



T-ES(2016)RFG-04_bil

28 February 2017

Committee of the Parties to the Council of Europe
Convention on the protection of children against
exploitation and sexual abuse (**Lanzarote Committee**)

Comité des Parties à la Convention du Conseil de l'Europe
sur la protection des enfants contre l'exploitation et les
abus sexuels (**Comité de Lanzarote**)

Compilation of Replies to Question 4 of the Focused Questionnaire

Compilation des réponses à la Question 4 du Questionnaire Ciblé

The full replies submitted by States and other stakeholders are available at:

Les réponses intégrales des Etats et autres parties prenantes sont disponibles ici :

www.coe.int/lanzarote

COOPERATION (Lanzarote Convention, Chapter IX)

- 4) Provide examples of successful cooperation with other Parties to the Lanzarote Convention for the purpose of:
- a) Preventing and combating sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children affected by the refugee crisis;
 - b) Protecting and providing assistance to victims;
 - c) Investigations or proceedings concerning the offences established in accordance with the Lanzarote Convention.

COOPÉRATION (Convention de Lanzarote, Chapitre IX)

- 4) Donnez des exemples de coopération fructueuse avec d'autres Parties à la Convention de Lanzarote entreprise afin de :
- a) Prévenir et combattre l'exploitation et les abus sexuels concernant des enfants touchés par la crise des réfugiés ;
 - b) Protéger et assister les victimes ;
 - c) Mener des investigations ou des procédures concernant les infractions établies conformément à la Convention de Lanzarote.

TABLE OF CONTENTS / TABLE DES MATIERES

I – STATES TO BE ASSESSED / ETATS DEVANT FAIRE L’OBJET DU SUIVI.....	5
ALBANIA / ALBANIE	5
ANDORRA / ANDORRE	5
AUSTRIA / AUTRICHE	5
BELGIUM / BELGIQUE.....	6
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA / BOSNIE-HERZEGOVINE.....	6
BULGARIA / BULGARIE	6
CROATIA / CROATIE	7
CYPRUS / CHYPRE	7
CZECH REPUBLIC / REPUBLIQUE TCHEQUE	8
DENMARK / DANEMARK	8
FINLAND / FINLANDE	10
FRANCE.....	10
GEORGIA / GEORGIE	10
GERMANY / ALLEMAGNE	10
GREECE / GRECE.....	10
HUNGARY / HONGRIE	10
ICELAND / ISLANDE	12
ITALY / ITALIE	12
LATVIA / LETTONIE	13
LIECHTENSTEIN	13
LITHUANIA / LITUANIE	13
LUXEMBOURG	14
MALTA / MALTE.....	14
REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA / REPUBLIQUE DE MOLDOVA.....	14
MONACO	14
MONTENEGRO	15
NETHERLANDS / PAYS-BAS	15
POLAND / POLOGNE	15
PORTUGAL.....	16
ROMANIA / ROUMANIE	16
RUSSIAN FEDERATION / FEDERATION DE RUSSIE.....	16
SAN MARINO / SAINT-MARIN	16

SERBIA / SERBIE	17
SLOVENIA / SLOVENIE	17
SLOVAK REPUBLIC / REPUBLIQUE DE SLOVAQUIE.....	17
SPAIN / ESPAGNE	17
SWEDEN / SUEDE	18
SWITZERLAND / SUISSE	18
“THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA” / «L’EX-REPUBLIQUE YOUGOSLAVE DE MACEDOINE».....	19
TURKEY / TURQUIE	21
UKRAINE.....	21
 II – OTHER STATES AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS / AUTRES ETATS ET PARTIES PRENANTES....	22
 ARMENIA / ARMENIE	22
AZERBAIJAN / AZERBAÏDJAN	22
ESTONIA / ESTONIE	22
IRELAND / IRLANDE.....	22
NORWAY / NORVEGE	22
UNITED KINGDOM / ROYAUME UNI.....	22

COMPILATION of replies / des réponses

I – States to be assessed / Etats devant faire l'objet du suivi¹

ALBANIA / ALBANIE

Question 4

The Ministry of Interior Affairs does not have concrete cooperation with parties of the Convention on Lanzarote with regard to the fight against sexual abuse of children affected by the crisis of refugees due to the fact that there have not been any cases of abuse or sexual exploitation of asylum seeking children accommodated in centres in Albania and there has not been presented any special requests on this matter by international partners or police counterparts.

As reported by the Ministry of Internal Affairs there are realized meetings with counterparts from Montenegro, Kosovo, Macedonia, Italy, Greece, etc. for the implementation of cooperation agreements and additional protocols for the identification, referral, protection and assistance of victims/potential victims of trafficking. This is a global phenomenon and requires coordinated measures among the countries of the region and the world.

ANDORRA / ANDORRE

Question 4

On regrette de ne pas pouvoir répondre à cette question si on tient compte qu'aujourd'hui nous n'avons pas pu accueillir des personnes avec le statut de réfugié dans notre pays.

AUSTRIA / AUTRICHE

Question 4.a

Both the Federal Ministry of Interior and the Federal Ministry of Justice are represented in the European Crime Prevention Network (EUCPN), where knowledge and best practices in preventing crime and increasing safety and security in EU Member States are shared and disseminated.

