

# Annual report 2021

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## Introduction

The work of La Strada International in 2021 has been supported with the financial support of the European Commission, Porticus and several donations. The activities of the La Strada International members are further supported by numerous national and international donors.

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## La Strada International

La Strada International is a European NGO Platform against human trafficking, that works from a human rights perspective in support of trafficked persons. The platform aims to prevent human trafficking and to protect and realise trafficked persons' rights. La Strada International now comprises 30 member organisations, including 5 associate members, from 24 European countries.

La Strada International is active at a broad European level. General activities undertaken by platform members include direct and indirect social support and empowerment programmes for trafficked persons and risk groups. These include (psycho) social, medical, legal and vocational support, shelter services, long-term reintegration and employment support, provision of consultations and referral via national hotlines. Furthermore, members work on prevention lectures and trainings to professional groups, awareness-raising, lobbying, advocacy and media campaigns.

## Human Trafficking in Europe

Trafficking in human beings is an internationally recognised crime. All over the world, men, women and children are brought into situations of severe exploitation, through coercion, abuse of power or vulnerability, and are forced to conduct labour or provide services. This can include sexual exploitation, forced labour, the forced removal of organs, and slavery or similar practices. Such exploitation occurs in particular in the most precarious sectors with weak labour rights. Examples of such sectors include the sex industry, construction, agriculture, and also domestic work. People are also trafficked for illegal acts such as begging, pick pocketing, drugs trade and cybercrime.

When trafficked, persons experience a series of rights violations, ranging from restriction of movement and confiscation of pay, to grave violence and abuse. Trafficking does not always involve the crossing of borders. It can also occur within a country. Although trafficking is widely recognised as a serious human rights violation, support for trafficked persons is still inadequate, only a small fraction of trafficked persons is identified, and an even smaller percentage decides to press charges.

## Strengthening NGO Platform cooperation

The NGO platform was strengthened by the approval of a new associate membership in the reporting period: VATRA in Albania. The further strengthening of the platform and membership has been discussed on several occasions by the board.

A negative development in 2021 was however that one member organisation – LSI member Gender Perspectives in Belarus – was [liquidated](#) on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2021 by the Belarus authorities. The second organisation Social Changes still exists but staff is currently in exile and a new organisation has been established abroad. Two crowdfunding initiatives were started, which generated around 10.000 euro in donations for the members in exile.

La Strada International follows the political situation in Belarus, Turkey, Hungary and Poland with concern, as these impact our members in these countries.

*HRDF in Turkey faces difficulties due to the economic situation and the high inflation. LSI's member in Denmark frequently reported about detention of identified trafficked persons and harsh migration policies. Also Anti-Slavery International and FLEX in the UK raised concern about governmental policies that negatively impact the situation of trafficked persons.*

Members benefitted from LSI activities. Monthly updates were provided related to international policy developments and events, next to regular exchanges via LSI's members mailing list. In total nine monthly members meetings were held in 2021.

LSI members also attended the [NGO Platform meeting](#) in Amsterdam live or online and joined other online meetings and webinars organised in 2021. In particular, the membership provided them with more access to (strategic) information and updates, joint advocacy, and a bigger voice at the European level. In total around 10 joint actions were taken.

A lot of effort has been put into further building the cooperation between LSI members and promoting exchange and joint actions. Due to the COVID-19 safety measures and restrictions, there have been limited opportunities for direct meetings with and between members and other stakeholders. However, the postponed annual NGO Platform meeting could take place from 15-17 September in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. In addition, a two-day board meeting was organised in October 2021 in Trieste, Italy. A few other smaller meetings could additionally be organised, including bilateral meetings with several member organisations. All other international representation and network meetings were conducted online.

The LSI secretariat and board ensured exchange and knowledge building between the members through regular email updates and policy exchange; monthly online exchange meetings and webinars; as well as joint (advocacy) actions, related to new proposed legal and policy measures.

## Assistance to trafficked persons and vulnerable groups

Both at bilateral level and broader Platform level, cooperation took place for referral and assistance to victims of human trafficking, including with other NGOs, NGO networks and other relevant stakeholders. All members of La Strada International directly support trafficked persons and risks groups. Regardless of the COVID-19 situation, Platform members continued helplines, counseling and other support services to trafficked and exploited persons. On several occasions, the LSI secretariat was contacted to facilitate support in ensuring adequate referral of several trafficked persons; in total LSI helped the referral and support of around 15 persons in 2021. It is estimated that LSI members assisted over 4000 persons in 2021<sup>1</sup>.

