

Regional Implementation Initiative 2022 on Preventing & Combating Human Trafficking
Improving National and Transnational Coordination and Cooperation in Preventing and Combating all Forms of Human Trafficking; Developing and Strengthening National and Transnational Networks and Partnerships



Think-tank Event
International Expert Round Table

MIND THE GAP!
**TACKLING THE LACK OF ATTENTION ON PREVENTING HUMAN
TRAFFICKING & EXPLOITATION**

Chamber of Labour, Vienna, Theresianumgasse 16-18, 4th District
30 September 2022, 9:30 – 16:00

Experts/Speakers/Panelists Bios and Partners of Cooperation

Katharina Beclin,

Lawyer and criminologist, since 2006 tenure as assistant professor for criminology at the faculty of law of the University of Vienna. *Main research topics:* Gender Studies in criminal law and criminology focusing on domestic violence, labour exploitation and trafficking in human beings and empirical research on legal practice of criminal prosecution of Human Trafficking and social fraud in the construction industry. Topics of her numerous Publications: How to reform the offence concerning human trafficking in order to make criminal prosecution of child traffickers more effective? How effective are criminal proceedings in cases of fiscal fraud, evasion of social-insurance contributions and labour exploitation in the context of sham companies in the construction industry in Austria and how to improve the criminal prosecution in this field? Does the 'duty of disclosure' of victims of Human Trafficking violate their right to protection by the State and hinder criminal prosecution of offenders?

Peter von Bethlenfalvy,

Founder and Executive Director of CEIPA - Centre for European and International Policy Action, has a long professional experience of European and international cooperation in the field of migration, foreign and development policies, security and human rights. He formerly held leading positions at IOM – International Organization for Migration in Brussels, Berlin, Rome and Vienna. He has been the driving force in strengthening the European Union and International stance towards a number of issues such as economic migration, organized crime and trafficking in human beings, democratization and parliamentary elections as well as humanitarian and emergency aid. He advised and worked closely with a number of EU Presidencies and European Commissioners as well as European Parliamentarians in carrying forward EU policy priorities. His experience and commitment led to numerous policy improvements in the above fields in Europe, and strengthened cooperation between governments, international organizations, civil societies and regions.

Gabriella Bottani,

Social Pedagogist, From 2015 to beginning of September 2022 Gabriella Bottani was the international coordinator of Talitha Kum, the Network against human trafficking led by religious sisters, gathering 55 networks active in 92 countries in all continents. Talitha Kum International was established in 2009. In 2021, Talitha Kum reached out to around 20,000 survivors and people at-risk of trafficking and 258,000 people through prevention activities. Gabriella Bottani currently lives in Italy. Before that, she was in Germany and Brazil, where she shared her life with people in situations of social vulnerability in the slums of Fortaleza. Her commitment in anti-trafficking, focusing on prevention, started in 2007 in Brazil where she got involved with Talitha Kum, working especially with children and adolescents victims and at-risk of trafficking for sexual exploitation.

Pierre Cazenave,

is currently working as an Anti-Trafficking Specialist within ICMPD's Anti-Trafficking Programme, where he manages ICMPD's co-chairmanship of the Interagency Coordination Group Against Trafficking in Persons (ICAT) in 2022. Prior to that, Pierre worked for more than a decade for Terre des hommes' Children and Youth in Migration programme in various capacities time during which he developed large programmes across Europe to fight child trafficking and protect children on the move. Prior to that, Pierre was teaching EU Law and IHR Law for the University of Paris Pantheon-Sorbonne, the University of Bucharest and the Central European University. He started his career working in humanitarian emergencies in the Middle East and South Asia.

Mike Dottridge,

Independent Expert/Consultant. He spent 25 years working with human rights non-governmental organizations and was one of the organisers of the Global March against Child Labour in 1998. For the past 15 years he has worked as an independent consultant on human rights and child rights issues. His work takes him to different parts of the world, particularly regions where human trafficking is regarded as a major problem, such as South East Europe and South East Asia. He has focused on various forms of exploitation, including child labour, the commercial sexual exploitation of children, forced labour and trafficking in human beings. In 2002 he was one of the experts invited by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights to prepare a set of Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights and Human Trafficking. In 2006 he prepared a Reference Guide on Protecting the Rights of Child Victims of Trafficking in Europe, published by UNICEF. His subsequent publications on child trafficking include a handbook on designing projects to prevent child trafficking. Earlier this year he was one of the two authors who drafted a set of Recommended Principles to Guide Actions Concerning Children on the Move and other Children Affected by Migration.

