

STUDY GUIDE UNODC SJMUN

INTRODUCTION TO OUR COMITEE

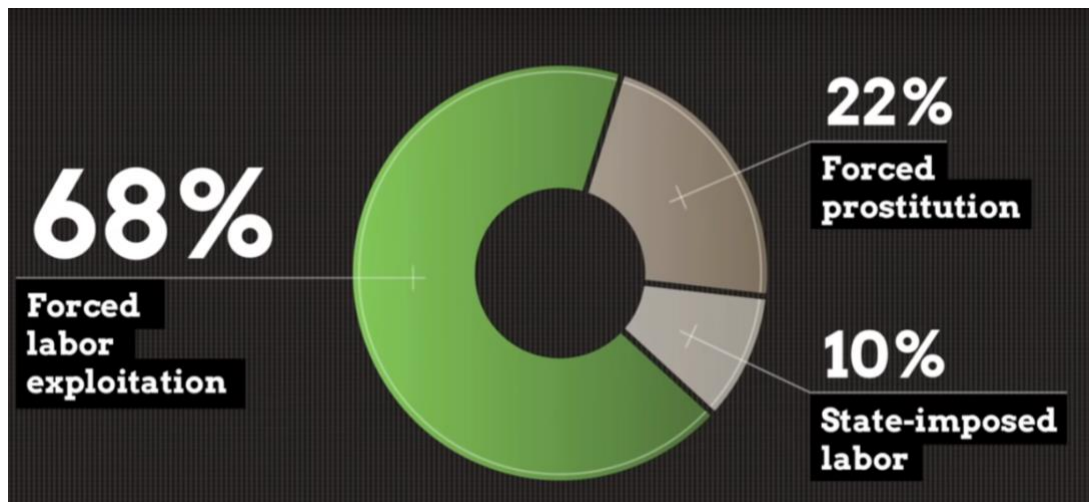
The United Nations Office against Drugs and Crime is a world leader in the fight against illicit drugs and international crime, and is also responsible for executing the United Nations main program against terrorism.

The work of UNODC covers some of the greatest concerns of today: from the prevention of drug abuse, the treatment of drug addiction and the reform of criminal justice, to the fight against organized crime and terrorism; through the fight against corruption and economic crime. This objective is carried out through three primary functions: investigation, persuasion to governments to adopt laws against crime and drugs, as well as treaties and technical assistance to those governments.

The agency is based in Vienna, Austria and is headed by an Executive Director proposed by the Secretary General of the United Nations. Since 2010 this position is occupied by Yury Fedotov.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Human trafficking is a problem that occurs in more than 150 countries, impacts hundreds of thousands of people a year, and helps with the development of more illegal businesses such as the sale of organs, prostitution and forced labor. In the chart coming next you can appreciate the percentages of the type of labor that human trafficking victims are forced to do worldwide.



Interpreted by many as the "evolution" of the commercialization of slaves, human trafficking is the third most lucrative illicit business in the world, with a profit margin for traffic networks that is around 150 billion dollars distributed from the following form; 99 billion commercial sexual exploitation, 34 billion in construction, manufacturing, mining and public services, 9 billion in agriculture, including forestry and fishing, and private households that employ domestic workers in forced labor conditions contribute 8 billion dollars annually.

As many people may think, this social problem is present only in underdeveloped countries in which the legal frame of the state and the government itself is weak and corrupt, but sadly this is not true. Human trafficking is nowadays present in fully developed and first world countries like United States and France.

The fact is that there is a very long range of ways that organized criminal organizations trade human beings all over the world without a huge amount of people noticing. We can see evidence of this looking at the chart below that shows how many victims of human trafficking have been helped compared to the total number of victims. The numbers are pretty shocking despite people are convinced that more is due about this issue.



The process of human trafficking is very simple to explain on paper despite its complexity on the real world, and it consists on basically 3 steps: Recruit, Transport, and Exploit.

1. Recruit

There are many ways of “recruiting” people. One of the most common and most raw way of recruiting is through kidnapping, where recruiters take advantages of children and take them away from where they live. They also take advantages of weak unprotected people on war and conflict zones and also kidnap them. Recruiters can also offer fake dreams and illusions to people who are desperate to get out of their homelands giving them the opportunity to go to a better place where they could live safely and in better conditions, but this is fake and end up doing some kind of forced labor, ironically this is the most common way recruiters catch their victims.

2. Transport

This is where criminals take their victims away from the developing countries where they found them. Smugglers create fake identities and passports and force their victims to change their physical appearance and lie to officers in order to pass immigration processes, this is not as hard for smugglers due to the fact that many of their victims are convinced that they are in the way of a better life.

3. Exploit

When the victims arrive to their destination they are tricked and taken to places where the traffickers deliver them to the people/organizations that bought them, then they are taken to the places where they will be exploited and forced to start working or in other case taken to places where they are resale or put in auction for the best customer to buy them and then exploit them.

At the beginning of the 2000s, many countries began to take action on the matter along with many organizations that are trying to curb this illicit business. But despite all the efforts, human trafficking continues to increase over the years and is becoming a stronger problem.

As delegates, your job is to offer a solution that alleviates and reduce the impact of this illegal activity so we encourage you that you look into resolution and law projects like the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA) or the Global Program Against Trafficking in Human Beings (GPAT) and look into the work of international organizations in the past and in the present day.

WILD LIFE ILLEGAL TRADE

Globally, the illegal trade of fauna and flora is the main cause of the extinction of many species. This traffic became the third most lucrative illegal activity worldwide after the trafficking of branches and drugs. The fauna and flora traffic annually moves millions of dollars and each year increases the traffic of multiple species around the world.

As a response to the illegal trade of fauna and flora, many countries, such as the United States of America, Nigeria, Switzerland, Ecuador, Chile, Canada, Peru, Brazil, among others signed the international treaty CITES (Convention on International Trade in Species Endangered of Fauna and Wild Flora), in 1973 to protect all the fauna and flora. Today CITES conformed up by 183 countries.

Asia, Africa and America are the continents with the highest traffic of fauna and flora in the world. In Africa and Asia the traffic is mainly seen mainly of animals like Elephants, Tigers, Lions and other species in life of extinction. In America they traffic in a great amount all kinds of fauna and flora, since they are some of the most populated jungles in the world