

# Stop Trafficking !

## Anti-Human Trafficking Newsletter



Awareness

Advocacy

Action

July 2016 Vol. 14 No. 7

This issue highlights topics covered by the 'Trafficking in Persons' (TIP) Report for 2016.

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- Ursuline Sisters of the Roman Union, USA

## 2016 Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report

“The TIP Report is the product of a yearlong effort requiring contributions and follow-up from employees in the U.S. and at our diplomatic outposts across the globe, host country governments, and civil society. That effort is well worth it, because this Report is one of the best means we have to speak up for men, women, and children who lack any effective platform to be heard themselves. The Report is a source of validation and inspiration to activists on every continent who are striving to end the scourge of human trafficking.

“The purpose of this Report is to enlighten, energize, and empower. It incorporates the insights of NGOs, advocates, and survivors with firsthand experience of this horrific crime. By issuing it, we want to bring to the public’s attention the full nature and scope of the \$150 billion illicit human trafficking industry. We want to provide evidence and facts that will help people who are already working to achieve reforms and alleviate suffering. And we want to provide a strong incentive for governments at every level to do all they can to prevent and prosecute trafficking, identify and

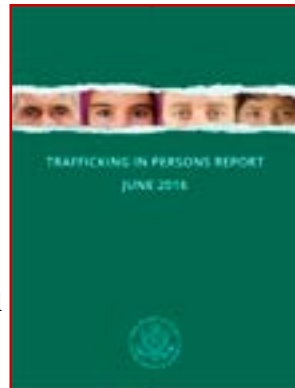
support victims, and shield at-risk populations.

“Modern slavery is connected to a host of 21st century challenges—from environmental sustainability to advancing the lives of women and girls and combating transnational organized crime. Wherever we

find poverty and lack of opportunity—wherever the rule of law is weak, where corruption is most ingrained, where minorities are abused, and where populations can’t count on the protection of government—we find not just vulnerability to trafficking, but zones of impunity where traffickers can prey on their victims.

“This year’s Report underscores the need for increased attention to preventing human trafficking. It encourages governments to identify and acknowledge those most at-risk in society, and to create effective ways to recognize vulnerable populations and help first responders spot the methods used by human traffickers. By understanding the needs of vulnerable groups, governments can partner with NGOs and the private sector to protect the innocent from would-be traffickers.”

John F. Kerry, U.S. Sec. of State  
<http://www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/2016/258685.htm>





## Awareness

# The Exploited Women -- Men -- Children

Individuals around the world suffer extreme hardship or violence, experience discrimination or social marginalization. Service providers, researchers, and other witnesses document that human traffickers take advantage of such circumstances.

Shindy believed she was leaving Burma for a well-paying job at a Thai seafood factory. She owed a 12,000 baht (\$342) recruitment fee, but believed she could pay it back earning the Thai minimum wage of 300 baht (\$8.50) per day. After arriving; however, the middleman said Shindy owed him 20,000 baht and would only earn 200 baht per day for 18 hours of work (\$0.30 per hour). She and approximately 40 other Burmese laborers had to spend almost all of their earnings to buy overpriced food from the on-site store.

One worker escaped and told an NGO about Shindy and the other workers trapped at the factory. The NGO and Thai authorities returned to the factory to free the workers and their families, some of whom had been captive for three years.

Holly, a 13-year-old Canadian, didn't recognize Emilie on Facebook, but seeing they had mutual friends, accepted her 'friend request.' Holly and Emilie quickly became online friends.

One day Emilie told Holly that her boyfriend had found them both jobs that would make them a lot of money. Emilie told Holly to come to her apartment that weekend. When Holly arrived, Emilie, her boyfriend, and another man told Holly she had to have sex with men for money. When Holly refused, they threatened to hurt her. They posted photos of Holly on an escort website and took her to different cities around Canada to have sex with paying clients.

One day, when Emilie's boyfriend left the room, Holly fled and received help from a passerby. All three perpetrators were charged with numerous crimes, including sex trafficking, and await trial.



Nina, from the U.S., ran away from home at age 14. She met a woman who put her up in a hotel room and brought her 'clients.' For the next 13 years, Nina had 20 different pimps who advertised her for sex on the internet and abused her verbally and physically. By the time she was finally referred to victim services, Nina had been convicted of 52 offenses, mostly prostitution—her first conviction at age 16—and had spent time in both juvenile hall and jail.