Jean Pierre Gauci,

is the Arthur Watts Senior Research Fellow in Public International Law and Director of Teaching and Training at the British Institute of International and Comparative Law. In that role he leads the institute's work on human trafficking, migration and labour rights. He has led the Determinants of Anti-Trafficking Efforts project, as well as a project on the impact of the lack of legal advice for trafficked persons and on the implementation of the non-punishment principle. He regularly delivers lectures and talks on related issues across the world. Beyond his work at the institute, Jean-Pierre is also a director of The People for Change Foundation, a human rights think tank based in Malta. He lectures International Migration law, human rights and Ocean governance at the University of Malta. He has experience of research, lobbying and proactive action in the fields of human trafficking, migration and asylum law, and anti-discrimination as well as teaching experience in various international and domestic legal issues. He consults widely to national and international governmental and non-governmental organizations.

Suzanne Hoff,

Since 2004, Suzanne Hoff is International Coordinator of La Strada International, the European NGO Platform against trafficking in human beings. As International Coordinator, Suzanne Hoff manages a broad range of tasks including strategy planning, lobby & advocacy and representation of the Platform in different international fora, next to coordination of European projects and research on the issue of human trafficking. She has been coordinating many international projects, campaigns and research. Before La Strada International, she worked for different NGOs, like Caritas Netherlands, the Dutch Centre for International Cooperation and the Dutch Refugee Council as well as for the Amsterdam Mayor's office and the International department of the Amsterdam Municipality. Most of her work focused on human rights and the situation in Central and Eastern Europe. Suzanne has an academic background; a master in Eastern European Studies and in (television) journalism.

Kristiina Kangaspunta,

worked with the United Nations over 20 years. She is a former Chief of the Crime Research Section of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) where she was responsible for the biennial Global Report on Trafficking in Persons and several other Global Reports on different crime markets. Before that, she was the Deputy Director of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI). She also worked as the UNODC Chief of the Anti-Human Trafficking Unit. She moved to UNODC from the Ministry of Justice of Finland where she worked at the European Institute for Crime Prevention and Control, affiliated with the United Nations (HEUNI). At the University of Helsinki, she was a researcher participating in several projects dealing with youth, gender and health.

Vassilis Kerasiotis,

Human Rights Lawyer, Legal Representative of the Applicants 'Chowdury and 42 Others vs Greece'. He was the lawyer who took a case to the European Court of Human Rights, known as 'Chowdury versus Greece'. It concerned a number of irregular migrants from Bangladesh who cultivated strawberries on farms in northwest Greece – a case of deemed to be 'trafficking for the purpose of labour exploitation'. In his recent work he focuses on refugees as country director in Greece for HIAS, a refugee support NGO in Lesbos. Hias supports also cases of criminalization of search and rescue as well as hate crime victims.

Olav Laegdene,

has been Manager of the NGO Bymisjon centre since 2020, a centre with a special focus on destitute migrants in Oslo, preventing discrimination and exploitation in the labor market, including running a shelter and providing support for individuals. From 2007 - 2020 he was Manager of the NGO Nadheim, a centre for people in prostitution doing outreach work and running a shelter for victims of trafficking. He is a social worker and has worked for several years with the municipality of Oslo in the field of child care. Until 2007 he served as deacon in a Church in Norway and subjects in addition at the University of Oslo.

Noemi Magugliani,

is a Research Fellow in Anti-Trafficking Law and Policy at the British Institute of International and Comparative Law. At BIICL, Noemi has worked on the Determinants of Anti-Trafficking Efforts project, as well as on a project on the impact of the lack of legal advice for trafficked persons and a project on the implementation of the non-punishment principle. Noemi is also a Lecturer in Law at the National University of Ireland Galway, where they teach European Union Law, European Migration Law, and International Migration Law, and a Senior Legal Adviser to the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children. Prior to joining BIICL, Noemi has consulted to the International Organisation for Migration and the Secretariat of the Council of Europe Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings.

