



Government of the Republic of Macedonia

National Commission for Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings and Illegal
Migration

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List of Acronyms:

GIZ	German association for international co-operation
GRETA	Group of experts on human trafficking activities
EU	European Union
CA	Citizens' association
IOM	International organization for migration
ICMPD	International Center for Migration Policy Development
KBF	King Boduen Foundation
MARRI	Regional center for migration, asylum and refugees
MOI	Ministry of interior
MES	Ministry of education and science
MLSP	Ministry of labor and social policy
MFA	Ministry of foreign affairs
NAP	National action plan
NRM	National referral mechanism
OSCE	Organization for security and cooperation in Europe
BPP for POCC	Basic Public Prosecution office for prosecution of organized crime and corruption
SHT	Section for human trafficking
SIA	Sector for internal affairs
SOP	Standard operative procedures
SIPC	Sector for international police co-operation
STHBIM	Sector for trafficking in human beings and illegal migration
SBAM	Sector for border affairs and migration
SCIA	Sector for criminal intelligence and analysis
TIAEX	Technical assistance and information exchange
TRM	Transnational referral mechanism
RCF	Reception center for foreigners
CVTHB	Center for persons- victims of trafficking in human beings
CSW	Center for social work

PREFACE

Trafficking in human beings, all around the globe presents a phenomenon of modern slavery and a complex issue which imposes the need to be addressed in a context of prevention, suppression and sanctions of the perpetrators due to violation of the basic human rights of the persons/victims.

The Republic of Macedonia is deeply committed to the existing reforms in the field of human trafficking where upon a great deal of national laws were harmonized with international documents in this sphere in terms of identification and protection of the victims of human trafficking and prosecution of the perpetrators.

The Republic of Macedonia is one of the first countries in the region which has established an efficient, coordinated, synchronized and multi-sectorial approach regarding the fight against human trafficking with an aim of countering this type of crime and understanding the serious negative implications thereof.

Human trafficking functions through organized networks of coercing people and enforces violent practice of eradication of the vulnerable groups or of individuals, mostly women and children, by the means of exploitation, violence, threats and coercion. Therefore, it is of essential importance that each activity should be coordinated at multi-sectorial level by inclusion of greater number of competent authorities, international organizations and associations of citizens providing services for direct assistance and victim protection, thus supplementing the governmental overall efforts in the fight against human trafficking.

Although there is a solid legal basic framework, action plans on fight against human trafficking, skilfull executives, still human trafficking remains to be a criminal phenomenon and a form of organized crime imposing danger upon the security and stability of the Republic of Macedonia which continues to be a country of origin, transit and destination.

The efforts of all the concerned parties in the fight against trafficking in human beings should not stop and we should focus on strenghtening of the counter-measures against the conditions causing the emergence of human trafficking, such as the following: reduction of poverty, medical and social protection, appropriate education and training, developing of projects for creation of job positions, as principal preconditions being of substantial importance and which are roots for human trafficking, not forgetting the importance of continuous preventive activities and raising the level of the public awareness of the population at risk.

NATIONAL COORDINATOR

Anastasija Ilieska

FOREWORD

The activities of the National Commission on Trafficking in Human Beings (THB) and Illegal Migration and its bodies continued to be transparent and cooperative in 2014. Meetings have been held at which some important solutions and commitments were discussed and suggested on the improvement of current situation with human trafficking and illegal migration through establishing partnership approach with relevant institutions, international organizations and associations of citizens which provided timely information about the planned and realized activities and achieved results, all this resulting in drafting of this report.

In the course of 2014 several international agreements were signed addressing the issue of fighting against THB and illegal migration and several acts and documents were adopted in the referred field by the European Commission and EU agencies.

The criminal offense trafficking in human beings was amended and supplemented in the paragraph 1 of the Article 418-a of the Criminal Code by insertion of “Begging” as a form of exploitation, a redefinition was made to the criminal offense “Trafficking in Minors” foreseen in Article 418-d, into „Trafficking in Children“ from aspect of harmonization of terminology (wording) „Minor “ and „Child“.

A Regional Project /research was conducted for assessment of the needs in the Western Balkans Region which focused on the needs in the area of identification and protection of the THB victims and „Analysis of the Domestic Legislation and Practice from aspect of Applying of Non-punishment Principle of the THB victims” was prepared.

Indicators on identification of THB victims/ children-victims were designed by the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy (MLSP) and the National Commission on Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings and Illegal Migration, aimed at improving the identification of THB victims.

The following programs were also drafted: „Assistance and Support Program upon Reintegration of THB Victims” and a revision was made of the “Assistance and Support Program upon Reintegration of the THB Children –Victims“.

In the mentioned period there was continuous strengthening of the capacities of all partners in fighting against human trafficking by their active participation at seminars and workshops at national and international level, as well as active international co-operation of police officials from MOI- STHBIM.

In 2014 were identified eight (8) victims of THB with an aim of their sexual and labor exploitation, not excluding the forced marriages, as well.¹ Another 83 potential victims were identified by the institutions/organizations and they were secured with direct assistance and support by the citizens’ associations.

In the referent period were detected persons who crossed the border illegally or tried to trespass the state border the total of whom was 1750 (1132) illegal migrants, a number which has increased by 54,6% in comparison with 2013.

¹In 2013 were identified 15 victims and 82 potential victims.

1. Supporting Framework

1.1 COORDINATING STRUCTURES

The National Commission for Fight against THB and Illegal Migration² (Commission) is a body which unites and coordinates all the concerned parties in the fight against THB. The Commission is governed by a National Coordinator³ and his/her Deputy, Secretary and Commission Members.⁴

Since 2003 the following structures have been functioning within the Commission: Secretariat of the National Commission⁵ which carries out the decisions of the Commission and a Sub-group for Fight against Trafficking in Children, established in 2003⁶.

The activities of the National Commission on Trafficking in Human Beings (THB) and Illegal Migration and its bodies continued to be transparent and cooperative in 2014. There are regular meetings for discussion and proposal of important solutions and efforts on how to improve in the field of trafficking in human beings and illegal migration.

Special mechanisms have been developed aimed at fighting against THB and a clear distinction has been made of the duties in the institutions and organizations at central and local level regarding the identification, assistance and support of the THB victims and groups at risk.