The Federal Ministry of Interior has 18 liaison officers, amongst others in Hungary, Albania, Georgia, Russian Federation, Ukraine, Moldova, Bosnia and Herzegovina who are especially valuable in cases with a cross-border-dimension.

Question 4.b

There has not been a case of cooperation with other Parties to the Lanzarote Convention for the purpose of protecting and providing assistance to victims during the refugee crisis yet.

¹ Unless otherwise specified, the replies below were sent by the authorities / sauf indication contraire, les réponses ci-dessous ont été envoyées par les autorités.

Question 4.c

So far, there has not been a case of sexual abuse or sexual exploitation in the context of the so called “refugee crisis” involving other Parties of the Lanzarote Convention.

Austria is a State Party to the European Convention on Extradition (ETS No. 24) and the European Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters (ETS No 30). In relation to other EU-Member States, Council Framework Decision 2002/584/JHA of 13 June 2002 on the European arrest warrant and the surrender procedures between Member States and the Convention, established by the Council in accordance with Article 34 of the Treaty on European Union, on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters between the Member States of the European Union of May 29th, 2000 applies.

BELGIUM / BELGIQUE

Question 4

Il n’y a pas eu de projets spécifiques sur la question de l’asile et des mineurs sexuellement exploités, mais il y a eu des projets en matière de traite des êtres humains et de protection des victimes.

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA / BOSNIE-HERZEGOVINE

Question 4

There were no cases of migrants and asylum-seeking children.

BULGARIA / BULGARIE

Question 4

Operational exchange of information takes place, in real time, about the possible victims and their traffickers, with representatives of the police authorities of the EU Member States in Bulgaria and representatives of the Ministry of Interior in the EU and third countries. The information includes signals, data received from talks with victims of trafficking and persons involved in the human trafficking, data coming from the Border Checkpoint interviewing teams, an application by the victim or his/her relatives, information received from national and international structures.

Extremely successful is the partnership with NGOs with a view to provide support to victims of trafficking and their involvement as witnesses in criminal proceedings in the country and/or abroad against traffickers. The officials of the competent bodies shall inform the potential victims of trafficking about their rights on the reflection period, legal protection and compensation under the Bulgarian legislation.

If necessary, ASA and in particular SAD, as a body for the child protection, independently from the state authorities and institutions engaged in the child protection and human trafficking, also seeks the assistance of the social service providers, of the professionals working in crisis centers for children- victims of trafficking and violence and of non-governmental organizations with experience and expertise in the field of combating human trafficking and violence against children.

Child protection system is primarily engaged to guarantee the rights and interests of unaccompanied minors, seeking and benefiting international protection. The responsible state institutions actively interact and cooperate with the interested international organizations and NGOs in the interests of the minor migrant children and refugee children.

In order to counteract these negative trends and to prevent crimes against children and to prevent the risk of victimization or repeated falling the victim into risky and criminal environment, ASA and its territorial divisions apply these established coordination mechanisms:

1. Coordination Mechanism for referral and care of unaccompanied children and children- victims of trafficking, returning from abroad;
2. Coordination mechanism for interaction when dealing with children- victims of or at risk of violence.

Both mechanisms have been established to ensure effective coordination in the implementation of specific obligations for cooperation between the institutions involved. The preventive action of mechanisms seeks to protect and provide a safe environment for victims and to restrict the probability for a person to become a subject of crime.

In a case of violence, abuse and/or exploitation shall be signaled the Ministry of Interior bodies and prosecutor's office for action on competence.

CROATIA / CROATIE

Question 4

In the field of international protection, no cooperation has been realised with other Parties to the Lanzarote Convention for the purposes of preventing and combating sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children affected by the refugee crisis and protecting and providing assistance to victims.

CYPRUS / CHYPRE

Question 4

The competent authorities of the Republic of Cyprus are in the process of establishing a Children's House in close cooperation with experts from other Parties to the Lanzarote Convention (i.e. Barnahus, Iceland, Institute of Child Health, Department of Mental Health and Social Welfare, Greece and others).

Furthermore the NGO "Hope for Children" CRC Policy Center will operate the Children's House in close cooperation with the Social Welfare Services. The organization also participates in several programmes concerning migrant children and asylum seeking children, such as Terre des Hommes (Destination Unknown Campaign Assembly), NIDOS, Separated Children in Europe, Save the Children's Freedom, Arsis, etc.

CYPRUS / CHYPRE

Replies sent by “Hope For Children” CRC Policy Center

Question 4.a

Sexual abuse and exploitation is one of the elements that the first contact personnel ought to take into account. There are no data on the extent, measures and effectiveness of this.

Question 4.b

Our Organization is the coordinator of a European Project entitled “JudEx+ Towards a child-friendly justice in cases of sexual violence against children”. Through these project various activities are implemented in cooperation with other five EU state members to improve the services provided to children that are victims of sexual abuse/exploitation and their families. More specifically it addresses the communication between the relevant stake holders that intervene in cases of child abuse (social welfare services, police, judicial system, education system), and the communication between the above mentioned stake holders with the child and the family.

