

# INTERPOL





#### Dear Delegates,

Welcome to the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) Committee at MUNMX 2024. As we have the opportunity to meet in person, we would like to formally introduce ourselves: Natalia Sánchez Espitia as your President, Isabella Aguilar Méndez as your Moderator, and Hiromi Felices as your Conference Officer. It will be a great pleasure to have you in this committee for the next few days. If you need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us—we are here to support you.

-The Chair

#### Committee:



Founded in 1923 in Austria, INTERPOL is an organization with 196 member countries, working to tackle global security threats, including terrorism, cybercrime, drug trafficking, human trafficking, and organized crime across borders.

Today, INTERPOL is one of the largest international organizations, with the primary objective of facilitating cooperation among nations by providing training and technical assistance. The organization has established a worldwide law enforcement network, which has led to multiple high-profile operations and criminal databases, including fingerprints and DNA profiles. INTERPOL has also embraced technology, developing secure communication channels that enable real-time information sharing.

# Topic A: Preventive measures in order to diminish the trafficking of migrants and refugees due to cybercrime in Latin America.

Latin America is a region that includes major source, transit, and destination countries for human trafficking. There is a significant flow of migrants and refugees, many of whom are trying to escape violence, poverty, and political instability. According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), in 2020, approximately 30% of global trafficking victims were from Latin America and the Caribbean.

As technology advances, the widespread access to the internet between 2001 and 2021, along with the growth of social networks, has opened new avenues for traffickers. Criminal organizations involved in migrant trafficking include drug cartels, human trafficking



networks, and groups exploiting women and children for commercial sexual purposes. Migrants often face inhumane conditions, such as unsanitary spaces, limited access to clean water or food, and perilous routes that frequently result in death.

Victims are frequently exposed to extreme physical and psychological violence, as traffickers use threats and abuse to maintain control.

Many Latin American countries have taken steps to combat human trafficking. Reports show a notable increase in the number of training sessions for government officials, as well as conferences to raise awareness within society. For instance, INTERPOL reported that in 2021, over 150 training sessions and workshops were held in Latin America. However, the complexity of human trafficking remains a significant challenge in the region.

Moreover, the rise in cybercrime is exacerbating the problem. Trafficking groups now use the internet to recruit and control victims, making it increasingly difficult to combat the issue. In 2022, cybercrime in Latin America increased by 40%, further complicating efforts to combat trafficking through digital channels.

Category	Statistic
Cybercrime threats	According to the Cyber Fusion Centre, since 2017 there have been more than 800 reports to police in more than 150 countries.
Human Trafficking Percentage	Based on the OEA, Latin America has a greater percentage of victims trafficked for forced labor outside the commercial sex sector (44%), compared to Europe and Central Asia.
Human Trafficking	In accordance with the UNODC, 89% of all human trafficking victims are women and girls who are trafficked for sexual exploitation in bars, nightclubs, hidden apartments, or behind webcams.
Migration Flows	In Venezuela specifically, UNODC reports that over 7.7 million individuals have fled the country. This surpasses the numbers from Syria or Ukraine.
Smugglers	In the case of Operation Turquesa IV (an operation targeting human trafficking and migrant smuggling in Latin America), 9,015 irregular migrants were identified. The majority of the trafficked victims were from Colombia and Venezuela in 2022.



	Criminal	INTERPOL reports that 268 people have been arrested on suspicion of
ı	organizations	migrant smuggling, human trafficking, or related crimes such as document
		fraud and sexual offenses in 2022 as well.

#### Actions taken:

# **Project TRACK4TIP**

Transforming Alerts into Criminal Justice Responses to Combat Trafficking in Persons within Migration Flows (2019-2024) is an initiative implemented by UNODC, supported by the Office to Monitor Combat Trafficking in Persons (JTIP) at the United States Department of State. The project's aim is to enhance the regional criminal justice response to human trafficking among migration flows within eight beneficiary countries: Ecuador, Peru, Brazil, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, Panama, and Aruba. It follows a victim-centered and multidisciplinary approach at both local and regional levels to identify, prevent, and prosecute cases.

