

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



CP(2017)18

**Report submitted by the Georgian authorities
on measures taken to comply with
Committee of the Parties Recommendation
CP(2016)5 on the implementation
of the Council of Europe Convention
on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings**

Second evaluation round

Received on 23 May 2017

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Georgian authorities' responses to the List of GRETA's recommendations regarding the implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings by Georgia

The Georgian authorities express their sincere gratitude to the Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (*hereinafter – GRETA*) for their assessment of the Georgian counter-trafficking measures and providing their recommendations in relevant areas.

The Government of Georgia has the honour to submit the present document addressing the recommendations presented in the second evaluation report of GRETA and reflecting the Human Trafficking (*hereinafter – THB*) related developments in Georgia since the release of the GRETA Report on June 3, 2016. The assessment of the experts of GRETA will play an important role in the further development of the Georgian counter-trafficking policy.

Combating trafficking in human beings remains one of the key priorities for the Government of Georgia (GoG). Under the policy of the so called “4 Ps”, the Government is committed to take effective and efficient steps to enhance Prevention, Protection, Prosecution and Partnership.

The GoG acknowledges that combating trafficking requires a concerted interagency policy and in this respect the role of the **Interagency Council** which was set up in 2006 and is chaired by the Minister of Justice remains indispensable in adopting serious and sustainable measures on combating THB.

Recent developments

On 15 December, 2016 the Inter-Agency Council on Combatting Trafficking in Human Beings approved the National Action Plan (NAP) on THB for 2017-2018. Strengthening the counter-trafficking measures through various topic-related researches and analysis are integrated as a new dimension in the newly adopted Action Plan.

Notably, most of the recommendations of GRETA, as well as the 2016 TIP Report of US State Department, UN Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women, Dr. Dubravka *Simonovic*, UN Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, *Ms Maud de Boer-Buquicchio*, and other international partners were incorporated in the Action Plan.

In particular, the Government of Georgia has committed to assess the risks and threats of trafficking among minors and analyze the practice of granting the compensation to the THB victims.

We also pay a particular attention to the capacity development trainings for the key officials involved in anti-trafficking policy. A New National Action Plan for 2017-2018 extended the target groups of

trainings, such as witness and victims' coordinators, Labor Inspection Department, media representatives, the staff of LELP Legal Aid Service, medical service providers, etc.

In addition, the Secretariat of the Council (Public International Law Department of MOJ) developed and published its report for the implementation of 2015-2016 AP. The challenges and recommendation identified in the implementation report was also played a vital role while designing the 2017-2018 National Action Plan. The implementation report both in English and Georgian is available at the official web page of the Ministry of Justice: <http://justice.gov.ge/Ministry/Index/334>.

Notably, the anti-trafficking measures taken by the Georgian government was positively assessed by the US State Department in 2016 US Report on Trafficking in Persons. According to the latest report, Georgia has been upgraded to Tier 1 and shares leading position among other western countries, including the EU member states.

It should also be noted that according to the Global Slavery Index 2016, the Government of Georgia was placed among those ones that have been taking the most effective actions to end human trafficking. Specifically, Georgia holds the 2nd place under the title of "Most Action by GDP" and the 17th position among 167 countries. According to the same source, when it comes to the regional level Georgia ranks 1st in terms of strong governmental counter-trafficking responses.

Effective Identification of Trafficking victims

- *effectively disseminate the existing guidelines, indicators and Standard Operative Procedures and ensuring their application in practice;*
- *improve co-ordination between the different bodies performing victim identification, the police mobile inspection groups and other relevant entities;*
- *increase efforts to proactively identify victims of trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation;*
- *provide interpretation during police interviews of possible victims of trafficking, where necessary;*
- *reconsider the current practice of interviewing possible victims of human trafficking at their place of exploitation;*
- *increase efforts to proactively identify victims of trafficking for the purpose of labour exploitation, by providing the Labour Inspectorate with the resources required and training;*
- *making greater use of special investigation techniques in suspected cases of THB with a view to ensuring that evidence is obtained at as early a stage of the investigation as possible;*