Question 4.c

Overall there has been a slight improvement of the cooperation between the authorities involved, yet still there are many gaps in the system. There are still significant delays in investigations that are attributed to different stakeholders, the police, the courts, the psychiatric services.

A very positive development in the issue has been the initiative of the Social Welfare Services to set up and run a child safe house in accordance to the Icelandic model. The SWS opened a call for proposals and the successful applicant to set up and run the safe house is “Hope For Children” CRC Policy Center. The safe house will house representatives of all the public services and actors involved in the procedure (police, judiciary, social welfare services, psychiatric services). The safe house is expected to start its operation in the beginning of 2017.

CZECH REPUBLIC / REPUBLIQUE TCHEQUE

Question 4

As regards the Lanzarote Convention, the Czech Republic is in the entering process. Due to such stage of affaires, the Czech Republic has no examples of cooperation with other Parties of the Convention yet.

DENMARK / DANEMARK

Question 4

Police officers, who work with investigations regarding cases of sexual assault against children, must go through a special caseworker training, which gives the police officers the necessary competencies to deal with these cases where children are the victims. Furthermore, the officers who conduct video interviews of children who have been exposed to sexual assault complete a special training regarding video interviewing of children. In this connection, it should be noted that these police officers, before beginning the training for video interviewers, must have completed training in expanded interviewing techniques, given

that good interviewing competencies are a prerequisite for becoming a video interviewer. The Danish National Police would also like to note that in 2016 a review and upgrade of these trainings was conducted so that from now on investigators would have an additional competency when dealing with these types of cases.

Sexual assault committed against refugee and migrant children who come to Denmark as a result of the immigrant crisis is being investigated by the Danish Police in the same way as other cases of sexual assault against children. To this extent, if Danish police suspect that refugee and migrant children have been exposed to sexual abuse and/or human trafficking prior to their arrival in Denmark, Danish police will attempt to investigate and solve these cases.

Furthermore, the Danish National Police can inform you that, in general, Danish police cooperate with other countries, including member states who have agreed to the Lanzarote Convention, regarding prevention, investigation and fighting of sexual assault against children in the form of observation, pursuit, arrest and interview to the extent necessary. In concrete cases, Danish police cooperate particularly closely with the EU neighbour countries Sweden and Germany – both of which, like Denmark, have agreed to the Lanzarote Convention – as well as the other Nordic countries Norway, Iceland and Finland. This international police cooperation takes place, in particular, through liaison officers and according to bilateral cooperation agreements.

The Danish National Police's National Centre of Investigation (NCI) is responsible for the overall international police cooperation in this area and has, through this, a close cooperation with relevant police units in other countries, who work to fight trans-border human trafficking and sexual crimes. The participation of Danish police in international cooperation is today primarily rooted in the framework of EU cooperation, including Eurojust, EUROPOL, Frontex, CEPOL and Schengen, as well as the PTN (Police and Customs in the North) cooperation. Denmark also participates in INTERPOL cooperation, the Baltic Sea Task Force and in a number of other international cooperation agreements, including cooperation between border police and coast guard units. Furthermore, Danish police participate in special cooperation agreements and projects regarding prevention and fighting of sexual crimes. From 2013-2015 NEC participated in the project SOMEK (Serious Offending by Mobile European Criminals), which concerned the improvement of the exchange of information regarding violent offenders and sexual offenders who travel to other EU countries. In 2016, NCI participated in the project "Operational Cooperation to Counter Transnational Child Sex Offenders".

The Danish National Police's Communication Centre sometimes receives warnings from Great Britain and the United States of America regarding persons who are convicted, in these countries, as paedophiles and are on their way to entering Denmark. Since 2013, NEC has also entered persons who are convicted of sexual assault against children in EUROPOL's Information System (EIS). These entries are sent once a year in connection with EUROPOL's project Recording Europeans Abusing Victims in Every Nation (RAVEN). The purpose of this project is to assist the member states and cooperating partners in detecting suspects and/or convicted child sex offenders upon relocation in the EU, identify links/crossovers between countries when they occur and initiate and foster international cooperation.

Additionally, Danish police participate in a number of actions concerning the fight against human trafficking and sexual exploitation of children within the framework of EUROPOL in the form of EMPACT priority B (Trafficking in Human Beings) and EMPACT priority G2 (Child Sexual Exploitation).

FINLAND / FINLANDE

No reply to this question / Aucune réponse à cette question

FRANCE

GEORGIA / GEORGIE

No reply to this question / Aucune réponse à cette question

GERMANY / ALLEMAGNE

Question 4

The Federal Criminal Police Office (BKA) collaborates with the international initiative “Virtual Global Taskforce (VGT),” a strategic alliance of currently 13 police authorities, respectively police organisations dedicated to combat the sexual abuse of children committed via the internet and child pornography.

The *Rhineland-Palatinate* additionally has emphasised that the EASO (European Asylum Support Office) is an example of successful collaboration at the level of the European Union. At present, a handbook is being prepared on how to deal with refugees and, more specifically, with groups of persons requiring a particular degree of protection such as under-age persons.