To improve referral and services, a [social map](#) was developed in 2018 and placed online in 2019. In 2020 and 2021 this map was regularly updated and frequently used to assist members with the referral of trafficked persons. Furthermore, LSI members worked on joint standards for services.

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<sup>1</sup> Figures should be available in the first quarter of 2022.

## Impact of COVID 19

The continuation of the COVID-19 pandemic remained to have a significant impact on the work of LSI and the members and created challenges. Shelters run by LSI members all remained open and services continued. It required a lot of commitment to keep up protection standards and avoid infections. For safety reasons consultations have been mainly offered online. Helpline operators continued to receive many questions from migrant workers who lost their jobs and/or housing due to the restrictions, and many of whom had difficulties to access solidarity services (for food, daily shelter etc). Members see that the current situation is especially problematic for migrant workers and advocate especially for improvement of their position.

COVID-19 has a huge impact on the persons LSI assist, as LSI earlier reflected upon in its [statement](#) on the situation, published in March 2020. The vulnerability of migrant workers has become very visible. While some governments took positive action to provide direct (financial and other) support to migrant workers, extend work visa and or regularize undocumented migrants in their countries, the situation of many remains precarious. LSI continues to monitor the situation in general, as well as specific policies and measures taken by national governments, and the impact on trafficked persons and those at risk of exploitation and abuse.



## Building evidence

LSI worked on data collection, monitoring and various research projects: desk research has been conducted on posted care workers in the Netherlands (Postcare); the (legal and practical) situation of Asian exploited migrants in Poland, the Czech Republic and Romania has been researched in the framework of the Disrupt & Restore programme; and in the framework of Hidden at Work a desk research was conducted related to legal provisions for (undocumented) migrant women in hidden and exploitative situations. *See further: Projects.*

For the second year in a row, LSI also cooperated with Oxford Development Consultancy to collect and analyze data of LSI's members and LSI supported research projects of others, including LEFO's work on access to residence. In 2021 LSI supported 18 academic research requests.

In 2021, LSI secretariat and members provided data and input to national and international governmental bodies and other stakeholders, in particular on assistance provided to victims and challenges and gaps in practice. For example, LSI contributed to Verité's [assessment of labour risks](#) for Filipino migrant workers involved in the fishing, seafaring, and domestic work sectors in Europe, as well as in emerging host countries for Filipino workers: the Czech Republic and Poland. LSI also contributed to GRETA's [survey](#) on the use of ICTs and LSI contributed to a new published [ILO study](#) providing insights into the avenues for protection and remedy that exist in both Belgium and the Netherlands for human trafficking victims for the purpose of labour exploitation.

LSI is currently working with a team of university researchers on the development of a new HORIZON application, to be submitted in August 2022. LSI also works with representatives of Edinburgh Napier University on a project proposal for research related to sex workers in the UK. With the University of Amsterdam, LSI cooperates on the COMCRIM project with financial institutions and public agencies, which looks into new ways to tackle organised crime, focusing on both a national and an international level.

Further LSI research is planned on non-punishment and compensation in 2022. In 2021 LSI started desk research on criminalising the knowingly use, for which interviews are planned in 2022. The handbook on compensation was reviewed in 2021 and will be published in the beginning of 2022.

## Data collection

All LSI members share data related to victims assisted; including country of origin; gender; current age; age when the exploitation started; type of exploitation and the sector of the exploitation. It has further been decided to share data on international referrals; best practices or recommendations on annually selected topics related to ongoing research/projects, next to sharing annual information on projects and initiatives of members. This data has been collected for 2019-2020 and in addition Oxford Development Consultancy reached out to all members for additional information and statistics. This process has been repeated for 2020-2021, now by the Oxford 180 Development Consultancy team. A report is expected in the first quarter of 2021.

It remains a challenge to enhance data sharing as data collected by the LSI members is difficult to compare, due to the different national contexts and legislation. In September 2021, LSI organised a workshop at the NGO Platform to discuss data collection and had several network meetings on the issue during the year. In March 2022 an event will be organised in Warsaw, Poland, to further discuss data collection. It is clear that more efforts are needed to enhance data sharing and ensure that results can be better used for a joint purpose.

