



Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

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Office of the Special Representative and Co-ordinator
for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings

26th Conference of the Alliance against Trafficking in Persons

The Rise of Forced Criminality: Addressing a Security Blind Spot

20-21 April 2026

Hofburg, 5th floor, Vienna, Austria & online via Zoom (CET)

AGENDA

MONDAY 20 April 2026

Registration of participants

11.30 onwards

Welcome coffee

13.00 – 13.30

High-level opening and keynote addresses

13.30 – 14.30

Formal opening:

- Kari Johnstone, OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings

Welcoming remarks:

- Feridun H. Sinirlioğlu, Secretary General, OSCE (online)
- Beat Jans, Federal Councilor, Head of the Federal Department of Justice and Police, Switzerland (online)
- Maria Telalian, Director of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

Keynote addresses:

- Rosemary Nalubega, Assistant Director for Vulnerable Communities, Organized and Emerging Crime, INTERPOL
- Sosa Henkoma, Expert by Experience, Member of ODIHR International Survivors of Trafficking Advisory Council (ISTAC), CEO of Unique Charity, Public Speaker, Consultant, Mentor, and School Governor, UK

Panel 1: Criminalized Survival: Exposing a Hidden Dimension of Human Trafficking

14.30 - 16.30

Description: *This first panel sets the scene by examining trafficking in human beings for the purpose of forced criminality as a largely hidden, yet rapidly expanding threat to human security and safe societies across the OSCE region. Victims - often children, migrants, and individuals in situations of acute vulnerability - are coerced into criminal activities and frequently treated as offenders rather than as victims of trafficking, allowing organized criminal networks to operate with impunity. The panel will explore how forced criminality challenges traditional distinctions between victimhood and criminality, exposing critical gaps in identification, protection, and justice responses. By analysing patterns, drivers, and the security implications of criminalizing victims, the discussion will underscore the urgent need for a paradigm shift toward victim-centred, rights-based, and security-informed approaches that both protect individuals and strengthen the collective capacity to prevent and disrupt organized crime.*

Moderator: Phoebe McIndoe, Radio journalist and creator of the award winning series “County Lines” for BBC 4 and ARIA-winning “The Last Taboo”

Panel speakers:

- Siobhán Mullally, UN Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children
- Saken Kabibulla, Lived Experience Expert and Researcher on Trafficking in Cyber Scam Compounds, Kazakhstan
- Gaëlle Ortiz, Deputy Public Prosecutor, Interregional Specialized Jurisdiction (JIRS) – Organized Crime, France
- Livia Wagner, Chief of Staff, Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime
- Märta Johansson, Associate Professor and Head of Research at the Orebro University, Sweden

Discussion

Side events

16.45-17.45

- Launch of the Study on Trafficking for Forced Criminality in Cyber Scam Operations in the OSCE region, *organized by OSR/CTHB and UK Delegation to the OSCE.*
- Identification and Non-punishment of Victims of Human Trafficking in Complex Cases, Including in Detention Settings and Financially Exploitative Schemes, *organized by Council of Europe and Council of Baltic Sea States.*

TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2026

Side events

09.00 – 10.00

- Strengthening Survivor-Centred Responses to Trafficking for Forced Criminality: ASEAN Experiences and Cross-Regional Lessons, *organized by ASEAN and OHCHR.*
- Launch of the research “The Human Cost of Crime: The Harrowing Link Between Human and Drug Trafficking”, *organized by OSR/CTHB.*

Panel 2: From Identification to Protection: Effective and Victim-Centred Responses to Forced Criminality

10.15 – 12.15

Description: *This panel will focus on concrete good practices that enable States to address trafficking for the purpose of forced criminality and to respond in a co-ordinated, victim-centred, and security-informed manner. Drawing on operational and policy experience from across the OSCE region, the discussion will examine approaches that strengthen early identification, ensure effective referral and protection of victims, and prevent their criminalization. The panel will highlight integrated responses that bring together law enforcement, prosecutors, social services, labour inspectors, child protection authorities, and civil society, demonstrating how co-ordinated action improves both victim protection and public safety. By showcasing transferable practices and tools, the panel aims to support participating States in developing responses that protect victims, disrupt criminal exploitation, and contribute to safer, more resilient societies.*

Moderator: Anniina Jokinen, Senior Programme Officer, European Institute for Crime Prevention and Control, affiliated with the United Nations (HEUNI)

Panel speakers:

- Antonia Pascal, Criminal Exploitation Expert, Academic and Frontline Practitioner, Specialist Advisor at the Bakhita Centre for Slavery, Safety and Social Justice, Founder of Pascal Consultancy, UK
- Aleksandra Chołuj, Head of Unit for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, Hate Crimes and for Supporting Actions in the area of EU Internal Security Policy, Department of Public Order, Ministry of Interior and Administration, Poland
- Miroslav Jovanović, Manager of the Co-ordination Service, Centre for Human Trafficking Victims Protection, Serbia
- Sergiu Russu, Deputy Prosecutor General, Moldova
- Peabprom Mekhiyanont, Police Lieutenant Colonel, Deputy Superintendent at Cybercrime Investigation Bureau of Royal Thai Police, Thailand

Discussion

Lunch

12.15 – 13.45

Side events

13.45 – 14.45

- From Criminalisation to Protection: Strengthening the Non-Punishment Principle in Cases of Forced Criminality, *organized by La Strada International and the Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women.*
- Children Trafficked for Criminal Activities: Strengthening Identification and Justice Responses, *organized by Missing Children Europe, Terre des Hommes and HEUNI.*
- Beyond the Crime: Mental Health and Psychosocial Impacts of Trafficking for Forced Criminality, *organized by IOM and Hellenic Ministry of Migration and Asylum.*

Panel 3: Charting the Way Forward: Turning Insight into Impact

15.00 – 17.00

Description: *This closing panel will consolidate the key insights emerging from the Conference and build on the evidence, practices, and challenges discussed throughout the event. The panel will focus on identifying priority actions that can be implemented at policy, legislative, and operational levels to address trafficking in human beings for the purpose of forced criminality. The discussion will explore how States and other stakeholders can strengthen prevention, ensure consistent and victim-centred application of the non-punishment principle, enhance cross-sector and cross-border co-operation, and improve accountability for perpetrators. Particular emphasis will be placed on actionable recommendations that reinforce human security and safe societies, including measures to close protection gaps, and integrate a response to forced criminality more systematically into national anti-trafficking, security, and crime-prevention strategies. The panel aims to ensure that the Conference outcomes translate into tangible impact and sustained follow-up across the OSCE region.*

Moderator: Gabriella Kärnekull Wolfe, Survivor Leader, Vice-Chair of the ODIHR International Survivors of Trafficking Advisory Council (ISTAC)

Panel speakers:

- Conny Rijken, President of the Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA)
- Parosha Chandran, Professor of Modern Slavery Law at King's College London, UK
- Shamir Ceuleers, Centre against Child and Human Trafficking, CKM, The Netherlands
- Heracles Moskoff, General Secretary for Vulnerable Persons and Institutional Protection, Hellenic Ministry of Migration and Asylum, Greece
- Monica Krag Pettersen, Public Prosecutor, Oslo Regional Public Prosecutors Office, Norway

Discussion

Closing session

17.00 – 17.15

- Jane Lasonder, Chair of the ODIHR International Survivors of Trafficking Advisory Council (ISTAC)
- Kari Johnstone, OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings