



NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR  
COMBATING TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS



## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

# THE INTERFACE BETWEEN PROTECTION OF VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS AND ASYLUM

**Sofia, Bulgaria**  
**23 - 24 June 2015**

**Hilton Hotel, Mussala Hall**

*Organised jointly by  
the Bulgarian National Commission for Combating Trafficking in Human beings,  
the Council of Europe, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees  
and the Hanns Seidel Foundation*

## AGENDA

**Tuesday, 23 June 2015**

09:00 - 09:30 **Registration of participants**

09:30 – 10:10 **Opening remarks**

**Moderator:** Kamelia DIMITROVA, Secretary General of NCCTHB, Council of Ministers of Republic of Bulgaria

- Tsviatko GEORGIEV, Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs of Republic of Bulgaria
- Mariya GABRIEL, Member of the European Parliament, Vice Chair of the Group of the European People's Party (written statement)
- Gianluca ESPOSITO, Head of Equality and Human Dignity Department, Council of Europe
- Roland-François WEIL, Representative, UNHCR Bulgaria
- Bogdan MIRTCHEV, Representative of the Hanns Seidel Foundation for Bulgaria

- 10.10 – 10.40 **Key note speeches**
- Siobhán MULLALLY, Professor of Law and Director of the Centre for Criminal Justice and Human Rights at University College Cork
  - Gert WESTERVEEN, Representative, UNHCR Representation to the European Institutions in Strasbourg
- 10:40 - 11:00 **Coffee break**
- 11:00 – 12:30 **Theme 1: The identification of victims of trafficking in asylum procedures**
- The identification of victims of trafficking in asylum procedures
- Moderator:** Mats LINDBERG, Administrator, Council of Europe
- Speakers:**
- Inkeri MELLANEN, Senior Adviser, Finnish National assistance system for victims of trafficking
  - Albena IGNATOVA, Head of Unit “Integration”, Bulgarian State Agency for Refugees
  - Constantin HRUSCHKA, Head of the Protection Department, Swiss Refugee Council
  - Rita DUCA, Anti-trafficking Field Expert, International Organization for Migration, Italy
- Discussion**
- 12:30 - 14:00 **Lunch**
- 14:00 – 15:30 **Theme 2: The identification of protection needs for victims of trafficking, with special attention to unaccompanied asylum-seeking minors**
- Identification and reception of (potential) minor victims of human trafficking
  - Trafficking and the right to seek and receive asylum
- Moderator:** Petya KARAYANEVA, National Protection Officer, UNHCR Bulgaria
- Speakers:**
- Joop VAN DER SCHUIT, Policy advisor, Central Agency for the Reception of Asylum Seekers (COA), the Netherlands and Otto SCHUURMAN, Sector manager at Jade Zorggroep, the Netherlands
  - Radoslav STAMENKOV, Chief of Mission of IOM Bulgaria
  - Bistra ZOGRAFOVA, State expert, Bulgarian State Agency for Child Protection
- Discussion**
- 15:30 – 16:00 **Coffee Break**

16:00 – 17:30 **Theme 3: The international protection of victims of trafficking under the CoE Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings and the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees**

- The identification and referral to assistance of victims of trafficking
- Refugee status for victims of trafficking

**Moderator:** Dobryana PETKOVA, Senior expert, NCCTHB

**Speakers:**

- Gert WESTERVEEN, Representative, UNHCR Representation to the European Institutions in Strasbourg
- Melita GRUEVSKA-GRAHAM, Project Manager, ICMPD
- Siobhán MULLALLY, Professor of Law and Director of the Centre for Criminal Justice and Human Rights at University College Cork

**Discussion**

19:00 **Dinner**

**Wednesday, 24 June 2015**

09:00 – 10:30 **Workshops** (one to be held in English only and the other one with interpretation)

**1. Identification of victims, review, needs and challenges**

**Moderator:** Kamelia DIMITROVA, Secretary General of the National Commission for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings

**2. The Dublin III Regulation – application and consequences in a trafficking context**

**Moderator:** Constantin HRUSCHKA, Head of the Protection Department, Swiss Refugee Council

10:30 – 11:00 **Coffee break**

11:00 - 11:30 **Reports from workshops**

Rapporteur Group 1: Emilia PAUNOVA, Senior expert, NCCTHB

Rapporteur Group 2: Delphine LENEUTRE, Legal Associate, UNHCR Representation to the European Institutions in Strasbourg

11:30 – 12:00 **Closing Session: The interactions between the CoE Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings and the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees: Conclusions of the conference and closing remarks**

- Kamelia DIMITROVA, Secretary General of the National Commission for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings
- Gianluca ESPOSITO, Head of Equality and Human Dignity Department, Council of Europe
- Gert WESTERVEEN, Representative, UNHCR Representation to the European Institutions in Strasbourg

12:00 **Lunch and departure of participants**