

NATIONAL ACTION PLAN ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING – JANUARY 2020 ~ DECEMBER 2023

‘Trafficking in persons is a vile crime that feeds on inequalities, instability and conflict. Human traffickers profit from peoples' hopes and despair. They prey on the vulnerable and rob them of their fundamental rights. Children and young people, migrants and refugees are especially susceptible. Women and girls are targeted again and again. We see brutal sexual exploitation, including involuntary prostitution, forced marriage and sexual slavery. We see the appalling trade in human organs. Human trafficking takes many forms and knows no borders. Human traffickers too often operate with impunity, with their crimes receiving not nearly enough attention. This must change.’

Antonio Guterres (30 July 2018)

This is Malta’s fifth National Action Plan on Combating Human Trafficking, which plan seeks to reform the sector by taking measures complementary to those initiated by the Parliamentary Secretariat for Reforms, Citizenship and Simplification of Administrative Processes. At the same time, this document builds on the work undertaken in the context of previous Action Plans. In line with Malta’s EU and other international obligations reference is also made to the submission of information to the EU Anti Trafficking Coordinator as well as other major international stakeholders.

The Actions envisaged in the current plan seek to address the major aspects of the fight against human trafficking with a particular focus on awareness and prevention, although efforts in other spheres, including prosecution, will also be pursued by the entities concerned. A focus on awareness and prevention is considered necessary given that these measures entail the involvement of several stakeholders, as well as coordination between them.

Coordination			
<i>Action</i>	<i>Target Deadline</i>	<i>Responsible Parties</i>	<i>State of Implementation</i>
1. Convening of the Anti-Human Trafficking Monitoring Committee twice per year	Year 1 - 4	Ministry for Home Affairs and National Security	

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2. Regular convening of the Stakeholder Task Force on Trafficking in Human Beings	Year 1 - 4	Stakeholders Task Force	
3. Enhance identification and referral of victims of human trafficking, including child victims	2 nd quarter 2020	Stakeholders and Ministry for Home Affairs and National Security	IOM have been contracted to provide training leading to the enhancement of the identification process and referral mechanism.
4. Training on the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse for officials working with migrants and asylum seekers	2 nd quarter 2021	Ministry for Home Affairs and National Security, Agency for the Welfare of Asylum Seekers and the Office of the Refugee Commissioner	
5. Training for Immigration Police and civilian immigration officers	3 rd quarter 2021	Academy for Disciplined Forces and Police	
Awareness and Prevention			
<i>Action</i>	<i>Target Deadline</i>	<i>Responsible Parties</i>	<i>State of Implementation</i>
6. Strengthening public awareness by screening video on human trafficking awareness on national TV station	4 th quarter 2020	Ministry for Home and National Security	
7. Awareness session on domestic servitude and labour exploitation mainly for persons working in care services	2 nd quarter 2023	Ministry for Home Affairs and National Security, DIER and Jobs Plus	

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<p>8. Research among former victims of human trafficking in Malta, with a view to obtaining information about their recruitment and experience, as well as the efficacy of assistance provided.</p>	<p>3rd quarter 2022</p>	<p>Ministry for Home Affairs and National Security</p>	
<p>9. Outreach sessions in schools for boys and girls between 13-15 years old on the dangers of online child abuse, including sexting, grooming and child pornography.</p>	<p>2nd quarter 2022</p>	<p>Ministry for Home Affairs and National Security, Malta Police Cyber Crime Unit and Ministry for Education, Youth and Employment</p>	
<p>10. Outreach programme on the prevention of online sex abuse with parents of girls and boys between 13-15 years old organised through Local Councils.</p>	<p>2nd quarter 2022</p>	<p>Ministry for Home Affairs and National Security, Malta Police Cyber Crime Unit, Ministry for Education, Youth and Employment and the Local Government Division within the Ministry for Justice, Culture and Local Government.</p>	
<p>11. Awareness sessions for women and girls at open centres aimed at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Providing information about services that would assist in dealing with past traumatic situations; and, b) About the threat posed by labour trafficking and human trafficking for sexual exploitation. 	<p>2nd quarter 2021</p>	<p>Ministry for Home Affairs and National Security, Agenzija Appogg and the Agency for the Welfare of Asylum Seekers</p>	

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Evaluation and monitoring			
<i>Action</i>	<i>Target Deadline</i>	<i>Responsible Parties</i>	<i>State of Implementation</i>
12. Yearly report to the Minister for Home Affairs and National Security on action in combating human trafficking	Year 1 - 4	Anti-Human Trafficking Monitoring Committee	
13. Publication of final report on the implementation of the Action Plan	4 th quarter 2023	Anti-Human Trafficking Monitoring Committee	
14. Support EU Anti Trafficking Coordinator and attend meeting of the National Rapporteurs and Equivalent Mechanisms meetings	Year 1 -4	Ministry for Home Affairs and National Security	
15. Support GRETA monitoring mechanism under the Council of Europe	Year 1 - 4	Ministry for Home Affairs and National Security	
16. Support GVA Department of State Washington	Year 1 - 4	Ministry for Home Affairs and National Security	