

**CIVIL DIMENSION  
OF SECURITY**

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**NATO Parliamentary Assembly**

**DRAFT RESOLUTION**

on

**TRAFFICKING IN CHILDREN IN EUROPE**

presented by

**Gunnundur Árni STEFÁNSSON** (Iceland)  
Rapporteur of the Sub-Committee on Democratic Governance

The Assembly,  
1. **Recognizing** that trafficking in human beings constitutes an intolerable affront to human dignity and a threat to civil liberties and security throughout the Euro-Atlantic area;

2. **Reaffirming** its resolution 323 on Trafficking in Human Beings adopted at the Assembly in October 2003 and its resolution 323 on Trafficking in Human Beings adopted at the Assembly in November 2003;

3. **Recognizing** that trafficking in children poses specific problems within the general context of human rights and the fight against organized crime and therefore requires specific attention and prompt action to adapt their policies and legal frameworks;

4. **Concerned** by the new trends in the trafficking of children in Europe, including new forms of exploitation and the necessity to adapt policy to take account of changing patterns;

5. **Persuaded** that the struggle against trafficking in children should include attention at present to law enforcement and prosecution, victim identification, and migration, as well as the eradication of the root causes of this phenomenon;

6. **Convinced** of the need to deal with internal as well as trans-border trafficking in children, as well as the demand and to combine prosecution of traffickers with the supply side and the demand and to combine prosecution of traffickers with the victims;

7. **Insisting** that cooperation between countries of origin, of transit and of destination, in this regard, recent initiatives taken by European countries to enhance the fight against trafficking in children in Europe;



8. **Stressing** however that governments and international organizations should avoid creating overlapping or competing initiatives and that coordination and cooperation should always be a priority;

9. **Applauding** the adoption by the North Atlantic Council at the June 2004 Istanbul summit of a NATO Policy on combating trafficking in human beings and **encouraging** all member and partner governments and parliaments to fully cooperate in the implementation of this policy;

10. **Praising** the adoption in the draft Treaty on a Constitution for Europe of an enhanced legal framework for the protection of children and the fight against trafficking in the European Union and **welcoming** the adoption of the new expanded Daphne programme;

11. **Commending** the appointment by the OSCE of a Special Representative in Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, as well as the appointment by the OSCE-Parliamentary Assembly of a Special Representative on Human Trafficking Issues, and **hoping** that they will both play a leading role in the coordination of OSCE policies against trafficking, particularly in children;

12. **Encouraging** the rapid adoption and implementation by member countries of the Stability Pact Task Force on trafficking in human beings of national action plans against trafficking in children;

13. **Strongly supporting** the preparation of a Council of Europe Convention on action against trafficking in human beings as a means of furthering and enhancing the UN Palermo Protocol and **calling upon** member states to provide the highest possible level of cooperation to this process, ensuring in particular the inclusion of effective implementation mechanisms and measures taking into account the specific features of trafficking in children and the specific needs of children victims of trafficking;

14. **Calling upon** member and partner parliaments to give careful consideration to the UNICEF Handbook for Parliamentarians on child protection, especially the parts on sexual exploitation of children and trafficking and sale of children;

15. **URGES** governments and parliaments of member and partner countries of the North Atlantic Alliance:

a. Legal measures

- i. to ratify and implement the existing international laws and principles concerning child trafficking, including the UN Palermo Protocol, the *ILO Convention No. 182* on the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Form of Child Labor and the UNICEF Guidelines on the Protection of the Rights of Children Victims of Trafficking in South Eastern Europe;
- ii. to review, evaluate and, if necessary, reform existing legal frameworks to ensure that they take into account the particularities of child trafficking and that they adequately cover all phases and all forms of trafficking;
- iii. to grant children victims of trafficking the legal status of victims, in accordance with human rights requirements as spelled out in the UN Convention on the Rights of Children;

- iv. to outlaw the dissemination of child pornography in mass media, especially the internet;

b. Victim identification, assistance and re-integration

- i. to adopt measures to facilitate the identification of migrant children, including passport and visa regulations, the limited use of biometrics data and systems of data registration to record unaccompanied minors;
- ii. to ensure that all victims, regardless of their legal status, have access to shelters and to all necessary assistance;
- iii. to ensure that all identification and assistance programmes aim primarily to protect the child's rights and dignity;
- iv. to create, in cooperation with non-governmental institutions, reintegration programmes and activities granting child victims non-discriminatory access to structures specifically designed for children;
- v. to monitor and evaluate the existing reintegration programs for effectiveness, focusing in particular on the need to ensure lasting re-integration away from trafficking networks;

c. National and international coordination

- i. to ensure proper coordination between national authorities in charge of counter-trafficking and assistance to victims of trafficking, including all relevant public and private stakeholders;
- ii. to provide the highest level possible of cooperation within regional and international structures and encourage bilateral and multilateral exchanges of information and of best practices between countries of origin, of transit and of destination;
- iii. to harmonize, whenever possible, national legislation and penalties to avoid jurisdiction gaps and to provide appropriate levels of investigative and judicial cooperation;

d. Training

- i. to include information about trafficking and victims' rights in the curricula of schools, police academies, law schools, and social worker training centers;
- ii. to provide general training for international military, police peacekeepers and related civilian contractors on the subject of child trafficking;
- iii. to pay special attention to training in the area of trafficking in children, child rights, and special protection measures for child victims of trafficking;

16. **CALLS UPON** governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations:

- a. to conduct research and provide more comprehensive statistical data on the extent, nature as well as changing patterns of child trafficking and child labour in Europe;

- b. to organize and promote both large-scale and small-scale awareness-raising campaigns, differentiating between target groups and addressing also the ethic dimension of trafficking;
- c. to support projects aimed at combating the root causes of child trafficking in countries of origin, as well as in countries of destination;

17. **REITERATES** its determination:

- a. to ensure that it provides a forum to discuss and promote the fight against trafficking in children and coordination of efforts among its members;
  - b. to use its structures, such as the Mediterranean Special Group and other working groups to develop a dialogue with Mediterranean partners and observers to the NATO-PA on the global issue of trafficking in human beings.
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