

European Union Plan for combating trafficking in Human Beings Guidelines





A R E T U S A

The European network
for the promotion of
equal opportunity policies

This brochure has been drafted in the framework of the project “ENATW - The European Network Against Trafficking in Women for sexual exploitation - 2006”.

The brochure has been edited by IRENE Association with the assistance and input of Mariapaola Colombo Svevo and of organisations partner of the project:

- > MONA Foundation for the Women of Hungary, Hungary
- > Associazione Formazione Professionale del Patronato San Vincenzo, Italy
- > L'Amicale du Nid, France
- > The Research Centre of Women's Affairs, Greece
- > The BalticFem, Sweden
- > Women's Issues Information Centre, Lithuania
- > Dom Zakonny Zgromadzenia Siostr Urszulanek Niepokalanej Maryi Panny z Gamine, Poland

All the national and international normative acts and documents relating to strategies and measures to guarantee an effective prevention and contrast of trafficking in human beings and an actual protection of the victims are available on the library of **www.aretusa.net**



This document has been produced with the financial assistance of the European Commission, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities. The views expressed herein are those of the organisation adhering to ENATW and can in no way reflect the official opinion of the European Commission.

Presentation.

With this guide the **European Network Against Trafficking in Women for sexual exploitation** intends to disseminate principles and guidelines of the European Union for programming and implementing policies aimed at preventing and combating trafficking in human beings.

The guide wants to be for organisations and public institutions, engaged in the fight against trafficking in human beings, and more generally in the fight against violence on women and children, an instrument that, by focusing on the European framework and on most recent publications, **could promote integration of policies and principles created at European level in national strategies and local plans in combating trafficking in human beings and protecting women rights.**

The guide is a response to one of the objectives established by the organisations belonging to ENATW in their charter of principles that is **the promotion and support of creation of norms and policies in compliance with the main international conventions and documents in preventing and combating trafficking in women for the purpose of sexual exploitation.**

In creating this guide, due consideration has been given to the need of offering an instrument for informing as well as raising awareness that could **strengthen cooperation between organisations and public institutions as essential requirement for an effective implementation of policies and strategies created at European and national level.** In doing so we want to increase the level of knowledge and the involvement of actors, also at local level, in planning and implementing strategies for preventing the trafficking and protecting human rights of women that are victims of this crime.

In the guide we will refer mainly to:

- ▶ the **European legislative framework:** Council Framework decision of 19th July 2002 on combating trafficking in human beings (2002/629/JHA); Council Framework decision 2004/68/JAI of 22nd December 2003 on combating the sexual exploitation of children and child pornography; Council Directive 2004/81/CE of 29 April 2002 on the residence permit issued to third-country nationals who are victims of trafficking in

human beings;

- > **political documents:** Brussels Declaration on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings of 2002; Commission Communication COM (2005) 514 on fighting against trafficking in human beings - an integrated approach and proposals for an action plan; EU plan on best practices, standards and procedures for combating and preventing trafficking in human beings (2005/C311/01);
- > the main findings and recommendations of the **report of the Experts' Groups on Trafficking in Human Beings** with the aim of strengthening the action of the European Union against trafficking in human beings and of launching new initiatives, plans and activities.

Summary

- 7 > **PART I**
The legislative framework in the fight against trafficking
- 8 > Trafficking in women for sexual exploitation: a challenge and a commitment for the European Union
- 10 > Framework Decision of 19 July 2002 on combating trafficking in human beings for the purpose of sexual or labour exploitation
- 14 > Council Directive 2004/81/CE of 29 April 2004
- 16 > EU Programmes to prevent and combat trafficking
- 18 > Networks

- 21 > **PART II**
Political standards for preventing and combating trafficking and protecting human rights of victims
- 22 > Brussels declaration on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings
- 24 > Mechanisms for cooperation and coordination
- 27 > Prevention of trafficking in human beings
- 33 > Victims protection and assistance
- 40 > Police and judicial cooperation

- 41 > **GOAL STATEMENT OF ENATW**



PART I
The legislative framework in the fight against trafficking

Trafficking in women for sexual exploitation: a challenge and a commitment for the European Union.

The EU strategy for preventing and combating trafficking in women responds to one of the basic principles of the European legislation: **the promotion of equality of treatment between women and men and the fight against gender discrimination.**

These principles are enshrined in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, proclaimed in Nice on 7th December 2000, particularly articles 20, 21 and 23 that decree the commitment of the Union in promoting the principle of equality and the prohibition of discrimination. Article 5 of the Charter of Nice decrees the prohibition of any forms of slavery and considers trafficking in human beings its modern expression.

Charter of Fundamental rights of the European Union

CHAPTER I: DIGNITY

ART.5 PROHIBITION OF SLAVERY AND FORCE LABOUR

No one shall be held in slavery or servitude.

No one shall be required to perform forced or compulsory labour.

Trafficking in human beings is prohibited.

CHAPTER III – EQUALITY

ART. 20 EQUALITY BEFORE THE LAW

Everyone is equal before the law.

ART. 21 NON DISCRIMINATION

Any discrimination based on any ground such as sex, race, colour, ethnic or social origin, genetic features, language, religion or belief, political or any other opinion, membership of a national minority, property, birth, disability, age or sexual orientation shall be prohibited.

Within the scope of application of the Treaty establishing the European Community and the Treaty on European Union and without prejudice to the special provisions of those Treaties, any discrimination on grounds of nationality shall be prohibited.

ART.23 EQUALITY BETWEEN MEN AND WOMEN

Equality between men and women must be ensured in all areas including employment work and pay.

The principle of equality shall not prevent the maintenance or adoption of measures providing for specific advantages in favour of the under-represented sex.

In the **roadmap for equality between women and men COM (2006) 92** the European Commission has established as a priority the eradication of gender based violence focusing on the fight against trafficking in women as a breach of the fundamental rights to life, safety, freedom and

physical integrity. Women are at greater risk of falling victims to trafficking owing to gender discrimination, poverty and lack of employment opportunities in their country of origin.

Title VI of the Union Treaty has strengthened competence of the European Union in the field of **judicial and police cooperation in criminal matters for the creation of an area of freedom, security and justice** (Title VI). Cooperation of police and judicial authorities of Member States is aimed at bringing about a comprehensive action for preventing and combating crime, in particular trafficking in human beings (art. 29).

Therefore, the European Council of Tampere has established priorities and strategies of European policies in matter of Justice and Home Affairs outlining the commitment of the Union in preventing and combating trafficking in human beings, not only as an alarming form of crime (points 22, 23, 26,48 of the Conclusions of the Presidency) but also as a serious breach of human rights.

As protection of individual freedom is a fundamental condition for creating an area of freedom, security and justice, it is essential to implement an integrated approach that takes into consideration issues regarding protection and promotion of human rights of victims, particularly women and children, and the development of countries and regions of origin and transit.

The Directorates General of the **European Commission** responsible for issues concerning prevention and fight against trafficking in human beings are:

- > the DG Freedom, Security and Justice
- > the DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities.

Information on the EU activities can be found on the **www.europa.eu** website.