Maruf, from Bangladesh and striving for financial independence along with 200 others, accepted an offer to be smuggled by boat to Malaysia for well-paid work. The agent promised food and water during the journey and said the men could repay the cost with their future wages. The agent lied; the crew rationed food and water, beat those who asked for more, and took the passengers to a Thai smuggling camp.

After smugglers forced his father to pay a ransom, Maruf was released and brought to Malaysia. Maruf found work on a palm oil plantation through a contracting company but was again deceived. The contracting company confiscated the workers' passports, and Maruf worked every day without pay as his contractor withheld his wages to pay back recruitment fees. Maruf was in the country illegally and feared arrest if he reported the abuse, so he continued to work and hoped to be paid eventually.

Victims: <http://www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/2016/258687.htm>

When Osei, from Ghana, was only 6 years old, his parents gave him to a fishing master who promised to provide Osei with a fishing apprenticeship, education, and a job.

This was a lie. Instead, he forced Osei and other children to work on a fishing boat for many hours each day in harsh conditions. The master also forced other children into domestic servitude near the lake. None of these children were allowed to go to school. They were not apprentices—they were forced laborers.

Government officials and an NGO rescued the children, and they currently reside at a care center where they receive education, shelter, counseling, and other trafficking-specific services to help them heal and take steps to prepare for their futures.



## Awareness

### Focus on Prevention



“This year’s Trafficking in Persons Report focuses on strategies to prevent human trafficking around the globe. As always, the Report analyzes governments’ prosecution, protection, and prevention efforts; but this year we feature ways governments can identify people most at-risk and reduce their vulnerability. The more governments understand the needs of these popula-

tions, the better they can partner with civil society to support communities and educate individuals to prevent their being exploited.

“In addition to tackling specific factors that put people at risk, we should also support organizations, faith groups, and governments to help avert the crime by providing those at risk with real opportunities, including jobs, education, and housing.

“Businesses and consumers have a key role to play, too, in helping ensure forced labor is not used to produce the goods and services they sell and purchase. This year I was proud to launch a project called “ResponsibleSourcing-Tool.org” to help federal contractors and businesses examine their supply chains and work to rid them of unscrupulous labor practices.”

Susan Coppedge,  
Ambassador-at-Large to Monitor  
and Combat Trafficking in Persons

<http://www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/2016/259065.htm>

### Safeguard Victims

“While we understand the many ways human trafficking victims suffer at the hands of their traffickers, we need to acknowledge that they may also suffer from their treatment by governments, including by the criminal justice systems that should protect them. It is a fact that traffickers force victims to engage in prostitution, theft, and drug trafficking, and to commit immigration violations. As documented throughout the 2016 Report, governments in every region of the world have prosecuted such trafficking victims, often unwittingly, due to the lack of proper screening and identification of victims of sex or labor trafficking. Some government treatment of victims—such as restricting their freedom of movement, summarily returning victims to countries they fled, and prosecuting them for crimes committed as a direct result of being trafficked—compounds their plight and results in further victimization.

“Traffickers increase their leverage over victims by warning that if they notify police of their exploitation, they will be deported or punished as criminals. When justice systems treat victims as criminals or do not allow them to leave government shelters or the country until they testify against their trafficker, they

have reinforced traffickers’ threats and discouraged victims from seeking help. Fear of the system hampers identifying and assisting trafficking victims, prosecuting perpetrators, and, ultimately, stopping traffickers from harming others. Wrongful convictions also impede survivors’ ability to rebuild their lives, in particular by limiting their options to find housing or qualify for credit and employment.

“For trafficking victims to receive justice and needed services, governments must adopt a victim-centered approach to combating human trafficking, one that understands the dynamics of exploitation and goes beyond traditional law enforcement efforts. With the Palermo Protocol as their guide, all countries should incorporate the principle of non-criminalization of victims into their anti-trafficking strategies and offer victims a clean slate for crimes committed under duress. Law enforcement and immigration officials need proper training to actively screen for victims so they are not driven back into the grip of their former captors, but rather properly identified and given a chance to recover from their trauma and move forward.

“Although the terror of modern slavery is indelible, no survivor deserves to be locked up, deported, or haunted by the past when applying for a job, apartment, or loan.

