

Newsletter August

La Strada International wishes to inform and update you on developments in the field of trafficking in human beings and activities of the Platform and member organisations. We welcome your feedback and input. Please [e-mail us](#)

La Strada News

LSI organises anniversary public debate and platform meeting in Amsterdam

On 15th September 2021, La Strada International will organise a Public Debate on the role of civil society in addressing human Trafficking. Guest speakers include Ms. Siobhan Mullally, UN Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons, especially in Women and Children and Ms. Petya Nesterova, Executive Secretary of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings. This event will be livestreamed, check here for more information and registration [See more](#)



LSI contributes to FAST Podcast on Remedies

For many years La Strada International has been advocating for more access to compensation and other remedies for trafficked persons and victims of crime. In the last [\(10th\) episode](#) of their Podcast series, a series exploring the connections between global finance and modern slavery and human trafficking, Finance Against Slavery and Trafficking (FAST) looks at the issue of remedy including the role of the financial sector to ensure adequate remedies. La Strada International's Coordinator Suzanne Hoff speaks about access to compensation and the [Justice at Last project](#).

Members News

Victim Support Finland operates helpline for seasonal workers

In June, LSI's member Victim Support Finland, opened a helpline service for seasonal workers. The service is intended to especially support foreign seasonal workers, who suspect that they have been exploited at work. [See more](#)

UK Monitoring Group reviews Recovery Needs Assessment Policy

The Anti Trafficking Monitoring Group (ATMG) in the UK, is currently looking at the role and function of the Recovery Needs Assessment Policy (RNA) in practice. The RNA is conducted after a victim has been conclusively found to be a victim of trafficking and exists to help support workers to work with victims to develop recommendations for support where they have ongoing recovery needs. ATMG hopes to collect experiences from those who have lived experiences from the RNA and other stakeholders in the UK. [See more](#)

PAYOKE publishes E-book on mentoring human trafficking survivors

Through the EU-funded Libes project, more than 45 people transitioning from the victim support program to independent living were paired with buddies by Payoke, LSI's Associate member in Belgium. Establishing a relationship of trust with a [buddy](#) can help victims of trafficking in their [recovery](#) and reintegration. Based on the experience of the Libes project an [e-book](#) has been published around setting up and operating buddy programs for human trafficking survivors.

What is going on?

Evaluation Roadmap on Fighting Human Trafficking

In July, the European Commission published a combined [evaluation roadmap/inception impact assessment](#) on "Fighting human trafficking – review of EU rules". The roadmap is open for feedback for 6 weeks, with a deadline on 16 September 2021. [See more](#)



Impact of EU Pact on Migration and Asylum assessed

In August the European Parliament Research Service (EPRS) has released an analysis of the Commission's proposed [New Pact on Migration and Asylum](#) (NPMA). The EPRS concluded that the NPMA's influence on migration procedures and the fundamental rights of migrants is to be considered overall negative. [See more](#)

German Due Diligence law effective

The German Act on Corporate Due Diligence in Supply Chains has been published in the German Federal Law Gazette and the law is now effective and will enter into force in 2023. [See earlier article](#)

Research on third-country national victims of trafficking

The European Migration Network ([EMN](#)), a European research network on migration and asylum, is currently conducting research on 'Third-country national victims of trafficking in human beings' for the European Commission. Several LSI members have been interviewed to contribute to this study [See more](#)

European coalition calls on EU countries to take action for domestic workers' rights

In June, a multi-stakeholder coalition (C189 Alliance) held an online event and published a [report](#) to assess progress and call for more action to protect all domestic workers' rights, ten years since the adoption of the ILO Convention 189 on domestic workers. The C189 Alliance brings together employers', workers' and non-governmental organisations from across Europe as well the ILO and European Commission. The civil society actors also addressed letters to those EU countries (two thirds) who are yet to write the measures of the Convention into national law. Recordings and presentations from the event can now be viewed [here](#).