GREECE / GRECE

Question 4

Greece qua an EU-member state is cooperating with all other member countries for addressing the phenomenon at stake; moreover enacts agreements and conventional obligations deriving from EU’s agreements with third parties including the recent EU-Turkey agreement on addressing the refugee/immigration phenomenon. Furthermore, in order to meet rapidly increased needs the Greek government collaborated with a series of international NGOs that offered aid, in situ assistance, technical expertise and funding in order to develop necessary services in an extremely short timeframe.

HUNGARY / HONGRIE

No relevant information available for question 4.

HUNGARY / HONGRIE

Replies sent by “Hope For Children” CRC Policy Center

Question 4

There are few active non-governmental organizations providing assistance to migrant and asylum-seeking children in Hungary in general but none of them has such focus of work.

Menedék – Hungarian Association for Migrants is involved in promoting the social integration of foreign citizens migrating into Hungary, as well as Hungarian and other citizens emigrating from here for more than twenty years. In the course of their work they have established a complex system of services, through which they have supported and continue to support thousands of refugees and other foreigners in finding a new home in our country. They have colleagues working in Bicske, Budapest, Fót and Vámoszabadi.²

The **Hungarian Helsinki Committee** is a public benefit human rights organization that protects human dignity through legal and public activities. The Hungarian Helsinki Committee works towards providing effective assistance to those fleeing to Hungary. Currently, the Hungarian Helsinki Committee is the only organization that provides free and high-quality legal assistance to asylum-seekers. Most of their asylum-seeking clients are highly traumatised, having experienced horrific events in their home country or during their flight. Most of them do not understand what is happening to them, what their rights and duties as asylum-seekers are without professional help.³

The **Hungarian Red Cross** was established more than 130 years ago, its main tasks include blood donor recruitment, first aid, social welfare, disaster management and Red Cross Youth activities. In this field the Hungarian Red Cross visits facilities where migrant and asylum-seeker children are placed and provide them with food, clothes and medicines, provides translations and keep contact with the Hungarian authorities.⁴

SOS Children's Villages has responded to the needs of children, young people and families in three locations in Hungary since the 1980s. The social centres work with the local communities and agencies to support children and their families so that the children can grow up within a caring family environment. When children can no longer live with their families, SOS mothers can care for them in loving homes. SOS Children's Villages also provides support and semi-independent housing for young people. In response to the refugee crisis of 2015, SOS Children's Villages is planning to support refugees in Budapest, and the southern and western parts of the country. We plan to assist families with children, and children arriving without an adult carer. Our help will vary depending on what the refugees need but it is likely to include the provision of shelter, food and health care.⁵

² Website: <http://menedek.hu/en>

³ Website: http://www.helsinki.hu/en/about_us/

⁴ Website: <http://www.voroskereszt.hu/menekueltuegy.html>

⁵ Website: <http://www.sos.hu/>

ICELAND / ISLANDE

Question 4

There is no collaboration that can be identified with regard to the items below.

- a) Preventing and combating sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children affected by the refugee crisis;
- b) Protecting and providing assistance to victims;
- c) Investigations or proceedings concerning the offences established in accordance with the Lanzarote Convention.

ITALY / ITALIE

Question 4

The Italian government as well as Italian public bodies and associations are part of international and European projects that aim at preventing the abuse of children. For instance, the already quoted project **AGIRE** (Acting for stronger private-public partnerships in the field of identification and support of child victims and at risk of trafficking in Europe) and involving Austria, Greece, Italy and Romania. This is a transnational project aimed to identify and support child victims of trafficking and exploitation through the development of indicators and profiles of children most at risk, and the consequent outline of a methodology to apply those indicators in various situations thus engaging national procedures to protect those children.

Moreover, the **Italian Government and Unicef** have launched a new partnership that will improve the care and protection of children and adolescents of migrant and refugees in Italy. Unicef in particular will:

- Support the Government in monitoring standards of reception of migrants and refugees minors - with particular attention to unaccompanied minors - to ensure they are in line with the provisions of the UN Convention on the Rights;
- Carry out a monitoring of the living conditions of migrant minors in detention centers in the three regions covered by the Agreement: Sicily, Calabria and Campania; The monitoring will be carried out in collaboration with the institutions responsible on the basis of the rights and principles enshrined in the Convention;
- Promote the monitoring of activities in support of the first integration and social inclusion of children and adolescent migrants and refugees.

The **Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation** Over the past 10 years has funded several projects and acted as intermediary for the drafting of different intervention protocols with some countries of origin of victims of exploitation, for example in Nigeria and in other countries in Latin America and Asia. However, the recently approved anti-trafficking Plan indicates that there is little connection between anti-trafficking agencies in Italy and those in the countries of origin and therefore foresees the implementation of specific coordination actions.