“This Report serves as a call to action for governments, legislatures, and criminal justice systems worldwide to provide meaningful support to the vulnerable, support that starts by not penalizing victims for crimes they did not choose to commit.” (<http://www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/2016/258704.htm>)



## Awareness

## Regional Statistics

The table and visuals help to give perspective on how some countries have improved their efforts to lessen human trafficking. To read about specific countries, refer to the TIP Report directly:

<http://www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/2016/index.htm>

The statistics are estimates only, given the lack of uniformity in national reporting structures. The numbers in parentheses are those of labor trafficking prosecutions, convictions, and victims identified. The number of victims identified includes information from foreign governments and other sources.

Prosecution and victim identification data reported this year are higher than in previous years, in large part due to increased information sharing and better data quality from several governments.

| Regional Law Enforcement Data   |              |             |                    |                            |
|---|--------------|-------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| <a href="http://www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/2016/258694.htm">http://www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/2016/258694.htm</a> |              |             |                    |                            |
| Year  | Prosecutions | Convictions | Victims Identified | New or Amended Legislation |
| <b>Africa</b>   |              |             |                    |                            |
| 2014  | 811 (49)     | 317 (33)    | 9,523 (1,308)      | 4                          |
| 2015  | 1,517 (53)   | 719 (8)     | 12,125 (3,531)     | 6                          |
| <b>East Asia &amp; Pacific</b>  |              |             |                    |                            |
| 2014  | 1,938 (88)   | 969 (16)    | 6,349 (1,084)      | 3                          |
| 2015  | 3,281 (193)  | 1,730 (130) | 13,990 (3,533)     | 10                         |
| <b>South &amp; Central Asia</b>   |              |             |                    |                            |
| 2014  | 1,839 (12)   | 958 (10)    | 4,878 (1,041)      | 3                          |
| 2015  | 6,915 (225)  | 1,462 (16)  | 24,867 (1,191)     | 0                          |



### Tier Placements

- Tier 1
- Tier 2
- Tier 2 Watch List
- Tier 3
- Special Case





## Awareness

### Isolation Contributes to Human Trafficking

Working in isolation can mean having little to no governmental oversight, a lack of community support, and access to fewer protective services, legal advocates, and law enforcement personnel. Such isolation increases workers' vulnerability to human trafficking and associated indicators, including confiscation of passports or other identity documents, non-payment of wages, substandard living and working conditions, restricted movement, threats of deportation, psychological coercion to remain employed, and physical force.

There are several industries in which these circumstances are evident. Malaysia and Indonesia, two of the largest producers of palm oil in the world, attract thousands of migrant workers to their year-round harvesting, production, and export operations. The plantations are often situated in difficult-to-reach parts of both countries, which enable unscrupulous owners and managers to operate with impunity and subject employees to various forms of abuse and exploitation. Some employers have confiscated passports and other identity documents and placed their workers in situations of debt bondage.

Fishers aboard vessels in vast international waters are particularly vulnerable to human trafficking due to often protracted periods of time at sea and an inability to report mistreatment or escape their ships. Luring fishers with promises of good wages, traffickers force some to work under extreme conditions and deny them compensation or the freedom to leave. Similar conditions enable forced child labor in the Lake Volta region in central Ghana.



West African countries, such as Mali and Senegal, have artisanal gold mines that draw transient communities to live and work. Mines are typically located within vast and remote areas and government officials face capacity constraints to make routine monitoring visits. The journey from population centers to these mines is lengthy and arduous. These conditions also increase the likelihood officials will seek to profit from or simply ignore exploitative conditions.

The isolation of extractive industries coupled with the influx of large numbers of male workers also drives the demand for commercial sex. For example, Bolivian and Peruvian girls are subjected to sex trafficking in mining and logging areas in Peru, and women and girls are subjected to sex trafficking near gold mines in Suriname and Guyana.

Even in urban areas conditions of isolation can be found in the workplace. For instance, domestic workers are often compelled to work in homes with severely restricted freedom and often are subjected to sexual abuse. Cultural isolation can also facilitate the exploitation of foreign migrant workers who may not speak the local language or understand their rights and the protections available to them under local law." (<http://www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/2016/258689.htm>)

### Other Vulnerabilities

#### Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity

In the U.S. agencies continue to report that lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex (LGBTI) youth are over-represented among runaway and homeless populations and have difficulties accessing non-discriminatory services. Those who are not self-sufficient are more susceptible to traffickers' offers of shelter or food in exchange for performing commercial sex acts.

The UN reports 76 countries criminalize consensual same-sex sexual conduct, with seven countries providing for the death penalty for certain offenses.

