

**ASSISTING VICTIMS OF SEXUAL EXPLOITATION IN RELATION TO TRAFFICKING
IN HUMAN BEINGS AND MEASURING THE COSTS THEREOF**

**The perspective from a country of origin of victims of
sexual exploitation in relation to THB:
victims identification, protection and support as well as
reintegration into society and measuring the costs thereof
in Romania**

Lisbon

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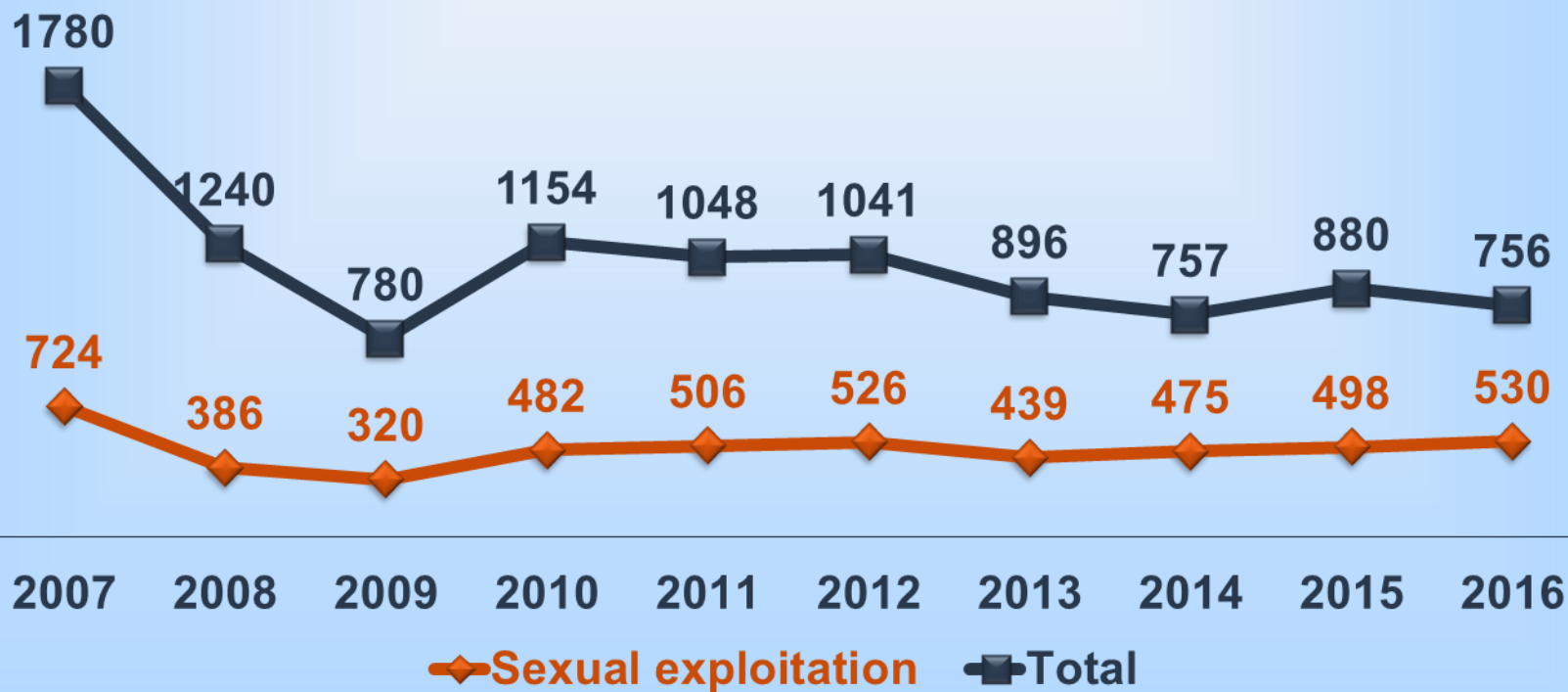
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Human trafficking in Romania

- **Adults and children**
- **Female and male**
- **From rural areas and urban areas**
- **Trafficked internally and externally**
- **Sexual exploitation, labour exploitation, forced begging, forced to criminal activities**

