

Newsletter September 2022

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](#).

LSI news

Webinar launching LSI's new report: 'Protecting Asian Trafficking Victims in Europe. In Focus: Czech Republic, Poland, and Romania'

On the 7th of October – World Decent Workers Day – La Strada International co-organised the webinar 'Protecting Asian Migrants in Europe', together with Freedom Collaborative and Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women (GAATW). This webinar celebrated the launch of LSI's new report [Protecting Asian Trafficking Victims in Europe. In Focus: Czech Republic, Poland, and Romania](#) and its accompanying [Policy Paper](#). The report is based on desk research and interviews conducted by LSI members La Strada Czech Republic, La Strada Poland and ADPARE (Romania). The webinar recording can be viewed [here](#). See [more](#).

La Strada International representation

In September, La Strada International contributed to various international events, including [ERA's training](#) on **Reducing Demand and Preventing Trafficking in Human Beings for legal practitioners** (8 – 9 September Lisbon, Portugal); the Symposium 'The Zero-sum game of economic migration: Integration through Rights?' organised by Oxford Brookes University (12 September Oxford UK); the Council of Europe Conference on **Combating labour trafficking in Europe: standards, realities and new strategies for action** (20-21 September 2022 in Belgrade, Serbia); the final event of the ALFa project **Beyond the borders of vulnerability** (29-30 September, Turin Italy) and the **International Expert (Think Thank) Round Table on Preventing Human Trafficking & Exploitation**. You can still watch the last event via the [livestream links](#)

LSI members also contributed to various events including [Council of Europe \(GRETA\) events](#) on 8 September in Moldova and 22 September in Albania. See here [VATRA's recommendations](#) to the Albanian government. LSI and members also participated in a [reflection](#) on 26 of September with GRETA members on the focus for the next 4th monitoring round.

LSI members news



Help MRCI to ensure compensation for exploited worker

Migrant Rights Centre Ireland is conducting a crowdfunding action to support Mohammad Younis, who played a leading role in defending exploited workers in Ireland after years of abuse at work. For seven years, he worked as a chef, 11 hours a day, 7 days a week for €40. Despite winning his case and being awarded €91,000 in backpay, his employer wriggled out of paying, leaving Mohammad with nothing.

See how you can support <https://www.idonate.ie/crowdfunding/MohammadYounis>

Setting up a Fair Employment Agency?

Flexible contracts, poor housing, lack of information; EU citizens who work as temporary workers in the Netherlands too often experience abuses. FairWork together with the Dutch Academy for Imaging have launched Fair Jobs to create the fairest employment agency in the Netherlands. Fair Jobs is an action research project on how the staffing industry works in terms of mediating migrant workers. The project tests whether it is possible to do this fairly by putting the interests of temporary workers first. See more at <http://fairjobs.eu>

What is going on?



CSOs react to EC Regulation on prohibiting products made with forced labour

La Strada International has joined **70+ civil society organisations'** call upon the EU Parliament and Council to help strengthen the new EU [proposal](#) creating a ban on goods made with forced labour. This proposal was launched on 14 September. While we welcome the Commission's proposal and see it as an essential step toward eliminating forced labour across the world, we believe the proposal falls significantly short of its potential and in particular, it fails to put workers at its heart. See [more](#)

25 experts nominated for upcoming GRETA elections

On 25th of November, the next GRETA elections will take place. The terms of office of 7 of the 15 current members of the Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings will expire on 31 December. The [list of nominated candidates](#) is public now; 17 State Parties to the Convention have proposed a total of 25 candidates for the election. La Strada International monitors the elections and is happy to see so many well-qualified candidates, with whom the secretariat and LSI members have closely worked. See [more](#)

New CoE recommendation on trafficking for labour exploitation adopted

On 27th September, the Council of Europe's Committee of Ministers adopted a [Recommendation](#) on trafficking for labour exploitation. Together with CCEM, PICUM and others, La Strada International observed the development of the recommendation and provided feedback during 3 rounds in October 2021 and April and June 2022. La Strada International is happy with the right provisions for victims of trafficking for labour exploitation that are included in the final text of the recommendation. See [more](#)

EU Parliament signs timetable with Presidencies for Asylum and Migration Pact

The European Parliament along with the forthcoming rotating EU presidencies [have signed a timetable to finalise the EU's overhaul on migration and asylum rules](#) proposed by the European Commission in late 2020. The legislators aim to finalise negotiations by February 2024 which would require that the negotiations between the co-legislators should start latest 2022. On 6th October, the EU published the [Second Report on Migration and Asylum](#) which covers all aspects of migration management and structural reform of the legislative framework. It also presents the EU's response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine and its support to those fleeing the war.