New research finds major gaps in implementation of EU Employers Sanctions'

Directive

The EU Fundamental Rights Agency has published new [research](#) finding major gaps in the implementation of the EU [Employers Sanctions' Directive](#) when it comes to enabling exploited workers to get justice, nearly ten years since it came into force in 2011. The report highlights the need to improve complaints systems, access to compensation and residence permits, and ensure labour inspectorates focus on protecting workers and not immigration law. With an evaluation report from the European Commission expected later this year. You can check out PICUM's latest [blog](#) on the issue.

Victim Support Europe information campaign "You won't believe it, but it exists"

With 14 partners across 13 countries, Victim Support Europe (VSE)'s campaign intends to provide the public with information on victim support services and to encourage victims to reach out these services. Animation films and information visuals are rolled out in social media till the end of 2021 under the hashtag #itexists.

In these films – one produced for each partner country, in the national language, victims invite the public on a powerful and emotional journey through their stories. The characters share what happened to them, their doubts and fears, how they discovered that support existed, when and how they had the courage to seek for help and how they were assisted.

[See more](#)

SDG 8.7 Innovation Challenge

The [Alliance 8.7](#) – a multi-stakeholder and inclusive global partnership committed to achieving SDG Target 8.7, is launching a competition calling for innovative solutions to address child labour, forced labour and human trafficking through digital information systems. The deadline is extended until 15 September. [See more](#)

What's new?



UN Special Rapporteur on Slavery publishes report on displacements

Through examining practices and trends, the UN Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences, Mr. Tomoya Obokata [assessed](#) the experiences of persons who were displaced within their countries or across international borders with regard to contemporary forms of slavery. In the [report](#), the Special Rapporteur identifies factors that render displaced persons, including internally displaced persons, asylum seekers and refugees, vulnerable to exploitation and contemporary forms of slavery. [See more](#)

Call for papers: Migration, Sexuality and Gender Identity

The Anti-Trafficking Review by GAATW published a new call for papers for a Special Issue themed 'Migration, Sexuality, and Gender Identity' guest-edited by Svati P. Shah. The aim of this issue is to analyse the experiences of LGBTQI people with migration, asylum, informal labour, trafficking, community building away from home and more. The deadline for submissions is 15 November. For more information, see the [full call for papers](#) or email the editorial team at atr@gaatw.org

New tools

In August Clean Clothes Campaign launched a new [public tracker](#) showing which garment brands are advocates of a new strong binding agreement on factory safety, and which major brands are blocking progress. The tracker calls out major UK brands such as Marks and Spencer, Primark, Next and Matalan for not using their considerable power to ensure that advances on supply chain factory safety are maintained.

A new tool by the [Mekong Club](#) provides best practice examples and wording that can be used to incorporate modern slavery into supplier/ partner agreements and contracts. This includes legal clauses that can be directly added to contracts that can be also utilised by your suppliers and cascaded down your supply chain.

Events

7 September 2021 - Time: 10:00 - 12:00 CET - Online - The role of municipalities in combating European human trafficking networks - The City of Amsterdam will launch a European inter-city knowledge network, that should look for innovative ways to identify, frustrate and combat criminal networks. [See more](#)

10 September 2021, from 11.00 to 13.00 CET – Payoke organises a Round Table & from 14.00 to 16.00 CET - a Practitioners' Talk about the long term integration of trafficked persons. Register [here](#)

16 September 2021 online conference 15.00 - Life beyond the Shelter, conference by LSI's member On the Road organised in the framework of the LIBES project, see [more](#) click here to [register](#).

14 September 2021 (10.00 – 16.00 CET) - [International Expert Round Table](#) on Understanding the Linkages between (Labour) Exploitation, Migration & Human Trafficking' Registration is obligatory. See [more](#).

15 September 2021 - 15.00 – 17.00 CET - Public Debate focusing on shrinking NGO space and role of civil society in Europe – [See more](#)

14 - 15 October 2021 Berlin, Germany - LSI's member, the German NGO network against human trafficking, will discuss the topic of data collection on trafficking in human beings and exploitation in the context of current developments in Germany with experts, practitioners and politicians. [See more](#)

Webinar Series on labour rights of undocumented migrants

In October, PICUM, ETUC and the ILO are organising a webinar series focusing on how to ensure labour rights of undocumented migrant workers? For more info and to register see <https://picum.org/legal-seminar-2021/>



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