation

E-mail: https://fdds.pl/szukasz-pomocy/

tel. 116 111 Child and Youth Helpline (open 24/7)

tel. 800 100 100 - Phone number for parents and teachers on child safety

<u>Itaka Foundation - Center for the Search for Missing People</u>

Support line numbers

+48 22 654 70 70 - for calls from landline phones in Poland

+48 22 654 70 70 - for calls from abroad

+48 22 654 70 70 - for calls from cell phones

Caritas Polska

https://caritas.pl/szukam-pomocy/

Warsaw 2021

This material has been prepared at the Department of International Affairs and Migration, Ministry of Interior and Administration.