

ANTI HUMAN TRAFFICKING UNIT NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2014

EU ANTI TRAFFICKING DAY 18TH OCTOBER

7TH Edition

IN THE NEWS

Since our last issue in April.....



To mark EU anti human trafficking day the AHTU have placed a banner on one of the best vantage points in Dublin - Liberty Hall on Eden Quay, Dublin 1. The banner looks fantastic and brings great awareness of Human Trafficking to the thousands of commuters and tourists who pass this way each day.

Santa Marta Project

'Santa Marta Group' Project

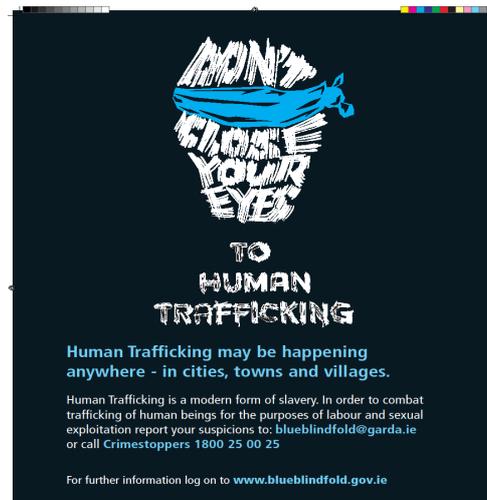
Earlier this year Pope Francis invited police chiefs from around the world to a Conference on Human Trafficking in the Vatican; Assistant Commissioner Derek Byrne (National Support Services) attended as the Irish Representative. Following this conference, an international group of senior law enforcement chiefs – the “Santa Marta Group” – has been established. Bernard Hogan-Howe, the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police in the UK, leads this group.

Bernard Hogan Howe approached An Garda Síochána about the development of a specific project under the auspices of this Group. The proposed project, which will involve collaboration between Ireland, the UK, Spain and Portugal, is focused on the potential for human trafficking in the maritime industry. In practice, it would involve An Garda Síochána working with the Naval Service to carry out a number of inspections of vessels in Irish waters. Such inspections would involve the examination of the conditions and status of workers on such vessels with a view to establishing whether human trafficking or other forms of severe labour exploitation are occurring in this sector.

At an international level, the maritime industry has been identified as an area of potentially high risk for human trafficking; this is due to the nature of the work in the sector, and in particular, the employment structures that are used. The project will serve to increase our knowledge in this area where information is scant.

AHTU Update

- The AHTU sent leaflets and bookmarks to libraries nationwide in a bid to raise awareness.
- AHTU sent Mugs, pens, leaflets & posters to Superintendents for display in Garda Stations nationwide.
- ‘Goody bags’ containing leaflets, pens, keyrings & bookmarks were sent to the UNHCR for distribution at the UNHCR/SARI fair play football cup 2014 to mark World Refugee Day.



Forced Labour

June 2014, ILO Protocol to Convention on Forced Labour

The **103rd International Labour Conference (ILC)** which took place in Geneva, closed on 11 June 2014 following more than two weeks of deliberations on key world of work issues, including forced labour, migration, the informal and formal economy, and investment in quality employment. The more than 4,700 government, employer and worker delegates to the Conference adopted a new legally binding ILO Protocol on Forced Labour, which aims to advance prevention, protection and compensation measures, as well as to intensify efforts to eliminate contemporary forms of slavery. The Irish ILC delegation was made up of representatives from the Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation, NERA and the Anti-Human Trafficking Unit of the Department of Justice and Equality. The Protocol, supported by a Recommendation, was adopted by government, employer and worker delegates with 437 votes for, 27 abstentions and 8 against.

*"I believe that the Conference session...will be remembered, above all, for the overwhelming adoption of the **Protocol to Convention No. 29 on Forced Labour**. It is the fruit of our collective determination to put an end to an abomination which still afflicts our world of work, and to free its 21 million victims,"* said ILO Director-General Guy Ryder in closing remarks to the ILC. The new Protocol brings the existing ILO Convention 29 on Forced Labour, adopted in 1930, into the modern era to address practices such as human trafficking. The accompanying Recommendation provides technical guidance on its implementation.