Ryszard Piotrowicz,

has been a Professor of Law at Aberystwyth University since 1999. He was a member of GRETA, the Council of Europe's Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings from 2013-20, Vice-President from 2017-20. He also served two terms as a member of the European Commission's Group of Experts on Trafficking in Human Beings (2008-15). He is Visiting Professor in Migration Law at Viadrina University, Frankfurt-Oder, and a Senior Research Associate at the Refugee Law Initiative, University of London. He has acted as a consultant on human trafficking for the Council of Europe, IOM, OSCE, UNHCR, EU and ICMPD, as well as national governments and NGOs, and has conducted training programmes on human trafficking in many countries. He has published extensively on the law relating to human trafficking. He is a member of the Board of Editors of the *International Journal of Refugee Law*.

Roger Plant,

Independent Expert/Consultant. Between 2002-2009 he was Head of the ILO's Special Action Program to Combat Forced Labour since its inception, spearheading the ILO's work against forced labour and human trafficking. His book *Sugar and Modern Slavery*, published in the 1980s, was one of the first to draw attention to new forms of forced labour and human trafficking in today's global economy. He has consulted on issues such as human rights and labour standards, migrant workers and contract labour, rural development, indigenous people and ethnic minorities, and corporate social responsibility for a range of international organizations, governments, financial institutions, private companies and NGOs.

Evelyn Probst,

has a Master in Psychology and is a certified trainer who has been working in the field of fighting Trafficking in Human Beings (THB) for over 20 years. Since 2000 she has been the coordinator of LEFÖ – Intervention Centre for Trafficked Women and Girls (LEFÖ-IBF) based in Vienna Austria, and as such she monitors the support system for trafficked persons as well as their access to their rights. Further focal areas of the work include access to compensation for trafficked persons, interlinkages between THB and undocumented work etc. Probst is a much sought-after trainer for seminars on the issue of trafficking in human beings carried out by public authorities, police, NGOs and other relevant actors. Furthermore Probst has published in the field of trafficking in women, focusing on feminist women's rights perspectives, exploitation and compensation for victims of human trafficking.

Teresa Rodriguez Montanes,

Writer, researcher, public speaker, national and international consultant, she is an expert in Criminal Law and Human Rights. She is currently Full Professor of Criminal Law at Alcalá University Law School (Madrid, Spain) and former Legal Adviser at the Spanish Constitutional Court for more than twelve years. During her long academic career, Teresa has been teaching and researching not only in Spain but also in many other countries (Germany, USA, Argentina, Cuba, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Nicaragua). Moreover, she has taken part in capacity building and training activities for judges, prosecutors, lawyers and police officers, and given expert advice on criminal policy and law enforcement in many fora. Teresa is author of four books and more than forty articles and papers. Her areas of expertise include risk crimes, economic criminality, corporate crimes, criminal policy as well as terrorism, torture, abortion, gender violence, freedom of expression and Human Trafficking. Regarding Human Trafficking, she's been associated researcher on two European Projects funded by EC-DG Home Affairs: "The fight against trafficking in human beings in EU: promoting legal cooperation and victim's protection" and "Psychological Health Impact of THB for sexual exploitation on Female Victims. Consequences for stakeholders" (PHIT). She is the Director of the Course: Expert in Human Trafficking, the first and only University degree on Human Trafficking in Spain. In 2014 she published a report about labour exploitation in Spain based on the analysis of real cases provided by the Special Prosecutor against Human Trafficking. In 2016, as Visiting Professor at the Center for International Human Rights, John Jay College (NY), she conducted a research Project, Business and Human Trafficking, focused on the accountability of business engaged in the trafficking for labor exploitation. She is still working on this topic, giving talks and presentations in many countries and fora (Spain, USA, UK, Costa Rica, Cuba, Russia or China, to name just a few). A new book, called Conversations about Trafficking and Exploitation, is about to be published. Recently, as member of a Special Committee appointed in March 2022 by the Spanish Ministry of Justice, she was the Rapporteur/Speaker of the draft law against Trafficking and Exploitation. The parliamentary debate about this law will be held within next months. She holds a PhD in Law.

Helmut Sax,

Senior researcher at the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Fundamental and Human Rights, Vienna/Austria, and former Member of the Council of Europe's Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA, 2011-18, 13 country evaluations); completed legal studies in 1993, Doctorate in 2017. Main areas of work in research, consultancies and training: human rights of children, human rights of victims of trafficking in human beings. Co-editor (with Julia Planitzer) of the first legal Commentary on the CoE Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (2020); member of the Commission of Inquiry for the protection of the best interests of the child in the Austrian asylum procedure (2021).