In continuity of the activities for decentralization of the National Commission regarding human trafficking (local commissions have been established in Bitola and Tetovo), the OSCE supported Commission additionally strengthened the local response against THB by formation and building up capacities of a local commission for fight against THB and illegal migration in Shtip⁷.

In the course of 2014 the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy (MLSP) with the support of the National Referral Mechanism coordination office for THB victims (NRM) worked devotedly and with uninterrupted efforts on prevention issues and protection of the victims in cooperation and coordination with trained social workers from the social

²Decision published in „Official Gazette of RM“ No.18/2001.

³The Government made a decision for nomination of National Coordinator and members of the National Commission at their session held on 30.01.2007.

⁴Members of the Commission: MOI, MFA, Basic Public Prosecution for prosecution of organized crime and corruption, Ministry of Education and Science, Ministry of Health, MLSP, Judge from Basic Court Skopje 1.

⁵Participating members of international organizations, citizens' associations and experts of governmental institutions: MOI-STHBIM, MLSP-NRM, American Embassy, ICMPD, OSCE, GIZ, IOM, Regional Center- MARRI, „Open Gate“, „For Happy Childhood“, „Semper“, „Ezerka“, and Red Cross of the Republic of Macedonia.

⁶Chaired by Advisor for protection and prevention from THB in MLSP -NRM, and participating members from: MOI-STHBIM, CBARM-MOI, USA Embassy in Skopje, ICMPD, OSCE, GIZ, IOM, „Open Gate“, „For Happy Childhood“, „Equal Treatment“, as well as Deputy Ombudsman being in a role of external member/supervisor.

⁷The nominated are members of the local commission from Shtip with representatives of the Shtip Municipality, SIA-Shtip for prevention, the MOI regional centers, SWC, State Labor Inspectorate, health, education, employment centers, public prosecution and associations of citizens and Red Cross office in Shtip.

work centers (SWC) (in 30 towns in RM), with labor inspectors, with the MOI/Sector for Trafficking in Human Beings and Illegal Migration (STHBIM), and with citizens' associations (CA).

Moreover, MLSP continued in 2014 to support the citizens' associations through engagement of social workers from the centers for social work in realization of the projects which were financially backed up by GIZ and the King Baudouin Foundation, namely, the following:

- The Program for "Supportive (Assisting) Social Work with Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings and Potential Victims " implemented by the association "Open Gate"⁸ and

- The Project „Provision of Support and Services to the Human Trafficking Victims and Vulnerable Groups at Local Level“ implemented by the association for equal possibilities "Equal Approach"⁹ with a purpose of promoting cooperation between the CA and governmental institutions at local level in terms of protection and support to the victims/vulnerable groups of THB.

This cooperation is beneficial for continuation of the decentralization process and strengthening of the social services at local level for the THB victims and the vulnerable groups.

1.2 LEGAL AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

The adoption of the Law on Amendments and Supplements of the Criminal Code ("Official Gazette of the RM, No. 27/14) brought up amendments and supplements of the paragraph 1 of the Article 418-a which stipulates the features of the criminal offense "Trafficking in Human Beings" in view of incrimination of "Begary or Exploitation as activity prohibited by law" for which a prison sentence of at least four years is prescribed.

In this view, in the Article 418-d of this law an appropriate redefinition was made to the criminal offense "Trafficking of Children" from aspect of harmonization of terminology for „Minor“ and „Child“, in accordance with the positive legal regulations in the children protection field.

In order to make improvements in national legislation, the Commission, with a support by the OSCE Mission to Skopje, prepared/drafted an "Analysis of the Domestic Legislation and Practice from Aspect of Application of the Non-Punishment Principle to the Human Trafficking Victims" and made clear formulation of the recommendations for improvements in the legislation and the current situation in line with the international standards in this area. The Project also envisaged realization of a round

⁸This project aims to support and monitor the process of integration of the victims of THB after their leaving the Reception Center in cooperation with the social work centers (SWC) at local level .

⁹The project aims to make use of the 3 mobile teams (representatives from the (Center for social work- CSW and CA) in Bitola, Gostivar and Kumanovo for the process of identification, assistance, support of the THB victims, their inclusion in processes of resocialization and reintegration and their inclusion in the society and certainly, prevention from reiterated trafficking (re-trafficking).

table at which were presented the results from the analysis along with the recommendations in front of the auditorium of around 50 professionals working in the field of trafficking in human beings.

In order to establish practical implementation of the national legal regulations by the responsible subjects at central and local level, with an aim to determine the drawbacks and to provide conclusions and recommendations for more efficient identification and protection of the children-victims of THB, MLSP, in cooperation with the Sub-group for Fight against Trafficking in Children, drafted **Analysis of the State of Affairs in Identification and Protection of the Children- Victims of THB**. The **Analysis** detects the weaknesses and problem issues, gives recommendations how to improve and addresses the issue of efficient identification and protection of the children- victims of THB. Having this in mind, besides the domestic laws, policies and institutional commitments and the ratified international agreements, the main focus falls on the European Convention for Fight against Human Trafficking and the 36/2011 EU Directive on Fight against Human Trafficking, and the current practice, as well. At the same time, the Analysis detects the weaknesses and the problem issues and gives recommendations for improvements and efficient identification and protection of the children- victims of THB.

In the frames of the Project „the Balkans, Act Now!“, „Open Gate“ started with the implementation of representation campaign in order to start up creation of the Law on Victims' Compensatory State Fund. Three comparative analysis were prepared in the frames of the project regarding the best compensatory practice in the Netherlands and other EU countries which should serve as a basis for creation of the law-proposal. Additionally, another two analyses were prepared for compensation of the THB victims in the Republic of Macedonia „Analysis of the Claims to Compensation and the Adopted Policies for Compensation of the Victims of THB in the Republic of Macedonia“ and „Compensation of the Human Trafficking Victims in the Republic of Macedonia“.

1.3 INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION

In terms of the international co-operation, the following international agreements and acts have been concluded relating to the fight against human trafficking and illegal migration:

-Agreement between the Governments of the Republic of Macedonia and the Italian Republic on Police Co-operation, signed in Rome on 1st December 2014.

- Protocol between the Government of the Republic of Macedonia and the Government of the Slovak Republic on Implementation of the Treaty between the Republic of Macedonia and European Community on Readmission of Persons with Unauthorized Stay, signed in Skopje on 16th December 2014.