Reinforcing proactive identification of the victims is one of top priorities for Government of Georgia. Therefore, Task Force¹ and Four mobile inspection groups² installed under the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia continues to regularly operate in the high risk areas to proactively identify human trafficking, effectively investigate THB cases and prosecute perpetrators within the defined geographic area. Furthermore, in order to increase efforts to proactively identify victims of sexual exploitation, mobile groups of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Task Force keep inspecting different organizations including venues used for prostitution - hotels, bars, night clubs, and interviewing persons, working in the areas that represent high risk for sexual exploitation.

Special investigation techniques are widely used during the investigation of (possible) THB cases. According to the Criminal Procedure Code of Georgia law enforcements conduct covert investigative actions under the Court ruling issued upon the prosecutor's motion. The covert investigative actions include secret eavesdropping and recording of telephone communications (wiretapping), hidden video and audio recording and photo shooting.

To discover a trace of a crime, material evidence, or to find out the details of an incident and other essential circumstances of the criminal case, law enforcements inspect the crime scene, a storage facility, a dwelling place, premises, a document or any other object that contains information. To verify the information (testimony) obtained and the theories developed during the investigation the investigator conducts an investigative experiment, also presents a person and objects for identification.

In order to effectively investigate the THB cases and identify victims/statutory victims, Guidelines for the Law Enforcements on the Investigation and Prosecution of Trafficking Cases and Treatment with Victims and Statutory Victims of THB and Standard Operative Procedures (S.O.Ps) are permanently used by the law enforcements. However, since some regulations in criminal procedure legislation is amended, the THB Council will also review the Guidelines in order to respond the current challenges and meet the legal amendment in Criminal Procedure Code. The special Working Group is already established under the THB Council, which will have the first meeting in the beginning of June 2017. Furthermore, Guidelines and relevant indicators will be also elaborated for border police, in order the latter to proactively identify the (potential) victims of THB while entering/leaving Georgia. The Special Working Group under the THB Council has already started researches to design the respective guidelines in line with best international standard. The working group meeting is scheduled in the mid of June, this year.

As a result of intensive outreach activities of the law enforcements, in 2016 (June) – 2017 (May) mobile groups checked and inspected 97 organizations and interviewed 437 persons who are working in the organization and are engaged in prostitution. They were informed about the threats of human

¹ Task Force is composed of 5 prosecutors and 7 investigators;

² Mobile groups are composed of detective-investigators;

trafficking and members of mobile groups distributed the brochures regarding preventing measures of THB.

Task Force (operating in West Georgia) inspected 66 organizations and interviewed 310 persons working in the organization and being engaged in prostitution.

It should be noted that while interviewing possible victims of THB, law enforcements ensures involvement of interpreters. The potential victims are provided with all necessary information, including his/her rights in language he/she understands. Service of interpreter is also provided for victims during the trial.

Particular attention is also paid to identification of labour exploitation and forced labor cases. To address this issue, Labour Inspectorate Department established in 2015 under the Ministry of Healthcare continues to check public and private organizations and reveal the alleged cases of THB.

Furthermore, the Memorandum signed between the Labor Inspectorate Department and Central Criminal Police Department (CCPD) in 2015 ensures timely sharing of information and intelligence and reporting of possible cases. On the basis of the MOU, Labor Inspectorate Department provides the CCPD with list of organizations considered to be risk categories and members of mobile group starts proactively checking such organizations.

Notably, since March 2016, 149 companies have been inspected out of which 13 were non-scheduled. Only one case was referred to CCPD, however the signs of labour exploitation or forced labour has not been revealed.