All members of the Platform have measures in place to ensure the safety of the target population they work with according to national standards and legislation. Furthermore, all members and LSI follow the European General Data Protection Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (GDPR) regulation. When collecting data including statistics, good practices, and case studies, La Strada International and its members will ensure that personal or other sensitive data of victims will be protected and not be shared at any level. In September 2021, a start was made to develop procurement policies for La Strada International, which should be adopted in 2022. From hotels and other suppliers, we increasingly ask for their procurement policies and how they prevent human trafficking and exploitation in their company.

## Raising awareness and (evidence based) advocacy

Awareness raising and advocacy is an important part of LSI's work to promote victim protection and accountability. In 2021, much monitoring work related to the evaluation and development of new EU initiatives, legislation and actions, as well as the work of other intergovernmental organisations including the CoE, OSCE and UN bodies.

On April 14<sup>th</sup>, the EC launched a new [EU Strategy on combatting Trafficking in Human Beings](#) (2021 – 2025). The same day also the related new [EU Strategy to tackle Organised Crime](#) was presented. Both strategies focus on tackling organised crime structures and business models both online and offline and enhancing multi-stakeholder coordination and cooperation, next to crime prevention measures and assisting victims. On April 16<sup>th</sup>, La Strada International provided a first reaction on the new EU Human Trafficking Strategy during the [International Expert Round Table – Regional Implementation Initiative on Preventing & Combating Human Trafficking](#) ([livestream](#) still available)

The main developments monitored in the last 6 months included the new EU [Strategy on voluntary return and reintegration](#), the revision of the EU Employer Sanctions directive; the appointment of a new EU Anti Trafficking Coordinator; consultations related to a possible new instrument on violence against women including the on-going 'fitness check of EU legislation on preventing and combatting violence against women and domestic violence'. LSI also contributed to the [evaluation roadmap](#) on "Fighting human trafficking – review of EU rules", as well as national developments around due diligence legislation and EU minimum wages proposal.

Together with the secretariat LSI organised a [side event](#) on June 4<sup>th</sup> for the members of the Committee of the Parties which focussed on the importance of improved access to residence for victims of trafficking, on the basis of a recently launched research [report Residence Permits, International Protection and Victims of Human Trafficking](#). The REST study provides best practice examples and recommendations on how states can ensure that trafficked persons can access residence and international protection. LSI further monitored the work of GRETA and the GRETA elections. For the 4<sup>th</sup> of June elections, LSI submitted a support letter for the Polish candidate [Ms Małgorzata MAKARSKA](#), a judge and long-standing professional partner of La Strada Poland, with long term expertise on the issue of human trafficking. Unfortunately, she was not elected. LSI also contributed to GRETA's [survey](#) for a study in relation to the detection, investigation and prosecution of online and technology-facilitated human trafficking.

On June 12<sup>th</sup>, a side event was organised by LSI during the 21<sup>st</sup> [OSCE high level conference](#) of the Alliance against Trafficking in Persons. A total of 80 persons attended, including representatives of several OSCE MS, including speakers from the German and Austrian government.

On June 16<sup>th</sup>, La Strada International organised a [side event](#) during the 21st Alliance against Trafficking in Persons (OSCE) Conference. This conference [‘Confronting Demand: Tackling a root cause of trafficking in human beings’](#) was held from 14-16 June 2021. LSI’s side event focussed on ‘criminalizing the knowingly use of services, which are the object of exploitation on trafficked persons and related vulnerable groups’.

In July LSI contributed to the hearing on the [UN Global Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons](#) with an [intervention](#), raising concern about the remaining gaps in the implementation of anti-trafficking action in Europe and globally. As for UN bodies, La Strada International provided [input](#) for the report of the UNSR on contemporary forms of Slavery on ‘The Role of Organised Criminal Groups with regard to Contemporary Forms of Slavery’. Earlier LSI also submitted [input](#) for the report by the UNSR on Trafficking in Persons on the non-punishment provision.

LSI also closely monitored developments around the [review mechanism](#) to the UN Palermo Convention, LSI and GAATW reached out to the Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime (GI-TOC) to discuss the role of civil society further and to develop further guidance for their members. In order to promote civil society involvement, LSI and GAATW have developed a short [guidance](#) for NGOs and recommend NGOs to get involved.

## Other advocacy actions

National and international governmental representatives were also reached with statements: e.g., LSI reached out to MEPs of the FEMM and LIBE Committees in July 2021 with a joint statement (amendments proposed to which LSI and others objected, were all rejected); states were addressed during several international events, including regional meetings organised by UNODC and the consultations for the Global Action Plan.