In the course of 2014, the following acts and documents were adopted by the European Commission and EU relevant agencies:

- In relation to the EU Strategy on Eradication of Human Trafficking (2012-2016), in October 2014, the European Commission adopted a Mid-term Report on implementation of the Strategy¹⁰. The report covers the activities undertaken by EU, as well as the co-operation with the countries which are not EU members, but they are countries of origin, transit and destination of trafficking in human beings.

- The European Commission submitted information regarding the application of the 2004/81/EC Council Directive on residence permits issued to third-country nationals to the EU 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 authorities¹¹.

- On 22.05.2014 the European Commission submitted information for the application of the 2009/52/EC Directive of 18th June 2009 on establishing minimum standards for sanctions and measures against the employers of third countries nationals with legal residence¹². Alongside other fields, the Directive includes measures for strengthening of the legislation in terms of THB.

- In November 2014, Eurostat issued the second working document about the statistical data and the state of affairs of THB in the EU¹³. The same includes data for all the 28 EU member countries, Iceland, Norway and for the candidate countries for EU membership, such as Montenegro, Serbia, Turkey and Macedonia.

- In March 2014, a conjoint report was published by the European Migration Network, the European Commission included, on identification of the THB victims in the field of international protection and the procedures for forceful return (by contribution of 24 member countries of the European Migration Network)¹⁴.

In accordance with Article 38 from the Council of Europe Convention on Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings, the Group of experts on trafficking in human beings (GRETA) in 2013 approached towards revision of the measures undertaken by the Republic of Macedonia regarding the implementation of the provisions stipulated in the Convention. In the course of 2014, the Commission of the Parties to the Council of Europe Convention on Human Trafficking on 7th July 2014 adopted **the recommendation** at the 14th Meeting of the Commission of the CE Council of Ministers and submitted it to the Republic of Macedonia upon which the Commission reached the decision for formation of working group for drafting up an Action Plan for implementation of the recommendations given by GRETA.

¹⁰COMMISSION STAFF WORKING DOCUMENT - Mid-term report on the implementation of the EU strategy towards the eradication of trafficking in human beings, Brussels, 17.10.2014, {COM(2014) 635 final}

¹¹COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE COUNCIL AND THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT on the application of Directive 2004/81 on the residence permit issued to third-country nationals who are victims of trafficking in human beings or who have been the subjects of an action to facilitate illegal immigration, who cooperate with the competent authorities, Brussels, 17.10.2014 COM(2014) 635 final, {SWD(2014) 318 final}

¹²COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE COUNCIL AND THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT on the application of Directive 2009/52/EC of 18 June 2009 providing for minimum standards on sanctions and measures against employers of illegally staying third country nationals, Brussels, 22.5.2014, COM(2014) 286 final

¹³Eurostat – Statistical Working papers, Trafficking in human beings, 2014 edition

¹⁴Synthesis Report – Identification of victims of trafficking in human beings in international protection and forced return procedures, European Migration Network Study March 2014.

In the course of 2014 STHBIM –DSOSC within the MOI carried out criminal investigation on smuggling migrants upon which cooperation was established with the police services of Serbia and Bulgaria via the SELEC Center in Bucharest.

On 9th December 2014, Vienna, MFA attended at a meeting in organization by OSCE on learning about different experience and best practices being applied in some countries in view of prevention against human trafficking for the purposes of domestic servitude in diplomatic households.

In the course of 2014, **IOM** Skopje in co-operation with the Commission realized regional project/research to assess the needs in the region of the Western Balkans. The research/survey focused on the needs in the part of identification and protection of the THB victims, including also representatives from relevant institutions and citizens' associations¹⁵. In the frames of the project a regional workshop was carried out for validation of the primary results, attended by 45 practitioners from the region countries where they had a chance to discuss and clarify the obtained results. Upon finalization of the research it was translated and published in the local languages and in each of the countries was organized an event for representation of the process, results/recommendations and the further steps to undertake.

The **OSCE** Mission to Skopje carried out regional project on improvement /advancement of the regional co-operation against human trafficking in children among several NGOs in the countries of the Western Balkans by the means of organizing three study visit in Thessaloniki (Greece), Belgrade (Serbia) and Paris (French Republic).¹⁶

ICMPD organized a meeting of the National Coordinators on fight against trafficking in human beings in the SEE region on 26th June 2014 in Istanbul, Turkey under the auspice of Brdo Proces, and upon initiative of the Slovenian Ministry of Interior. The National Coordinators on human trafficking in the SEE region together with the representatives of the Directorate for Migration in Turkey succeeded to exchange information about the activities implemented to fight human trafficking at the meeting. The event was hosted by the Secretary of the National Committee for fight against human trafficking of Moldova and ICMPD (in a role of Secretariat).

In the frames of the USA Volvis Program from 16-27th November 2014 the **MARRI RC** realized two projects, meaning there was realization of a study visit to institutions dealing with fighting THB and smuggling of migrants. The stated study visit was carried out by the national coordinators for fight against trafficking in human beings in the MARRI member countries. Regional workshop was held in December, on topic "Regional Co-operation for more Efficient Response to the Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings in Southeast Europe".

¹⁵The survey was conducted in several phases, Analysis of the existing research, documents, analysed and similar.; Interviews with relevant agents in the member countries in the survey (37); Web-research/survey with additional 15 questions to which responded 99 respondents from the region; triangulation and summing up of the results obtained from the previous three phases based on which the Draft- Report of the survey was made up;

¹⁶ A coordinative regional meeting was held in the frames of the project in Skopje, March 2014 and the work methodology was adopted; Realization of three study visits for 10 representatives of NGOs from Western Balkans in Thessaloniki (May) and Belgrade (June) and Paris (November) in 2014 followed by a summary of the questionnaires about the study visits, and there is ongoing preparation of the final report of the project.

Five representatives of the Republic of Macedonia were invited by the Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina who participated in a workshop in Sarajevo on 13-14 May entitled as “Fight against Transnational Organized Crime- Trafficking in Children: Investigations, Prosecution and International Co-operation”.

The Greek NGO „The Smile of the Child“ under auspice of the Greek Chairmanship with the Council of the European Union organized a Southeastern Forum on the topic “Missing Children in a Context of Trafficking in Children”, which was held in May 2014 in Thessaloniki- Greece. The goal of the Forum was to identify the relations among the missing children and trafficking in children, but also to search the possibilities for use of the phone line for missing children in the field of fight against human trafficking.