Furthermore, in case of prosecution of THB cases, prosecutor will be obliged to involve the witnesses and victims coordinators in trafficking cases since the moment of initiating the investigation. The aims of such involvement are to reduce the discomfort suffered by the witnesses/victims/statutory victims in relation with law enforcements, to gain the trust of the victims and to ensure their effective involvement by taking into consideration of the character of the case.

In addition, law enforcements and staff of other relevant Agencies involved in the revealing process of THB cases are permanently trained in order to develop their skills and promote their capacity building on THB. All these efforts brought tangible outcomes and the number of investigations, prosecutions and convictions have raised.

As a result of the intensive and coordinated effort of the Georgian authorities the number of investigations, prosecutions and convictions have been increasing every year - in 2016 investigations are up by 100%, whilst four times more convicts are registered as compared to 2012. The overwhelming majority of these cases were investigated proactively.

- *increase the outreach work of the special mobile groups of the State Fund;*

The Government of Georgia kindly clarifies that out of three mobile groups of the State Fund 2 are responsible for East Georgia and 1 – for West Georgia. In cases of revealing the alleged victims of human trafficking or self-identification, the State Fund immediately determines, which one of the three groups, has to interview the alleged victim and fill in the confidential identification questionnaire. Upon completion of the procedure, the State Fund informs the Permanent Task Group working under Interagency Coordination Council, which decides the issue of granting the status of human trafficking within 48 hours.

Notably, during the information meetings held throughout Georgia by the Ministry of Justice, State Fund and IOM, the population is provided with detailed information about the functions of the mobile groups of the State Fund and how to contact these mobile groups.

In 2016 -2017 with the help of the mobile groups 2 persons (1 adult and 1 minor) were identified and granted the statuses of victims of THB. Both of them were provided with the legal aid. The adult one was also provided with shelter.

- *ensuring, where possible, that THB charges are not re-qualified into other offences, which carry lighter penalties;*
- *excluding THB from the plea bargaining procedure.*

The Government of Georgia kindly clarifies that there was not any case when THB charges were re-qualified and the person was accused for other crime. Furthermore, even if the Georgian legislation does not explicitly excludes THB from plea bargaining procedure, the Law enforcements have internal instructions not to use plea bargain for those persons who are charged for committing THB.

Effective Identification of Trafficking in minors

- *adopting as a matter a priority a referral mechanism for the identification and assistance of child victims of human trafficking, taking account of the special circumstances and needs of child victims, involving child specialists and ensuring that the principle of the best interests of the child is respected;*
- *ensuring that relevant actors take a proactive approach and increase their outreach work to identify child victims of human trafficking by paying particular attention to children in care institutions, children living and working in the street, and unaccompanied minors;*

Government of Georgia pays particular attention to protect and prevent trafficking among minors, especially those who are living and working in the streets. To address the issue On 22 June, 2016

relevant legislative amendments were adopted by the Parliament of Georgia in up to 10 legal acts aiming at (1) providing children in street situation with **free of charge identification documents** and (2) **strengthening the role of social workers** to remove the child from the family or separate minor from the perpetrator. The relevant bylaws were also amended aiming at creating legal basis to provide the children in street situations with free of charge ID cards. The legal amendments were enacted on 10 August, 2016.

On September 12, 2016, the Government of Georgia approved a **new Child Protection Referral Mechanism** which has extended the list of responsible entities to refer the child violence cases, including THB related cases, to relevant agencies. In particular, all governmental institutions and their structural units, public law legal entities subordinate to government agencies, kindergartens, general educational institutions, sports and arts schools, medical service providers of all kinds, including community physicians, as well as local municipalities have a duty to refer the possible cases of child violence to both the Social Service Agency and the police. The failure to report such cases to the relevant state bodies by persons involved in the child referral mechanism will invoke administrative liability. It is noteworthy that unlike the previous referral instrument which was adopted by the heads of three line ministries, the new one is upgraded to a higher level and has been approved by the Government of Georgia

Furthermore, the new referral mechanism foresees development of an integrated database of the child violence cases by January 2019. The database will put together information about the child victims, perpetrators, forms of violence, etc. It will be technically administrated by the police and will be accessible to all the agencies involved in the referral proceedings.