Kiril Sharapov,

Kiril is Associate Professor of Applied Social Sciences at Edinburgh Napier University and Associate Director at the Scottish Graduate School of Social Science. He is internationally recognised for his research in the field of forced migration and, in particular, human trafficking. He remains both an advocate and a practitioner of co-produced participatory and emancipatory research which meaningfully incorporates voices of seldom heard communities, including persons with disabilities, refugees and asylum seekers, sex workers and persons with lived experiences of human trafficking. Kiril received his PhD in Politics from the University of Glasgow and an MA in Human Rights from the Central European University.

Daja Wenke,

is an independent researcher in the child rights field. She has long-standing professional experience working with national governments, inter-governmental organisations, NGOs and UN Agencies in the area of applied research and policy development. Her main interest is the promotion of systemic approaches to the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights as an investment for states and societies to become more stable, sustainable and future-oriented.

Markus Zingerle,

is a Sociologist in Vienna and co-founder of MEN VIA, the specialized victim support organization for men affected by THB in Austria. The comprehensive program has been established in 2013 by the Men's Health Center in Vienna and meanwhile has mandates by the Federal Ministries for Social Affairs, for Interior and for Justice. In Markus' opinion, working with male victims of crime has a positive impact on modern gender politics. It's empowerment for affected men to access their rights and have better individual perspectives. And it is also a contribution in the efforts and struggles against the deception of exploitation and systematic discrimination of various vulnerable groups in different ways.

Helga Konrad,

Head/Coordinator of the '**Regional Implementation Initiative on Preventing & Combating Human Trafficking**' since 2010. Executive Director Anti-Trafficking; Institute for the Danube Region and Central Europe IDM; former (first) Special Representative on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings of the OSCE - Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (2004-2006); Chair of the EU Stability Pact Task Force on Human Trafficking for South Eastern Europe (2000-2004). In her capacity as Austrian Federal Government Minister for Women, she hosted the first EU Conference on Trafficking in Women for Sexual Exploitation in Vienna (1995). She was Head of the Austrian government delegations to the fourth UN World Conference on Women in Beijing/China and of the first World Congress on Combating Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Stockholm/Sweden (1996).

Roberto Ziglio,

Advisor and Assistant of the '**Regional Implementation Initiative on Preventing & Combating Trafficking in Human Beings**' on Web-management themes. Psychologist, Psychotherapist and Deputy Manager at Diakonie-Jefira - Intercultural Psychotherapy Centre in St. Pölten, which is specialized on Trauma-Psychotherapy with migrants, refugees and asylum seekers; He has been also Psychologist, Psychotherapist and Head of Organization and Administration at CentroMoses, S.r.l., a private mental health centre in Italy, where he used to perform his clinical activity since 2010. As Head of Organization and Administration he was involved in the organization of numerous trainings for mental health practitioners and citizens. He collaborated with the Treviglio-Caravaggio Hospital, in the Centre for Family Therapy and with the A.L.T. Association (association against drug addictions), located in Treviglio (Bergamo, Italy).

Partners of Cooperation:

Centre for European and International Policy Action (CEIPA),

Founded in 2011, the Centre for European and International Policy Action (CEIPA) is an independent think-tank committed to promoting public debate on major European and international policy issues, Central to CEIPA's work is the belief that providing a platform for informed debate, the exchange of ideas and the search for common ground between EU policy-makers on one side, and non-state actors and European citizens on the other, is vital to obtain the necessary broad support to underpin EU democratic governance and cohesion. Complexity and interdependence are the main features of modern societies around the world. Europe is no exception. It too must foster unbiased dialogue, beyond narrow national goals, party lines, dogmatism or vested interests. The perception that EU member states and institutions are imposing policies from the top down is robbing the process of European integration of its legitimacy in the eyes of many. Access to information is a human right. The CEIPA platform and activities keep citizens abreast of developments on key policies and provide contacts to the European Institutions and civil society organisations.