„Open Gate“ was a host of the meeting for the partners of the project “the Balkans, Act Now!” from Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, France, Holland and Macedonia. In the frames of this event also a two- day training was conducted for purposes of making analyses regarding THB which contributed to strengthening of the capacities of the citizens’ associations in the region.

In 2014, the association „For Happy Childhood„ continued the **cooperation** with the regional network for fight against trafficking in human trafficking and illegal migration-ARIADNE-Network by implementation of the “Research of the Methods for Rehabilitation/ Reintegration of the Trafficking in Human Beings Victims“ and published a manual with a title: “Models of Rehabilitation/Reintegration of the Trafficking in Human Beings Victims in the Region of the Western Balkans”.

2. Prevention

2. Prevention

2.1. Identification of the reasons for appearance of the trafficking in human beings and illegal migration

During 2014 the Association „**Open Gate**“ has carried several investigations including **„Raise your voice against the trafficking in human beings“** and has carried a quantitative research in order to examine the awareness, the perception and the understanding on the topic of exploitation of labor and the problem of trafficking in human beings. Within the project “Monitoring of the situation of the children returned from the EU member states”, there was a research in order to determine the reasons for the return of these people from the EU member states, as well as the course of their reintegration in the environment of their origin. In the framework of the project Mario 2 **“Let's protect the children on the move”** and in coordination with the Commission there was a transnational research for the children on the move. The main goals were to enable better understanding of the phenomenon of children on the move as well as of adequacy and efficiency of the existing systems of child protection as response to their needs. Another three researches were implemented: **“Social services to THB victims in Macedonia”**, **“Risk factors in the family and labor exploitation of children”** and **“Identification, labor exploitation and protection of the victims of THB in the Republic of Macedonia”**.

The Association **“For a happy childhood”** carried two workshops and focus groups for identification of the reasons for the trafficking in human beings for labor exploitation. By using the program **“Travel and work”** they have identified the reasons for and the dangers from the labor exploitation, including: insufficiently precise labor contract as regards the job that they would be contracted for; the money they would earn; the accommodation and working hours.

2.2. Strengthening of the capacities and realization of prevention activities

During 2014, 8 police officers from the Sector for THB and IM participated to 5 trainings, seminars and conferences organized by ICITAP, the Embassy of the French Republic in Zagreb, OSCE and the Embassy of the USA in Skopje.

In 2014, in the Training center of the MoI, a Program – curriculum for training of professionals for THB was prepared for the purpose of strengthening of the capacities of the professionals in the MoI for detection and pursuit of criminal acts THB and for

identification of victims of THB. The Training center of the MoI in accordance with the annual programs of the MoI will realize trainings of professionals for THB.

For the purposes of strengthening of the border police capacities for detection of criminal acts THB and early identification of victims of THB, as well as identification of victims of THB among the illegal migrants, the Sector for Border Affairs and Migration carried 24 trainings during 2014 for 348 border police officers.

The Ministry of Labor and Social Policy supported the training of volunteers from the Red Cross of the Republic of Macedonia to 19 peer educators on prevention of THB¹⁷. The training was held in order to continue the Caravan of charades “disclosed blindness” which is being carried out in Serbia, Kosovo, Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina, with the support of the Regional Program of GIZ.

Upon the request of the **Local commission of fight against THB** from Bitola and in the way of realization of the Local action plan, the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy held a workshop with the members of the Council of the municipality of Bitola. The workshop took place in Ohrid on 13 June with the presence of an overall of 20 councilors from the municipality of Bitola.

The Association “**Open gate**” realized 11 workshops on topic: Prevention and education about THB to children in the eight and ninth grade thus including 300 children. The main purpose was to familiarize the children with the problem of THB with special emphasis on the manner in which the children are being involved in the trafficking and the methods used for their protection thus including 13 teachers from elementary schools. A training of 62 students from the Faculty of Pedagogy from Bitola, Skopje, Tetovo and Shtip, the Institute of pedagogy and the Institute of social work and social policy was held within the project “Strengthening of the capacities of the future professors in a multi-ethnic environment”. With the support of GIZ another training was realized intended for the education of the professors from the High School “Naum Naumovski Borche” from Probishtip with the aim to strengthen their capacities for prevention, identification and referral in cases of THB.

In order to strengthen the capacities of the teachers in schools for the prevention of social risks and THB, and in cooperation with the Municipal center for social affairs of Probishtip, the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy and “Open gate” held a training for the class teachers and the psychological – pedagogic service within the schools. The training was realized as a result of a conveyed research, which showed the presence of the topic.

Eight students from the Institute of social work and social policy participated to a practical activity in “Open gate” where they improved their knowledge in the area of THB.

¹⁷ From Skopje, Kavadarci, Ohrid, Struga, Debar and Strumica.

During the month of December there was a training provided by UNHCR intended to raise the awareness for security and management of risks on the safety where representatives from “Open gate” acquired basic knowledge on the effective protection, personal security, application of safety measures, interpersonal skills, riot control and security needed for working in the Asylum Center. “Open gate” started to implement the program for integration of people – asylum seekers for more successful social integration, basic knowledge of the Macedonian language and useful and well organized spending of the leisure time, including 55 persons situated in the Asylum Center. The program includes unaccompanied children asylum seekers, families seeking asylum, single parents with children asylum seekers, vulnerable categories of persons needing professional aid and assistance. 26 group workshops were realized including 55 persons which were provided with psycho – social assistance, 21 individual sessions for overcoming problems and at the same time they were provided with clothing.

The Association “For a happy childhood” carried on with the implementation of a continuous prevention program, within which there was an advanced training of the team for dealing with cases of victims with specific issues¹⁸, as well as training for dealing with families of the victims of THB¹⁹. Teams were formed and 15 volunteers were trained for field work and observation of children on street²⁰.