#### Religious Affiliation

In many societies, members of religious minorities have a heightened vulnerability to trafficking. Traffickers have been known to target women and girls from religious minorities and force them into religious conversions and subsequent marriages, in which they may be subjected to domestic or sexual servitude.

#### Migrants Fleeing Crisis

Migrants, including asylum-seekers, and refugees are susceptible to many crimes, including extortion, rape, and human trafficking. Many migrants fleeing conflict rely on smugglers at some point during their journeys and, in some instances, their smugglers are involved in schemes designed to deceive and trap them in sex or



## Awareness

### Vulnerabilities *cont. from pg. 5*

labor trafficking. Women, unaccompanied minors, and those denied asylum are particularly vulnerable to human trafficking, including while in transit and upon arrival in destination countries.

Some migrants arrive in Europe with no identity documents, which can increase their vulnerability to trafficking. Reports indicate traffickers sometimes urge victims to request asylum upon arrival, which allows traffickers to exploit them as they await asylum decisions. Some international organizations report that the reliance by authorities on improvised shelters has led to an increase in human trafficking. Of equal concern, human traffickers have attempted to illegally recruit refugees at migrant reception centers for low-paid work and prostitution.

### Disability

Owing to cultural and societal stigmas, people with disabilities, including individuals with physical, sensory, mental, cognitive, behavioral, or other visible and invisible disabilities, often lack access to social support networks. Prejudices contribute to biases in law enforcement or judicial systems and often to unequal treatment by employers and government service agencies.

Children and young adults with disabilities are especially vulnerable to the risks of human trafficking. Children with disabilities have been targeted by traffickers, for example, by being forced to beg because their disabilities—especially if highly visible—draw sympathy and charity from the public. In societies where children with disabilities are not expected to attend school, communities may be less likely to question why a disabled child is begging.

### Statelessness

A stateless person is someone who is not considered as a national by any state under the operation of its law. The UN High Commissioner for Refugees (USHCR) estimates 10 million people, approximately one-third of whom are children, are stateless today.

Some governments impose travel restrictions on stateless people, which—when coupled with their often dire economic situations and need to migrate for work—can push them to accept informal, sometimes fraudulent, job offers and to arrange transportation via middlemen and smugglers. Using unscrupulous middlemen, who often charge exorbitant interest rates, can lead to debt bondage. In Burma, for example, the government denies citizenship to an estimated 810,000 men, women, and children—most of whom are ethnic Rohingya living in Rakhine State. Their lack of legal status and access to identity documents significantly increases this population's vulnerability to sex and labor trafficking. Rohingya have endured forced labor and dire social conditions within Burma. Many have fled, often with the help of smugglers, to neighboring countries, where some have been subjected to forced labor in agriculture, fishing, and domestic work.

(<http://www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/2016/258689.htm>)

## Human Trafficking Survivors Given a Voice

In December 2015, President Obama announced the historic appointment of 11 members to the *United States Advisory Council on Human Trafficking*. Each member is a survivor of human trafficking, and together they represent a diverse range of backgrounds and experiences.

The Council, established by the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act, enacted on May 29, 2015, provides a formal platform for trafficking survivors to advise and make recommendations on federal anti-trafficking policies to the *President's Interagency Task Force to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons* (PITF).

In January 2016 the Advisory Council met with Sec. of State, John Kerry, and addressed the PITF.





## Advocacy

# 2016 TIP Report Tier Placement

Legend: (+/-) indicates the number of tiers a country moved up (+)/down (-) since 2015; (s) special case.

Countries which continue to violate the Child Soldier Protection Act (CSPA) are indicated by ‡

Tier 1 Countries whose governments fully comply with the Trafficking Victims Protection Act's (TVPA) minimum standards.

|             |                |             |               |                 |                 |
|-------------|----------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Armenia     | Chile          | France      | Italy         | Philippines (+) | St. Maarten (+) |
| Australia   | Colombia (+)   | Georgia (+) | Korea, South  | Poland          | Sweden          |
| Austria     | Cyprus (+)     | Germany     | Lithuania (+) | Portugal        | Switzerland     |
| The Bahamas | Czech Republic | Iceland     | Netherlands   | Slovak Republic | Taiwan          |
| Belgium     | Denmark        | Ireland     | New Zealand   | Slovenia (+)    | United Kingdom  |
| Canada      | Finland        | Israel      | Norway        | Spain           | USA             |