Some areas of the website allow a better understanding of the EU strategy in combating trafficking in human beings and particularly:

- > DG Justice and Home Affairs
http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/index_en.htm
- > DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities
http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/index_en.html

Issues related to anti-trafficking strategies, and more generally to the promotion of Equal Opportunities, are discussed within the **European Parliament** by the Parliamentary Committee of Women's Rights and Gender Equality and by the Parliamentary Committee of Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs.

For further information it is possible to visit the European Parliament website:

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu>

Framework decision of 19 July 2002 on trafficking in human beings for the purpose of sexual or labour exploitation.

One of the first objectives set by the European Union in implementing the strategy against trafficking in human beings has been the adoption in the member States of a **common definition of the crime of trafficking in human beings** and of proportionate criminal penalties, as an essential requirement for implementing a common action in criminal matters and for a more effective cooperation in the judicial field.

The Council of the European Union adopted in 2002 a **Framework Decision**¹ including in its scope of application not only crimes related to trafficking in human beings for sexual exploitation but also crimes connected to labour exploitation and it is aimed at establishing “*common definitions, incriminations and sanctions*”.

The decision was drafted taking into consideration one of the most important results achieved at international level that is the United Nation Convention against Transnational Organised Crime whose Supplementing Protocol addresses the issue of trafficking in human beings. The definition proposed by the decision contains the fundamental elements of the definition of the UN Protocol that considers it a **crime against the person** for the purpose of the exploitation of that person.

The **framework decision** is one of the EU legislative instruments aimed at supporting cooperation between police and judiciary authorities in criminal matters. Akin to a Directive, the Framework Decision binds Member State in reaching the result but it does not affect their national competence concerning the forms or means used to achieve it.

In May 2006 the Commission published the **relation COM(2006) 187** on the legislative measures adopted by the Member States to comply with the provisions of the Framework Decision on trafficking in human beings. It has emerged that, from the point of view of criminalisation, the main part of the Member States has complied to art. 1 of the Framework Decision introducing in their national legislation an offence specific to trafficking in human beings. The report outlines that legislative measures at national level are not enough to guarantee effective implementation of the EU norms as it also depends on the spirit and methods with which the new measures are implemented by police and judicial authorities.

The **UN Protocol on trafficking in human beings**, open to subscription from 12th December 2000 in Palermo, came into force on 25 December 2003 following the 40th ratification. The Protocol contains the first common definition, at international level, of trafficking in human beings. Information on protocol and on the activities of UNODC (United Nation Office for Drugs and Crime) can be found on:

http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/crime_prevention.html

In 2003 the ENATW network promoted an awareness raising campaign on the UN protocol. On **www.aretusa.net** website it is possible to download the brochure.

On 3rd May 2005 the Council of Europe - international organisation based in Strasbourg, gathering 46 democratic countries in Europe - adopted the **Convention on combating trafficking in human beings**. Unlike other legislative instruments adopted at international level, the Convention of the Council of Europe is particularly focused on protection of human rights of the victims. In the preamble it states that trafficking in human beings is a serious violation of human rights and of the dignity and integrity of the person. The Convention also provides the creation of a control mechanism in order to effectively guarantee implementation of the norms in signatory countries.

The Convention of the Council regards:

- > all forms of trafficking: whether national or transnational, whether or not related to organised crime;
- > all victims: women, men and children;
- > all form of exploitation: sexual exploitation and forced labour.

Information on the Convention and on other activities of the Council of Europe for combating trafficking can be found on **www.coe.int** on the pages:

http://www.coe.int/T/E/Human_Rights/Trafficking

Note 1. Framework Decision 2002/629/GAI of the Council, of 19th July 2002 on trafficking in human beings in GUUE L203 of 1st August 2002.

ART. 1 - Offences concerning trafficking in human beings for the purposes of labour exploitation or sexual exploitation.

The definition outlines the element constituting the offence of trafficking in human beings:

- > **the action of** recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring, subsequent reception of a person;
- > **by means of** the coercion, force or threat, including abduction, or deceit or fraud, or there is an abuse of authority or of a position of vulnerability, which is such that person has no real and acceptable alternative but to submit to the abuse involved, or payments or benefits are given or received to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person;
- > **for the purpose of** exploitation of that person's labour or services or for the purpose of exploitation of prostitution or other forms of sexual exploitation.

The consent of a victim is irrelevant where any of the coercion or deceit means set forth have been used.

In the definition adopted at international level, limitations of personal freedom, afflicted to the victims of trafficking, include also forms of coercion that do not necessarily entail use of physical force for example **abuse of power** or abuse of a **situation of vulnerability**. According to the definition contained in the UN Protocol, abuse of power is a situation in which a person that has power over another one denies the rights of that person. Abuse of a situation of vulnerability is a situation in which the person involved does not have a real alternative but that of suffering the condition of abuse.

Recommendation number 4 of the Experts' Group: : the definition has to take into account all relevant aspects, especially the impact on human rights. In this context, trafficking in human beings has to be defined as a complex phenomenon violating the trafficked person's will and right of self-determination and affecting her or his human dignity.

ART. 2 - *Instigation, aiding, abetting and attempt.*

Each Member State shall take the necessary measures to ensure that the instigation of, aiding, abetting or attempt to commit an offence is punishable. The majority of the States, as far as this provision is concerned, refer to the general norms concerning abetting and attempt to commit an offence.

ART. 3 - *Penalties.*

Each Member State shall take the necessary measures to ensure that an offence is punishable by effective, proportionate and dissuasive criminal penalties and that aggravating circumstances are established.

ART. 6 - *Jurisdiction and prosecution.*

The international character of the criminal activities connected to trafficking in human beings requires, for an effective response, that jurisdiction norms preventing offenders from eluding criminal penalties.

In the UN Convention against Transnational Organised Crime, in the two supplementing Protocols, the distinction between **trafficking in human beings** and **smuggling of migrants** is made.

According to the definition of the UN Protocol **smuggling of migrants** means the procurement, in order to obtain a financial or other material benefit, of the illegal entry of a person into a State breaching the norms of that State concerning migration.

The offence of aiding illegal migration is therefore considered an **offence against the State**.

Trafficking in human beings is different from smuggling as:

- > it does not entail the violation of national laws concerning entry or residence of foreign citizens;
- > in the phase of recruitment, transport or residence in the country of destination, forms of coercion are used in order to put or maintain a person in conditions of exploitation;
- > it is one of the most demeaning forms of slavery entailing a breach of the fundamental rights of the person, such as the right to life, dignity, safety, health and equality.

Trafficking in human beings is therefore **a crime against the person** and the condition of abuse inflicted to the trafficked person gives him/her the **status of victim**.

Council directive 2004/81/CE of 29th April 2004.

In line with creation of a common definition at EU level of trafficking in human beings, the EU adopted a directive aimed at defining the **conditions for the issue of a temporary residence permit depending on the length of investigations and judicial proceedings against traffickers in favour of third-country nationals who are victims of trafficking who cooperate with the competent authorities.**

The purpose of the directive is allowing police and judicial authorities a more effective means of combating traffickers by favouring cooperation with the victims in the investigations during the proceedings against the offenders through the issue of residence permit (art.1).

According to article 6 of the directive, the victims of trafficking, third-country nationals, are granted a **reflection period** “allowing them to recover and escape the influence of the perpetrators of the offences so they can take an informed decision as to whether to cooperate with competent authorities”. During the reflection period it is not possible to enforce any expulsion order against them. Member States should also ensure that the third-country nationals concerned who do not have sufficient resources are granted standards of living capable of ensuring their subsistence and access to emergency medical treatment in order to help them to regain their material and psychological independence (article 7). According to article 8 of the directive, conditions for the issue of the **residence permit** are:

- > the opportunity presented by prolonging his/her stay on its territory for the investigations or the judicial proceedings;
- > he/she has shown a clear intention to cooperate;
- > he/she has severed all relations with traffickers.

In the presence of these conditions a residence of permit of six months can be issued.

Note 2. Council Directive 2004/81/EC of 29th April 2002 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.

Holders of the residence permit are granted access to programmes aimed at *“the recovery of a normal social life, including courses designed to improve their professional skills, or preparation of their assisted return to their country of origin”* (art.12). Member States define the rules under which holders of the residence permit are authorised to have access to labour market, to vocational training and education (art.11). Once the residence permit is expired the victim could be granted to remain in the State territory according to the national laws on migration.

The report of the Experts Group (explanatory paper number 12) outlines that protection and assistance of the victims must not depend only on her/his cooperation with police and judicial authorities but also on her/his will to escape from the condition of abuse and exploitation perpetrated by traffickers. The refusal to cooperate in the investigations or proceedings against the exploiters should not affect the possibility to access measures of assistance and protection necessary for the safety and rehabilitation of the trafficked person. The explanatory paper also contains indications concerning investigations, interrogations and other aspects of the proceedings.

In 1998 Italy adopted a norm (**art.18 D.lgs 286/98**) providing the issue of residence permit to the victims of trafficking in human beings based on a judiciary procedure (the case in which the victim decides to cooperate with police and judicial authorities in the investigations and proceedings against the traffickers) and a social procedure (once the a situation of violence and serious exploitation is established). The Article 18 permit of stay is a good practice at European level and allows victims to sever relations with their exploiters and be referred to suitable services for receiving assistance for their social rehabilitation.

Within the activities aimed at allowing the exchange of best practices and information among organisations assisting victims of trafficking, the ENATW network has carried out an awareness campaign on assistance and protection measures contained in article 18. It is possible to download the brochure on the **www.aretusa.net** website.

Recommendation number 89 of the Experts’ Group: in order to effectively address trafficking and to prevent re-trafficking, as well as meeting State’s obligations under international human rights law Member States should ensure that trafficked persons have access to adequate remedies, including assistance, protection and compensation, regardless of their willingness or capacity to testify against their traffickers.

EU programmes to prevent and combat trafficking.

The EU supports a number of programmes aimed at promoting at European and national level cooperation between public and civil society organisations aimed at preventing and combating trafficking in human beings.

During the programme period ending in 2006, the **Directorate General Justice and Home Affairs** of the European Commission has launched:

- > DAPHNE programme, co-funding transnational projects of civil society organisations aimed at preventing and combating all kinds of violence against minors and women
- > AGIS programme with the aim of co-funding and strengthening networking and exchange of best practices and information and training of police, judicial and legal authorities in the EU countries.

The fight against violence on women is a priority also for the **Directorate General for Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities** that has co-funded several projects such as the ENATW network within the EU action plan for the promotion of organisations active in the field of equality in Europe.

Other initiatives, particularly those aimed at preventing and combating trafficking in the countries of origin, are carried out by **Europeaid**, the cooperation office of the European Union.

In the sections of the Directorate General Justice and Home Affairs of the EU website http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/index_en.htm information on call for proposals, projects and best practices achieved by the European Commission for the creation of an area of freedom, safety and justice are available.

In order to promote dissemination and evaluation of projects co-funded by the European Commission within Daphne Programme, the <http://www.daphne-toolkit.org> website has been created where it is possible to find information on several initiative carried in the EU countries.

Information on EU policies and funds for gender equality, anti-discrimination and social inclusion are available on the EU website in the section of the DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/index_en.html

Call for proposals of the Europeaid, cooperation office of the Union, can be found on: <http://ec.europa.eu/comm/europeaid/cgi/frame12.pl>

For the 2007-2013 period the European Commission has proposed the adoption of the a **Framework Programme of “Fundamental Rights and Justice”** supporting some of the fundamental values of the European Union such as the respect of freedom, of fundamental rights and of a constitutional state. The fight against violence on women is included in the interventions for the protection of the fundamental rights stated by the Charter of Nice. Therefore, the programme “Fight against violence”(Daphne) has been launched with the following objectives:

- > preventing and combating all forms of violence occurring in the public and private sphere against children, young people and women, by adopting preventive measures and by supporting victims and groups at risk;
- > promoting transnational actions.

The European Commission has also proposed to replace the current four EU action plans for anti-discrimination, gender equality, social inclusion and employment with **“Progress”, a programme for employment and social solidarity** with the aim of increasing the visibility and coherence and clarity of the EU financial support the interventions in those areas.

Networks.

The implementation of a multidisciplinary cooperation among the different actors involved in the fight against trafficking, both belonging to the public sphere and civil society, is a key element of the strategy at European and local level.

The UN protocol refers in particular to the cooperation among public authorities (art.10 and 11). However, as the Experts' Group has outlined, cooperation should be carried out at a broader level in order to involve governmental and non governmental agencies at European, national and local level as a crucial element for developing effective policies and interventions and for monitoring and evaluating their impact on the crime and on the protection of victims' rights. The exchange of information among the actors can guarantee a correct identification of the trafficked person that can therefore received suitable assistance in respect for their human rights.

Europol

Europol is the European Law Enforcement Organisation which aims at improving the effectiveness and co-operation of the competent authorities in the Member States in combating criminal organisations operating in two or more Member States. It has been active as anti-drugs unit since 1994 and it has progressively broadened its competences to other criminal activities such as trafficking in human beings. Europol facilitates the exchange of information, provides support to investigation activities and carries out analysis on the main criminal phenomena.

On <http://www.europol.europa.eu> the annual report as well as specific studies on trafficking in human beings are available.

Eurojust

Eurojust is a European Union body created in 2002 to enhance the effectiveness of the competent authorities within Member States in dealing with the investigation and prosecution of serious cross-border and organised crime.

Eurojust is a permanent network of judiciary authorities aimed at an effective cooperation in the field of justice and in particular at preventing and combating organised crime.

It is crucial that politicians, experts, NGOs and organisations committed to preventing and combating trafficking in human beings guarantee the monitoring of the standards established at EU level and the evaluation of the compliance of national strategies and plans, and if necessary establish new interventions, in order to improve the mechanism of protection, assistance and social integration of the victims of trafficking. For this reason the ENATW network intends to support and facilitate the dialogue among organisations, institutions and civil society.

CONNECTS

organisations in the EU committed to promoting and protecting women's rights and combating and preventing trafficking in human beings.

DEBATES

on principles, legislation, best practices in order to promote reflection on trafficking in human beings taking into consideration the rights of the victims of this serious crime.