The Association on equal opportunities “Semper” realized two projects “The slavery is prohibited all human beings are free” through one-day training for the members of the Local commission for fight against trafficking in human beings from Bitola, as well as a one-day workshop for art professors from the elementary schools from Bitola on topic “Prevention of THB”; the second project is “Participate in the prevention, THB does exist” for which there were two three-day trainings for peer education of 38 pupils from 19 elementary schools from the municipalities of Bitola, Novaci, Demir Hisar and Mogila; and two one-day education trainings for 58 teachers from 19 elementary schools from 5 municipalities²¹. “Semper” realized seven educational lectures for 323 students from 7 university institutions in Bitola²², 600 pupils from 19 elementary schools from the municipalities of Bitola, Novaci, Demir Hisar and Mogila were educated.

The Red Cross of the Republic of Macedonia²³ carried trainings of 22 peer educators for usage of international tool recommended by GIZ. 2415 pupils attended the 69

¹⁸ Held in the period 31 January – 5 February 2014 which included 8 members from the Association.

¹⁹ Training of 19 members of the Association, held 15 – 16 February 2014.

²⁰ Training and field tasks for 3 groups each with 5 volunteers to observe children on street and detect potential victims of trafficking among the children-beggars.

²¹ Bitola, Novaci, Demir Hisar and Mogila.

²² Law Faculty, Faculty of Technical Sciences, Medical College of Bitola, Faculty of Pedagogy, Faculty of Biotechnology, International Slavic University “Gavrilo Romanovich Derzavin”, Faculty of Administration and Information Systems and Faculty of Bio-technical Sciences.

²³ Its activities for prevention of THB in 2014 were implemented through the Municipal organizations of the Red Cross Strumica, Struga, Debar, Kavadarci, Ohrid, Shtip, Krushevo, Resen, Gostivar, Kochani, Bitola, Negotino, Demir Hisar, Kumanovo, Veles and the Red Cross of the city of Skopje.

workshops organized through peer educations in 16 cities. The regular educational activities of the Red Cross comprised the creation of a team of 5 volunteers from the Youth club of the Red Cross Karposh, which accompanied by professional actors directed and presented the play “Scar” whose topic and content were related to the risks of and dangers from the THB. The play was held on 02 and 03 November 2014 in the Drama Theater – Skopje and it was attended by 600 visitors and the larger part of them were elementary and high school students.

In 2014, on the territory of five municipalities²⁴, **the Association for equal possibilities “Ezerka” - Struga** realized continuously educational activities for persons aged 12 – 30 years, from rural environments, and included also vulnerable categories of citizens, dysfunctional families, Roma population, and all of it with the aim of prevention and to educate the citizens, and particularly the marginalized groups and economically challenged categories in the society. Prevention activities were aimed at the employees in the textile, catering, building and agriculture sector to reduce the labor exploitation as part of the THB, as well as for the parents and children on street to reduce the begging as a form of THB²⁵.

The Association “Equal Access” organized 3 workshops for lobbying and sustainability of the mobile teams on local level, in partnership with the MLSP and the Councils of the municipalities of Bitola, Gostivar and Kumanovo. The workshops were realized with the support of GIZ and they were attended by around 70 people.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs – promotion of the manual “How to prevent human trafficking for domestic servitude in diplomatic households and protect private domestic workers” published by OSCE.

2.3. Raising public awareness and education

“International day of fight against THB, 18 October, celebrated by the Commission, and the members of the Secretariat through distribution of promotion material and public promotion of several preventive projects of the partners “For a happy childhood”, “Open gate” and Red Cross of RM in the hall of the Faculty of Philosophy within the University of Sts Cyril and Method – Skopje. The Minister of Interior and the Rector of the University express their full support to the event. The event emphasized the challenges faced by the younger population, i.e. the students who use the services of “travel and work” in order to raise the public awareness about the dangers and risks they might encounter while the final aim is their protection from THB.

The Association “For a happy childhood” organized a meeting in the premises of the Faculty of Philosophy for a focus group which included a presentation of a movie “THB”,

²⁴ Struga, Ohrid, Vevchani, Debar and Debarca.

²⁵ All of the activities of the AC “Ezerka” and campaigns were represented in the media by MTV 1 Skopje, TVM Ohrid, Kaltrina Struga, BP Radio, Macedonian Radio.

thus informing 28 students about the dangers of the labor exploitation when being employed abroad.

The Association “Open gate” celebrated 18 October with an activity through the international network La Strada International, in cooperation with 28 partner organizations across Europe, thus marking the beginning of the campaign USED IN EUROPE: THB and labor exploitation on our continent, whose aim is to promote the issue of labor exploitation and THB. This campaign is the only one on the internet providing detailed review of major cases in the last ten years in Europe. A poster was also prepared as part of the activities for celebrating the campaign.

The Association “Equal Access” on the occasion of the European day of fight against THB organized a Workshop in the municipality of Bitola to lobby for and sustain the Associations of Citizens, in partnership with the Council of the municipality of Bitola and the National Commission for THB attended by 25 representatives of institutions, councilors from the municipality of Bitola, the AC's and business sector.

The Association “Semper” - Bitola carried preventive activities for fight against trafficking in human beings and distributed educative material on the square Magnolia in Bitola in amount of about 8000 samples.

“During the “Week of fight against THB” in the period 02 – 09 December 2014, the Commission, MoI, MLSP and the Association for action against violence and THB “Open gate/ La Strada” organized National conference of proactive and coordinated fight against THB with focus on labor exploitation – Promotion and application of indicators for identification of victims of THB.

The Association **“For a happy childhood”** held 6 basic trainings on THB for students from the University “Sts Cyril and Method” - Skopje and from the International Slavic University “G.R. Derzavin” - Sveti Nikole – Bitola and Sveti Nikole. The one-day trainings were attended by 130 students who were presented the movie “Taken”.

The Association on equal opportunities “Ezerka” celebrated the Week of fight against THB and IM with prevention lectures and education of pupils and students aged 12-18 from the High School “Ibrahim Temo”, the Fifth Private Gymnasium and the high school center “Niko Nestor” and the elementary schools in the municipalities in which the Association is active.

The Association “Semper” - Bitola organized an art display on topic “THB” in the Culture Center Bitola presenting over 60 artworks and awarding three acknowledgments to the best; a media and radio campaign was realized on two national and one local TV station and one local radio station with the message “THB does exist”.

The Association “Equal access” organized Workshop in partnership with the Council of the municipality of Kumanovo for lobbying and sustainability of Associations of

Citizens which was attended by around 29 representatives of institutions, AC and the business sector. On the occasion humanitarian aid was given to 15 families in food and hygiene product packages as donation from the Foundation “Podium” from San Marino, from the vulnerable groups of citizens/ beneficiaries which are being dealt by the mobile teams in Kumanovo.