Tier 2 Countries whose governments do not fully comply with the TVPA's minimum standards, but are making significant efforts to bring themselves into compliance with those standards.

|                      |                    |             |                     |             |                      |
|----------------------|--------------------|-------------|---------------------|-------------|----------------------|
| Albania              | Burkina Faso (+)   | Guatemala   | Kyrgyzstan Republic | Micronesia  | Romania              |
| Angola               | Cambodia (+)       | Guyana (+)  | Latvia              | Moldova     | Sierra Leone         |
| Argentina            | Chad ‡             | Honduras    | Lebanon (+)         | Mongolia    | Singapore            |
| Aruba                | Croatia            | Hungary     | Lesotho (+)         | Montenegro  | South Africa         |
| Azerbaijan           | Curaçao            | India       | Liberia             | Morocco     | Tajikistan           |
| Bahrain              | Dominican Republic | Indonesia   | Luxembourg (-)      | Namibia (+) | Timor-Leste (+)      |
| Bangladesh           | Ecuador            | Iraq ‡      | Macau               | Nepal       | Togo                 |
| Barbados             | Egypt (+)          | Jamaica (+) | Macedonia (-)       | Nicaragua   | Turkey               |
| Bhutan               | El Salvador        | Japan       | Madagascar          | Nigeria ‡   | Uganda               |
| Bosnia & Herzegovina | Estonia            | Jordan      | Malawi              | Palau       | United Arab Emirates |
| Botswana (+)         | Ethiopia           | Kazakhstan  | Malta               | Panama      | Uruguay              |
| Brazil               | Fiji               | Kenya       | Mauritius (+)       | Paraguay    | Vietnam              |
| Brunei               | Greece             | Kosovo      | Mexico              | Peru        | Zambia               |

Tier 2 Watch List Countries whose governments do not fully comply with the TVPA's minimum standards, but are making significant efforts to bring themselves into compliance with those standards and:

- The absolute number of victims of severe forms of trafficking is very significant or is significantly increasing;
- There is a failure to provide evidence of increasing efforts to combat severe forms of trafficking in persons from the previous year; or
- The determination that a country is making significant efforts to bring itself into compliance with minimum standards was based on commitments by the country to take additional future steps over the next year.

|                   |                   |               |                |                 |                        |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| Afghanistan (-)   | China (PRC)       | Ghana         | Maldives       | Rwanda ‡ (-)    | St. Vincent & the Gren |
| Antigua & Barbuda | Congo (DRC) ‡     | Guinea        | Mali           | Saudi Arabia    | Swaziland (-)          |
| Benin (-)         | Congo (ROC)       | Hong Kong (-) | Mozambique (-) | Senegal (-)     | Tanzania               |
| Bolivia           | Costa Rica        | Kiribati (-)  | Niger (-)      | Serbia (-)      | Thailand (+)           |
| Bulgaria          | Cote d'Ivoire (-) | Kuwait (+)    | Oman (-)       | Seychelles (-)  | Tonga (-)              |
| Cabo Verde (-)    | Cuba              | Laos          | Pakistan       | Solomon Islands | Trinidad & Tobago      |
| Cameroon (-)      | Gabon             | Malaysia      | Qatar          | Sri Lanka       | Tunisia                |
|                   |                   |               |                | St. Lucia (-)   | Ukraine                |

Tier 3 Countries whose governments do not fully comply with the minimum standards, nor make significant efforts to do so.

|             |                    |               |                      |                  |                       |
|-------------|--------------------|---------------|----------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Algeria     | Cent. African Rep. | The Gambia    | Marshall Islands     | Suriname (-)     | <b>Special Cases:</b> |
| Belarus     | Comoros            | Guinea-Bissau | Mauritania           | Syria ‡          | Libya (s)             |
| Belize      | Djibouti (-)       | Haiti (-)     | Papua New Guinea (-) | Turkmenistan (-) | Somalia (s) ‡         |
| Burma ‡ (-) | Equatorial Guinea  | Iran          | Russia               | Uzbekistan (-)   | Yemen (s) ‡           |
| Burundi     | Eritrea            | Korea, North  | South Sudan ‡        | Venezuela        |                       |
|             |                    |               | Sudan ‡ (-)          | Zimbabwe         |                       |



## Advocacy

### Senegal



**Issa Kouyate** is the Founder and Director of *Maison de la Gare*, a shelter in Senegal for hundreds of street children,

often called '*talibe*,' and other at-risk youth. *Talibes* are children, some as young as 4 years old, who are sent to Islamic schools across Senegal to become scholars of the Quran. In many cases, these children are also forced to beg for up to eight hours each day and are often beaten and left alone in the streets if they do not earn enough.