The dynamics of human trafficking in Romania

Number of identified victims



Victims of sexual exploitation

- **About 50% minors and 50% adults**
- **Aged between 14-17 and 18-25**
- **Over 95% female**
- **From rural areas and urban areas**
- **From different regions of the country**
- **Mostly recruited by known people**
- **Majority trafficked internally**

Romanian Anti-Trafficking Response

- ✓ **Legal framework**
- ✓ **Institutional network**
- ✓ **Support for assisted repatriation**
- ✓ **Support for recovery and reintegration**
- ✓ **Support during criminal proceedings**

Legal framework

Assistance and protection

Relevant national legal instruments

- **The National Identification and Referral Mechanism**
- **The national anti-trafficking law**
- **The methodology for the repatriation of Romanian citizens victims of trafficking**
- **The methodology for the repatriation of unaccompanied minors**
- **The methodology for multidisciplinary intervention in cases of child trafficking**
- **The law on certain measures to ensure protection of victims of crime**

National anti-trafficking law

- **Specific protection and assistance for trafficking victims, especially for children and women**
- **The right for physical, psychological and social recovery**
- **Protection of privacy and identity**
- **Recovery and reflection period**
- **Accommodation in specific centers for assistance and protection**

National Identification and Referral Mechanism

Approved by joint order of institutions with responsibilities in the field of trafficking (Ministry of Internal Affairs, Child Protection Authority, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Labor, Ministry of Education, Prosecutor's Office)

Structure

Principles

Legal framework (national and international legal instruments)

Operational definitions

Identification methods

List of indicators to identify possible cases of trafficking

Referral procedures

Referral procedures

Specific situations:

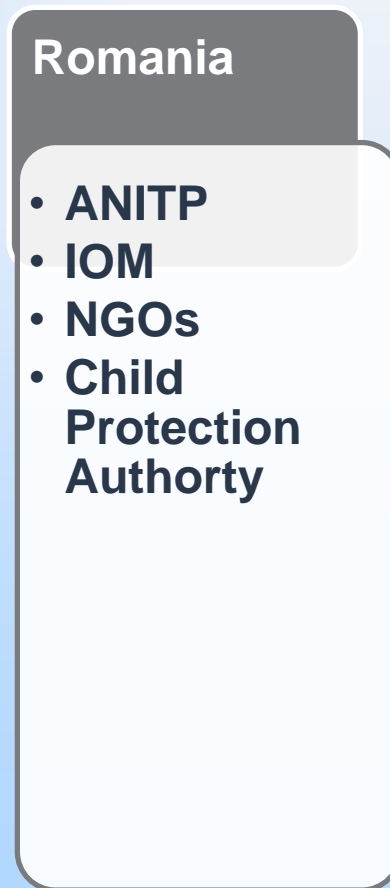
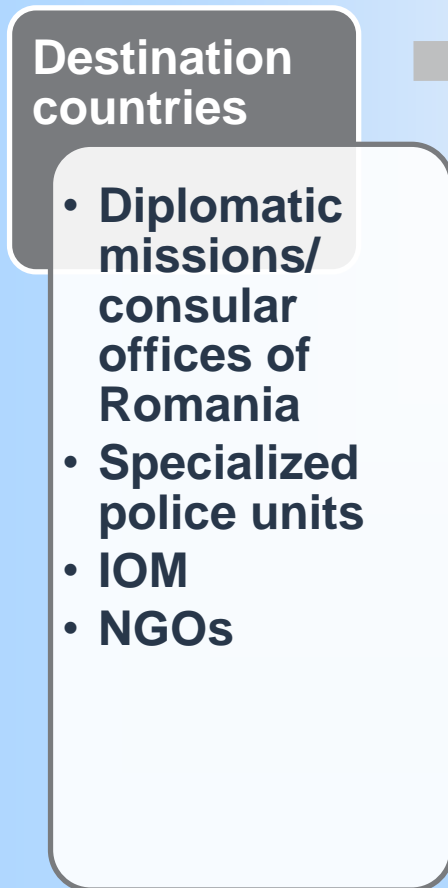
1. Victim identified by law enforcement authorities
2. Victim referred and returned by IOM
3. Victim identified by an international NGO
4. Romanian victim identified by diplomatic mission/consular office of Romania
5. Foreign victim of trafficking
6. Child victim of trafficking
7. Indefinite case of trafficking