# **Operation Trigger VI**

This operation, coordinated by INTERPOL and UNODC, targets firearms trafficking across South America. It has resulted in the arrest of 4,000 suspects and the seizure of approximately 200,000 illicit firearms, weapons, and ammunition. Operation Trigger is funded under Project DISRUPT, part of the Global Illicit Flows Program (GIFP) of the EU (2021). Both Operation Trigger VI and DISRUPT illustrate the importance of multi-agency transnational cooperation to support partner countries in developing the capacity to tackle firearms trafficking.

#### El Pozo de la Vida

This NGO combats human trafficking in Mexico and Central America through strategies focused on prevention, intervention, and restoration of vulnerable children, women, families, and communities. It is a member of The Crime Prevention & Criminal Justice Alliance, a global network of international non-governmental organizations. Currently, they have nine projects influencing national-level policies in Mexico (2017-2022).

#### Treaties and alliances:

• The Regional Coalition Against Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants established in 2011 is an alliance between countries such as Belize, Costa Rica, El



- Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua and the Dominican Republic. It aims to unite efforts to combat human trafficking and migrant smuggling, improving victim protection.
- The Budapest Convention on Cybercrime was signed by countries such as Brazil, Argentina, Colombia, Chile and Costa Rica.

#### **Key questions:**

- How is your country addressing the use of digital platforms by cybercriminals to traffic migrants and refugees?
- How does your country cooperate with other nations or organizations to combat cybercrime?
- What measures has your country implemented to enhance cybersecurity related to trafficking immigrants and refugees?
- What challenges does your country encounter in safeguarding migrants and refugees from being targeted by traffickers through online platforms?
- How has your country collaborated to create early-warning systems or campaigns to protect migrants from cybercrime?
- How does your country ensure the enforcement of current laws to protect migrants in the context of cybercrime?
- How can your country improve its ability to identify and address emerging trends in cybercrime trafficking?
- How do these criminal groups finance their activities?

## **Support links:**

- Effective prevention strategies: Demand side strategies discouraging or prosecuting demand.

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### Topic B: Rescue and attention protocols for the victims of human trafficking

Human trafficking is an issue that has existed since the beginnings of human history, yet it has only recently been acknowledged as a significant problem in the 20th and 21st centuries. The International Labour Organization (ILO) estimated in 2022 that over 27.6 million people are victims of human trafficking worldwide, with around 22 million in forced labor and 5.6 million in forced sexual exploitation. This issue occurs globally, but it is more dominant in regions with socioeconomic factors such as poverty, conflict, corruption, and weak law enforcement.

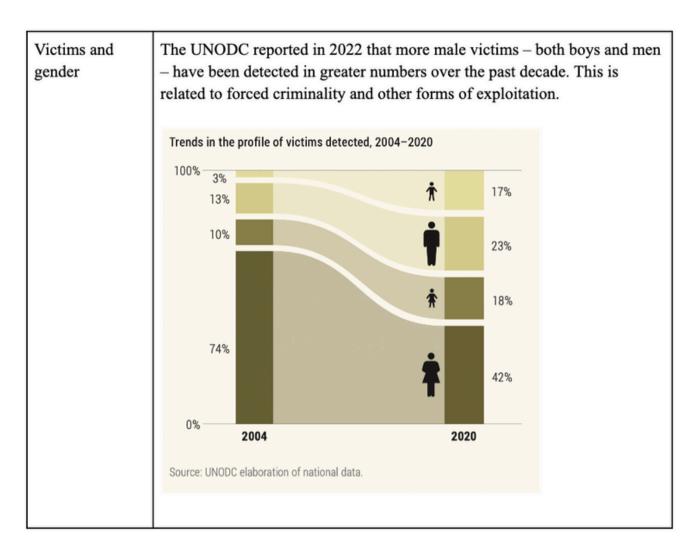
Rescue operations require collaboration between law enforcement and NGOs, working with local authorities to identify and extract victims from trafficking situations. These operations must be carefully planned to ensure the safety of both the victims and those involved in the rescue. Research shows that 77% of trafficking survivors often experience serious mental health issues, including PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorder), depression, and anxiety.



Although significant progress has been made to tackle the problem, investigations highlight ongoing challenges, with millions remaining trapped in forced labor and sexual exploitation. Additionally, new forms of trafficking, such as online recruitment, require updated legal frameworks and technology-driven solutions. Multinational efforts are needed not only to rescue victims but also to prevent trafficking through education, regulations, and long-term support for survivors.