As a former *talibe* himself, Mr. Kouyate is committed to improving the lives of such street children. He became a chef, and first began by cooking for the children. From there, his small operation grew into a shelter, where as many as 200 *talibes* now visit daily seeking basic services such as food, medicine, and shelter.

Mr. Kouyate has created strong partnerships with local government agencies, religious communities, and other organizations working to combat human trafficking. Local authorities consider him a key partner not only for providing shelter for runaway *talibes*, but also for gathering data, following up on cases within the legal system, and facilitating the safe return of *talibes* to their families.

Mr. Kouyate has been incredibly successful in raising awareness about the conditions of and risks to children, who live and beg on the streets, and has helped build support from local officials to prevent human trafficking.

### Mauritania



The partnership between two dynamic activists, **Biram Abeid** (left) and **Brahim Ramdhane**, has been critical in reducing human trafficking in Mauritania, a country where slavery was not formally outlawed until 1981. Mr. Abeid, a lawyer, researcher, human rights activist, writer, translator (French-Arabic), and President of the *Initiative for the Resurgence of the Abolitionist Movement* (IRA), and Mr. Ramdhane, a professor of philosophy and Arabic language, and Vice President of IRA, are both the children of slaves, who have chosen careers focused on confronting injustice in Mauritania.

Mr. Abeid and Mr. Ramdhane have successfully mounted provocative and high-profile anti-trafficking campaigns that have significantly contributed to new government institutions, laws, and specialized courts designed to combat human trafficking. These advances facilitated the first indictment in Mauritania for slave-holding and the first prison sentence in 2011 under the 2007 anti-slavery law, and the 2012 constitutional reform that made slavery a crime against humanity.

In November 2014, Mr. Abeid and Mr. Ramdhane were arrested together for their leading roles in a protest against the continued practice of slavery in Mauritania as well as discriminatory land use policies and related abuses suffered by non-Arab, sub-Saharan minorities. Both the Haratine (slave descendants) and sub-Saharan communities are grossly underrepresented in government, military, and

economic leadership positions due to systematic discrimination in favor of the Beydane (white Moor) minority. The men shared a cell until their release in May 2016.

The organization they established, IRA, and its leaders have been recognized internationally on numerous occasions, including: the 2016 James Lawson Award from the International Center on Nonviolent Conflict, the 2015 Human Rights Tulip awarded by the Dutch government, the 2013 Front Line Defenders Award, and the 2013 United Nations Human Rights prize, among others.

### Russia

**Oluremi Banwo Kehinde**

is a tireless anti-trafficking activist in Russia who works to assist and protect

Nigerian and other African victims of sex trafficking. Mr. Kehinde currently leads *Help Services for Nigerians in Russia*, a relief organization he created to provide protective services to African victims of human trafficking.

In 2015, Mr. Kehinde worked with law enforcement, religious service providers, and the international community in Moscow to provide assistance to scores of sex trafficking victims. He has personally helped repatriate victims to Nigeria. At his own expense, Mr. Kehinde provided lodging for victims, referred them for medical treatment, and coordinated efforts to secure documentation, as most victims had lost possession of their passports during the course of their exploitation. He has helped more than 240 Nigerian women escape conditions of modern slavery in Russia.

Despite personal threats to his life, Mr. Kehinde intervened on numerous occasions to secure the release of victims from criminal networks. Several international organizations, anti-trafficking NGOs, and survivors of human trafficking have lauded Mr. Kehinde's enormous contribution to efforts to combat human trafficking in Russia.







## Advocacy

### Cyprus

As head of the police anti-trafficking unit in the Republic of Cyprus, **Rita Superman** has dedicated

herself to the fight against human trafficking for the past 10 years. Under her leadership, the anti-trafficking unit has grown exponentially. In addition, the scope of its activity has expanded from primarily desk work to training law enforcement, planning and carrying out police operations and investigations, identifying victims of trafficking and supporting them during trials, and working closely with public prosecutors to ensure successful prosecutions.

