



Economic and Social Council

Eradicating child trafficking worldwide

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1. Definition of Key Terms

Child trafficking: Child trafficking consists in the movement of children out of their protective environment within countries or across borders, whether by force or not, by manipulating their vulnerabilities for the purpose of exploitation.

Exploitation: the action of dealing with someone unfairly in order to take advantage from their work.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION (ILO): The only tripartite U.N. organization, since 1919 the ILO gathers governments, businesses and laborers of 187 member States, to set working standards, create strategies and devise programs advancing decent work conditions for all.

Theirworld: a global children's charity committed to ending the global education crisis and unleashing the potential of the next generation.

NGO (non-governmental organization): an organization with social or political aims that is not controlled by a government.



2. Introduction

Child trafficking happens when children are taken away from safety and abused. Children who are trafficked are frequently forced into some type of work, used for sex or simply sold.

Child trafficking is also part of human trafficking; indeed, victims of trafficking across the world include men, women, and children are, but children are at particularly high risk.

The International Labour Organization (ILO) says that trafficking is among "forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery" and ought to be destroyed as quickly as possible.

Child trafficking is connected to interest for modest work, particularly where working conditions are poor. Kids might be forced into numerous risky and illicit circumstances, including enslavement, domestic work, sexual abuse or prostitution, drug couriership, as well as being transformed into young soldiers.

Children who are trafficked are exposed to numerous risks, such as working in perilous situations. Many are likewise denied the opportunity to reach their full potential since they don't get instructions or have the opportunity to make their own decisions.

During humanitarian emergencies, children may end up being separated from their families. Without their protection, they are easy victims of traffickers who will take them by false promises or even by force.



3. Background information

Child trafficking usually occurs in three steps: recruitment, movement, and exploitation. Recruitment refers to instances when a child is approached by a recruiter, or in some circumstances, directly approaches a recruiter themselves. Recruitment is initiated in many different ways: kids may be kidnapped or abducted into trafficking, or entire families may be trafficked together. Movement occurs – at the local, regional or global level – by way of different transportation types, including by car, train, boat, or foot. The ultimate aim of child trafficking is exploitation, either in the form of forced labor, sexual exploitation and child begging, with traffickers using the services of minors to obtain illegal profits.

Child trafficking is frequently considered to adopt the economic model of supply and demand, with the victims constituting the "supply", and traffickers, and the ones who profit from the exploitation, representing the "demand". "Demand" can be further split into two types: consumer demand and derived demand. The former is generated by somebody who actively or passively buys the products or services of trafficked labor, while the latter is made by someone who directly benefits from the practice of trafficking.

According to the ILO, 21 million people are victims of forced labour or slavery; of those, one out of four is younger than 18.

Theirworld estimates at 5.5 million the number of children trafficked across the world, who have to endure violence and abuse and end up in work, forced marriage, prostitution, begging and armed recruitment.

Seven different forms of child trafficking are conventionally identified:

- **Forced labour**, that refers to circumstances in which people are forced to work through the use of violence or coercion, or by more indirect means such as accumulated debt, retention of identity documents or threats of denunciation to migration authorities.
- **Sexual exploitation**, that refers to non-consensual abuse or exploitation of another person's sexuality for sexual gratification, financial profit, personal interest or advantage, or any other illegitimate end.
- **Military recruitment**, that refers to children being kidnapped and forced into joining armed forces.
- **Child drug trades**, that refers to the exploitation of trafficked children as drug dealers or couriers, who are then 'paid' in drugs, thus making them addicted and further entrapped.
- **Adoption**, that refers to children being trafficked for the purpose of illegal adoption.
- **Child begging**, that refers to children below the age of eighteen being coerced into begging through psychological and physical force. Begging is described by the Buffalo Human Rights Law Review as "the activity of asking for money as charity on the street".
- **Child exchange**, a phenomenon that emerged in China in response to adult starvation.