Category	Statistic
Victims report	The 2024 TIP (Trafficking in persons) Report, notes an increase in both victim identification and convictions from 2022 to 2023 globally. In 2023, 133,943 victims were identified, up from 115,324 in 2022.
Law enforcement	In September 2023, The Netherlands, supported by EUROPOL, coordinated a 3-day investigation targeting online criminal activities that enable human trafficking. Law enforcement from 26 countries alongside representatives from European Labor Authority, European Police College (CEPOL), INTERPOL, OSCE (Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe), and International Justice Mission, focused on identifying online platforms and social media to recruit victims for sexual and labor exploitation. This led to identifying 11 suspected human traffickers and 45 potential victims.
Convictions	A report from UNODC states that countries in Sub-Saharan Africa and in South Asia are convicting fewer traffickers and detecting fewer victims.
Immigration and emigration	According to the 2024 Migration data portal, nearly 80 percent of international human trafficking journeys cross through official border control points, such as airports and land border control points.
Trafficking	As per the United States Department of State, human traffickers prey on people of different ages, origins, and countries, using them for their own financial gain. There are an estimated 27.6 million victims of human trafficking globally at any given moment.
	The government reported authorities investigated 531 cases in 2023, a significant decline from 831 investigations reported in 2022.





#### Actions taken

• Protocol on Inter State Rescue and Post Rescue Activities (2007)

This protocol brings information for Pre-Rescue Protocol, Protocol During Rescue and Post Rescue Protocol. That being said, the Pre-Rescue Protocol is based on immediate action, by which the PS (police station) will take action, and pass the information until it reaches the PNO (Police Nodal Officer) of the state to make the Joint Team rescue. The Protocol During Rescue is based on, every member of the rescue team should take their positions and segregate the victims away from the trafficker persons that are going to be kept hidden in different places. The Post Rescue Protocol is based on the HT (hots team) that is primarily responsible for post-rescue activities, including immediate follow-up actions and the VT (vanguard team) supports the rescue protocol itself. Provide support and care for the rescue victims, ensuring they are not further traumatized, gathering important personal information through sensitive interviews, moving them safely from the rescue scene and guide their recovery process.



# • Interpol Partnerships (2019)

Their main purpose is to protect and support victims from human trafficking and migrants by working with NGOs, government agencies, and the private sector. It mainly ensures that the victims receive proper care throughout investigations. This project also involves private companies to help prevent and report trafficking cases and holds a global conference to bring experts together and improve anti-trafficking efforts. Partners that are also involved with this project are the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and International Organization for Migration.

### • Alliance Against Trafficking in Persons (2004)

This Alliance's main purpose is to bring together international, non-governmental, and intergovernmental organizations to prevent and combat human trafficking. Developing strategies and strengthening efforts for rescue. Creating annual high-level conferences to solve this global issue. This Alliance involves key partners including Amnesty International, United Nations Children's Fund and United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

# • OHCHR and trafficking in persons (2000)

This organization aims to combat human trafficking by emphasizing a human rights-based approach. It focuses on building capacities of states, conducting relevant search, and building partnerships with various organizations to create effective strategies. Their main goal is to ensure that anti-trafficking measures align with international human rights standards and provide better identification, protection, and support for victims.

#### **Key Questions**

- What national laws and agreements does your country have to combat human trafficking and protect victims?
- What initiatives does your country undertake to raise awareness about human trafficking to facilitate early identification and intervention?
- How has your country collaborated to create early-warning systems and campaigns to protect victims from human trafficking?
- How can your country improve its ability to identify and address emergency situations involving human trafficking?
- What services does your country provide to victims after they have been rescued from human trafficking?



- How does your country collaborate with neighboring countries, regional organizations, and international bodies to combat cross-border trafficking?
- How does your country ensure that the human rights of victims are protected during the rescue and rehabilitation process?
- How does your country facilitate partnerships among the government, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector to combat human trafficking?
- What international agreements does your country cooperate with to address human trafficking across borders?

#### **Support links**

OHCHR

https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/protocol-prevent-suppress-and-punish-trafficking-persons

• Eastern Kentucky University. Encompass

https://encompass.eku.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1323&context=honors theses

• OSCE

https://www.osce.org/files/f/documents/8/d/424622.pdf

• Public Safety Canada

https://www.publicsafety.gc.ca/cnt/rsrcs/pblctns/2019-ntnl-strtgy-hmnn-trffc/index-en.aspx

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