LATVIA / LETTONIE

Question 4

OCMA experts actively participate in the European Asylum Support Office (hereinafter-EASO), the European Union Agency for asylum, organized trainings and seminars covering a wide range of issues related to asylum, including issues regarding the most vulnerable people, the child's best interests, etc. Member States can discuss current issues and trends to gain additional information, as well as to share good practices. An example is that EASO ongoing organizes an annual conference on Human Trafficking and international protection on June 2, 2016 in Valletta, Malta, under which, inter alia, attention was paid to the issues related to sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of minors. OCMA experts actively participates in this event.

Regarding cooperation with other parties to the Lanzarote Convention, the State Police participate in exchange programs, as well as transfer good practice and dissemination of the State Police, and it takes into account the opinions and recommendations that has been developed.

LIECHTENSTEIN

Question 4

There are no examples of specific cooperation in this area.

LITHUANIA / LITUANIE

Question 4

Seeking to ensure the principle of solidarity and fair sharing of responsibility among the EU Member States and having regard to the proposal of the European Commission and the Republic of Malta to join the European Refugee Fund (ERF) co-funded project, organised by Malta, concerning the relocation of third-country nationals in need of international protection from Malta to other EU Member States, in December 2012 Lithuania relocated four asylum seekers from the Republic of Malta to the Republic of Lithuania and granted asylum to them.

In 2013, support for integration was provided to 94 foreigners who had been granted asylum: mainly from Russia, Afghanistan, Belarus, Kirgizstan, Iraq, Eritrea and Ukraine.

In 2014, support for integration was provided to 175 foreigners who had been granted asylum: mainly from Russia, Afghanistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Syria and Vietnam.

In 2015, support for integration was provided to 161 foreigners who had been granted asylum: mainly from Russia, Afghanistan, Belarus, Syria, Vietnam and Iraq.

In the first quarter of 2016, support for integration was provided to 31 foreigners who had been granted asylum: mainly from Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria and Azerbaijan.

LUXEMBOURG

Question 4

In Luxembourg, cooperation exists not only between governmental agencies but also with NGO's, as the state opted decades ago to have big parts of the social work organized by NGO's, with public funding. We consider that the private sector is better armed to find fast and innovative solutions than state agencies, whose initiatives might sometimes be slowed down by formal requirements of budget and procedures.

MALTA / MALTE

Question 4.a.b

AWAS, Appogg, the police and the victim's lawyer worked collaboratively with a female victim of sexual abuse in order to ensure safety and wellbeing of the victim. This included regular case conferences and meetings about the victim, legal advice and representation, psycho-social support, enrolment in education courses, placement and safe accommodation and financial allowance.

REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA / REPUBLIQUE DE MOLDOVA

Question 4.a

Unknown data.

Question 4.b

Unknown data.

Question 4.c

Unknown data.

MONACO

Question 4

Le principe, en Principauté de Monaco, est le suivant : selon l'article 34 du Code de procédure pénale, toute personne peut déposer plainte auprès du Procureur Général ou de la Direction de la Sûreté Publique pour dénoncer toutes infractions commises sur un mineur même dans un autre Etat. Ensuite, les juridictions monégasques conserveront leur compétence ou transmettront la procédure initiée par leurs services aux autorités judiciaires territorialement compétentes.

Ce principe fait de la Principauté de Monaco un Etat par essence ouvert à la coopération avec d'autres Etats dans le domaine pénal, notamment celui de l'exploitation et les abus sexuels contre les enfants.

De plus, des exemples de coopération existent et notamment du fait du partage entre Monaco et la France des structures d'appel existant dans ce dernier pays et utilisés aux fins de recueil des signalements d'enfants en danger.

Egalement, les personnels de la DASO chargés de la protection de l'enfance participent régulièrement à des conférences et des formations spécifiques, délivrées par les institutions françaises concernées.

MONTENEGRO

Question 4

The competent authorities of Montenegro have excellent communication with representatives of the competent authorities of neighbours and other signatories to the Lanzarote Convention, on which occasion, there have been the exchange of data and information concerning the prevention and fight against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children affected by the refugee crisis, examples of protection and assistance to victims, as well as investigations relating to criminal offenses in accordance with this Convention. Given that Montenegro is not affected by refugee crisis, and that there was no identified victims of sexual abuse and sexual exploitation, we have no cases that could be demonstrated statistically in relation to the above.

NETHERLANDS / PAYS-BAS

Question 4

The Hungarian Ministry of the Interior, the Dutch Ministry of Security and Justice and the Belgian NGO Payoke have collaborated in the project: Referral of and assistance for victims of human trafficking in Europe (Ravot). The Ravot Project aimed at developing a transnational referral mechanism among Hungary, Belgium and the Netherlands, for referral, assistance and safe return of victims trafficked for the purpose of sexual and labor exploitation. An online platform is created that can be used for professional and academic purposes. The project also aimed at developing a better understanding and trust between non-governmental organizations and the relevant authorities in the field of human trafficking. As part of this project a manual has been developed that describes what kind of support for victims of human trafficking exists in the three countries. A website has been built where the different national referral mechanisms of the three countries are shown in a flowchart. You can also find an interactive map on the website on which the relevant organizations are represented in the three countries. See: <http://www.ravot-eur.eu/nl/>

Another example of successful cooperation is the development of the Benelux brochure. The Benelux brochure is a brochure in which the referral mechanisms of Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands are explained. In this brochure practical examples illustrate the scope of cross-border cooperation. The brochure also contains contact details of organizations that have a role in tackling human trafficking and in supporting victims.