New obligations to prevent forced labour

The Protocol strengthens the international legal framework by creating new obligations to prevent forced labour, to protect victims and to provide access to remedy, such as compensation for material and physical harm. It requires governments to take measures to better protect workers, in particular migrant labourers, from fraudulent and abusive recruitment practices and emphasizes the role of employers and workers in the fight against forced labour. *The new instruments will complement and strengthen existing international law, in particular the UN Protocol to prevent, suppress and punish trafficking in persons, especially women and children,"* said David Garner, President of the ILC Committee on Forced Labour and Australian Government representative.

Government, employer and worker Committee members emphasized the vital role played by the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29), and the Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105) but concluded that gaps in their implementation called for additional measures. The Committee agreed on the need for a legally binding instrument that establishes a common framework for the 177 ILO member states that have ratified Convention 29 – as well as the 8 countries that have not – to move towards the elimination of forced labour.

"The Protocol and Recommendation represent a call to action. They go beyond pious words; they are more than text on a piece of paper," Ed Potter, Committee Employer Vice Chair said. *"This is a humanitarian moment, a human rights moment, and represents what the international business community stands for – respect for human rights,"* he added. *"By adopting this Protocol, we have sent a clear signal of our commitment to the 21 million victims of forced labour around the world. We have also shown the capacity of the ILO to modernize, and adapt one of its most symbolic conventions to the realities of today,"* said Committee Worker Vice Chair, Yves Veyrier.

ICI Update



Denise Charleton of ICI displaying beer mats from the 'Stop Traffick' campaign.

"The Immigrant Council of Ireland has launched a range of beer mats in Dublin-city pubs and across the country which highlight the reality of sex-trafficking in Ireland. Thousands of beer mats are being made available to bars, hotels and other outlets which serve alcohol, and are primarily targeting young men. The awareness campaign uses the real testimony of a teen sold into prostitution in Ireland for €3000 and 'forced to have sex with 15 men a day' to encourage young drinkers to reject the exploitation of the sex trade. The beer mats also contain a referral address- info@stoptraffick.ie- where members of the public can send queries. The beer mat campaign is just one of a number of initiatives undertaken by the Council as part of the European Commission-funded project 'Stop Traffick', which highlights the role buyers and demand for prostitution are playing in fuelling crime and abuse. For more information please visit www.stoptraffick.ie"

Tackling Trafficking in Human Beings. Prevention, Protection, Prosecution & Partnership



Garda Commissioner & Minister for Justice & Equality with members of HTICU at the seminar.

A seminar on human trafficking for Garda Officer's took place in the Garda College Templemore on 13/14 October 2014. It was addressed by both Minister Frances Fitzgerald and Commissioner Nóirín O'Sullivan.

- **Senior management of An Garda Síochána, international experts and national non-governmental organisations discuss best practice in combating human trafficking and protecting its victims.**
- **Minister states "we need to focus efforts on intelligence, international cooperation and 'following the money' "**

To view the Justice Press Release click on the link below.

<http://www.justice.ie/en/JELR/Pages/PR14000278>

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New Guidelines for diplomatic staff employing private domestic employees in Ireland introduced in September 2014

On 12 September 2014, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade, Charlie Flanagan, TD, announced the introduction of guidelines for members of diplomatic missions in Ireland who intend to employ private domestic workers. As a guiding principle, diplomatic staff of embassies or consulates in Ireland who wish to employ private domestic workers are expected to demonstrate respect for Irish laws and good employment practice. The guidelines clearly set out the expectations regarding payment, employment records, health insurance, and social security.

The new measures in brief:

The Guidelines are preventative measures designed to create a culture of rights for domestic workers within diplomatic households. They draw on best practice across the EU and beyond.

The main provisions are as follows:-

Only diplomats and ambassadors can bring domestic staff to Ireland. As employers, they must:

- Agree, as part of the contract, to uphold Irish law including minimum wage standards
- Provide payslips
- Pay the domestic worker by electronic transfer to a separate bank account set up for the employee and accessed only by the employee
- Agree to inspection by a labour inspector

The Department of Foreign Affairs will:

- Link domestic workers with MRCI from the outset, which will help prevent the isolation that feeds exploitation
- Refuse to renew or grant further visas in offending cases
- Monitor ongoing situation and link with NERA, An Garda Síochána, MRCI and the Departments of Jobs Enterprise and Innovation and Justice and Equality to review how the Guidelines are working in practice.

