

Union of Women Organizations of Republic Of Macedonia

“Vasil Gjorgov” 4 P.F. 571 1000 Skopje Republic of Macedonia
Tel : ++ 389 02 134 390 fax: ++ 389 02 238 184 E-mail: sozm@ mt.net.mk



Basic data of UWOM

Union of Women’s Organizations of the Republic of Macedonia- UWOM. is: non-governmental, non-profitable and non-political organization, established in October 1994. It represents a multi –ethnic women’s network of 60 independent women’s organization of different ethnic, national and religious background.

Its vision is Gender equality, guarantee of women’s rights as human rights and elimination of all kinds of discrimination of women in the society and the family.

The mission of UWOM is support, development, creation, advocacy and promotion of gender equality.

Activities:

- Ø Education and training
- Ø Higher awareness of women for their rights and capabilities
- Ø Work with women groups
- Ø Particular problems and women’s needs
- Ø Editing
- Ø Cooperation with NGO’s and state institutions
- Ø Women’s Center- Women Studies
- Ø Preparation and implementation of projects
- Ø Prevention and solution of problems women are facing.

General Context

The transitional period that affected our state has formed a disadvantageous system that resulted with poverty and minimal right of choice. This is reason enough for many young girls to seek for better life and job in abroad. Uninformed, carried away by the suggestions for unreal high incomes and shiny career, they often fall in traps that were prepared by a number of agencies by offering jobs for babysitters, models, hotel assistants, waitresses, and working on boats. In most cases these girls are falling into the chain of well organized criminal of trafficking of women. The trafficking of women or sex-trafficking has become a global business that enables huge profits. Macedonia has become a new important destination for transit towards Albania, Kosovo, West Europe, Greece, as so as a host of the trafficked girls from Bulgaria, Ukraine, Albania and Russia.

The trafficked women are forced to prostitution with fraud, intimidation, brutal violence, kidnapping and other

violent methods, that are breaking the basic human rights. These women are completely dependent and abused by their pimps, without documents, in foreign countries and without knowing the language and the right to ask for help from the police - they are becoming sex slavers.

The media campaign is a first step in prevention and extenuation of the phenomenon, influence over the public awareness for the seriousness of this problem, indicating to its existence and initiative for creation of a strong network among the non-governmental organizations and governmental institutions for profound entering in the problem and its resolution.

The great number of illegal bordellos in Republic of Macedonia (Tetovo, Gostivar, Debar, Struga) are full of prostitutes and trafficked women from Eastern Europe, and the difficult social-economical condition of the biggest part of the Macedonian population is enough reason for such campaign and education that will enable the first step towards the complete accomplishment of the goals.

UWOM Vision for Strategies for Preventing Trafficking in Human Beings

Republic of Macedonia is a country in transition , country that is going through a difficult economic and political situation .The public opinion in the Republic of Macedonia shows:

- Ø Every fourth woman is unemployed
- Ø Every fourth woman is victim of family violence
- Ø There is a big “offer” for employment abroad
- Ø Offers for “ marriage ”

Republic of Macedonia is:

- Country of delivery
- Transit country
- Host country of trafficked women .

If we want to do something more , not only to keep working and saving small number of trafficked women and to prosecute those who are making profit from the contemporary sexual slavery then the **PREVENTION** must have central position against illegal trafficking with human beings.

The prevention must be the first priority and every next intervention must include different aspects of prevention.

Main goal:

To make an attempt for limitation and total elimination of the illegal trafficking with human beings

The **PROTECTION** will include:

I. Education of the people (campaigns, workshops, tribunes) in the primary, secondary schools and in the universities ,working places, military, the public)

Goal: Raising public awareness.

II. Effective realization of the Law

Goal: Discontinuation of the organized crime network, proposing strict punishments for the traffickers and sexual exploitators.

Realization of the Prevention

Primary prevention - raising the possibilities for employment and better status and authority of the women .

Secondary prevention -Intervention at the high-risk groups: young girls from the rural areas

Tercial prevention -Law enforcement; working on the rehabilitation and strategies of prevention .

Recommendation:

Because trafficking in Human Beings includes transnational crime issues , for the Prevention must be formed:

- National and
- International commission

They will represent a strong voice of the governments and international bodies.

Task:

To oversee the tight connection between trafficking with women and weak social and economical growth

Solution:

To provide employment for the trafficked women.

Realized goals:

Elimination of trafficking with women.