



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

Recommendation CP/Rec(2025)13
on the implementation of the Council of Europe Convention
on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings
by Romania

*adopted at the 37th meeting of the Committee of the Parties
on 18 December 2025*

The Committee of the Parties to the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (hereinafter referred to as "the Convention"), acting under the terms of Article 38(7) of the Convention;

Having regard to the purposes of the Convention to prevent and combat trafficking in human beings, while guaranteeing gender equality, protect the human rights of victims of trafficking, design a comprehensive framework for the protection and assistance of victims and witnesses, ensure the effective investigation and prosecution of the offences related to trafficking in human beings, and promote international co-operation;

Bearing in mind the provisions of Article 36(1) of the Convention concerning the monitoring role of the Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA) in the implementation of the Convention;

Having regard to the Rules of Procedure of the Committee of the Parties;

Having regard to the instrument of ratification deposited by Romania on 21 August 2006;

Having examined the fourth report concerning the implementation of the Convention by Romania, adopted by GRETA at its 54th meeting (30 June - 4 July 2025);

Bearing in mind the focus of the fourth evaluation round of the Convention on vulnerabilities to human trafficking and measures taken to prevent them, detect and support vulnerable victims, and punish the offenders, as well as the additional focus on the use of information and communication technology (ICT);

Considering the conclusions and proposals for action contained in Appendix 2 of GRETA's fourth report on Romania related to the thematic focus of the fourth evaluation round and follow-up topics specific to Romania;

Welcoming the measures taken and the progress achieved by Romania in implementing the Convention, and in particular:

- the further development of the legislative framework relevant for action against trafficking in human beings, including amendments to the Criminal Code and the legislation related to trafficking victims' access to legal aid and state compensation;
- the adoption of the new National Strategy against Trafficking in Human Beings (2024-2028) and the accompanying National Action Plan which contain measures to prevent exploitation among vulnerable groups;

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- the adoption of a new National Mechanism for Identification and Referral of Trafficking Victims and the issuing of related guidelines to relevant professionals;
 - the legislative amendments strengthening victim protection, the increase in the number of specialised interview rooms and the development of victim interviewing guidelines;
 - the efforts made to promote online safety and enhance capacity to detect and investigate ICT-facilitated trafficking in human beings.

A. Recommends that the Government of Romania take measures to address the following issues for urgent action¹ identified in GRETA's report:

1. strengthen their efforts to improve the prevention of child trafficking, in particular by:
 - increasing the resources of the child protection services so that they can play an effective role in the prevention of trafficking of children and management of cases of children at risk;
 - implementing social and economic measures and programmes aimed at supporting children in vulnerable situations, including children living in and leaving institutional care (paragraph 40);
2. take further steps to prevent trafficking for the purpose of labour exploitation, in particular by:
 - revising the legislative framework on the employment of migrant workers with a view to preventing the abusive termination of contracts by employers and enabling migrant workers to leave an exploitative employment relationship and take up a job with another employer;
 - establishing safe reporting and effective complaint mechanisms for foreign workers;
 - introducing licencing of recruitment agencies which act as intermediaries for migrant workers arriving in Romania and monitoring fraudulent online job advertisements (paragraph 62);
3. carry out individualised risk assessment prior to any forced removals which should cover the risks of trafficking or re-trafficking on return, in compliance with the obligation of non-refoulement. In this context, full consideration should be given to the UNHCR's Guidelines on the application of the Refugees Convention to trafficked persons and GRETA's Guidance note on the entitlement of victims of trafficking, and persons at risk of being trafficked, to international protection (paragraph 75);
4. strengthen their efforts to improve the protection of persons with disabilities from human trafficking, in particular by:
 - ensuring regular, effective and independent monitoring of public and private residential centres for persons with disabilities, especially by facilitating specialised NGOs' access to these facilities;
 - ensuring that professionals assisting persons with disabilities, including caregivers, legal guardians and teachers, are provided with training on human trafficking with a focus on vulnerabilities that lead to trafficking in human beings;
 - further developing access to economic, social and healthcare services for persons with disabilities as a way to reduce their vulnerabilities to human trafficking, including by allocating sufficient funding to county and local authorities to enable them to adequately fulfil their functions related to the protection of the rights of persons with disabilities (paragraph 93);

¹ The number of the paragraph setting out GRETA's proposals in the report is indicated in brackets.

5. intensify their efforts to provide assistance to victims of trafficking, regardless of their nationality, in particular by:
 - providing adequate, safe and, where appropriate, separate, accommodation to all victims of trafficking who need it, including men;
 - ensuring adequate funding and staff to work with victims of human trafficking and facilitate the reintegration of victims of trafficking into society;
 - providing adequate and sustainable funding to NGOs to ensure the range and quality of the services delivered by them to victims of human trafficking;
 - guaranteeing access to health care to all victims of human trafficking (paragraph 119);
6. review the legislation in order to enable victims of trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation to claim compensation from their traffickers for the earnings from exploitation in prostitution that were withheld from them by traffickers (paragraph 175);

B. Bearing in mind GRETA's conclusions that some recommendations made repeatedly in preceding evaluation rounds have not been implemented or have been only partially implemented, requests the Romanian authorities to take steps to implement the recommendations in point 5 as a matter of priority;

C. Recommends that the Romanian authorities take measures to implement the other proposals for action listed in Appendix 2 of GRETA's fourth evaluation report;

D. Requests the Romanian Government to report to the Committee of the Parties on the measures taken to comply with this recommendation by 18 December 2027;

E. Invites the Romanian Government to continue the dialogue in progress with GRETA and to keep GRETA regularly informed of the measures taken in response to GRETA's conclusions.