The **Association “Open gate”** carried series of activities in order to raise the public awareness and prevention of THB.

- Workshop – Let's talk about children marriages in the day center for children on street in Shuto Orizari.
- Raising public awareness on THB with special emphasis on labor exploitation and begging through distribution of prevention material.
- Prevention material was distributed on frequent places in Skopje – City trade center, City Mall, Capitol Mall, Vero Center.

Several campaigns were also realized:

- Campaign “To prevent, protect, compensate, rights for the victims of THB” aimed at actualization of the problem of access to the right of compensation to the THB victims in the region and different models relative to the regulation of this right.
- Campaign “Balkan Act Now” aimed at increasing the public awareness, as well as urging of all of the competent institutions to undertake active and efficient access to the rights of the THB victims, in particular the right to compensation, to which end an animated TV spot, leaflets and posters were prepared and created in order to explain the access to the rights of the THB victims.
- Design and creation of a new web page focused on the problem of compensation to the THB victims²⁶.
- Campaign “Raise your voice against THB” aimed at contributing to the fight against THB with special emphasis on the labor exploitation, increase of the public awareness among the youth population, and to the amelioration of the identification and services to the victims. A banner and video and radio spots were created and are being broadcast via several national radio and TV stations.
- 7 workshops were prepared and realized for 127 children and 93 parents on topic “To get married or not” in order to increase the prevention and protection of the children from the Roma population from forced/ children marriages and THB. The workshops were realized in Skopje, Shtip and Delchevo.

In 2014 the **SOS line**²⁷ worked every day from 08-20 h, 7 days a week. In the period January – December 2014, 395 callers had the possibility to get information, emotional support, psycho-social support and assistance, depending on their needs.

²⁶ <http://nadoknadimo.org>

²⁷ Open gate SOS line 080011111.

On the occasion of the month of fight against THB the **Embassy of the USA** in Skopje organized panel-discussions in the American Corner in Skopje, Bitola, Struga, Tetovo and Shtip which were attended by representatives from the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy and representative from Open gate. Furthermore, representatives from the Embassy held lectures in high schools. The aim of this panel-discussion was to increase the awareness of the young population about the existence of the problem of THB.

3. Support and protection of victims and migrants

3.1 IDENTIFICATION AND VICTIMS REFERRAL

The process of identification and victims referral by the MLSP-NRM is conducted in cooperation and coordination with the Centers for Social Affairs (30), MOI-Sector for Trafficking of Human Beings and Migrants, labor inspectors and civil associations. In 2014, on the territory of the Republic of Macedonia, **officials identified 8 victims¹⁷ and 83 potential victims of trafficking of human beings¹⁸** of whom the Center for victims of human trafficking **accommodated 5¹⁹**.

In direction of implementation of the Strategy and the National action plan for fight against trafficking in human beings and illegal migration 2013-2016, the Commission and the MLSP **developed indicators for identification of victims of human trafficking²⁰**. The indicators are designed to improve the identification of victims of human trafficking and to be used as a practical tool by officials from the institutions and organizations that may be in contact with victims or potential victims of human trafficking. The indicators are divided into two groups: direct indicators intended to identify the victims and indirect indicators to identify potential victims²¹.

The Sector for Trafficking of Human Beings and Migrants within the MOI identified Afgani female child (among illegal migrants), potential victim of sexual exploitation, as well as 8 potential victims –foreign citizens accommodated in the Reception Center for Foreigners.

3.2. DIRECT ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION OF VICTIMS AND MIGRANTS

MOI-Sector for Border Affairs and Migration offered 24 hours surveillance; safe accommodation and meals for the victims of human trafficking and migrants, in the Reception Center for Foreigners-Skopje, where 9 persons were accepted and accommodated (1 identified 8 potential victims), and they were provided with general and specialized medical care and psycho-social care with the support of a psychologist and a social worker.

¹⁷Six (6) children at the age of 13-17 citizens of R. Macedonia, 1 one foreign citizen from Romania who was repatriated in her country of origin. As for the type of the exploitation, there are 3 victims of sexual exploitation, 4 victims of sexual and labor exploitation by forced marriage, and 1 victim of labor exploitation by forced beggary.

¹⁸**66 children, 17 adults,; 70 female, 13 male:** MOI 9 (1 female and 8 female adults foreign citizens), Equal approach in cooperation with the Center for Social Affairs– 54 (45 children, 9 adults, 13 male and 41 female), Open Gate– 20 potential victims (all females).

¹⁹Four are citizens of R. Macedonia one foreign citizen with residence permit, one adult female and four children.

²⁰Available on <http://www.mtsp.gov.mk/nacionalen-mehanizam-za-upatuvanje-na-zrtvi-na-trgovija-so-lugje.nspk>

²¹<http://www.mtsp.gov.mk/nacionalen-mehanizam-za-upatuvanje-na-zrtvi-na-trgovija-so-lugje.nspk>

MLSP–NRM for the reference period, in the Centar for Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings accommodated (5)²² victims and provide them with psychological-sociological support, medical aid and legal aid, involvement in educative process, trainings and courses. In cooperation with civil organizations and with the personnel from the Centar for Social affairs attempts were made for social inclusion. The Centar for Victims of Trafficking of Human Beings developed individual programs for reintegration of victims who after the stay they were returned to their families or placed in a secure environment/location.

MLSP developed programs to assist and support the reintegration of victims of human trafficking²³ and conducted review of the assistance and support for children / victims of human trafficking. For this purpose a working group²⁴ was formed and logistical support was provided by the Regional Programme for Social Protection and Prevention of human trafficking by the German Society for International Cooperation (GIZ), the program was finalized at three public debates held in Skopje, Tetovo and Probishtip . In order to properly implement the programs, trainings were organized in four municipalities (Kocani, Probishtip, Kumanovo and Debar) approximately 60 persons attended on the trainings.

The Civil Organisation "Open Gate" provided services through the Centar for Victims of Trafficking of Human Beings by Shift work of social workers and by providing technical assistance and counseling for 5 victims who were involved in the direct support program. For 7 victims the Civil Organization continued the ongoing counseling and activities for their reintegration into society. The Civil Organisation provided a standard package of services to meet basic needs (food, clothing and hygiene kits) for all 12 victims involved in the direct support program, as well as medical care and psycho-social counseling, while seven victims were provided with specialized examination and appropriate medication.