4. Major Countries involved

Child trafficking has been reported in all areas of the world. The ILO has estimated the number of children trafficked every year at 1.2 million; this number includes cross-border and internal trafficking.

More precisely, the ILO estimates the following figures these regions:

- Asia/Pacific: 250,000 children
- Latin America & the Caribbean: 550,000 children
- Africa: 200,000 children
- Transition economies: 200,000 children
- Developed/industrialized economies: unknown

Taking into account these data we can assume that child trafficking occurs in West Africa, with at least 13 countries involved; South Asia, especially India and Nepal; southeast Asia, where the continuous civil war in Burma has caused a regional problem; central Asia, Eastern Europe, and the Balkans, with trafficking mainly into western Europe; Russia and Child trafficking has been recorded in each area of the world; and Latin America, particularly Colombia and Mexico, with important trafficking to the USA. Briefly, it involves most of the world.



5. Major Parties involved

- United Nations
- UNICEF
- Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
- United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking
- International Labour Organization
- United States Department of State
- ECPAT International
- International Justice Mission

6. UN Involvement

The United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) is a United Nations agency responsible for providing humanitarian and developmental aid to children around the world. It was established in 1946 as

the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund by the U.N. General Assembly. UNICEF estimates that, in 2011, 150 million children aged 5–14 in developing nations were involved in child labor. Plus, UNICEF states that at least 100 million youths will still be forced to work by 2020. Discussing the particular issue of child trafficking throughout emergencies, former United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said: “Human traffickers prey on the most desperate and vulnerable. To end this inhumane practice, we must do more to shield migrants and refugees (particularly young people, women and children) from those who would exploit their yearnings for a better, safer and more dignified future.”

7. Previous attempts to resolve the issue

Several worldwide initiatives are being carried out to try to handle this problem. The International Labor Organization has a program called International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour that works with governments, foundations, and different associations to fight child trafficking. It supports the safeguard of children in danger, reinforces anti-trafficking laws and assists victims in need.

The UN Worldwide Activity to Battle Human Dealing is aimed at the cooperation of associations, such as the ILO and UNICEF, to eradicate child trafficking.

Its purpose is to approach the numerous reasons for children trafficking. This incorporates making potentially exploited children less vulnerable, guaranteeing security to the individuals who fall prey, and arraiging the lawbreakers in question.



A significant step in handling child trafficking is to ensure there are protected spaces, for example, schools, where kids can be shielded from hurt. In moments of change and crisis, education is of help. Students in school can get safety information, adult surveillance and a bigger possibility of getting identified and documented. Associations, such as Theirworld, are focused on giving instructions children in an emergency.

A victim-centered human rights approach has been globally identified as being the most plausible approach to talking about this issue, with a focus on punishing the exploiters and rehabilitating the child. Some nations still adopting this method include the United States, with the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000, which states "Victims of severe forms of trafficking should not be inappropriately incarcerated, fined, or otherwise penalized solely for unlawful acts committed as a direct result of being trafficked."

Furthermore, several NGOs have launched several awareness campaigns on the dangers of donations. As recently argued by UNICEF, "Certain behaviors, such as giving money to child beggars can also indirectly motivate traffickers and controller to demand children." The Mirror Foundation's Stop Child Begging Project of Thailand is one of the several companies that emphasize reducing the demand.

8. Useful links

https://www.unicef.org/protection/Textbook_1.pdf

[https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(04\)17624-1/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(04)17624-1/fulltext)

<https://theirworld.org/explainers/child-trafficking>

<https://www.un.org/en/chronicle/site-search>

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<https://theirworld.org/explainers/child-trafficking>

<https://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/lang--en/index.htm>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trafficking_of_children#Definition

<https://theirworld.org/explainers/child-trafficking>

https://www.unicef.org/protection/Textbook_1.pdf

<https://www.un.org/en/chronicle/site-search>



GeMUN
Genoa Model United Nations

Affiliated with



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trafficking_of_children#Sales_motivated_by_cash

[https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(04\)17624-1/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(04)17624-1/fulltext)