As a result of new amendments the LELP Public Service Development Agency operating under the Ministry of Justice of Georgia issued identification documents for 6 children (5 homeless and 1 victim of violence) based on the application of LEPL Social Service Agency of the Ministry of Healthcare.

In order to identify children working and/or living in the streets, 4 mobile groups under the Ministry of Labor, Health and Social Affairs is in place since 2013. These mobile groups work in Tbilisi, Kutaisi and Rustavi and are comprised of psychologist, peer educator, driver/logistics officer. Mobile Teams are spearheaded by state senior social workers. The teams conduct the mapping and identify most populated and visited places by the beneficiaries to provide outreach service for children in street situations. Initially, the mobile teams introduce the approach, vision and mission of the sub program and if a child obeys the mobile team senior social worker becomes authorized to asses him/her with the special assessment tool created by all state and non-state stakeholders. After child is identified he/she can be enrolled by an authorized State Senior Social Worker at the appropriate service (4 day care, 3 crisis intervention and 2 transit centers).

Starting from 2013 the state senior social workers of SSA have reached about 856 children living or working in the streets in two cities Tbilisi and Kutaisi. 182 children have been enrolled in various services of sub-program (daycare, crisis intervention and transit centers).

It should be noted that in order to improve the identification process of homeless children and make it more effective, on October 13, 2016, the Ministry of Justice announced grant contest for NGOs aiming at identification of and supporting of reintegration of the homeless children in the society. The Grant Program amounts of total 54000 GEL. Within the framework of the project the NGOs are tasked to identify new places where children work and/or live, identify the kids and new locations of children during the nights and weekends, improve the Strategic Document including Guidelines elaborated by the LELP Social Service Agency (SSA) for 4 mobile groups, support the reintegration of the homeless children in the society, provide children with educational, social, cultural, sports or other kinds of programs.

Apart from it, in order to protect children born through extracorporeal fertilization (surrogacy) from any type of violence, including trafficking and pornography, on 22 March 2016 legal amendments were introduced to the relevant Georgian Laws and the Joint Order of the Minister of Justice of Georgia and the Minister of Internal Affairs of Georgia (1133, 1144; **5 April and 11 April 2016**) was approved. The Joint Decree regulates the procedures for taking a child born in Georgia through extracorporeal fertilization (surrogacy), the grounds of the restriction of right to remove the child from Georgia and important aspects of cooperation between the respective units of the Ministry of Internal (MIA) Affairs and LELP Public Service Development Agency operating under the Ministry of Justice of Georgia (*hereinafter* – PSDA), to protect the rights and best interests of a child.

- *ensuring that child victims of trafficking fully benefit from the assistance measures provided for under the Convention, including appropriate accommodation and effective access to education;*
- *ensuring that proper risk assessment is conducted before returning children to their parents, taking into account the best interests of the child;*
- *ensuring long-term monitoring of the reintegration of child victims of trafficking.*

When it comes to the protection of minor victims, the role of State Fund for the Protection and Assistance of Victims, Statutory Victims of Human Trafficking (*hereinafter* – State Fund) (established in 2006) and Social Service Agency under the Ministry of Health, Labor and Social Affairs of Georgia should be mention. The shelters for victims of THB created under the State Fund are well equipped to receive minor victims of human trafficking as well as dependent minors (aged under 18). Within the current setup of the State Fund system in Georgia, unaccompanied children who are the victims of THB are under legal guardianship of Social Service Agency (SSA) and SSA takes immediate measures to place them in family-type care (e.g. foster care, small group home, etc.) and considers State Fund Shelters as one of the available temporary resource for accommodation of unaccompanied child. The

accompanied children victims of trafficking and children accompanying the parents who had been trafficked, are provided with State Fund services (Shelter, medical, psychological and legal assistance, compensation, rehabilitation and reintegration measures). When such a need arises, they are also entitled to receive the appropriate accommodation, age specific education and support programs tailored to their needs. The child victims or accompanied minors placed in the shelters of the State Fund are provided with different services in order to ensure their wellbeing and provide them with proper education (formal/non-formal) through the special programs. Additionally, since August 7, 2015 the newly recruited nannies/care-takers in THB shelters ensure to make more child-friendly environment in shelters.

