Committee of the Parties to the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings



Recommendation CP/Rec(2024)01 on the implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings by Andorra

adopted at the 34th meeting of the Committee of the Parties on 21 June 2024

The Committee of the Parties to the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (hereinafter referred to as "the Convention"), acting under the terms of Article 38(7) of the Convention;

Having regard to the purposes of the Convention to prevent and combat trafficking in human beings, while guaranteeing gender equality, protect the human rights of victims of trafficking, design a comprehensive framework for the protection and assistance of victims and witnesses, ensure the effective investigation and prosecution of the offences related to trafficking in human beings, and promote international cooperation;

Bearing in mind the provisions of Article 36(1) of the Convention concerning the monitoring role of the Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA) in the implementation of the Convention;

Having regard to the Rules of Procedure of the Committee of the Parties;

Having regard to the instrument of ratification deposited by Andorra on 23 March 2011;

Recalling Committee of the Parties' Recommendation CP/Rec(2019)04 on the implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings by Andorra and the report of the Andorran authorities on measures taken to comply with this recommendation, submitted on 15 October 2020;

Having examined the third report concerning the implementation of the Convention by Andorra, adopted by GRETA at its 49th meeting (13-17 November 2023), as well as the comments of the Andorran Government received on 15 January 2024;

Bearing in mind the focus of the third evaluation round of the Convention on access to justice and effective remedies for victims of trafficking;

Considering the conclusions and proposals contained in Appendix I of GRETA's third report on topics related to the third evaluation round and follow-up topics specific to Andorra;

Welcoming the measures taken and progress achieved by the Andorran authorities in implementing the Convention, and in particular:

the adoption of the Strategic Policy on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings 2021-2023, which
constitutes Andorra's first national action plan on trafficking and takes account of GRETA's previous
recommendations;

2 CP/Rec(2024)01

 the amendments to the Criminal Code of December 2022 which broadened the criminalisation of human trafficking to cover forced labour, forced services and forced begging, and introduced specific provisions on the non-punishment of victims of trafficking;

- the revision of the Regulation governing the right to defence and legal technical assistance, guaranteeing victims of trafficking the right to free legal aid regardless of their resources, nationality or residence status;
- the measures taken to improve the identification of victims, in particular the adoption of a detailed list of indicators for the professionals concerned and the organisation of training in co-operation with France and Spain;
- the drafting of a document for victims of trafficking on their rights and a document for professionals on the information to be given to victims.
- A. Recommends that the Government of Andorra take measures to address the following issues for immediate action¹ identified in GRETA's report:
 - 1. take further steps to prevent and combat trafficking for the purpose of labour exploitation, and in particular:
 - broaden the Labour Inspectorate's remit to cover domestic work, temporary work, employment agencies and the work carried out by migrants seconded to Andorran companies;
 - increase the number of inspections carried out at the Inspectorate's own initiative in the sectors considered to be at risk from labour exploitation and trafficking in human beings;
 - strengthen the capacities and resources of labour inspectors so that they can be actively involved in the prevention of trafficking for the purpose of labour exploitation and the detection of potential victims;
 - set up safe reporting mechanisms and effective complaint mechanisms for workers so that victims of abuse or exploitation can submit their case without fear of reprisals;
 - build awareness among the general public and, more specifically, migrant workers of the risks linked to trafficking for the purpose of labour exploitation and the rights of trafficking victims;
 - strengthen co-operation with trade unions and the private sector in preventing and combating trafficking for the purpose of labour exploitation (paragraph 156);
 - 2. take additional measures to detect and identify potential victims of trafficking in human beings, and in particular:
 - step up the detection and proactive identification of trafficking victims, including among migrant workers and people in an irregular situation;
 - ensure that, before any expulsion from Andorra, a prior assessment of the risks is carried
 out, taking full account of the risks of trafficking or re-trafficking on return, in compliance
 with the obligation of *non-refoulement*. GRETA refers in this connection to its Guidance
 note on the entitlement of victims of trafficking, and persons at risk of being trafficked, to
 international protection;
 - develop co-operation with civil society organisations to facilitate the detection and identification of trafficking victims (paragraph 175);
 - 3. change the legislation so that victims of THB can obtain residence permits without having to submit evidence of recruitment to work by a company legally established in Andorra, in conformity with Article 14 of the Convention (paragraph 188).

¹ The number of the paragraph setting out GRETA's proposals in the report is indicated in brackets.

CP/Rec(2024)01 3

5.71.65(202.7)52

B. Recommends that the Andorran authorities take measures to implement the other proposals for action listed in Appendix 1 of GRETA's third evaluation report.

- C. Requests the Government of Andorra to report to the Committee of the Parties on the measures taken to comply with this recommendation by **21 June 2026.**
- D. Invites the Government of Andorra to continue the dialogue in progress with GRETA and to keep GRETA regularly informed of the measures taken in response to GRETA's conclusions.