



UNITED NATIONS
UNIVERSITY

Centre for Policy Research



LIECHTENSTEIN
INITIATIVE

FINANCE
AGAINST
SLAVERY &
TRAFFICKING

Launch of OSCE paper on

**“Following the Money: Compendium of Resources &
Step-by-Step Guide to Financial Investigations into Trafficking in Human Beings”**

Monday, 11 November 2019, from 09h30 to 14h00

Ratsaal, Hofburg

CONCEPT NOTE

Trafficking in human beings (THB) is, at its core, a financially-motivated crime¹. The vast majority of THB, regardless of type, is carried out by its perpetrators with financial incentive in mind and annually, it generates an estimated 150 billion USD in profits off the exploitation of people.² Its scope and reach are global, impacting every country in the OSCE region and beyond, and virtually every economic sector of society.

The OSCE Action Plan on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings recommendation III.2.5 (“Enhancing co-operation between law enforcement investigating bodies in order to establish the possibly criminal, trafficking-related origins of suspicious assets”) marked a new milestone in countering THB by addressing THB-related money laundering. This recommendation targets both the identification of possible THB cases as a predicate crime and the prosecution of money laundering, thus undermining the “core value” to criminals and the ultimate purpose of trafficking and exploitation—illegal financial gain.³

Taking into account the significance of linking financial investigations and human trafficking investigations in order to dismantle trafficking networks and eliminate the “safe space of criminal profits”, the participating States agreed, in point 2.1 of the 2013 Addendum, to recommend “promoting the use of financial investigations linked with trafficking-related offences; enhancing the capacity of anti-money laundering authorities and other relevant structures to identify financial activities linked to THB; enhancing the capacities, where necessary, for tracing, freezing and confiscating the instrumentalities and proceeds of THB, in accordance with national law; and considering, where applicable, using confiscated proceeds to fund anti-trafficking initiatives and victim support, including the possibility of obtaining compensation.”⁴

Against this backdrop and building on its prior work addressing the links between THB and money laundering, the Office of the OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator (OSR/CTHB), in co-operation with the Centre for Policy Research of the United Nations University in its role as a Secretariat to the Liechtenstein Initiative for Financial Sector Commission against Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking, initiated a comprehensive and critical analysis of existing resources on conducting financial investigations, and developed a list of financial indicators of THB synthesized from over 20 publications. The analysis led to the elaboration of a step-by-step guide for practitioners which provides a framework for identifying, reporting and investigating the illicit income of THB.

Through its research, the OSR/CTHB has found that, while there is an abundance of quality information globally, this information remains fragmented and under-utilized. Furthermore, in absence of clear communication across multiple jurisdictions and relevant actors, efforts to combat THB are largely left to a small group of actors with valuable yet disparate expertise. This new publication addresses these challenges by centralizing information, identifying resources and good practices, and providing step-by-step guidance on how institutions can move from research to building effective response systems.

¹ Human trafficking: organized crime and the multibillion dollar sale of people <<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/frontpage/2012/July/human-trafficking-organized-crime-and-the-multibillion-dollar-sale-of-people.html>> accessed on 10 October 2019

² http://www.ilo.org/rome/risorse-informative/comunicati-stampa/WCMS_243201/lang--en/index.htm

³ Commentary to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking, the 2005 and 2013 Addendums
<https://www.osce.org/secretariat/210391?download=true>

⁴ OSCE, Permanent Council Decision No.1107 Corr.11 Annex “Addendum to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings: One Decade Later”, PC.DEC/1107 Corr.11 Annex 6 December 2013. Available at: <http://www.osce.org/addendum?download=true>

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AGENDA

09:30 – 10:30 Panel 1 - Launch of the OSCE paper on Financial Investigations

Valiant Richey, Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings at OSCE

James Cockayne - Director, Centre for Policy Research at United Nations University, Secretariat, Financial Sector Commission on Modern Slavery & Human Trafficking

Timea Nagy Payne, Financial Sector Commissioner

Joseph Mari, Director, External Partnerships, Scotiabank, OSCE consultant

10:30- 11:00 Interventions from the floor - Q&A

11:00- 11:30 Coffee Break

11:30 – 12:30 Panel 2 - What are the challenges and how to proceed?

Moderator: **Tarana Baghirova**, Financial Investigation Project Lead / Associate Country Visit Officer at OSCE

Aimée Comrie, Project Coordinator for GLO.ACT Asia and the Middle East, Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling Section at UNODC

Michael Morantz, Policy Analyst at Financial Action Task Force (FATF)

Livia Wagner, Coordinator of the Global Initiative Network and Senior Expert at the Global Initiative against Transnational Organized Crime

Nick Maxwell, Head of the Future of Financial Intelligence Sharing (FFIS) at Royal United Services Institute (RUSI)

Leonardo Real, Chief Compliance Officer at Tether

12:30- 13:25 Interventions from the floor - Q&A

*13:25 -13:30 Concluding remarks by **Valiant Richey**, Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings at OSCE*

13:00 – 14:00 Reception hosted by the OSCE