POLAND / POLOGNE

Question 4

Because of the international aspect of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children affected by the refugee crisis, international cooperation is very important. The basic form of cooperation are Police international actions which take the form of criminal information exchange, legal support and regular meetings of Police representatives. Cooperation between

liaison officers is also found to be very effective. As regards cooperation at the state level, the most active partners are the Netherlands, Germany, USA and Great Britain. Furthermore, cooperation with Interpol should be mentioned. As a result of this cooperation it was possible to successfully conduct several operations in 2015, such as “Rina”, “Rina 2” and “Teacher” which concerned collection and distribution of pornographic materials. Police identified 98 offenders responsible for this crime. Thanks to cooperation with Europol, the “Titan” operation was successfully carried out in 2015. Thus far, 5 suspected persons have been identified. Other operations included “Daylight” (14 offenders arrested) and “Morning star” (15 offenders identified, 6 offenders arrested). It is also worth to mention participation in The International Task Force, the Global Alliance against Child Sexual Abuse online and Council of the European Union workgroups.

PORTUGAL

Question 4.a

SEF, as the responsible authority for the procedural analysis of asylum applications cooperates with its counterpart authorities in the European Union and third countries on the exchange of information on refugee flows, with a view to preventing and combating situations of exploitation and sexual abuse of children. In the case of refugee relocation process at European level, all situations are thoroughly analyzed and flagged in the framework of the established cooperation mechanisms.

Question 4.b

Not applicable because no specific cases of refugee children victims of sexual abuse were registered.

Question 4.c

Not applicable because no specific cases registered.

ROMANIA / ROUMANIE

No reply to this question / Aucune réponse à cette question

RUSSIAN FEDERATION / FEDERATION DE RUSSIE

No reply to this question / Aucune réponse à cette question

SAN MARINO / SAINT-MARIN

Question 4

Les couloirs humanitaires ont été organisés en collaboration avec la République italienne. Des contacts entre le Ministère des Affaires Etrangères de Saint-Marin, le Ministère de l’Intérieur italien, l’Ambassade de Saint-Marin à Rome, l’Ambassade de l’Italie à Saint-Marin, ainsi qu’avec l’organisation internationale pour les migrations ont été pris.

La collaboration avec la Communauté Sant’Egidio et l’Association Pape Jean XXIII, des ONG italiennes qui travaillent sur le terrain et en particulier dans les camps de réfugiés au Liban ainsi qu’au Maroc et en Ethiopie, a permis de mettre en place un réseau de solidarité. Le

secteur non gouvernemental travaille donc en coopération avec celui gouvernemental. Il n'est pas exclu que des couloirs humanitaires soient également créés dans d'autres pays où sont présents des camps pour les réfugiés dans le futur.

La République de Saint-Marin a également l'intention d'accueillir d'autres familles et mineurs.

SERBIA / SERBIE

Question 4

Most of the countries that are on the "Balkan route", were coping with the migrant crises (due to the political circumstances and implications) alone, financially supported from other (mostly EU) countries.

SLOVENIA / SLOVENIE

No reply to this question / Aucune réponse à cette question

SLOVAK REPUBLIC / REPUBLIQUE DE SLOVAQUIE

Question 4

The Slovak Republic has become a Party to the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse recently (the Convention became effective for the Slovak Republic on July 1, 2016). Due to this fact, no relevant examples can be provided so far.

SPAIN / ESPAGNE

Question 4

Regarding trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation, the National Police cooperates closely with other States parties and non-parties to the Convention (exchange of information, joint operations). In particular, Spain collaborates with Serbia and Albania in the framework of SELEC (Southeast European Law Enforcement Centre). It also collaborates with other States within the scope of intervention of EUROPOL (Denmark, France, Greece, Malta, Netherlands and San Marino). Finally, there is bilateral cooperation with the countries of origin either of the victim or the criminal organisation.

SPAIN / Espagne

Replies sent by the SICAR.CAT programme – Spain

Question 4

From our point of view, the available mechanisms of cooperation between State Parties are exclusively focused on prosecuting perpetrators of THB and/or sexual exploitation. However, these mechanisms are not equally available and effective to provide assistance to victims of the offences.

Recently, we have been confronting situations of second generation victims: some of the victims of THB assisted by our organisation have provided detailed information of sexual

exploitation of their own daughters, sisters or cousins in other State Parties. Two different situations can be observed: 1) Victims that have already been trafficked but are not in a situation of exploitation since their journey has not finished and 2) Victim that have been trafficked and are already being exploited in other State Parties.

Regarding situation 2, we have observed that police cooperation mechanisms appear to be poorly effective to give an urgent response. In fact, we were recommended to travel to the State Party concerned and directly report the situation of sexual exploitation to their national police authorities. Obviously, it is urgent to develop a faster mechanism of cooperation in order to report and tackle sexual exploitation in other countries when reliable information can be provided.