National Agency against Trafficking in Persons (ANITP)

- ✓ ***National contact point for national and transnational referral of victims***
- ✓ ***Organised within the Ministry of Internal Affairs***
- ✓ ***Responsibilities mainly related to policy development, prevention, coordination and monitoring***
- ✓ ***Multidisciplinary team: police officers, social workers, psychologists***
- ✓ ***15 Regional Centers***
- ✗ ***Does not investigate cases of trafficking in persons***

Transnational referral

Support for assisted repatriation



- Issue travel documents
- Conduct risk assessment
- Receive the victim at the point of arrival
- Information and counselling
- Facilitating access to specialized assistance

Challenges

- **Late notification/ no notification on repatriation/ hastiness in doing the return**
- **Incomplete data regarding the victims' specific situation**
- **Different interpretation on protection of personal data**
- **Limited knowledge and confusion on the role of ANITP within the anti-trafficking national system**

Costs of inaction

Costs to the quality of assistance

- **Loss of contact with the victim**
- **Risk of re-trafficking**
- **Lack of access to specialized services**
- **Lack of adequate support for victims**
- **Return of the victim in poor conditions**
- **Potential health risks for both victims and specialists**
- **Gaps in monitoring and further cooperation**

ANITP - National contact point for victims referral

Sources of confusion and misinterpretation

- **Organization within the Ministry of Internal Affairs**
- **Includes 15 Regional Centres**

Effects

- **Avoiding notification of a trafficking case to ANITP and cooperation**
- **Expecting to actually provide direct assistance for victims**

ANITP – National Contact Point for victims referral

Notification of a trafficking case to ANITP

What it means:

Enhanced opportunities to offer and to receive answers and support

- ✓ **Support for *assisted repatriation, initial evaluation of victim' needs, referral to appropriate services, monitoring the assistance provided*, support for victim during criminal proceedings**
- ✓ **Accurate statistics, identification of real problems, tailored policies and instruments**

What doesn't mean:

- ✗ **Victim's cooperation with law enforcement**

Support for recovery and reintegration

- **Public or/and private social services providers**
- Accommodation in a shelter run by the state or an NGO**
- Support for other basic needs**
- Medical care**
- Psychological counselling**
- Legal assistance**
- Financial and material support**
- Vocational counselling and training**
- Educational assistance**

Support during criminal proceedings

National program for victims' coordination during criminal proceedings

- ✓ Available for those victims willing to participate in criminal proceedings
- ✓ Aims to create a unitary and co-coordinated inter-institutional response to victims of trafficking
- ✓ To maintain a permanent contact with the victims
- ✓ To provide emotional support, physical security
- ✓ To provide information about their rights, about judicial procedures and updated information with regards to developments of the criminal case

Measuring some financial costs of direct assistance in 2017

Psychological assistance
Support for basic needs
Legal assistance
Vocational training

2500 €

Residential assistance
Psychological assistance
Support for basic needs
Medical assistance
Legal assistance
Vocational training

2900 €

Residential assistance
Psychological assistance
Medical assistance
Vocational training

6700 €

How much?

Residential assistance
Medical assistance
Psychological assistance
Basic needs
Legal assistance
Vocational training
Support for child care

5900 €

Psychological assistance
Support for basic needs
Educational assistance
Medical assistance
Legal assistance

3900 €

The most valuable resources

„Not everything that can be counted counts, and not everything that counts can be counted”

- ✓ Empathetic peoples
- ✓ Reliable professionals
- ✓ Best professional relationships
- ✓ Availability and will to listen, to communicate, to get involved
- ✓ Joint allocation of resources
- ✓ A lot of phone calls



THANK YOU!

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