In order to facilitate access to the labor market, "Open Gate" provided cosmetician course for 2 residents of the Centar and foreign language training for 1 resident. One victim was enabled inclusion in formal education and acquiring knowledge of a foreign language in private school. One victim was supported to start independent life by providing different types of assistance and support.

From the funds provided by the campaign, "Cut the strings of child trafficking" additional equipment was provided (beds, mattresses, chairs, appliances) and food vouchers for the Centar.

²²One female foreign citizen (R. Romania),adult,with residence permit, after short stay she was returned to the country of origin by her own request.

²³ <http://www.mtsp.gov.mk/nacionalen-mehanizam-za-upatuvanje-na-zrtvi-na-trgovija-so-lugje.nsp>

²⁴Comprised from representatives of: Ministry of Education and Science, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Local Government, Institute for Social Affairs, Center for Social Work, Employment Agency of the Republic of Macedonia, and civil and international organizations

The Civil Association "Open Gate" implemented the project „ monitoring the situation of children returned from the EU Member States " in Macedonia, which included 20 children and their families who were continuously involved in individual and group counseling geared towards their empowerment and guidance for changing their way of life. Children and families were informed of the situation and policies of the EU Member States. All children are involved in the educational process, of which 12 attend regular classes and 8 are involved in attending part time classes. Every month all families are provided with humanitarian aid.

The project "Supporting social work with victims of human trafficking and potential victims" was implemented by "Open Gate" through the provision of services by mobile teams in Prilep, Skopje, Sveti Nikole, Struga, Ohrid and Probishtip. Teams of social workers in supporting social work during 2014, continued to provide support to 20 persons at risk of human trafficking and their families, referred by the Centar for Victims of Trafficking of Human Beings.

The Civil Association "For Happy Childhood" provided services to victims accommodated in the Centar and offered individual and group psycho-educational and therapeutic activities as well as counseling depending on the needs of each victim. The Association conducted an assessment of the mental condition of the victims (stress levels, assessment of skills, abilities and habits) and assessment of ability to overcome the stress and trauma, positive thinking, the dangers of sexually transmitted diseases and unwanted pregnancy. The Association provided direct individual support for five victims treated at the Center for overcoming traumatic experiences, and participated in the repatriation-return to country of origin of the victim by providing airline ticket.

The **Civil Association "Equal Access"** under the project "Provision of support and services for victims of trafficking and vulnerable groups at the local level" supported by KBF and GIZ, provided three operative mobile teams to improve the identification process in three cities, Gostivar, Bitola, Kumanovo and one mobile team to serve other cities in Macedonia, and to provide support to potential victims, vulnerable groups and their families.

- Four teams worked with a total of 54 potential victims of trafficking (45 children, 9 adults, 13 male and 41 female) and their 34 families with 128 members. In this context, guardians were appointed to 12 beneficiaries; Provision of psychological and social support for 16 beneficiaries through individual and group counseling to overcome personal and family issues; Ensured necessary documentation to 8 beneficiaries (required for school, obtaining health insurance, registration in the Employment Agency, birth certificate, etc.); 14 children who have left school were returned to the educational process, eight children continued education, 6 beneficiaries were provided with textbooks and other school materials; 7 were enrolled in secondary school; Medical Aid-examinations for 11 persons, dental services for 9 and laboratory tests for 6 persons). Support in providing social financial aid to 16 beneficiaries; Previous legal assistance was provided to 13 potential victims and their families; In terms of training, (2 persons completed hairdresser course and 2 persons completed tailoring course), as well as completing courses for acquiring working skills. 54 secondary beneficiaries were

supported by providing the basic needs of food, hygiene products, clothing and other established priorities. Organized spare time for 18 beneficiaries (children) in order to create social wellbeing and to build positive interpersonal relations in accordance with their interests, and to change their hygiene and cultural habits as well as to strengthen their personal capacity.

3.3 LEGAL AID FOR VICTIMS AND MIGRANTS

Within the project activities the Association "Open Gate" legal assistance was provided for five persons involved in the social assistance program, of which only one person appeared in front of an investigating judge to make a statement in relation to the proceedings.

According to the office of the NRM / MLSP, during 2014, from a total of 146 children accommodated in the Reception Center for Foreigners, procedures were coordinated to appoint guardian for 64 children, 59 male and 5 female illegal migrants.

- According to the age: 7 children are to the age of 14, and 57 children from the age of 15 to 18;
- According to gender :5 female and 59 male;
- According to the country of origin: Afghanistan (39), Syria (13) Mali (2) Somali (2) and Sudan (1) Bangladesh (2) Eritrea (1) Palestine (3) Iraq (1) ;
- 39 children have requested asylum through the guardian, and were transferred to the Center for Asylum;
- 5 children were returned in R. Greece by readmission ²⁵and 20 children are accommodated in the Reception Centre for Foreigners (December 2014).

²⁵ Pursuant to Article 7 of the Agreement with the European Community for readmission of person residing without authorisation

4. Budget

The activities to fight trafficking in human beings were implemented in partnership between the Commission and institutions of the system, International Organizations and Associations in the Republic of Macedonia. Donors and partners who contributed to the implementation of activities to fight trafficking in human beings and illegal migration²⁶

The activities carried out funds from:

Government of R. Macedonia ²⁷	1.500.000,00 MKD
MLSP - CVTHB	663.036,00 MKD
MOI-Reception Center	6.029.549,00 MKD
International Organizations	2.631.274,00 MKD ²⁸
Associations: ²⁹	12.625.400,00 MKD
Total	23.449.259,00 MKD

²⁶Government of the Republic of Macedonia, MOI, MLSP, OSCE Mission in Skopje, IOM, Government of France King Boduen Foundation and the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), American Embassy, Volvis program of the United States; MARRI Regional Centre, European Commission, RACVIAC Zagreb, Red Cross Republic of Macedonia, Local Self-Government Bitola, Local Self-Government Shtip, Red Cross, Open Gate, ARIADNE-network in Greece.

