



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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**WORKING DOCUMENT
BY THE CZECH REPUBLIC**

MULTIDISCIPLINARY GROUP ON ORGANISED CRIME (MDG)

(Brussels, 1 December 2008)

Joint Analysis, Joint Action

Conference of EU National Rapporteurs for THB

Prague, 30 – 31 March 2009

There is a common consensus on the EU level, that deeper knowledge and understanding of trends in trafficking in human beings, based on the real picture created using comparable data, is the only possible starting point for effective trafficking counteractions. It is necessary to mention that there are already many outstanding projects aiming to promote the harmonization of data collection worldwide.¹ Therefore the Czech Presidency would like to contribute to all the efforts through the introduction of the best practice in this field, especially in the EU region via the expert conference of 30 – 31 of March 2009.

¹ ICMPD project in the Southeast Europe; the current ICMPD project in the Middle Europe region (the partner is also the Czech Republic); the Austrian and IOM in Vienna project “Development of guidelines for the collection of data on trafficking in human beings, including comparable indicators”; Delphi findings etc.

The aim of the conference is to support cooperation and information exchange regarding the phenomenon of trafficking in human beings on the EU level, via enhancement of the role of National Rapporteurs or equivalent mechanisms within 27 Member States. The conference will be organized in response to urgent calls for establishment of the network of National Rapporteurs or equivalent mechanisms, which have already been highlighted by a number of recognized authorities and documents.¹

We believe that the discussion of this topic, supported by the direct presence of National Rapporteurs or equivalent mechanisms, could contribute to the establishment of a closer EU network of experts responsible for the collection of data on the national level; and thus directly promote the information exchange. The conference is aimed to promote personal face-to-face meeting of already established National Rapporteurs and equivalent mechanisms, exchange of experience in establishing and ongoing work of their agencies and offices and through the lessons learnt, help to introduce the best practice to other Member States, those which have not yet established any equivalent mechanisms.

As the first preparatory step we would like to distribute the attached questionnaire during the 1 December MDG meeting. The collected responses shall serve as a basis for the creation of a map of contacts including other basic information on the national institutions responsible for data collection and related issues. The questionnaire should also help to describe already existing roles and tasks of the National Rapporteurs, should identify common standards, and should introduce the spectra of possible activities of the National Rapporteurs institute. Finally, contacts collected via the questionnaire will be used as a contact list for the dissemination of invitations for afore mentioned conference.

¹ The Hague Ministerial Declaration; Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly, Recommendation 1545; the OSCE Action Plan; the recommendations from the EU Expert Group to the EU Member State; the EU Plan on Best Practices, Standards and Procedures for Combating and Preventing Trafficking in Human Beings, 2005; the OSCE 6th Alliance Against Trafficking in Persons Conference “National Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism to Address THB: the Role of National Rapporteurs”, 2007; and the recent action taken by OSCE: Alliance Statement on National Rapporteur or Equivalent Mechanism, presented by the OSCE Special Representative for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings on behalf of the Alliance Expert Coordination Team (AECT), 16 October 2008.

Therefore we would be greatly appreciative if you could kindly provide us with the responses and other comments generated by the questionnaire. In addition, proposals for the speeches and contributions for the conference are highly welcomed. Your answers for the questionnaire **on the 15 January at the latest** will be welcomed on the address: lenkasim@mvcv.cz.

Thank you very much in advance for your kind cooperation.

QUESTIONNAIRE

Joint Analysis, Joint Action

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1. Is the role of National Rapporteur or equivalent mechanism already established in your country?
 - 1.1. If the National Rapporteur or equivalent mechanism has not been established yet, do you consider this institution to be advisable?
 - 1.2. Do you envisage any obstacles in establishing National Rapporteur?
 - 1.3. Have some concrete steps already been taken? What are the current main obstacles?
2. Is there any relationship between the institution of the National Rapporteur and the national referral mechanism? Please provide a description of this relationship.
3. Who exercises the role of National Rapporteur? (E. g. National Anti-Trafficking Office, the National Rapporteur's Office, a national governmental department, an accredited independent agency, another body).
 - 3.1. Please describe advantages or disadvantages of the selection of the specific institution. (E. g. close cooperation with law enforcement authorities, through which description of the actual situation is possible, but excessive dependence on government).
4. If the role of the National Rapporteur is exercised by an independent agency, is the continuity of the activities ensured? Please describe how. (E. g. set by a binding document).
 - 4.1. How is the activity of National Rapporteur supported from the governmental level? (E. g. financial and other support).
 - 4.2. How is the activity of National Rapporteur reflected by the government? What kind of instruments does the National Rapporteur possess with which to enforce the recommendations?
5. Please provide the contact details for the National Rapporteur's office. Please note, that the information will be made public by the map of contacts for the National Rapporteurs.

6. Please provide the address for the web sites on the National Rapporteur's office (if possible, an English version of web sites too). Please note, that the information will be made public by the map of contacts for the National Rapporteurs.
7. How many persons are directly involved in the role of National Rapporteur? (This does not include persons and institutions providing groundwork data and records, but only persons involved in the direct monitoring of the situation, analyses, reporting activities, preparing strategies and national plans and other relevant work).
8. Please provide the contact details for the person in charge (name, surname, agency, phone number, e-mail address). Please note that these details will ***not*** be publicized and will be used only for the dissemination of the invitations for the conference, or for potential requests for the upgrade of provided information.
9. What are the main tasks and responsibilities of the National Rapporteur in your country?

9.1. Monitoring and analyses of the situation, trends and possible threads.

9.2. Collection of data on THB.

9.2.1. There is a central collection of a statistical data on THB and the data is received from various stakeholders.

9.2.1.1. If yes, please provide information on the nature of the stakeholders. (E. g. Ministry of Justice, Police, Labour Inspectors, Embassies, NGOs, etc.).

9.2.2. Is some of the data collected directly by the National Rapporteurs office? (E. g. personal data on the following).

9.2.2.1.victims

9.2.2.2.investigated persons

9.2.2.3.convicted persons

9.2.2.4.any other relevant data

9.3. Coordination of anti-trafficking activities on a national level.

9.4. National Reports.

9.4.1. Annual reports.

9.4.2. Reports based on a longer period. Please describe period length and state why this specific period of time was chosen.

9.5. Preparation and evaluation of the National Action Plans.

9.5.1. To whom are the above mentioned documents submitted?

9.5.2. Who approves these documents?

9.5.3. Who enforces the actions stipulated by the documents?

9.6. International cooperation in the majority of the above mentioned areas.

9.7. Other – please introduce briefly.

9.8. Please provide an electronic version of any of the above mentioned documents to the address Lenkasim@mvcz.cz. (if possible English/any other translation to foreign language as well).

10. Would you welcome stronger support in the field of coordination of anti-trafficking activities on the EU level?

10.1. If yes, please describe what kind of support you consider to be the most important? (E. g. coordination of the preventative activities in source countries).

11. Would you welcome the establishment of a network of National Rapporteurs or equivalent institutions on the EU level?

11.1. What should the network deal with?

11.1.1. Regular meetings and information exchange.

11.1.2. Coordination of joint preventative activities in source countries.

11.1.3. Any other suggestions?

11.2. How often should the network hold the meetings?

12. Would you welcome any kind of EU Rapporteur or equivalent mechanism as well?

13. Do you have some recommendations, lessons learned, best practice, suggestions for countries, which have not as yet established the National Rapporteur or equivalent mechanism?