It should be noted that when a child is placed in the THB shelter the Administration of THB shelter inform SSA about the accommodation of child in shelter within 24 hours since placement of child in institution. Social workers of SSA arrive to the THB shelter, examine the case of child, elaborate the individual rehabilitation plan and monitor the implementation of the plan. Apart from it, since 2015 social workers of the shelters also adopt and monitor the implementation individual rehabilitation plan of child victim/statutory victim of human trafficking or accompanying minor.

Notably, the victims of trafficking as well as statutory victims may stay in shelter for 3 months; however, this term might be extended in certain circumstances based on the will and best interests of a child.

Furthermore, when the victim of the trafficking leaves the shelter, the social worker of the state fund supervises the wellbeing of the (statutory) victims in every three months during the following year.

- *providing further training to stakeholders (police, service providers, NGOs, child protection authorities, social workers) as well as guidance for the identification of child victims of human trafficking for the purposes of exploitation of begging and exploitation of criminal activities;*

Government of Georgia pays particular attention to the capacity development on THB issues with regard to minors. The major focus is placed on increasing capacity of law enforcement officials to investigate and identify THB cases in minors and provide sufficient protection and assistance to THB minor victims. For that aim, numbers of professional trainings were organized in 2016-2017:

- On 28 March -23 May, 2016 the training on human trafficking issues was held for trainee-prosecutors. One of the main topics covered during the trainings was child trafficking. 61 trainee-prosecutors attended the training;
- On 24 -25 May, 2016 and on 3-4 September, 2016 trainings on effective protection of victims of human trafficking, especially child victims were held for judges and their assistants. In total, 30 participants attended the trainings;
- On 16-18 and 23-27 May, 6-9 and 20-23 June, 2016 – a training course was conducted by the organization “Children of Georgia” for professional development of the personnel of the shelters

- for victims of human trafficking. The training covered the stages of child development, theories, individual work, key management, challenging behavior, violence, stress management and etc.;
- On 6-13 June, 2016 with the cooperation of US Embassy, 3 representatives of MIA working on trafficking issues attended the trainings on Combatting Crimes against Children; The trainings was delivered by American experts in Tbilisi.
 - On 6-14 July, 2016 in close cooperation with US embassy to Georgia American experts held training on combating child trafficking (online sexual exploitation of children) for Prosecutors and Ministry of Internal Affairs. In total 20 participants attended the training.
 - On 20 - 21 December, 2016 in close cooperation with ICMPD and the financial support of EU Delegation to Georgia the training on child trafficking and assistance of child victims of trafficking – examples and experience was held by the British experts for the personnel of State Fund (20) and two senior social workers of the mobile teams.
 - On 1 March, 2017 the Hotline Operators of the crisis centre operating under the State fund attended the training devoted to the new legislative amendments introduced with regard to homeless children on THB and domestic violence, including sexual one. The participants were also trained on how to fill the annual statistics forms for the incoming calls of the hotline on the issues of domestic violence, trafficking and sexual violence;
 - On March 29-30, 2017 the training on “Children in street situations – work specificity” was delivered for the Staff of LELP Crime Prevention Centre operating under the Ministry of Justice of Georgia. The aim of the training was to introduce the features related to homeless children, to identify their problems and improve the individual planning skills.

