

La Strada Moldova welcomes the publication of the IV-th GRETA evaluation report on the Republic of Moldova.

This report, covering the period 2020-2025, evaluated in details the anti-trafficking measures taken by Moldova during this period. The document highlights some progress achieved by our country, including the contribution of La Strada Moldova, and the existing shortcomings in the national anti-trafficking response. All conclusions and recommendations of the report are based on reliable data. GRETA urged the Moldovan authorities to:

- 1) strengthen efforts to prevent child trafficking by regularly inspecting residential institutions, providing targeted social and economic support to vulnerable children, etc.;
- 2) expand the mandate of labour inspectors, reinforce their capacity and training so that they can make a greater contribution to the fight against trafficking in human beings (THB);
- 3) improve victims' access to the labour market, health care and social assistance;
- 4) ensure that cases of THB are investigated promptly and lead to effective, proportionate and dissuasive sanctions;
- 5) facilitate and guarantee victims' access to compensation;
- 6) ensure that victims of THB can fully benefit from their right to obtain a residence permit.

We would like to particularly note that all the information provided by La Strada Moldova, at the request of the Secretariat of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings, was included in the GRETA evaluation report. The authors of the report presented and analysed the problems exclusively through the prism of the Warsaw Convention and developed recommendations in the polite manner, typical of GRETA. But of course, we would have liked some findings and conclusions to be more straightforward and critical.

Nevertheless, in our opinion, the new GRETA evaluation report contains a lot of useful and accurate information, and is of great practical importance for further improvement of national policies in this area. La Strada Moldova expresses its gratitude to its authors for their work.