

Ms Antoaneta Vassileva is a Bulgarian national. She is currently a PhD Candidate in Political Science, and she holds a Master's degree in International Relations and Diplomacy from the New Bulgarian University and a Diploma on Human Rights of Women from Lund University.

Ms Vassileva has over 18 years of experience in the areas of human rights and combating trafficking in human beings, including international development and implementation of policies in prevention, prosecution of human trafficking, victim identification, and direct assistance and protection of victims, in compliance with international standards, including the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings and Directive 2011/36/EU.

Ms Vassileva has worked for nine years as Secretary General of the National Commission for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings under the Council of Ministers of Bulgaria. She is an experienced trainer and consultant and has expertise in direct work with vulnerable groups (such as children and Roma people) and support to victims of trafficking.

Her publications cover topics such as trafficking and sexual exploitation of children, social aspects of trafficking in human beings and victims' support, transnational and national mechanisms for referral of victims, and the Bulgarian experience in combating human trafficking.

Ms Vassileva continues to implement her knowledge and professional experience through the NGO Animus Association Foundation/La Strada Bulgaria and her current occupation as Programme Coordinator at the Bulgarian Safer Internet Centre, which focus on child online safety and prevention of sexual abuse and human trafficking of children through promoting digital-media literacy.

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