

in human beings”), and expanded the list of forms of exploitation contained in the latter article. Additional changes were introduced by Law 4855/2021 with regard to the punishment prescribed for different forms of THB.

- ▶ In May 2019, following a period of seven years without an anti-trafficking action, the Office of the National Rapporteur issued the National Action Plan for Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Human Beings and the Protection and Rehabilitation of Victims for 2019-2023. The adoption of this plan corresponds to a recommendation made in GRETA’s first report.
- ▶ In its first report, GRETA urged the Greek authorities to adopt measures to facilitate and guarantee access to compensation for victims of trafficking. Changes concerning the conditions under which victims of THB can seek and obtain state compensation were made through Law 4689/2020. Furthermore, in 2019 a provision was added to Law 4478/2017 stipulating that, in accordance with the CCP, assets seized during the criminal procedure which are “judged to be assigned to the victim” are immediately returned to him/her.
- ▶ In its first report, GRETA urged the Greek authorities to introduce a procedure for the proactive identification of child victims of trafficking, paying particular attention to unaccompanied children, and to improve the assistance to child victims of trafficking, including through the assignment of legal guardians. The formal launch of the NRM in 2019, with specific guidelines in the case of child victims, has facilitated the identification and referral to assistance of presumed victims of THB. The NRM statistics show that the number of identified child victims has increased over the years (15 in 2017, 12 in 2018, 49 in 2019, 74 in 2020, and 35 in 2021). Law No. 4554/2018 provided the regulatory framework for the guardianship of unaccompanied children. The Special Secretariat for the Protection of Unaccompanied Minors was established under the Ministry of Migration and Asylum in February 2020. It has developed a five-year Strategy for the Protection of Unaccompanied Children.



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- ▶ In reply to GRETA’s recommendation, Article 227.a of the General Penal Code (GPC), criminalising THB, was amended to include additional forms of exploitation, in particular forced marriage, slavery, servitude, forced service, begging and criminal activities.
- ▶ The third National Action Plan for Combating THB was adopted in March 2019, following a consultation with NGOs and trade unions, and taking into account the recommendations made in GRETA’s second report. Following the adoption of the Action Plan, a new Steering Group was set up by the Ministry of Justice to advise the government on policy in the area of combating human trafficking as well as to support, monitor and evaluate the implementation of the plan. It is composed of representatives of public agencies, NGOs and other persons with expertise in the area of combating THB.
- ▶ In 2021, the National Commissioner of the Icelandic Police set up a police advisory group on human trafficking, in co-operation with the Ministry of Justice.