

Newsletter, Issue II, June 2023



## Dear colleague,

Human Trafficking is a serious violation of human rights, all the while posing a social and security threat to all EU Member States. Under the <u>EU Security Union Strategy</u>, protecting society from organised crime in all its manifestations is of a paramount priority. A crucial step in enhancing the protection of EU citizens from such malicious acts is the intensification of a coordinated and consolidated response among law enforcement authorities within the EU, as well as strengthening the cooperation between public authorities, civil society and private actors in all Member States.

The EU Commission estimates that in 2021, over half of trafficking victims were females (68%), with sexual exploitation comprising 56% and labor exploitation at 28%. Children accounted for 35% of the victims.

**ERADICATING** is dedicated to fostering capacity-building efforts aimed at combating and preventing the crime of trafficking in human beings. Recognizing the crucial role of cross-border cooperation among law enforcement authorities within the European Union, ERADICATING emphasizes the importance of facilitating information exchange. This collaborative approach is vital in tackling the prevalent culture of impunity that perpetuates the thriving trafficking industry.

## What we have done so far

**ERADICATING** is committed to dismantling the entrenched and dangerous culture of impunity that underpins the trafficking industry. This involves building the capacity of law enforcement agencies, prosecutorial offices, labor inspectorates, financial investigation units, NGOs, and social service providers to better investigate and prosecute individuals involved in trafficking.

So far, to achieve its objective, **ERADICATING** has:

- Created a <u>Practical guide</u> consisting of the most important procedures for the protection of trafficked victims, as well as useful gender-related, child-sensitive, victim-oriented communication tips and relief and support structures for victims of trafficking published in English, Greek, German and Bulgarian;
- Developed training Manual of the Simulation Exercise including the scaling-up scenarios regarding the management of human trafficking cases, with an emphasis on mixed forms of exploitation, the methodology and training technique of the Simulation Exercise and the roles of the participants in the Simulation Exercise;
- Developed training manuals and conducted <u>transnational training</u> with simulated scenarios to raise awareness on THB cases, enhance multi-

stakeholder engagement, and improve their responses in a multinational context;

 Issued a <u>Digital Child Manual</u> in the form of storytelling, tailored to children, aiming to raise their awareness on possible forms of exploitation.



## **Upcoming**

- **ERADICATING** is organising a "Train the Trainers" event, which will foster transnational exchange of knowledge, expertise and good practices with the aim of fostering the skills of LEAs and other participants, relevant to ERADICATING's mission.
- ERADICATING will host Transferability Workshops, during which participants from the three partner countries Bulgaria, Greece and Germany, will be acquainted with the developed products under the ERADICATING Footprint Toolkit.
- ERADICATING will also establish a "Living Lab" to conduct pilot tests of the Footprint Toolkit in real-world settings across Bulgaria, Greece, and Germany. These pilots will serve to assess the tools' performance,

suitability, and applicability to diverse situations and to the day-to-day operations of end users.

**ERADICATING** is organising these events to familiarise law enforcement authorities, prosecutorial offices, labor inspectorates, financial investigation units, NGOs and social service providers in the investigation and prosecution of people involved in trafficking with the developed products under the initiative.













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Fachbereich Polizei

Hochschule für den öffentlichen Dienst in Bayern









This newsletter was funded by the European Union's Internal Security Fund — Police. The content of this newsletter represents the views of the author(s) only and is their sole responsibility. The European Commission does not accept any responsibility for use that may be made of the information it contains.

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