Concerning situation 1, our organisation has observed that mechanisms of police cooperation are not equally prepared to locate the victims and therefore, prevent sexual exploitation and/or provide them with the assistance needed (even if accurate information about the victim can be provided). It is absolutely urgent to design and develop a mechanism to do so. In our opinion, a shared database concerning unaccompanied minor or potential victims of sexual exploitation would help to prevent these situations and protect the victim when they are detected by first-line authorities.

SWEDEN / SUEDE

Question 4

In the framework of the national Action Plan to protect children from human trafficking, exploitation and sexual abuse mentioned above, the government decided to take actions aimed to contribute to the cooperation of the Nordic governments and their agencies on questions concerning the exploitation or abuse of children. The Government will therefore arrange and participate in joint meetings focusing on these issues. The first meeting is planned for 16th of November 2016 in Stockholm for representatives of the governments in Denmark, Finland, Island, Norway and Sweden.

SWITZERLAND / SUISSE

Question 4.a

La Suisse intervient régulièrement au sein des groupes spécialisés et d'experts d'Europol et d'INTERPOL, consciente que la coopération internationale et le réseautage sont les seuls moyens d'élucider les affaires internationales complexes. La Suisse coopère activement en tant qu'Etat tiers aux différents plans d'actions de l'Union européenne sous la direction d'Europol aux niveaux de la traite d'êtres humains et du trafic de migrants. Elle participe activement aux meetings, opérations et journées d'action communes (JAD) d'Europol gérés par la plateforme EMPACT Illegal Immigration et Trafficking in Human Beings (European Multidisciplinary Platform against Criminal Threats). Dans le cadre de la problématique des enfants touchés par la crise des réfugiés deux actions la Suisse participera aux actions à venir suivantes :

- Europol action on smuggling of migrants and THB activities around reception and asylum centres

- Europol Large Scale Ciconia Alba (prochaine activité priorisée à l'identification des victimes de la traite d'êtres humains, spécialement des enfants et des mineurs).

La Suisse (Office fédéral de la police, fedpol) est représenté dans le réseau de spécialistes auprès d'INTERPOL nommé « Specialist Operational Network against Migrant Smuggling » avec actuellement 86 experts de 71 pays source, de transit et de destination et dans le groupe d'expert combattant la traite d'êtres humains auprès d'INTERPOL nommé « INTERPOL Human Trafficking Expert Group (HTEG) » agissant de manière préventive et opérationnelle. La Suisse organise la 4ème Conférence Globale INTERPOL sur la traite d'êtres humains, qui aura lieu du 19 au 21 octobre 2016 à Lugano, au Tessin, qui accueillera des représentants et experts des 190 pays membres d'INTERPOL. La thématique de l'exploitation des migrants et réfugiés – aussi mineurs – sera traitée.

Question 4.b

A ce jour, aucun cas sur le territoire helvétique n'est parvenu à la connaissance de l'Office fédéral de la police (fedpol). Dès lors, aucune mesure de coopération dans le domaine de la protection et de l'assistance aux victimes n'a dû être mise en place. Toutefois, la Suisse dispose d'expérience de coopération dans le domaine de l'assistance et de la protection d'enfants contraints au vol ou à la mendicité.

Question 4.c

Dans le domaine du trafic de migrants et de la traite d'êtres humains, la poursuite pénale relève en premier lieu des cantons. fedpol assume une fonction d'office central : elle assure la coordination des enquêtes entre les cantons et entre la Suisse et l'étranger, fournit son soutien aux investigations, réalise des analyses et garantit la circulation des informations de police judiciaire.

Pour améliorer la poursuite pénale des trafiquants, le Groupe Interforce pour la Répression des Passeurs (GIRP) a été créé à Chiasso près du CCPD en 2015 sous la direction de la police cantonale tessinoise. Ces objectifs sont de lutter contre le phénomène des passeurs de manière active, anticiper le phénomène et les délits par la récolte d'informations et l'activité d'investigation ainsi que réaliser une coopération active avec l'Italie (primaire) et l'Allemagne. Ses tâches sont de mener des enquêtes communes sur les réseaux des passeurs et les dénoncer au Ministère public, développer une stratégie et des activités pour lutter contre l'immigration illégale, développer une activité d'information (récolte et partage de données) et d'approfondissement (analyse) sur l'immigration clandestine, développer un network pour la coopération, la coordination et l'échange d'informations avec les pays limitrophes.

« THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA » / “L'EX-REPUBLIQUE YUGOSLAVE DE MACEDOINE”

Question 4

In general terms, via its Department for Border Operations and Migrations and within its possibilities and established shapes of cooperation with the border services of the neighbouring countries, the Ministry of the Interior holds meetings and maintains contact on a regular basis at all levels possible, while also maintaining cooperation via the joint police cooperation contact centres. The Department for Border Operations and Migrations and the

border police lie at full disposal for exchanging information in various areas of police work, including criminal offences in this specific field.

Question 4.a

Should a need arise for urgently exchanging information and knowledge on cases or potential cases of human trafficking, all existing forms of police cooperation (such as exchanging information via some of the joint contact centres, urgent meetings/contacts at local/regional/central levels between heads of police stations/regional centres/border operations departments of two countries, direct communication between emergency centres of border services, the liaison officers of foreign services located in the Republic of Macedonia, etc) can be used.

Nonetheless, it has to be taken into account that the type of information mentioned above refers to information aimed at preventing on-going/potential cases of human trafficking taking place ongoingly or are likely to take place at shared borders and the prevention of which requires direct and swift data exchange.

As regards exchanging international crime-related data, being an integral part of the Public Security Bureau at the Ministry of the Interior, the border police utilizes the so called *single window* approach and conducts its exchange of such information with foreign in-line bodies via the Sector for International Police Cooperation of the Central Police Forces which operate under the aforementioned Public Security Bureau at the Ministry of the Interior.

Hence, the Sector for International Police Cooperation is the single coordination point for exchanging international crime-related data via INTERPOL, EUROPOL and SELEC channels, as well as via liaison officers of foreign services stationed in the country and other law enforcing authorities in the **Republic of Macedonia** such as the Ministry of the Interior, the Customs Administration, the Financial Police, the Public Prosecutor's Office, the Ministry of Justice, etc.

With the Sector for International Police Cooperation at the Ministry of the Interior operating a 24/7 Emergency Centre and with authorized law enforcement agencies using secure international data exchange channels (I-24/7 of INTERPOL, the SIENA software of EUROPOL), the exchange of operative data on specific requests, during bilateral and multilateral investigations or while conducting joint operations, has functioned in a prompt, efficient and secure manner.

Over the last period, several operations relating to human trafficking and migrant smuggling were conducted in coordination with EUROPOL.

The last such example dates from 23 September 2016, when the Sector for International Police Cooperation was informed by German police of a Syrian national seeking asylum in the Federal Republic of Germany, reported that his wife and their four underage children had been forcefully kept captive by certain individuals on the territory of the Republic of Macedonia in the region alongside the Macedonian-Serbian border for purposes of extorting money from them in exchange for their release.

After receiving the report of such criminal activity taking place on the territory of the Republic of Macedonia, the relevant authorities took coordinated measures and activities resulting in

the discovery of 35 migrants (26 Syrian, 5 Pakistani and 4 Afghan nationals) and among them the family of the asylum seeker who reported the activity, coupled with six of the foreign nationals reported as responsible for committing the crime. 17 of the migrants located and discovered were minors.

Question b.c

The Republic of Macedonia is a party to the **Police Cooperation Convention for Southeast Europe (PCC SEE)**⁶. In keeping with the provisions of the Convention stipulating the establishment of Joint Investigation Teams to combat human trafficking, the fourth Workshop on Employing Joint Investigation Teams in Countering Human Trafficking in the Western Balkan Countries was held on 8-10 July 2014 in Skopje, the Republic of Macedonia, hosting among its other participants the National Coordinators for Countering Human Trafficking and Illegal Migration of the region countries.

On 4 September 2015, Ohrid, the Republic of Macedonia, played host to the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Republic of Macedonia, the Republic of Serbia, the Republic of Austria, and Hungary defining the steps necessary to be taken to contain the extraordinary pressure of mixed migration that all countries listed were dealing with.

In line with the Guidebook on Criminal Investigations and Countering Criminal Groups in Cases of Human Trafficking, the Unit for Countering Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling has been collecting data provided by other governmental and non-governmental institutions and organizations, too, as well as gathering data received via specialized SOS telephone lines and the *RED Button* on-line service that the Ministry of the Interior provides on its official website.

Being the organizational unit of the Ministry of the Interior which is solely authorized to employ special investigative measures in conducting international investigations in human trafficking and migrant smuggling cases, the Unit for Countering Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling exchanges data via relevant channels of INTERPOL, EUROPOL and SELEC, as well as via liaison officers and designated contact persons (points) in each country in the region and Europe.

TURKEY / TURQUIE

Question 4

Besides being party to the international conventions on the matter, Turkey also signed agreements and protocols with numerous countries on cooperation in combating transnational organized crime and human trafficking.

Workshops were organized with the cooperation of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (the UNHCR), the International Organization for Migration and the World Health Organization. Within this scope, Turkey held trainings on the measures to be taken for the protection of the Syrians out of the accommodation centers.

UKRAINE

⁶ Signed in May 2005

II – Other States and other Stakeholders / Autres Etats et Parties prenantes

ARMENIA / ARMENIE

Replies sent by the UNHCR-Armenia

Question 4

UNHCR is not aware of any such cooperation - Armenia has not ratified the Lanzarote Convention.

AZERBAIJAN / AZERBAÏDJAN

ESTONIA / ESTONIE

No reply to this question / Aucune réponse à cette question

IRELAND / IRLANDE

NORWAY / NORVEGE

Question 4

Norway is concerned about the migration of children, and in particular unaccompanied minors. This migrant group is especially vulnerable and need our due attention. They are exposed to high risks during the journey and might be exploited by human smugglers and others that can cause them great psychological and physical harm. Research the past years indicate that most unaccompanied minors migrate in agreement with their family

UNITED KINGDOM / ROYAUME UNI