The European Network Against Trafficking in Women for sexual exploitation

www.aretusa.net

PROMOTES

European Union policies, strategies and best practices aimed at preventing and combating trafficking and protecting victims.

INFORMS

public opinion in order to enhance and support knowledge and activities of the organisations, Public Authorities and equality bodies active in preventing and combating trafficking in women.

SUPPORTS

European Community and national Authorities and organisations committed to give full and effective protection of women's rights.



PART II
**Political standards for preventing
and combating trafficking and protecting
human rights of victims**

Brussels declaration on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings.

Within STOP II programme, the International Organisation for Migration, in cooperation with the European Commission and Parliament, organised from 18th to 20th September 2002 **the European Conference on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Human Beings - *Global Challenge for the 21st Century***. The Brussels Declaration was the final outcome of the conference. The preparatory meetings of the Conference brought together representatives of governments of member, candidate and third countries, academics, experts and representatives of international and national organisations.

In 2003 the EU Council adopted the conclusions of the Brussels Declaration as a working and political document for combating trafficking in human beings³.

In the Communication of the Commission of 3rd June 2003 to the European Parliament and to the Council on a common policy on illegal migration, illegal entry, trafficking in human beings, extra borders and repatriation of persons residing illegally, in relation to the Brussels Declaration it is said: *“It is another milestone in the development of EU policy in this field. The Brussels Declaration aims at further developing European and international co-operation, concrete measures, standards, best practices and mechanisms to prevent and combat trafficking in human beings. The Commission's work in the near future will be guided by this declaration which will form the basis of further initiatives at EU level, possibly structured by an action plan based on the opinion of an expert group set up to that end”*.

In implementing the recommendations of the Declaration, the European Commission has created the **Experts’ Group on trafficking in Human Beings** with the function of providing opinions on specific issues and drafting a report based on the recommendations of Brussels Declaration.

Note 3. GUUE C 137 of 12nd June 2003

ENATW considers the Brussels declaration a useful instrument for a greater and more effective development of an interdisciplinary cooperation at European and national level. For this reason we want to favour its dissemination among public institutions and civil society in order to encourage the adoption of effective measures regarding:

- > mechanisms for cooperation and coordination;
- > prevention;
- > protection and assistance to the victims of trafficking in human beings;
- > police and judicial cooperation.

This part of the guide has therefore been created taking into consideration the structure, the indications and the recommendations of the Brussels Declaration also in the light of the updated findings and studies coming from the report of the Experts' Group and of the following Communication from the Commission on "Fighting trafficking in human beings - an integrated approach and proposals for an action plan". COM (2005)514.

Mechanisms for cooperation and coordination.

All international bodies, governments and other actors committed to combating and preventing trafficking in human beings should adopt suitable measures in order to intensify their cooperation and exchange of information with a view to achieving a better coordinated response. Particularly important is the integration of Candidate Countries in the structures of cooperation against trafficking as well as the effort of strengthening relations with other countries.

The Communication COM (2005)514 says “Member States should consolidate the cooperation of public authorities with civil society organisations related to the prevention of and the fight against human trafficking, e.g by setting up rules agreed upon by both sides that promote mutual understanding and trust.”

Recommendation number 15 of the Experts’ Group: To effectively address trafficking in human beings a holistic and integrated approach is needed based on respect for and promotion of human rights. In order to realize such an approach multidisciplinary co-operation and coordination between all involved actors and stakeholders, including civil society and labour organisations, are crucial. The aim should be to develop an integrated policy covering the different fields and levels on which action is required. To this end governments should establish efficient co-ordination and co-operation structures at the political and operational level.

According to the indications of the Brussels Declaration, mechanisms of cooperation and coordination should operate on two levels - a European level and a national level.

At European level, in order to establish a policy that comprises a continuous and transparent process of policy review, consolidation and further development of approaches and instruments. For this purpose it is necessary:

- to set up an Experts’ Group, for the review, consolidation and development of standards and best practices at national and international level.

With the decision of 25th March 2003 the European Commission set up a consultation group named “**the Experts’ Group on Trafficking in Human Beings**”.

Members of the Experts' Group as well as recommendations and report are available on the website of the DG Justice and Home affairs in the section of the Documentation Centre devoted to organised crime under "Trafficking in human beings":

http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/doc_centre/intro/doc_intro_en.htm

- > to strengthen **consultation mechanisms**, such as the European Forum on Prevention of Organised Crime in order to establish suitable measures against trafficking in human beings and intensify the dialogue between public and non-governmental actors;
- > to further develop networking and of all organisation involved in the provision of assistance to victims with a view to ensure the promulgation and implementation of best practices including accessibility of information and facilitate the dialogue with relevant European institutions.

Organisations promoting ENATW, according to their Charter of Principles, are committed to "*ashare and disseminate experience, resources and strategies at local, national and international level that are effective in preventing the crime and assisting the victims*".

More information on the ENATW network and to how join can be found on www.aretusa.net

Recommendation number 61 of the Experts' Group: the EU and its Member States should encourage the development of international networks including all relevant actors in order to disseminate information on trafficking, share best practices and design common strategies and partnerships.

- > to create a European **database** of missing persons with particular attention to unaccompanied minors that become child trafficking victims;
- > to make use of the EU programmes such as TACIS, PHARE, CARDS, AGIS to support and develop governmental and non governmental authorities and to include trafficking in human beings in the social agenda.

At national level in order to allow a monitoring, evaluation and enhancement of the policies it is required:

- > to appoint a **National Rapporteurs** on trafficking in human beings;
- > to appoint **multi-disciplinary groups**.

Links between such mechanisms should be established at European level in cooperation with EU institutions.

The Experts' Group report outlines that ineffectiveness of the anti-trafficking policies are due to the lack of a formalised coordination structure at national level. The report, defines the National Referral Mechanism as "*cooperative framework through which state actors fulfil their obligations to protect and promote human rights of trafficked persons and co-coordinate their efforts in a strategic partnership with civil society.*" This cooperative framework can work to help improve national policies and procedures on a broad range of victim related issues such as residence and repatriation regulations, victim compensation and witness protection. The National Referral Mechanism can establish national plans of action and can set benchmarks to assess whether goals are being met Explanatory paper number 5 of the Experts' Group report is devoted to the National Referral Mechanism.

Recommendation number 31 of the Experts Group: coupled with a National Referral Mechanism Member States should establish a governmental co-ordination structure consisting of a National Governmental Coordinator and a cross-sector and multidisciplinary Round Table to develop, coordinate, monitor and evaluate national action plans and policies. One of the tasks of the Round Table should be to develop a quick and "*light weight*" mechanism to address individual complaints with regard to the proper identification and assistance of trafficked persons.

Prevention of trafficking in human beings.

Prevention of trafficking in human beings is based on the adoption of measures aimed at tackling root causes of this phenomena and providing improved data on the character and scale of trafficking and the trafficking and exploitation mechanisms. Particularly important are actions aimed at surfacing semi legal forms of trafficking and “invisible” forms of exploitation as well as raising awareness and training of actors involved and of public opinion.

ROOT CAUSES.

The gender issue.