Since November 2021, LSI has supported ASTRA to raise awareness among high level political representatives about the Linglong case, related to the exploitation of a group of around 500 Vietnamese workers. This led to a [resolution](#) by the EU Parliament. LSI members are in regular contact with national governments; LSI participates in the international meetings of the Dutch Ministry of Justice and also joined a meeting they organised with the EU Anti-Trafficking Coordinator.

## Joint advocacy with other NGOs

Through membership of HRDN, LSI mainly follows the human rights situation in different European countries, currently particular the situation in Hungary, Poland and Belarus. LSI participated in several joint statements. See for example this [statement](#).

With GAATW, cooperation took place on the [UN Review Mechanism](#) and jointly guidelines for NGOs were written. LSI is also member of GAATW's working group on global advocacy related to Human Trafficking. With ESWA, LSI mainly cooperates on advocacy against criminalisation of sex workers; cooperation took place related to the EU Parliament resolution, the consultation on a possible new EU instrument related to Violence against Women and LSI contributed to their report and [webinar](#) on 17th of May 2021.

## LSI projects

*Hidden at Work* - On January 1, 2021 La Strada International started with its members FairWork, La Strada Czech Republic and LEFO IBF, the implementation of the project [Hidden at Work](#), funded by the European Commission. This project, coordinated by FairWork, focuses on workers who face harassment and exploitation at work in Austria, the Netherlands and the Czech Republic. La Strada International conducted (a desk mapping) research on the state of the art regarding the legal instruments and rights provisions in place to support this particular vulnerable group. In 2022 LSI will publish a report on the main bottlenecks identified related with accessing rights.

*Disrupt & Restore Programme* - In January 2021, LSI also started the [project Cross-Continent Collaborations to Protect Asian Trafficking Victims in Europe](#). La Strada International coordinated project activities in Poland, Romania, and the Czech Republic, which focused on reviewing relevant legal frameworks and jurisprudence and identification of practical challenges in legal formulation and its interpretation, next to networking and engaging other stakeholders to raise further awareness on these issues. A report and policy paper will be published in the first quarter of 2022. A follow up of this project has started on 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2022.

In March 2021, a new project started named [Postcare](#) for which LSI is conducting research on the posting of third country national care workers in the Netherlands and their possible exploitation. This research is jointly conducted with CoMensha in the Netherlands.

## Representation

LSI is frequently invited to contribute to high level international events and to provide presentations and or consultations. LSI secretariat representatives attended 43 online events (excluding network meetings, research, and project meetings), at which LSI shared its work and expertise. See annex 1. LSI members attended many more events.



## Cooperation with external partners

La Strada International closely cooperates with other NGOs, NGO networks, governments and other relevant governmental and non-governmental stakeholders. In the 2021 reporting period 41 networking meetings took place, next to meetings related to research, projects, and advocacy. see annex 1.

Especially LSI's work on advocacy is taken up in close cooperation with in particular the Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants (PICUM), the European Sex Workers' Rights Alliance (ESWA – formerly ICRSE) and Victim Support Europe (VSE), as well as with the Human Rights Development Network (HRDN) and the Global Alliance against traffic in women (GAATW). With these networks, LSI undertook several common advocacy actions, and regular meetings to exchange were organised. LSI joins two working groups of PICUM and is also part of VSE's round tables of NGOs that are used to discuss and prepare actions related to Victim Rights (including the VR Strategy and evaluation of the VR Directive).

LSI members reached out and cooperated with legal professionals in 2021. In February 2021, LSI joined a webinar for the specialized [THB lawyers network](#) (around 45 lawyers) established by the Council of Europe of which LSI and several LSI members are member. Via the mailing list of this network, several exchanges took place. With the Dutch organisation NHC, CofE/GRETA secretariat, LEFO IBF, PILNET and others, LSI started to work on a proposal to strengthen the cooperation among lawyers and other legal professionals in Europe; for which several meetings were attended.

Further, in the reporting period, LSI and members were regularly in contact with legal professionals and provided support to legal cases. LSI was contacted 3 times for possible third-party intervention related to legal cases submitted to the ECtHR and for support to a Dutch legal court case. LSI and PICUM requested to file a third party intervention to the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) related with the [case](#) of 261 sex workers against France. Unfortunately, in August LSI was informed by the ECtHR that this intervention was not approved; as others were selected to intervene instead.