²⁷The government adopted a decision on allocation of funds from the state budget for 2014 for financing the program activities of five Associations and Foundations, the decision was published in the "Official Gazette" no. 193 on December 24, 2014. Three of the projects were aimed at activities for prevention ("Semper", "Ezerka" and the Red Cross of the Republic of Macedonia) and two were aimed at direct support and protection of victims ("Happy Childhood" and "Open Gate"). Each project amounts to 300,000 MKD.

²⁸MARRI – 565.774,00 MKD; ГИЗ - 1.635.000,00 MKD;
ОБСЕ, National project - 430.500,00 MKD and Regional project – 1.537.500,00 MKD.

²⁹The displayed funds are the total budget for "For Happy Childhood", "Open Gate", "Semper", "Ezerka", "Equal Approach".

5. Investigation and prosecution of trafficking in human beings and smuggling migrants

5.1 PRE-TRIAL PROCEEDING

- Trafficking in Human Beings

During the 2014, the following criminal proceedings were submitted to the Public Prosecutor's Office for Organized Crime and Corruption:

- „Trafficking in Human Beings “ Article.418-a from the Criminal Code, submitted 2 criminal proceedings against two persons, one male and one female.
- Article.418-б „Smuggling of migrants “ from the Criminal Code, in total of 79 criminal proceedings against 122 persons were submitted to the Public Prosecutor’s Office. 120 persons were male and 2 persons were female.
- Article. 418-в „Organizing a group and instigating trafficking of a child and smuggling of migrants“, from the Criminal Code, in total of 4 criminal proceedings against 23 persons (22 male and 1 female) were submitted to the Public Prosecutor’s Office.
- Article.418-г „Trafficking of a child “ from the Criminal Code, 1 criminal proceeding against 2 persons was submitted to the Public Prosecutor’s Office.

In the course of 2014, the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Macedonia conducted six investigations involving 8 police officers (including 1 Deputy Chief of a Sector for Internal Affairs and 1 Commander of a Police station). Criminal proceedings were submitted to the competent Public Prosecutor's Office, 7 of them are detained, and the Department of Internal Control and Professional Standards initiated procedures to determine disciplinary responsibility.

Overview of identified victim of trafficking in human beings for 2014³⁰

Victims			
Child 6		Adults 2	
Domestic 6	foreign /	Domestic 1	Foreign 1
Type of exploitation		Type of exploitation	
Forced marriage (Labor and Sexual)	sexual	Forced marriage	Beggary
3 (female)	3 (female)	1 (female)	1 (male)
Potential victims			
83			

- Smuggling of migrants

The Sector of Human Trafficking and Illegal Migration in cooperation with the Sector of Border Affairs during 2014 were working on collecting intelligence and identifying persons and groups that occur as perpetrators of criminal offences related to smuggling of migrants;

In coordination with the Regional Centers for Border Affairs and as a result of the taken measures from the conducted criminal investigations, MOI detected and documented the following criminal offences of smuggling migrants:

In 2014, on the territory of the Republic of Macedonia MOI registered a total of **94 (49) criminal offences "Smuggling of Migrants"**, out of which 85 were resolved. **166 (97) perpetrators were detected**, 3 of whom are under the age of 18.

MOI registered **17 criminal offenses "organizing a group and instigating trafficking in human beings, trafficking of a child and smuggling migrants"**, 43 perpetrators were detected.

From the conducted investigations it can be established that the perpetrators smuggled a total of **693³¹** illegal migrants, 51.5% citizens of Syria, and 29% Afghanistani, the rest of the Nationals are represented in insignificant number³².

³⁰Identified from MOI and MLSP

³¹672 migrants are adults and 21 children

During 2014, from the conducted criminal investigations for illegal migration the Sector for Trafficking in Human Beings and Smuggling Migrants submitted 13 (10) Criminal charges against 42 persons³³ out of which 38 are citizens of the Republic of Macedonia and 4 persons are foreigners. For 40 perpetrators, in pre-trial proceeding a judge ruled detention, and for 2 perpetrators issued a warrant. Subject to the criminal offense of smuggling migrants MOI seized 30 motor vehicles used for smuggling.

MOI detected a total of 1750 (1132) illegal migrants who illegally crossed or attempted to cross the state border out of whom, 1683 (1086) are foreign nationals, while 67 (46) were citizens of Republic of Macedonia in attempt to illegally leave Macedonia.

The Reception Center for Foreigners accommodated a total of 896 (573) persons-migrants, 750 adults, 146 children, 763 male and 133 female.

5.2 CRIMINAL PROCEEDING

For the criminal offenses related to trafficking in human beings for 2014, the Basic Court Skopje 1 acted upon 29 cases with 52 involved perpetrators, out of whom 48 were male and 4 female. Imprisonment was imposed on 77 perpetrators, including 75 male and 2 female.

Year / Article	Submitted charges 2014	Verdict reached 2014	Charged male/female)	inprisonment	probation
Art.418 a	2	/	5 (3m/2f)	/	/
Art.418 6 ³⁴	23	32	43 (42m/1f)	41 m	2
Art.418 B ³⁵	3	5	3 m	36 (34m/2f)	/
Art.418 r	1	/	1 f	/	/
Total	29	37	52 persons (48m/4f)	77 persons (75m/2f)	2 persons

³²41 citizens of Somalia, 29 from the Middle East, 19 from Eritrea, 9 citizens of Palestine, 6 from Albania, 5 from Bangladesh etc.

³³4 persons are police officers

³⁴The range of penalties on criminal offence by Article 418-b of the Criminal Code is from 7 months to 5 years in prison

³⁵Article 418-v from the Criminal Code is from 1 to 15 years in prison

6. Priorities for 2015

- Transparency and cooperation of the Commission and its bodies and direct support to local committees in the fight against trafficking in human beings and illegal migration.
- Continuous activities for prevention, campaigns and raising public awareness for trafficking in human beings and illegal migration.
- Strengthening the capacity of officials responsible for working with victims and children victims of trafficking, by conducting courses and trainings.
- Proactive and reactive investigations aimed at identifying the victims of trafficking in human beings.
- Providing direct assistance and protection to victims and migrants.
- Adoption of the proposed amendments to the Criminal Code (Article 418-d and Article 191-a) in accordance with international standards.
- Establishing a state fund for compensation in order to compensate victims of trafficking.
- Implementation of the National Action Plan for Fight Against Trafficking in Human Beings and Illegal Migration for 2013-2016.