



LEFÖ- Intervention Centre for Trafficked Women
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**Protecting victims by providing
psychosocial and legal support as well as
access to health care and secure
accommodation:
the perspective of a
victims' support NGO
within the context of measuring costs**



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Union





LEFÖ

LEFÖ – Information, Education and Support for Migrant women:

- Founded in 1985 migrant women
- Migrants/womens rights organization
- various working areas



LEFÖ-Intervention Centre for Trafficked Women (short LEFÖ-IBF)

- Founded in 1998: 20 years of experience
- Officially recognised victims support organization
- Working on a comprehensive definition focusing on exploitation from a gender perspective
- Working on the behalf of the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry for Women and the Ministry of Justice



LEFÖ-IBF

Unconditional direct assistance for trafficked women & girls

Objectives:

- Recovery
- Informed decision-making
- Empowerment



Rights of potential victims

- Right to assistance: including health and housing
- Right to residence
- Right to legal support: including the right to compensation
- Right to access to the labour market
- Right to non punishment



Access to assistance

- Contact from the first moment on!
- Coordinating the intervention process!
- Working Nationwide
- 24 hours accessibility for trafficked women and girls and law enforcement
- Client confidentiality and sociocultural mediation



- Brought from Bulgaria to Austria with the promise of a cleaning job, by a friend of the neighbour
- Exploited in the streets in the capital of a region of Austria
- Treath and physical violence
- Escape after two months, living on the street earning money for being able to go back home; arrested by police, put into detention due to administrative fines



- Identification as a potential victim of trafficking - referred to LEFÖ – IBF
- Legal representation: criminal procedures, non punishment for administrative procedures
- Secure housing – safe return
- Treat back home: international cooperation for support



- Criminal procedure: testimony via video from Bulgaria to Austria
- Conviction: two years on THB
- Compensation: 2000 Euros
- Confiscation of the assets, execution of the compensation?
- Compensation of the state for detention?
- Reintegration?



Assistance

- Psycho-social counselling
- Access to health
- Secure accommodation: housing with secret addresses
- Legal assistance
- Psychosocial and legal assistance during the criminal procedure



Psycho-social counselling

- crisis intervention
- individually tailored security concepts
- processing of trauma
- Accompany through the criminal procedure
- future steps



Access to health and accommodation

- Accompaniment to doctors and other organizations
- Accommodation and care in shelters - Intensive care through cultural mediators around the clock



Legal assistance: including compensation

- Criminal law
- Administrative laws
- Civil law
- Migrants rights
- Labour and social law



Costs

As longer the duration of exploitation as higher the costs!

Costs to re-establish human rights

Social economic costs

Costs of the criminal procedures

Costs of the civil and administrative procedures



Criminal Court

Working conditions + violence

- physical injuries
- illnesses, trauma, depression
- inability to work
- psycho-social and legal assistance
- compensation for
 - material damages
 - immaterial damages

no risk of litigation costs

no explanations for the compensation



Criminal Court

Calculation of compensation for pain and suffering:

periods of pain - psychological and /or physical are calculated for 24 hours:

100/200/300



Labour and Social Court

Working conditions :

- low or no wages
- no health and social insurance
- health and safety standards are not met
- no free time/overtime
- psycho-social assistance and possibility of legal representation and support by the Austrian chamber of labour
- compensation: wages, remuneration, payment for overtime, payment in lieu of vocation, costs of the process

risk of litigation costs



Civil Court

Working conditions + violence

physical injuries

Illnesses, trauma, depression

inability to work

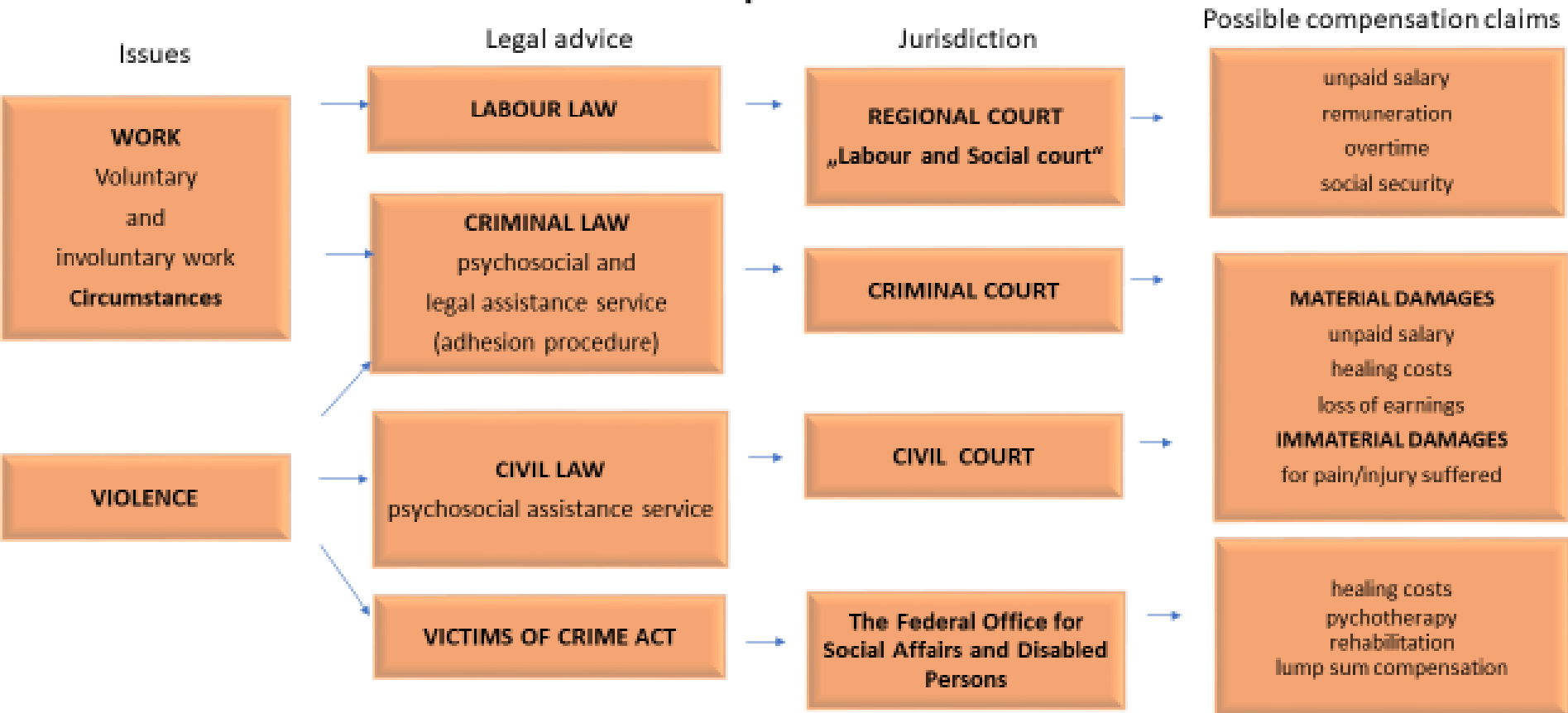
→ psycho-social assistance and possibility of legal representation

→ compensation for

- material damages
- immaterial damages

risk of litigation costs

Compensation possibilities for victims of human trafficking, violence and labour exploitation in Austria





Thank you for your attention!

Questions?