LSI also followed several strategic litigation cases of others and raised attention for outcomes including among legal professionals. For example, on 7th October, the ECtHR issued a long-awaited [verdict](#) in the case of Zoletic and Others v. Azerbaijan – 20116/12, in favour of 33 citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina, who were recruited in 2009 and taken to Azerbaijan where they were forced to work. The workers were supported by LSI's member ASTRA and the case has been closely monitored for years by LSI. At the end of 2021, LSI also supported ASTRA to raise attention for the [Linglong case](#) related to a group of around 500 Vietnamese workers.

LSI also joined a project by the European Rights Academy (ERA) which relates to legal trainings related with access to compensation, financial investigations and assets recovery. LSI will support these legal trainings in 2022 and 2023 which should target between 150 – 300 legal professionals in Europe. LSI also re-established close cooperation with PILNET<sup>1</sup> and agreed to project cooperation (application in process) on the assessment of 'cold' compensation cases and to connect lawyers with LSI members to improve access to justice for trafficked persons. LSI also had several exchange meetings with PILnet.

**Law enforcement** - While LSI has been in contact with representatives of Europol and Interpol and several national police representatives, contacts with national law enforcement agencies are maintained mainly by LSI's members. These contacts mainly relate to referral and support to trafficking cases. LSI's board is discussing what actions LSI could take at international level to raise awareness among law enforcement.

**Private sector** - LSI also tries to engage business companies (target 10) in the work of LSI members; members shared updates in September 2021 about their work with the private sector during the 'due diligence' session, which includes financial and or pro bono support of the private sector, but also capacity building and training of private sector representatives. Earlier PICUM and LSI have decided to establish a special working group that will work on the private sector and follow all policy developments around the business and human rights framework. In line with this, LSI submitted input for an EU consultation on binding due diligence in February 2021 and supported actions by others to push for binding due diligence. LSI's board is still discussing LSI's strategy and actions towards the private sector for LSI's action plan 2021-2025.

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<sup>1</sup> PILnet connects lawyers and civil society organizations to improve access to justice for vulnerable communities, such as children, refugees, and displaced people. See [www.pilnet.org](http://www.pilnet.org)

## Social media work

LSI's social media work has been extended and LSI's outreach is clearly more noticed. Next to two webpages ([www.lastradainternational.org](http://www.lastradainternational.org) and [www.justiceatlast.eu](http://www.justiceatlast.eu)), LSI maintains two Facebook pages, and a Twitter and LinkedIn account. Information on new developments and related LSI and LSI members activities was regularly shared with externals via LSI's social media channels and quarterly – since February 2021 monthly - [newsletters](#).

112 articles were posted at LSI's websites, including several guest blogs. Via social media, mainly Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter a similar number of posts have been shared. In 2021, La Strada International started with monthly newsletters, 12 [newsletters](#) have been published in 2021.

On 15 September 2021, LSI finalized its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary year social media campaign with a Public Debate in Amsterdam. Via LSI's anniversary campaign and [timeline](#) and the end of the year [adventscalendar](#) and LSI newsletters, the work of LSI members was promoted over the year. Via membership of [PICUM](#) (164 members), [GAATW](#) (80+ members); [ESWA](#) (90+ members) and the [EU Civil Society Platform](#) (104 members) and E-platform, many more NGOs and service providers have been reached, partly as a result of common actions, LSI presentations and LSI's social media work.

LSI has been regularly interviewed and provided information to journalists and media representatives, including the Guardian, Thomson Reuters, the German ARD and even media outside Europe, e.g. LSI was for example contacted by a human rights journal based in Montreal. 10 direct interviews were provided by La Strada International.

## General Assembly, Board and Staff situation

All LSI members together form the General Assembly that met once in 2021. The annual NGO Platform/General Assembly meeting comprising also training and workshops for members, was held on 15-17 September 2021. Sixteen members and two associate members joined the meeting live, while others participated online. Together they discussed LSI's new strategy plan, [focus areas](#) and action plan for 2022 as well as input for LSI's due diligence strategy.

Another important topic discussed during the annual NGO Platform/General Assembly meeting was European advocacy and developments in the field, including the current evaluation of the EU Trafficking directive and the proposal for an EU Framework directive on violence against women. Separate workshops were organised related to joint data collection; outreach work and NGO cooperation on referral of trafficked persons; engaging the voice of trafficked persons; strategic litigation and third-party intervention; and 'the basis for reasonable grounds'. A report of the meeting is available on request.

