

not entitled to bring them to any kind of responsibility, because such responsibility simply does not exist, and therefore the police can only apply to such violators preventive police measures defined by the Law of Ukraine "On the National Police". We believe that in order for citizens to properly observe the measures of the legal regime of martial law, it is extremely important to establish responsibility for the violation of these measures.

Список використаних джерел

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**FOREIGN EXPERIENCE FIGHTING AGAINST
21-ST CENTURY SLAVERY – TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN
BEINGS**

Each human being is a free person, whether man, woman, girl or boy, and is destined to exist for the good of all in equality and fraternity. Any relationship that fails to respect the fundamental conviction that all people – men, women, girls and boys – are equal and have the same freedom and dignity constitutes a grave crime against humanity.

Despite the efforts of many persons, trafficking in human beings – the most extensive form of slavery in our twenty-first century – is a plague on a vast scale in many countries across the world. Victims are hidden away in private homes, in illegal establishments, in factories, on farms, behind closed doors, in families, houses and other places in the cities, villages and slums of the world's richest and poorest nations.

Trafficking can take various forms and may involve: sexual exploitation; forced labour or services; slavery, servitude and related practices. Trafficking can also take the form of exploitation for the purpose of forced criminality, such as pickpocketing, shoplifting and drug trafficking.

Trafficking for sexual exploitation is the most well-known form of trafficking in Europe. During the last decade, many studies and, more significantly, reports by anti-trafficking organisations registered the patterns and trends of this offence. Trafficking for sexual exploitation has become a widespread criminal business.

Women and girls are still the main groups targeted by traffickers; nevertheless, a small percentage of male children, young men and transgender individuals. International criminal gangs using different trafficking and exploitation systems. Recruitment, transportation and exploitation methods vary according to a series of factors, the countries and places of origin of the victims, the level of awareness about the final aim of the journey, the type of criminal organization involved, the rivalry between criminal groups, and the type of relationship existing between the exploited person and the recruiter/trafficker. In recent years, outdoor prostitution has progressively moved to more concealed indoor premises (e.g., private apartments), also as an outcome of the widespread use of communication technology to contact (potential) clients, including via Internet websites and chat lines. This new scenario greatly affects the work of both law enforcement agencies as it makes it difficult to detect, identify and support victims who are consequently more likely to suffer from a higher degree of exploitation and violence.

Over the last 15 years, institutions and civil society organizations have developed comprehensive and functioning social protection schemes and services for victims of trafficking for sexual exploitation. Yet, much still needs to be done to prevent and fight this form of trafficking in human beings, and fully protect the rights of trafficked persons who have been sexually exploited. Europol is among these agencies which cooperate with various EU law enforcement agencies in case of combating trafficking in human beings. Europol maintains a technically advanced, reliable, efficient and secure telecommunications infrastructure. It seeks to constantly improve this infrastructure in order to support its operations and deliver a growing range of operational and strategic services to Member States, non-EU countries and third parties.

The backbone of this infrastructure is the Europol operations network, which connects law enforcement agencies in all Member States, as well as a growing number of non-EU countries and third parties with which Europol has cooperation agreements.

The security of the network's infrastructure is Europol's primary focus, since state-of-the-art security is the basis for maintaining trust among all the parties that share information and

intelligence with and through Europol. Information exchange is a small part of Europol activity. One of the last success operations was taking place in Belgium. On 7 February, some 34 house searches were carried out in Belgium (Brussels, Antwerp and Charleroi) and Spain (Alicante and Barcelona). These actions follow earlier actions against members of this group which led to 7 arrests in Switzerland in May 2022.

A total of 28 individuals were arrested (27 in Belgium and one in Spain). Among those arrested in Belgium were five Chinese considered as high-value targets by Europol due to their involvement in multiple high-profile cases in Europe. The investigation uncovered how hundreds of Chinese women were forced into prostitution after being lured to Europe by the promise of a legitimate job.

The perpetrators would use popular messaging apps in China to ensnare their victims. They would then smuggle their victims to Europe using forged EU ID documents and residence permits which were either falsified or obtained using falsified supporting documents. Once in Europe, the victims were held in bondage and forced to work as prostitutes to pay off debts. The criminals would advertise the women online and set them up in hotels across Europe, rotating their victims between EU countries.

Over the three year-long investigation, over 3 000 online advertisements linked together have been monitored by law enforcement. The investigators were able to identify over 200 victims so far, with the actual number believed to be much higher.

Trafficking in human beings is a plague on a vast scale in many countries across the world. So, both law enforcement agencies and non-governmental organizations need to build cooperating bridges and preventing programs in order to save more people from this scary criminal business.

Список використаних джерел

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