A European counter trafficking strategy, having a human rights approach, should include the combating of gender-based violence and patriarchal structures through the adoption of legislative and political measures for the promotion of equal opportunities and the eradication of all forms of gender-based discrimination. It is also necessary to guarantee empowerment of women in their societies, in particular, by adopting measures promoting social, economic and educational development in order to tackle poverty and marginalisation that put women at greater risk of falling victims of traffickers.

This aspect of the Brussels Declaration is particularly important for the ENATW network as it recognises the need and the opportunity to liaise preventing actions of the trafficking with the promotion of gender equality and the fight against discrimination which makes women particularly vulnerable to such a violation of the fundamental rights of the person. Organisations belonging to ENATW have embraced this approach and included it in their Charter of Principles. The ENATW network is committed to promoting the involvement of women associations and equal opportunities agencies of public institutions for drafting and implementing strategies of prevention aimed at tackling and eradicating discrimination, marginalisation and social exclusion.

The Communication of the European Commission COM(2005)514 says “*EU institutions and Member States should promote gender specific prevention strategies as a key element to combat trafficking in women and girls. This includes implementing gender equality principles and eliminating the demand for all forms of exploitation, including sexual exploitation and domestic labour exploitation.*”

Recommendation number 50 of the Experts' Group:

Member States should reduce vulnerability for trafficking by adopting measures to:

- ensure that appropriate legal documentation for birth, citizenship and marriage is provided and made available to all persons;
- combat violence and discrimination against women, e.g. by encouraging gender sensitisation and equal respectful relationships between the sexes;
- ensure women equal access to and control over economic and financial resources, including the promotion of flexible financing and access to credit, including micro-credit with low interest for socially vulnerable women;
- combat all forms of discrimination against minorities, including the development of programmes that offer livelihood options, basic education, literacy, and reduce barriers to entrepreneurship.

Migration trends.

Even though counter trafficking strategies differ from those against illegal migration, it is important to consider some aspects connected to migration trends such as legal opportunities and in conditions of non exploitation, the access to the labour market in the country of destination.

The demand.

A common objective of the counter trafficking action should be the reduction of the demand of services and sexual services and performances and of underpaid labour through information and awareness raising campaigns.

In the Charter of Principle of the ENATW network all member organisations state that prevention actions must not be mere information and awareness raising campaigns but they must also entail interventions aimed at discouraging the demand in particular with educational programmes on equality between men and women and on the dignity of the individual. In the library of www.aretusa.net it is possible to download documents and shared interventions of the member organisations that have the objective of fostering knowledge and therefore reflections of actors involved as well as civil society on the role of client and his motivations.

Recommendation number 49 of the Experts Group: within existing programmes, such as Daphne and AGIS, funding should be allocated for research and pilot projects on the influence of demand on trafficking in human beings (in particular in the area of domestic and sexual services) and for the promotion and implementation of gender sensitive sexual and human rights education of children and youth in Member States.

RESEARCH.

Trafficking in human beings and criminal organisations.

Effective prevention measures require research and analysis on qualitative and quantitative features of trafficking in human beings, on the structure of criminal organisations and on the methods of exploitation.

The demand.

A crucial component in the counter-trafficking response is a further research and analysis of the demand and an examination of methods by which the demand of clients can be effectively reduced.

Children.

Research should also focus specifically on the needs and vulnerability of children.

AWARENESS RAISING.

Awareness raising campaigns should be aimed at relevant target groups, including potential victims, policy makers, law enforcement officers, diplomatic and consular personnel and other relevant public officials.

The campaigns must be realistic and factual concerning the possibilities of legal migration and foreign employment opportunities and of the potential risks posed by the use of irregular migration methods. Information material should be displayed in the consular and visa sections of the State diplomatic missions and copies should also be enclosed in any postal visa applications.

Special hot-lines providing information and support to the victims of trafficking should be created in the countries of origin, transit and destination.

On raising awareness campaigns, the Experts' Groups says "Awareness raising campaigns should be embedded in a comprehensive strategy, complementary to advocacy for human rights, gender equality, self-empowerment and human dignity. They should be educative, convey empowering and gender-sensitive messages, with aspects of interactivity, and be based on an assessment of the interests of the respective target groups".

TRAINING.

Improving identification victims skills.

Specialised training should be set up which targets police investigators, prosecutors and personnel of governmental and non governmental organisations in order to improve skills on identification of the victims, especially by use of pro-active intelligence led investigative tactics, and their treatment.

Multi-disciplinary and human rights based approach.

Training of the law enforcement and judicial personnel should have a multi-disciplinary and human rights approach and should focus, in particular on the immediate needs and treatment of victims.

Front-line police.

Specific training programmes aimed at front-line personnel should be developed that are designed to enable them to recognise indicators of trafficking and related crimes and to fully realise their potential to identify and rescue victims.

International military and police peace-keepers.

Training of the subject of trafficking in human beings and its impacts on the victims should be included in preparations of missions. This should include codes of conducts of the military personnel.

Educational programmes in the schools.

Teaching modules in schools should be developed that are aimed at informing pupils and students of human rights and gender issues and at teaching specifically the modus operandi and dangers presented by trafficking crime.

Recommendation number 65 of the Experts' Group: a training component should be included in all counter-trafficking national action plans. Moreover, regional anti-trafficking and European modules should be developed and mainstreamed into the regular curricula of all relevant actors.

Recommendation number 66 of the Experts' Group: training should target a wide scope of actors and be delivered by a variety of agencies. All training should contain a general as well as a specific part tailor made for the targeted actors. Multi-actor training is indispensable to ensure a coordinated and multi-disciplinary approach. All training should be delivered by multi-disciplinary teams, especially with the participation of NGOs.

STRENGTHENING ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROLS.

Monitoring of agencies.

Regimes and practices should be implemented to regulate and monitor tourist, au-pair or international adoption agencies.

The reduction of the invisibility of exploitation.

Within the countries of destination, it is essential to implement measures to reduce the “invisibility of exploitation” such as a multi-agency programme of monitoring, administrative controls and intelligence gathering within the sex and labour markets. Police, health, employment, other concerned public officials and international, governmental and non governmental organisations should work together to impose high visibility of exploitation.

Cyber crime.

An integral part of the reduction of the invisibility of exploitation should be the monitoring of illegal use of the Internet.

Illegal labour market.

In order to prevent trafficking for the purpose of economic exploitation, more effective measures aimed at curbing the illegal labour market and the promotion of better life and working conditions in countries of origins and destination are needed.

SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS TO PREVENT TRAFFICKING IN CHILDREN.

The special vulnerability and needs of child trafficked victims is recognised and enshrined in international and national law and this must also be clearly reflected in practice. To reduce the incidence of child trafficking, specific actions should be implemented aimed at a better identification, particularly in the field of passport and visa regulations, including the possibility to require that all children over the age of five must be in possession of their own passport.

Besides legal instruments addressing trafficking in human beings, there are other international norms such as the Convention on the Rights of the Child, ratified by all EU member states, aimed at protecting children rights in the light of their vulnerability to forms of exploitation and subjugation. In creating strategies and policies concerning children due consideration should be given to these norms.

According to the Experts' Group: *"The level of vulnerability of children and the opportunities for exploitation, violence and abuse are directly related to the level of protection and opportunities which States are able and willing to guarantee to any child present in its territory. This guarantee of protection is particularly relevant for the most vulnerable groups of children, such as foreign or migrant children who, in violation with the UNCRC principles and provisions, often can not benefit from the same opportunities guaranteed to children with national citizenship."*

Recommendation number 26 of the Experts' Group: All actions undertaken in relation to trafficked children shall be based on the principles set out in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, in particular:

- > the "best interests" principle: the best interests of the child should be the primary consideration in all actions concerning children. All considerations related to immigration or crime control should be secondary. Child victims of trafficking should not be criminalized;
- > the right to participate: the views of children should be sought and taken into account, in accordance with their age and maturity, in all matters affecting them;
- > the "non discrimination" principle: trafficked children should be treated as children first and foremost; considerations of their national or other status should be secondary.

Recommendation number 80 of the Experts' Group: migrant children represent a particularly vulnerable group among the child population and should be guaranteed the same level of protection and opportunities as national children, regardless of their residence status.

Victim protection and assistance.

According to international Conventions and to the Charter of the fundamental rights of the European Union, practices connected to trafficking in human beings represent a serious violation of the human rights of the victims of such crime. As a consequence, promotion and protection of the human rights of the trafficked persons should be the focus of strategies and actions aimed at combating trafficking.

The Experts' Group report outlines that so far States have concentrated predominantly on measures in the area of crime control and migration policies, rather than on victims assistance and protection. The neglect of the area of assistance and protection to trafficked persons forms both an obstacle to effectively address trafficking and falls short of the obligations that States have under international human rights law according to which trafficked persons should have access to protection, assistance and adequate compensation for their violated rights.

According to the Experts' Group a counter-trafficking strategy that takes due account of the human rights of the trafficked person should:

- > consider trafficked person as holder of rights. This include minimum standards of treatment that all trafficked persons are entitled to as well as responsibilities of the institutional organisations;
- > consider trafficked persons as active subjects seeking for a change in their situation as well as victims of a crime and of a serious breach of human rights for which they are entitled to receive adequate compensation;
- > guarantee assistance and support together with strategies aimed at empowering victims and favouring their social inclusion, development, participation;
- > be aimed at providing remedies to the violations of the human rights creating conditions in which trafficking can occur.

Considering diversity of procedures of assistance in the EU countries, the Experts' Group recommends the creation of shared standards for the provision of specialised services. For this reason, some underlying principles have been established and could be found on the explanatory paper number 11 of the report.

VICTIM PROTECTION AND RE-INTEGRATION.

Identification and reflection period.

Research and analysis must be developed to identify profiles of traffickers and trafficked victims, including the design of a matrix of key trafficking indicators for use by front-line police and border personnel to enable them to make the distinction between trafficked victims and irregular migrants. These measures are necessary in order to guarantee, once the victim is identified, immediate assistance and to grant a reflection period enabling the victim to escape from the conditions of exploitation and abuse perpetrated by traffickers.

Trafficked persons may be identified either by government actors and law enforcement or by NGOs, local social-welfare organisations, labour unions, labour inspections and other labour-related agencies. However, as outlined by the Experts' Group, in the majority of the EU countries specific means for identifying the victims are insufficient and suitable training and information should be provided to all actors who can be in contact with the victims. Particular attention should be given to the identification and assistance of trafficked children especially because of the difficulty in establishing the relationship with the adult accompanying them and their age and personal information.

Recommendation number 91 of the Experts Group: in order to establish contacts with presumed trafficked persons and to build the necessary confidence and trust, outreach work, drop-in centres and hotlines should be developed. This is particularly important since research indicates that only a limited number of trafficked persons are identified by law enforcement agencies. The majority of trafficked persons seem to be identified through outreach work of NGOs, local authorities, hotlines, clients, colleagues and other citizens.

Treatment of victims.

Victims of trafficking must be granted access to a full range of support measures including shelter accommodation, medical and psychological health care and legal counselling.

Funding of assistance services.

Access to and provision of shelter protection and assistance to victims should be timely and adequately funded. This means the proper funding of international organisations, governmental and non governmental organisations.

Cooperation.

Cooperation between non governmental organisation social-welfare organisational and other actors involved in assisting victims in the countries of origin, transit and destination should be developed.

Raccomandation number 99 of the Experts' Group: Member States should establish appropriate structures for providing assistance and protection to trafficked persons. This should include at the minimum safe and appropriate accommodation, counselling, health care, free legal assistance, education, vocational and employment opportunities. All services must be provided on a voluntary and confidential basis, in a non-discriminatory and non-judgmental manner and in compliance with a number of basic principles derived from international human rights norms, in particular the respect for privacy, confidentiality, self-determination and freedom of movement.

Recommendation number 100 of the Experts' Group: Member States should recognise the importance of a variety of service providers working with trafficked persons, including the NGO sector, and should adequately support, co-operate with and timely and transparently fund them. Memoranda of understanding and/or contracts between governmental and non governmental agencies should clarify the roles of the different actors.

Recommendation number 102 of the Experts' Group: Service providers for trafficked persons should develop standards, based on clear and measurable indicators, to regularly monitor and assess the quality and the suitability of their services and their performance. The EU should support the development of such standards as well as transnational co-operation between service providers.

Protocols of minimum standards between law enforcement and NGOs.

Protocols of minimum standards on immediate treatment of victims of trafficking in human being should be drawn up and guarantee:

- > that law enforcement officers must recognise victims of trafficking as victims of serious crime that must not be re-victimised and must treat them in accordance with their human rights and in accordance with the UN Protocol on trafficking in persons;
- > that safety of the victims and their families is the paramount consideration;
- > that, at every stage of the investigative and judicial processes, safety of victims is taken in due consideration.

Recommendation number 12 of the Experts' Group: To ensure compliance with human rights norms, a "Human Rights Impact Assessment Model" should be developed in close co-operation with NGOs working with trafficked persons and human rights institutions, as an instrument to monitor and evaluate the human rights effects of anti-trafficking laws, policies and practices. Such an instrument should play an important role in ensuring that anti-trafficking measures comply with respect for and protection of human rights. In addition it should ensure that anti trafficking measures do not create or exacerbate existing situations that cause or contribute to trafficking by instituting policies and practices that further undermine or adversely affect the human rights of individuals, such as the right to privacy, the right to freedom of movement, the right to leave one's country, to migrate legally and to earn an income.

Recommendation number 93 of the Experts' Group: agencies (including law enforcement, labour, social service, health and education agencies, outreach workers, hotlines, etc.) should cooperate and share information to ensure that trafficked children are identified and assisted as early as possible. In cases where there is suspicion that the child is a victim of trafficking, the child should be referred to the appropriate child welfare authorities. After placing the child in a safe accommodation, appropriate measures need to be taken to identify and assist the child and, if the child is accompanied, to assess the relationship between the child and the accompanying adult. Where the age of the trafficked person is uncertain, due to the absence of papers or to false identity papers, and she/he claims to be less than 18 years of age, the presumption should be that she/he is a child and she/he should be provisionally treated as such.