What is new?



What Safety Means for Undocumented People

PICUM launched a new video "What Safety Means for Undocumented People" which features interviews with people who experienced violence while being undocumented. With the video PICUM aims to raise awareness about the greater risks of mistreatment that undocumented people face, because of their administrative situation and other intersecting factors, and about the limited options they have for safety and protection. See [more](#)

MPI policy brief on effectively promoting migrants integration

The displacement of several million people from Ukraine, coupled with pressing European labour shortages and strained government budgets, reinforce the importance of implementing integration policies that are both effective and efficiently use limited resources. The Migration Policy Institute Europe published a [policy brief](#) which outlines five strategies to nurture a more conducive environment for evidence-informed integration policymaking.

Anti-Trafficking Review Issue 19 ‘Migration, Sexuality, and Gender Identity’ published

GAATW published its latest issue on [Migration, Sexuality, and Gender](#). The issue contains six thematic articles, three short ones, and one interview which covers geographically Philippines, India, Russia, Kenya, South Africa, Greece, UK, Brazil, Jamaica, and the US. The issue bridges the fields of queer, migration, and critical trafficking studies to address the intersections of transactional sex, LGBTI+ identities and politics, and discourses of migration and human trafficking. It centres LGBTI+ people as actors in the context of migration and examines the ways in which diverse sexuality and gender identities influence people’s experiences of legal legibility and recognition in their migratory journeys.

CSO Guidelines on documenting international crimes and rights violations

Eurojust Working Group on Victims’ Rights launched new [Guidelines for civil society organisations \(CSOs\) on Documenting international crimes and human rights violations for accountability purposes](#). The guidance aim to ensure that information civil society actors collect can support the work of national and international investigating and prosecuting authorities. The guidelines are a joint product of Eurojust, the ICC-Office of the Prosecutor and the Genocide Network. The situation in Ukraine underlined the critical need for all actors to work together in support of criminal accountability and the fight against impunity. See [press release](#)

Find my victim support services

The European Network on Victims’ Rights (ENVR) reported the enlargement of the “[Find my victim support service](#)” online tool to include support services available to victims of war crimes in the EU Member States and translation to UA language.

Upcoming events

- **13 – 14 October 2022** – EMN conference Six months into applying the Temporary Protection Directive – Lessons learned and shared experiences. See [more](#)
- **17-19 October 2022** - 15th annual PILnet Global Forum in person in Dublin, Ireland <https://www.pilnet.org/event/pilnet-global-forum/>
- **17-21 October 2022** - Conference of the Parties to the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime in Vienna, Austria. See [more](#). Several organisations including GAATW and the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human

Rights (ODIHR) will be organizing side-events See all side events here https://www.unodc.org/documents/treaties/UNTOC/COP/Session_11/UNTOC_COP_11_Programme_SideEvents.pdf

- **18 & 19 October 2022** - Fourth Annual Meeting of the UN Network on Migration - <https://migrationnetwork.un.org/events/fourth-annual-meeting-un-network-migration>
- **26 & 27 October 2022** – EU Civil Society Platform against trafficking in human beings and EU Network of National Rapporteurs and Equivalent Mechanisms, Brussels, Belgium. (for members only).
- **25-27 October 2022** - The Freedom from Slavery Forum holds its North America and Europe Regional Forum in Toronto, Canada, "*Enabling Local Engagements and Global Synergies for Addressing Modern Slavery in North America and Europe*". See [website](#).

Support us

La Strada International is fully dependent on donations and subsidies. By making a [gift](#), you will help us to continue our monitoring and advocacy work to ensure accountability for the effective implementation of European Anti-Trafficking policies and regulations and the support to trafficked persons.



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