LSI's board comprised 3 persons in 2021: Liliana Sorrentino (Italy), Eefje de Volder (Netherlands) and Evelyn Probst (Austria). The board met twice in 2021; in September in Amsterdam and in October 2021 in Trieste, Italy. A total of 9 online board meetings were additionally held including a two-day online board meeting in July 2021. A new LSI Strategic Plan was adopted for the years 2021 – 2025; it is available online via LSI's website. The board discussed strategic issues, including concerning international developments and (advocacy); the selection of new LSI members; and the development of a new La Strada International Strategy Plan for 2021-2025 and new focus areas.

*LSI staff* - In 2021 La Strada International staff comprised: Suzanne Hoff, International Coordinator, also responsible for Public Affairs; Merel Brouwer, Project Manager; Nuala Keyser, Financial manager; Mitsuru Suzuki for social media work. For marketing, design, website and internet facilities, as well as for salary administration, La Strada International makes use of external agencies and freelancers. In addition, also a new volunteer with a legal background started to work for LSI in October 2021. A new office manager is still to be recruited.

## Engaging trafficked persons

Following a workshop session which took place in 2019 on how to engage victims more in the work of the Platform and its members, at the 2021 Platform meeting a follow-up workshop session was organized on this topic. In addition, the board developed a draft policy on how to engage the target group more in LSI's work and several LSI members have involved trafficked persons in their work as well as in participatory research.

## Annex

### Statements & written contributions

- La Strada International provided [input](#) for the report of the UNSR on contemporary forms of Slavery on 'The Role of Organised Criminal Groups with regard to Contemporary Forms of Slavery'. (16 April 2021)
- On International Domestic Workers Day, La Strada International together with 50 other NGOs called upon European governments to ratify the ILO Domestic Workers Convention and to take measures to ensure better protection and access to rights for domestic workers. (16 June 2021) <https://documentation.lastradainternational.org/lisidocs/3406-LSI%20STATEMENT%20WORKERS%20DAY%2016%20June%202021.pdf>
- La Strada International, ICRSE, PICUM and 9 other European networks developed a [joint letter](#) calling upon MEPs of the FEMM and LIBE committees to reject 4 amendments that would outlaw sex workers' ability to consent. Fortunately, MEPs rejected the amendments. (9 July 2021)
- Statement for new Global Action Plan. (13 July 2021) <https://www.lastradainternational.org/news/la-strada-international-statement-world-day-against-trafficking-in-persons/>
- On the World Day against Trafficking in Persons, on which the importance of listening to and learning from the experiences of trafficked persons was highlighted, La Strada International forwarded 7 actionable recommendations to ensure that trafficked persons' voice is elevated with dignity and respect alongside the critical role of an independent civil society. (30 July 2021) <https://documentation.lastradainternational.org/lisidocs/3410-LSI%20statement%2030%20July%202021%20World%20day%20against%20Trafficking%20in%20Persons.pdf>
- 161 human rights organisations, including La Strada International, have demanded an end to the repression against human rights defenders in Belarus. (26 July 2021) <https://www.omct.org/en/resources/statements/belarus-global-letter-in-solidarity-with-the-belarusian-civil-society>
- La Strada International joined an open [letter](#) to urge UN Member States to ensure the adoption of a robust resolution on Afghanistan. (10 September 2021)
- Submission for [evaluation roadmap](#) on "Fighting human trafficking – review of EU rules". (16 September 2021)
- LSI twice provided input for a new resolution by the Council of Europe on labour exploitation; expected to be adopted in June 2022.

- In a [joint letter](#) (in Dutch) by LSI, FairWork and the Dutch Trade Union FNV sent to the House of Representatives, a call was made for concrete actions and a better approach to labour exploitation in the Netherlands. (7 October 2021)
- On 18 October, European day against Trafficking in Human Beings, La Strada International released a statement, calling for access to rights and protection for all trafficked persons, through adequate implementation of the current legislative framework. <https://documentation.lastradainternational.org/lisidocs/3422-LSI%20Statement%2018%20October%202021%20updated%2025-10.pdf>
- LSI statement for Human Rights Day. (10 December 2021) <https://www.lastradainternational.org/news/states-should-commit-to-a-human-rights-based-approach-in-addressing-trafficking-in-human-beings/>