Human Rights Office of the City of Vienna,

The Human Rights Office of the City of Vienna coordinates human rights as a cross-cutting topic in all areas of the Vienna City Administration and makes the City of Vienna's commitment to human rights visible. The Human Rights Office was opened in September 2015. The Human Rights Office works together on specific focus topics with other municipal departments, public institutions, civil society initiatives, and experts. Cooperation and networking are essential for human rights work. A dialogue between interest groups is organised in the form of focus groups and round tables. The cooperation concentrates on the following focus topics:

Raising awareness on the topic of human rights

Children's rights, topics: unaccompanied refugee minors, fighting poverty and violence

Security policies and human rights at provincial level

Fighting human trafficking, implementing the recommendations of the Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA) of the Council of Europe

The results will be incorporated into the development of an action plan for the next few years to continue and deepen

the process "Vienna - city of human rights". A steering group continues to accompany the work of the Human Rights Office. It consists of representatives of the administrative groups in the City Administration, the human rights spokespersons of the political parties forming the city government, and the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Human Rights.

EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR),

The EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR) is a macro-regional strategy that addresses 12 thematic areas (Priority Areas) to strengthen quality of life in the Danube Region. Priority Area 10 (PA 10) of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR) aims at stepping up institutional capacity and cooperation as a precondition for shaping a sustainable, resilient and prosperous future. In doing so, we address institutional capacity-building at local, regional and national level, involvement of civil society in public governance, increasing local development and better spending as well as increasing absorption rates of EU funds. Priority Area 10 "Institutional Capacities & Cooperation" serves as an information and communication hub for local, regional, national and European stakeholders responsible for as well as working in the field of institutional capacity building, participative governance and spatial development. The activities of Priority Area 10 aim at supporting policy and project development, stakeholder relations and capitalisation in the Danube Region. Priority Area 10 "Institutional Capacities & Cooperation" supports activities that contribute to the actions and targets defined in the EUSDR Action Plan. Priority Area 10 "Institutional Capacities & Cooperation" is jointly coordinated by the City of Vienna (AT) and the Centre for European Perspective (CEP) on behalf of Slovenia. The Coordinators of the Priority Area are supported by the Steering Group.

Urban Forum – Egon Matzner-Institut für Stadtforschung,

ist ein überparteilicher Verein, der sich mit urbanen Themenstellungen beschäftigt. Ziel war und ist es dabei, den Österreichischen Städtebund, als in der Verfassung verankerte Interessenvertretung der Städte und größeren Gemeinden, bei seiner Arbeit - insbesondere durch projektbezogene Veranstaltungen, Publikationen und mittels Forschung - zu unterstützen. Urban Forum ist außerordentliches Mitglied des Österreichischen Städtebundes, Mitglied der Urban Plattform Danube Region (PA Area10) und kooperiert mit nationalen sowie internationalen Hochschulen. Ein offizieller Partner sind beispielsweise die Industriellenvereinigung, die Arbeiterkammer, mehrere österreichische Städte, aber auch European Union Project Innovation Center (EUPIC) in Chengdu VR China. Urban Future Edition ist ein Verlag um Publikationen zu stadtforschungsrelevanten und kommunalwissenschaftlichen Themen sowie zum Bereich Public Management strategisch und gezielt veröffentlichen zu können. Dabei sollen auch wissenschaftlich noch wenig beleuchtete Aspekte von Urbanität und Stadtentwicklung bewusst aufgegriffen werden. Internationalität und ein Denken in Regionen stellen für Urban Forum und damit auch für die Urban Future Edition einen wesentlichen Eckpfeiler des Handelns dar.

Institute for the Danube Region and Central Europe (IDM),

The Institute for the Danube Region and Central Europe (IDM) is a regional think tank registered as an association and predominantly financed by public funds. IDM acts as a gateway to the region and contributes greatly to the cooperation in the fields of politics, economics, research and culture. At the same time, IDM sees itself as a clearinghouse for the Danube region and Central and Southeast Europe by supporting the work of embassies, trade missions, cultural institutes and national tourist offices. Founded in 1953 as a non-university research institution based on associations and consisting of individual and corporate members, the Vienna-based institute carries out research with a geographical focus on Central, East and South East Europe, particularly focusing on the Danube Region. Through events, publications and educational activities, the experts of the IDM aim to transfer knowledge and initiate debates that revolve around the central questions of our time:

- How can we strengthen and guarantee a democratic, peaceful and resilient future of (Central) Europe?
- What policies will improve processes of EU enlargement and further integration?
- Which concrete actions enhance cross-border cooperation in the region?

In line with its slogan: **European Perspectives – Regional Actions – Cooperation and Expertise since 1953** the IDM's focus is on questions relating to the future of the European Union, with a particular focus on Central and South-Eastern Europe.

The IDM is the carrier organisation of the '**Regional Implementation Initiative on Preventing & Combating Human Trafficking**'