In addition:

- The domestic worker must be over 21 years of age
- At point of recruitment in the country of origin, the domestic worker will meet with an Irish embassy official to be briefed on their rights and entitlements

The Protocol section in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) will be a point of contact for the domestic worker in Ireland. They will receive a Protocol card which will have to be renewed each year. They have to renew this personally in DFAT which provides an opportunity for Protocol to engage with the domestic workers in diplomatic households on their ongoing situation.

The guidelines are available in full on the DFAT website:

<https://www.dfa.ie/media/dfa/alldfawebsitemedia/newspress/publications/FINAL-GUIDELINES-RELATING-TO-THE-EMPLOYMENT-OF-PRIVATE-DOMESTIC-EMPLOYEES-BY-ACCREDITED-MEMBERS-OF-THE-MISSION.pdf>

Children's Hotline

The ISPCC 116 000 Missing Children's Hotline is a very important service for families. The hotline is available to answer calls 24 hours a day. The main aim of this hotline is to provide advice and emotional support to missing children and their families. By dialling 116 000 the caller will be linked to someone they can talk to about the issue. This free phone hotline is not an emergency line and all cases of missing children must, in the first instance, be reported to the Garda Siochana. The hotline will be provided to children and families to offer ongoing support and guidance. This hotline can greatly enhance the emotional and practical support that can be offered to missing children and their families.



Minister Fitzgerald meets with European Union Anti-Trafficking Co-ordinator Dr Myria Vassiliadou

- *Innovative measures needed to 'follow the money' in international trafficking*
- *Minister says steps must be taken to reduce demand for services of victims*

<http://www.justice.ie/en/JELR/Pages/PR14000268>

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Our Newsletter

If you have / had an event and would like to feature in our quarterly newsletter. Send your notices / photos to AHTUDivision@justice.ie

Update from Ruhama

Preparing for 3rd Level Education



Lorraine the course facilitator

Ten women recently attended a three day course organised by Ruhama, to help participants prepare entering 3rd level education.

The course was designed and delivered by Lorraine and Brigid, who are experienced educators and volunteers with Ruhama.



Participants studying the course handbook

The topics covered on the course included: time management, writing essays, using the library, understanding learning styles and how diet helps your study.

All of the participants started 3rd level education this year and we wish them every success in their studies.

Training the Trainers at the Garda College

Since 2011, we have been providing training, in partnership with An Garda Síochána, to frontline officers in the Gardai and the PSNI, on the issue of policing prostitution. Recently we were invited to the Garda College in Templemore to deliver this training to the teachers/trainers at the college.

CSPE packs for schools

AHTU published a notice on their FB page for schools to contact them if they require CSPE packs for their Human Rights studies.

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Awareness Raising

If you are raising awareness of Human Trafficking..... AHTU have a range of accordion leaflets, pens, keyrings and posters available.

Please contact ahtudivision@justice.ie with the name of your organisation and the quantity you require.

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Do you have or know of an event coming up?

AHTU are available and willing to have an information stand at events to raise awareness of human trafficking.

For more information please contact ahtudivision@justice.ie for more information.

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Save the Date

A Cross Border Conference on Forced Labour will take place in Newry, Co. Down on Wednesday 21st January, 2015.

[Presentations](#)

AHTU attended a North/South roundtable event on Forced Labour in Belfast in June 2014.

AHTU gave a presentation at a three day training course for Gardai in Templemore in June 2014.

AHTU gave a presentation to DFA staff in July 2014.

AHTU gave a presentation to students in D.I.T. in September 2014.

A joint presentation was given by PSNI and HTICU, GNIB on Human Trafficking at two workshops at the 20th All Ireland Annual Midwifery Conference' on 16th October 2014. The Conference was opened by Senator Ivana Bacik.

[Parliamentary Questions](#)

www.oireachtas.ie/documents/op/Sep14/Questions/pq230914.pdf

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