- review the legislation in order to ensure that the recovery and reflection period is specifically defined in law as provided for in Article 13 of the Convention and that all possible victims of trafficking are offered a recovery and reflection period and all the measures of assistance envisaged in Article 12, paragraphs 1 and 2, of the Convention during this period. The procedure for granting a recovery and reflection period should be spelled out and the authorities performing identification should be issued with clear instructions stressing the need to offer the recovery and reflection period as defined in the Convention, i.e. not making it conditional on the victim's co-operation and offering it to victims before formal statements are made to investigators.

According to the Georgian legislation the reflection period starts from the moment of applying to the State Fund, Shelter or law enforcement agency. Since the first contact of the potential victim/statutory victim of human trafficking with the law enforcements, they clarify all his/her rights including the right to reflection period. This information is provided to THB victims in written form, as well as orally during the first interview. According to the Georgian legislation the victim enjoys up to 30 days of reflection period.

As for the concern of GRETA regarding the protection and assistance services to the potential victims, GoG kindly clarifies that the status of victim or statutory victim is mandatory for State Fund to provide any services for the victim. Since the State Fund is budgetary origination and funded by state budget, it needs legal basis to provide the services for the person. If the person is not granted victim/statutory victim status the State Fund will not be authorized to provide any assistance. That's also the reason for having only two ways to grant the status to let the person apply for State Fund services.

Apart from this, the Crisis Center recently established under the State Fund, which does not require any status to provide the needs based assistance, will soon be also available for the THB potential victim/statutory victim. It will serve as the emergency institution for those who does not hold the legal status yet.

- *Bring the interpretation of the abuse of a position of vulnerability in full conformity with the Convention.*

The Guidelines for law enforcements defines the “abuse of a position of vulnerability” and recalls the circumstances which should be consider as the vulnerable situation. However, as it was mentioned above, during the revision of the existing Guidelines we will take into consideration the respectful recommendation of GRETA and meet the requirements of the Convention.

- *reviewing current criminal and civil procedures regarding compensation with a view to improving their effectiveness;*
- *ensuring that victims of trafficking are systematically informed in a language that they can understand of the right to seek compensation in criminal and civil proceedings, and the procedures to be followed;*
- *enabling victims of human trafficking to exercise their right to compensation by guaranteeing them effective access to legal assistance;*

The State Fund for the Protection and Assistance of Victims/statutory victims of Human Trafficking is the responsible governmental entity to provide the victims and statutory victims with the following state-run services: a) legal assistance (including legal representation in court), b) psychological services, c) medical services d) shelters (in Batumi and Tbilisi), e) compensation in the amount of 1000 Gel f) Hotline service and g) rehabilitation and reintegration programs;

As already mentioned above (potential) victim/statutory victim is provided with all necessary information, including his/her rights in language he/she understands. He/she is also provided with the full information about the state run services, including the compensation.

Government of Georgia acknowledges that there is lack of practice with regard to seeking compensation through criminal and civil proceedings from the perpetrator (trafficker), however, it should be noted that based on the recommendation of GRETA's second evaluation report the Government of Georgia has committed to Study/analyze the practice of granting the compensation to the victims/statutory victims of THB for damages inflicted by traffickers and to elaborate relevant legislative proposals.

- *encouraging prosecutors and judicial authorities to make full use of the legislation on the freezing and forfeiture of offenders' assets to secure compensation to victims of human trafficking.*

The Government of Georgia kindly clarifies that according to the THB database the traffickers mainly are foreigners who have no asset or bank account registered in Georgia, however in case the trafficker is Georgian national and he/she has a registered asset on the Georgian territory, Georgian Legislation authorizes the law enforcements to use the freezing and forfeiture of the offender's assets to secure compensation to THB victims/statutory victims.