In order to support the re-integration and reduce the risk of re-trafficking, re-integration programmes should be aimed at empowering the victims by developing their capacity to attain economic independence through the provision of vocational training and job opportunities.

Networking between organisations and all actors involved in assisting victims in the countries of origin, transit and destination should be intensified and developed. The re-integration of victims would also benefit from an increased level of attention from the consulates and embassies in the countries of origin and destination.

Recommendation number 112 of the Experts' Group: return and social assistance programmes should aim at the empowerment and social inclusion of the trafficked person, whereby empowerment is defined as the process through which an individual can develop her/his ability to stand independently, make her/his own decisions and show control over her/his life.

Recommendation number 113 of the Experts' Group: return and social assistance programs should rest on the following principles: voluntariness; protection of privacy and safety;¹⁶⁷ strict protection of the confidentiality of the relation between the service provider and the trafficked person; non-stigmatisation; freedom of movement of the trafficked person;¹⁶⁸ the treatment of trafficked persons in a respectful, non judgmental and non moralizing or patronizing way; the needs, views and concerns of the trafficked person should be at the centre. Elements of such programmes should be an individual needs assessment; regularization of the documentation status of the person concerned; appropriate housing; health care; psychological assistance; legal aid; assistance in finding viable means of existence; and support of self-organisation.

COMPENSATION.

An approach based on protection of human rights of the victims must take into consideration the need of creating effective mechanisms for compensation for the suffered abuses. An approach based on protection of human rights of the victims must take into consideration the need of creating effective mechanisms for compensation for the suffered abuses.

According to the Experts' Group, compensation is one of the essential phase for social - re-integration of victims. However, the possibilities of obtaining adequate compensation are not well developed at European level. A joint effort of the EU could show trafficked persons a special sign of support.

Recommendation number 128 of the Experts' Group: Provisions to enable trafficked persons to get compensation, in both civil and criminal proceedings, as well as through State compensation schemes, should include the right to free legal advice and assistance and a stay of deportation while such proceedings are in progress.

THE VICTIM AS A WITNESS.

Witness protection.

Testifying victims are an essential resource in the judiciary action against traffickers but in the light of the risks and threats, witness protection measures should include the provision of shelter or "safe house" accommodation, change of identity, re-location, special measures of safety and funding. If necessary, these measure should be extended to the victim's family.

It will be necessary to revise current entry criteria to law enforcement witness protection measures as the majority of trafficked victims would not qualify for access as they are unable to provide essential evidence against major actors but can testify only against mid-level operatives.

After having testified in the criminal proceedings, return of the victim to her/his country of origin should be carried out only after having considered risks deriving from the victims cooperation in testifying against traffickers.

Legal Assistance.

Best practice should also be developed that allows for the presence of an independent counsellor at every stage of the investigative and criminal proceedings, facilities to give testimony via video link and legal protection of the confidentiality of his or her true identity and address.

Access to shelters.

There is a need to identify and develop protocols to regulate the conditions under which law enforcement services have access to victims in shelters or who are otherwise being supported by organisations. These protocols should define the roles and responsibilities of each side and address police visits to the shelters, the presence of an independent counsellor to represent the victim at all times, the provision of a verbal and written briefing as to the exact responsibilities and conditions under which a victim would be required to provide her deposition and testimony. Protocols should also govern the exchange of intelligence between law enforcement and social-welfare organisation and include the prohibition of exchange of personalised data without the written permission of the victim.

Residence permits.

Access to short-term residence permits for those victims that agree to cooperate with the criminal justice system should be made available after a reflection period during which the victim is informed on the implications and consequences of her/his decision to testify against traffickers. When the residence permits expires, the possibility to obtain another permit for different reasons should be made available.

The implementation of such a residence permit must be carefully monitored and evaluated to prevent abuses. A victim should be allowed the opportunity to appeal against administrative or judicial decisions taken in the context of short-term permits of stay. Schemes on providing short-term residence permits for social protection or humanitarian reason should be evaluated.

Return.

Return of the victims of trafficking in human beings should be avoided when it is necessary for their safety or if they can contribute to investigations against traffickers.

Recommendation number 105 of the Experts' Group: the European Commission should take the initiative for the development of a legally binding EU instrument covering the standing of trafficked persons in criminal proceedings, building on the Framework Decision on the standing of victims in criminal proceedings. Such a framework should include a broad definition to cover all trafficked persons, including children, as victims of crime, regardless of the degree of their participation in criminal proceedings, and include trafficked persons before, during and after criminal proceedings are taking place.

Recommendation number 106 of the Experts' Group: within such instrument guidelines should be developed with respect to the following aspects:

- > the right to respect
- > the right to information and advice
- > the right to privacy
- > the right to protection
- > interrogation and investigation
- > court procedures
- > the right to compensation

Police and judicial cooperation.

The first step toward a greater and more effective international cooperation of police and judicial authorities is the harmonisation of national law in criminalizing trafficking in human beings according to the minimum standards of the Framework Decision of the Council of 19 July 2002 on trafficking in human beings. Special investigation techniques, also administrative, should be deployed specifically to combat criminal organisations connected to trafficking that are hidden behind non criminal activities.

LEGISLATIVE RECCOMENDATIONS.

Trafficking in human beings must be facilitated by any legislative shortcomings. The law must ensure the protection of victims and witness, the prohibition of illicit work and of exploitation of the prostitution of others.

A regime of adequate penalties should be introduced into national legislation for specific trafficking crimes and related offences.

In order to identify, sequestrate and confiscate the criminal assets and proceeds of traffickers, legislative provisions should be further developed in order to facilitate investigation of the financial affairs of traffickers.

National legislation must ensure the victims right to seek and secure compensation for the injuries and harm they have suffered.

Implementation of provisions of the Council Framework Decision of 19 July 2002 in combating trafficking in human beings in all EU countries must be guaranteed.

Recommendation number 2 of the Experts' Group: though trafficking often occurs across borders and with the involvement of organised crime networks, trafficking also takes place within borders and without the involvement of organised crime. States should therefore ensure that all forms of trafficking, regardless of the crossing of borders and/or the involvement of organised crime, are adequately criminalized.

Goal Statement of ENATW.

In compliance with the UN Convention on Human Rights, the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, the 1949 Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Person and the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others, the UN Trafficking Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons especially Women,

the **Associations** adhering to **ENATW**

> **ARE CONVINCED THAT**

- > **trafficking** in women for prostitution and other forms of sexual exploitation is:
 - > gender-based violence against all women
 - > a violation of human rights
 - > a violation against the principle of equality between women and men.

Prostitution cannot be considered a job or a profession. The adoption of repressive measures towards victims of prostitution and other forms of sexual exploitation, as well as legislation and regulation of prostitution are used by Governments to control the public order and the prostitution industry, but are ineffective in combating trafficking in women for sexual exploitation. Legislation and regulation of prostitution support the demand and increase the view upon women as commodities.

- > The **prevention** of trafficking in women for the purpose of prostitution and others forms of sexual exploitation cannot be reduced to simple information and awareness raising, but should also discourage the demand for sexual exploitation by:
 - > addressing the buyer of prostitution, his motivations and responsibilities
 - > implementing educational programmes promoting gender equality between women and men and preserving the dignity of individuals
 - > monitoring research on legislative and other measures that have been implemented in different countries to discourage the demand.

