

# Changing Roles in a Changing World :

analysis of the role of public organizations in  
combating human trafficking



*in the framework of the project "Advocating for improvement of the anti-trafficking state response in Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus" under Regional Programme Against Human Trafficking funded by Norwegian MFA*

# "La Strada - Ukraine"



Works in the field of combating human trafficking since 1997



The first organization that raised the problem of trafficking in persons at the state level and at the level of the country as a whole.



The organization created the National "Hotline" for the Prevention of Domestic Violence, Trafficking in Persons and Gender Discrimination, that continues operating today.

# Purpose of the study

Analysis of the role of public organizations in identifying problems, advocating for changes, preventing human trafficking and possible participation in judicial/advocacy processes, rehabilitation and reintegration of the trafficking victims

# Methodology

## Information Collection Methods :

- Desk research
- Semi-structured in-depth interviews with representatives of public organizations
- Semi-structured in-depth interviews with government representatives
- Interviews with the media representatives
- Document Analysis
- Research analysis
- Analysis of GRETA reports for 2016-2018

### Study period:

December 10, 2018 - April 30, 2019

# Objectives

- ✓ analyze the role of public organizations in Ukraine in the field of combating trafficking in persons (prevention, assistance, monitoring, advocacy, etc.)
- identify trends, problems, challenges, prospects for the activities of NGOs in Ukraine in this field

# Objectives

- ✓ to find out the level/degree of influence of the activities of public organizations on state policy to combat human trafficking. What public organizations do government agencies cooperate with? In what manner and in what directions?
- ✓ to explore how the situation in Ukraine relates to the outputs of existing studies on the role/activities of NGOs in the world;
- ✓ identify trends in the role of NGOs in other countries (including based on the analysis of GRETA reports)

# Content



**Section 1** Human trafficking in a changing world

**Section 2** Strategic partnership: international experience of participation of public associations in the fight against human trafficking

**Section 3** The role of public associations of Ukraine from de jure to de facto (1995-2019)

**Section 4** Successes and challenges in the activity of domestic public associations on combating trafficking in persons

**Section 5** Processes of Change: challenges or perspectives for public associations.

# Outputs

## Public Sector Recognition

In improving, implementing and monitoring the state policy to combat human trafficking, outreach and the provision of social services.



# Outputs

**The attitude of governmental institutions towards public organizations has changed.**

Public associations today are real actors in coordination structures, their proposals are taken into account in the formation of national and regional programs to combat trafficking in persons, and experts are invited to discuss important issues.

# Outputs

## The core activities of public organizations

- advocacy activities;
- participation in the development and implementation of government programs;
- information campaigns and preventive work;
- monitoring of the implementation of relevant government programs;
- conducting training for specialists involved from relevant ministries and departments;

# Outputs

## The core activities of public organizations

- preparation and distribution of teaching materials;
- research;
- counseling on “hot lines” and the provision of various types of assistance to victims of trafficking.

# Outputs

**Donors - international organizations and embassies.**

The role of the state in financing the activities of non-governmental organizations is insignificant, despite the implementation of targeted state and regional programs, where NGOs are also executors.

# Outputs

## **Lack of resources to cover activities**

Insufficient coverage by non-governmental organizations of the results of their activities and lack of information on initiatives for the general public.

# Outputs

## Strengths of Non-Governmental Organizations

- management independence and flexible forms of employment,
- rapid response to problems in society,
- proximity to society, people and a high level of public confidence.

Today, NGOs have not only professional expertise, but also practical experience in assisting and protecting the rights of victims of trafficking in persons, they are well aware of the relevant legislation

# Recommendations to government institutions

- Recognize POs as full participants in the formation of public policy
- To involve specialists of non-governmental organizations for the expertise, analysis and writing of legislation that would correspond to the best world-class standards written by the National Programs and the formation of public policies и
- Include in monitoring groups, monitoring processes
- Respond to the evaluation results, monitoring analyzes that the PO provides when conducting monitoring activities

# Recommendations to government institutions

- Include non-governmental organizations in the Coordinating Councils of various levels (National, regional, local)
- To order social services to NGOs, such as preventive activities, legal support for victims, social support, work of "hotlines", research, training of civil servants and members of territorial communities
- Facilitate activities that PO organizes, if such support is needed



# Recommendations

- Constantly improve the competencies of employees
- To master modern tools for monitoring of state obligations in the field of combating human trafficking
- Actively advocate the role of POs as equal partners, including in the formation of public policies, strategic plans and setting of priorities of donor institutions
- Involve PO experts in monitoring the compliance of national legislation with international legislation, the implementation of international obligations and national plans and programs, in indicators and tools development for the implementation of tasks and activities to combat human trafficking
- To expand information and advocacy work skills (the ability to generate key messages and transmit them to target audiences, use effective strategies to promote proposals and protect the interests of victims)

# Recommendations

- To expand the skills of effectively engaging the media in covering current issues and better performance
- Train research data and statistics
- Be able to build equal partnerships with government agencies to identify and assist victims of trafficking
- Learn how to work with donor organizations: international, business and local communities in order to obtain long-term projects for planning sustainable activities
- Develop and implement organizational policies
- Inform the public widely about the activities of POs (including through the site and active support of its work, social media, mass media, etc.)
- Form coalitions