Capacity Development activities on Trafficking in Human Beings

- *pay increased attention to detecting victims of trafficking among foreign workers, asylum seekers and persons placed in immigration detention centres, including by providing additional training to relevant staff*
- *enabling victims of trafficking to exercise their right to compensation, by building the capacity of legal practitioners to support victims to claim compensation and including compensation into existing training programmes for law enforcement officials and the judiciary;*
- *further developing the specialisation of investigators, prosecutors and judges;*
- *providing further training to police officers and prosecutors to investigate and prosecute cases of THB for different purposes of exploitation, including through co-operation with other relevant actors (the State Fund, child protection services and labour inspectors); further developing the specialisation of investigators, prosecutors and judges;*

As already mentioned above, Government of Georgia pays particular attention to the capacity building trainings for the officials working on THB issues. The line ministries closely cooperate with each other as well as with NGOs and international organizations to identify training needs on THB issues.

The cooperation foresees well-structured training planning including analyzing the needs for trainings, identification of the topic, relevant target group, cooperation and communication with relevant agencies and trainers, developing training modules/curriculum/agenda and implementing such

trainings on later stage. As a result of such cooperation with US Embassy to Georgia, International Organization for Migration (IOM), International Center for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), International Labor Organization (ILO), etc. Several trainings, study visits and seminars have been conducted for the Georgian law enforcers, labor inspectors, judges, State Fund and Ministry of IDPs and Refugees staff. The purpose of trainings is to deliver deep knowledge to the relevant target groups on legal and operational level. The trainings with the involvement of the local and international experts are focused on the sharing of the best practice of foreign countries on combating THB, assisting victims of human trafficking and also on acknowledgment of the new trends of the crime.

It should be underlined, that the governmental officials from Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Interior and State Fund are delivering the trainings to their colleagues to share the knowledge and experience they gained during the past couple of years.

The major focus is made on increasing capacity of law enforcement officials to efficiently investigate and identify THB cases and provide sufficient protection and assistance to THB victims. For that aim, numbers of professional trainings were organized in 2016 -2017:

- On 1 - 4 March, 2016 in Batumi in close cooperation with IOM the training for prosecutors (12) was organized on the issues of Human smuggling.
- On 5 -12 March, 2016 and on 31 October – 4 November, 2016 in close cooperation with US embassy the coordinators of witnesses and victims attended the trainings on the issues of victims and witnesses in USA. In total, 13 participants.
- On 7-12 March, 2016 the representative of MIA working on combatting human Trafficking and illegal migration made an internship on combatting network of illegal migration in Lyon, France.
- On 28 March -23 May, 2016 the training on human trafficking issues was held for trainee-prosecutors. 61 trainee –prosecutors attended the training.
- On 24 -25 May, 2016 and on 3-4 September, 2016 the High School of Justice organized trainings on Trafficking in Persons, effective protection of victims of human trafficking, especially child victims for judges. In total, 30 participants attended the trainings.
- On 16-18 and 23-27 May, 6-9 and 20-23 June, 2016 – training courses were conducted by the organization “Children of Georgia” for professional development of the personnel of the THB shelters. The training covered the stages of child development, theories, individual work, key management, challenging behavior, violence, stress management and etc.
- On 6-13 June, 2016 with the cooperation of US Embassy, 3 representatives of MIA working on trafficking issues attended the trainings on Combatting Crimes against Children;