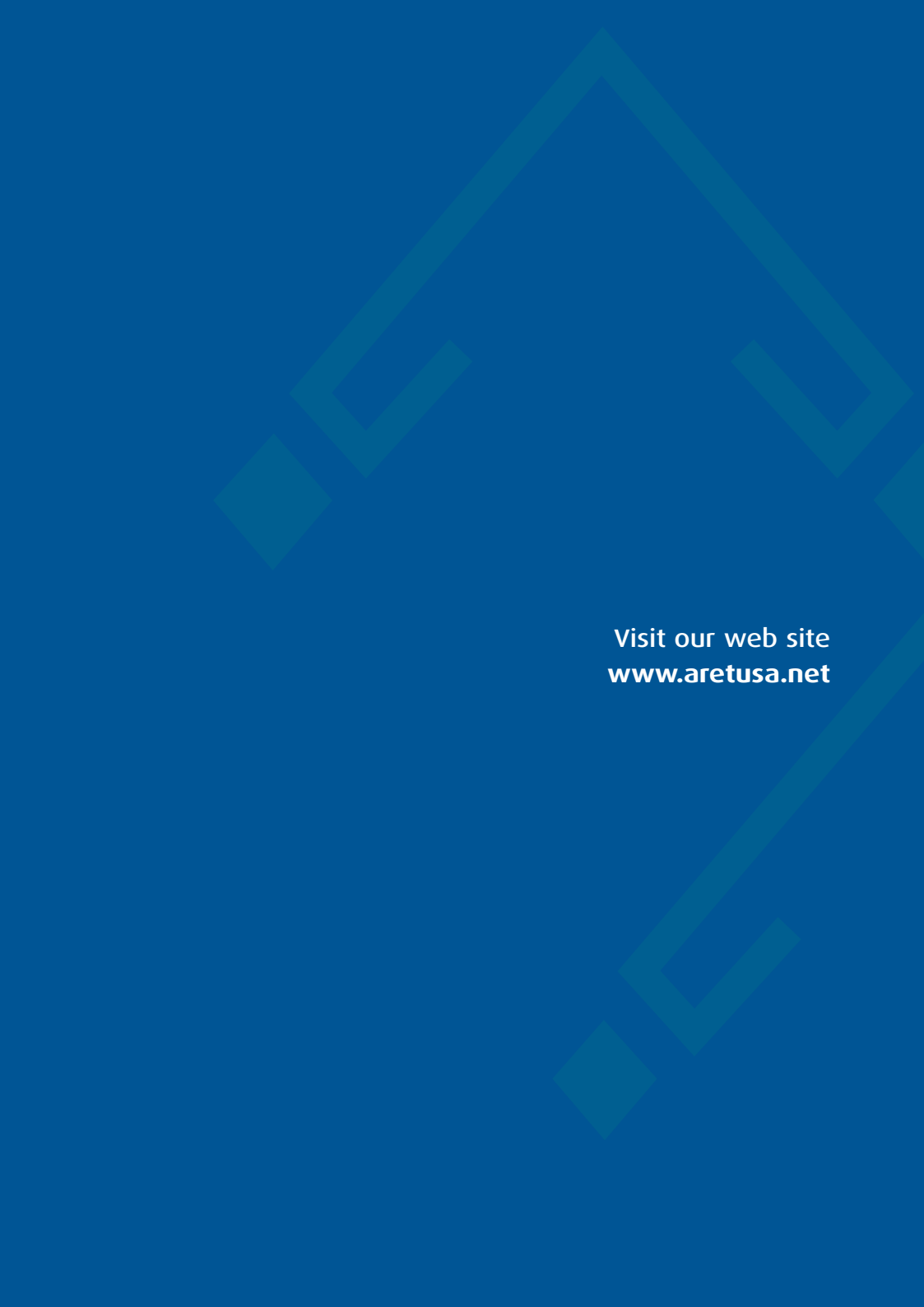
- > **Protection** of victims of trafficking for prostitution and other forms of sexual exploitation, as persons offended in their fundamental rights, should be aimed firstly:
 - > on the restoration of the rights damaged
 - > at the full social reinsertion of the victims within a social and not only judicial programme. Protection of victims of trafficking should at minimum include: possibility to obtain temporary or permanent residence in the countries of destination, protection of the identity of the victim and proper housing, social, medical, psychological and judicial assistance, employment, educational and training opportunities, measures that offer victims of trafficking the possibility to obtain compensation for damage suffered.

> GOALS

- > **exchange and spread** experiences, sources and strategies at local, national and international levels, that are effective in the fields of prevention and assistance to victims of trafficking for prostitution and others forms of sexual exploitation
- > **promote and support** the development of norms and policies in compliance with the UN Convention and Trafficking Protocol and the Framework Decision of the Council of the European Union of 19th July 2002;
- > **construction** of a diffused network of European NGO's and experts in the field of trafficking in women for prostitution and others forms of sexual exploitation.

> ACTIONS

- > **exchange of best practices** on all the aspects concerning prevention and protection of women victims of trafficking for sexual exploitation
- > **annual report** on the effectiveness of national legislation and international conventions and adopted policies in the European region
- > **reccomandations** adressed to political decision makers at local, national and europeans levels
- > create an international-based **portal www.aretusa.net** on trafficking in women for sexual exploitation
- > **mobilisation** and **lobbying** actions at local, national and European levels.



Visit our web site
www.aretusa.net

ARETUSA Association Founder Members:

Asociatia Aproapele, Romania
 Asociatia Casa Noastra Galati, Romania
 Asociacion de Oviedo y Jorbalan, Spain
 Associazione Micaela, Italy
 A. F. P. Patronato San Vincenzo, Italy
 IRENE Association, Italy
 Baltic Fem, Sweden
 CHASTE, United Kingdom
 L'Amicale du Nid, France
 Latvijan Gender Problem Centre, Latvia
 MONA, Foundation for the Women of Hungary, Hungary
 Mountain Unlimited, Austria
 National Council of Women, Malta
 Research Centre of Women's Affairs, Greece
 Ruse Catholic Organisation "Caritas", Bulgaria
 Solwodj, Germany
 Stowarzyszenie, Poland
 Women's Issues Information Centre, Lithuania

Visit our website:
www.aretusa.net

ARETUSA Operational Offices

MONA - Magyarországi Női Alapítvány
 P.O. Box. 453/277, H-1537 Budapest (Hungary)
 Székhely: Margit krt. 43-45, H-1024 Budapest (Hungary)
 T +36-(20)-219-4619
mona.alapitvany@gmail.com - www.mona-hungary.hu

AFP - Patronato San Vincenzo
 via M.Gavazzeni, 3 - 24125 Bergamo (Italy)
 T +39 035 31.93.61 - F +39 035 31.41.88
Aretusa2008@libero.it

Associazione IRENE - Initiatives, Researches, Experiences for a New Europe
 Pzza S.Giorgio, 2 - 20123 Milan (Italy)
 T +39 02 80.57.196 - F +39 02 80.57.333
irene@irene.mi.it - www.irene.mi.it