- On 9-10 June, 2016 the trainings for labor inspectors were held on issues related to forced labor and labor exploitation. 22 labor inspectorates attended the training.
- On 22-23 June, 2016 the Ministry of Justice in close cooperation with ICMPD and with the financial support of EU for Georgia organized the training on "Legal Mechanisms and Modern Trends on combatting Human Trafficking" for the staff of the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees of Georgia (9 participants) and LELP Legal Aid service (15 participants). The training was delivered by the representatives of the Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Internal Affairs, State Fund, the Secretariat of the State Commission on Migration Issues, Public Service Development Agency and the Labor Inspectorate Department.
- On 7-8 July, 2016 a training for trainers on the issues of human trafficking was held for the trainers of LELP Training Center of Justice, Academy of Ministry of Internal Affairs and LELP Crime Prevention Center. The training was delivered by the representatives of the Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Labor Inspectorate Department and State Fund. In total, 35 trainers attended the training.
- On 6-14 July, 2016 training on combating child trafficking (online sexual exploitation of children) was held for Prosecutors and Ministry of Internal Affairs. In total 20 participants attended the training.
- On 7-9 September, 2016 training for coordinators of witnesses and victims on the issues of victims and witnesses was held. In total 16 coordinators attended the training.
- On 19-30 September, 2016 training on Human Trafficking was held in Caserta, Italy. The training was attended by 2 participants working on combatting Human Trafficking in MIA.
- On 24-27 October, 2016 trainings on the issues of Human Trafficking were held in Batumi in close cooperation with IN. 4 representatives of MIA working on Human trafficking issues attended the training;
- On 26 -28 October, 2016 the representatives of Ministry of Justice, Public Prosecutor's office and the Ministry of Internal Affairs (in total 5) participated in 2-days experience-sharing visit to Stockholm, Sweden, where they had the opportunity to exchange knowledge and experience with their counterparts from Sweden, Moldova, Ukraine, Armenia.
- On 24-29 October, 2016, 6 representatives of Patrol Police were attended the training course on Human Trafficking in Batumi. The training was organized in close cooperation with INL.

- On 31 October – 4 November, 2016, 6 victim and witnesses coordinators participated in working meeting on the issues of victims and witnesses in the US. The program was implemented in close cooperation with the US Embassy.
- On 13-16 November 2016 representatives of Central Criminal Police Department of MIA (2) attended the meeting devoted to practical aspects of THB victim identification and assistance, investigation and legislation. Meeting was organized by Institute for European Law and International Human Rights Law with the financial support of EU for Georgia;
- In November 2016 representatives of Central Criminal Police Department of MIA attended the training which focused on the investigative techniques of cyber-crimes and human trafficking online. Training was held in Police Academy and financially supported by OSCE;
- On 19-21 December, 2016 in close cooperation with IOM the training for prosecutors (5) was organized on Human smuggling.
- In December, 2016 two senior social workers of the mobile teams working on identification of homeless children were trained by the State Fund on child Trafficking issues.
- On 20 - 21 December, 2016 the training on child trafficking and assistance of child victims of trafficking – examples and experience was held for the personnel of State Fund (20). The training was organized by ICMPD with the financial support of EU delegation.
- On 1 March, 2017 the Hotline Operators of the crisis center operating under the State fund attended the training devoted to the new legislative amendments introduced with regard to THB and domestic violence, including sexual one. The participants were also trained on how to fill the annual statistics forms for the incoming calls of the hotline on the issues of domestic violence, trafficking and sexual violence;
- On March 14-16, 2017 the representatives of MIA (CCPD, Adjara and Tbilisi Patrol Police) (10) and Prosecutors from Tbilisi and Adjara (8) attended the training focused on the investigative techniques of Labor exploitation delivered by the British expert. The training was organized by IOM with the financial support of US Embassy to Georgia.
- In March 2017 the representatives of Central Criminal Police Department and Patrol Police Department attended the workshop on Vega Countermeasures Handbook against smuggling and THB at airports. The Workshop was held in Frontex Headquarter, in Warsaw. The aim of the workshop was to develop practical handbook for Law Enforcements on the detection and disruption of criminal organizations involved in THB and people smuggling at air borders.

- On March 29-30, 2017 the training on “Children in street situations – work specificity” was delivered for the Staff of LELP Crime Prevention Centre operating under the Ministry of Justice of Georgia. The aim of the training was to introduce the features related to homeless children, to identify their problems and improve the individual planning skills.
- On 27 April, 2017 in close cooperation with ICMPD training on Trafficking in Human Beings was held for Ministry of IDPs, Accommodation and Refugees of Georgia (22), the State Fund (2) and Public Defender’s Office of Georgia. The main topic of the Training was identification of Trafficking victims among migrants, asylum seekers and refugees.