A trafficking survivor's story highlights Ms. Superman's extraordinary devotion to her work. In 2007, a young Moldovan woman landed in Cyprus believing she had received a scholarship to study accounting. Upon arrival, she was forced into sex trafficking at a cabaret, and was only freed five months later during a police raid. The young woman wanted to testify against her former traffickers, but was intimidated by death threats. She credits Ms. Superman for giving her the courage to testify. During the 20-month-long trial, Ms. Superman personally made sure she was safe, frequently escorting her from one location to another.

Due to her tireless efforts, Ms. Superman has gained the trust of NGOs in Cyprus fighting against human trafficking, and of individual victims who regularly reach out to her even after a case has concluded.



### Nepal

Superintendent of Police **Kiran Bajracharya**, District Chief of the Bhaktapur District Police Of-

fice in Nepal, has worked persistently to investigate crimes against women and children, including human trafficking. SP Bajracharya has led efforts to identify trafficking victims at local hotels and restaurants; developed a training manual for junior officers on investigating crimes against women and children; and worked to ensure that human rights standards, police ethics, and gender equality are integrated into all police curricula and training programs.

Between 2013 and 2015, SP Bajracharya served as Superintendent in the Central Investigation Bureau, where she focused on investigating organized transnational crime and initiated at least 14 human trafficking cases, an increase from just one case in prior years. These cases resulted in numerous arrests, prosecutions, and convictions, including the arrest of 10 criminal gang members.

In her current role as District Police Chief, SP Bajracharya continues to lead on human trafficking. She gives orientation and awareness training to women working in local brick kilns on the risks of modern slavery; has set up checkpoints to inspect buses carrying individuals who may be trafficking victims; and has received the Prabal Jansewa Shree' medal for outstanding performance as a District Police Chief of Bhaktapur District by the President of Nepal.



### Pakistan

**Syeda Ghulam Fatima** is the General Secretary of the Bonded Labour Liberation Front Pakistan (BLLF)

and a courageous human rights activist. She has long campaigned for workers' rights in Pakistan and, in particular, for the end of bonded labor in brick kilns and factories. Alongside her husband, Ms. Ghulam Fatima founded and runs the Freedom Campus for Bonded Labour, a center in Lahore that provides care and legal services to victims of forced labor.

Ms. Ghulam Fatima has helped free more than 80,000 bonded laborers in Pakistan, including those working in brick kilns, agriculture, and the carpet industry, often by personally organizing and carrying out their release. Under her leadership, BLLF provides legal aid, shelter, protection, and a way back into society for survivors of forced labor. Ms. Ghulam Fatima has helped train hundreds of women to enable them to find new livelihoods for themselves and their families, and has been a tireless advocate for legislation and government action to protect victims of human trafficking.

Ms. Ghulam Fatima serves as a voice for the estimated 2.6 million Pakistanis, who work in debt bondage, bringing national and international attention to their plight. She has persisted in her activism despite being threatened and attacked by those who oppose her work.

**Heroes:** <http://www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/2016/258692.htm>



For more information about current and past TIP Report Heroes, including how to connect with them, visit the TTIP Report Heroes Global Network at <http://www.tipheroes.org>



**Toll-Free 24/7 Hotline**  
**National Human Trafficking**  
**Resource Center**  
**1.888.3737.888**  
**Text 'Help' at: BeFree**  
**(233733)**

*Action*

## Global Law Enforcement Data

| Year | Prosecutions  | Convictions | Victims Identified | New or Amended Legislation |
|------|---------------|-------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| 2008 | 5,212 (312)   | 2,983 (104) | 30,961             | 26                         |
| 2009 | 5,606 (432)   | 4,166 (335) | 49,105             | 33                         |
| 2010 | 6,017 (607)   | 3,619 (237) | 33,113             | 17                         |
| 2011 | 7,909 (456)   | 3,969 (278) | 42,291<br>(15,205) | 15                         |
| 2012 | 7,705 (1,153) | 4,746 (518) | 46,570<br>(17,368) | 21                         |
| 2013 | 9,460 (1,199) | 5,776 (470) | 44,758<br>(10,603) | 58                         |
| 2014 | 10,051 (418)  | 4,443 (216) | 44,462<br>(11,438) | 20                         |
| 2015 | 18,930 (857)  | 6,609 (456) | 77,823<br>(14,262) | 30                         |

The above statistics are estimates only, given the lack of uniformity in national reporting structures. The numbers in parentheses are those of labor trafficking prosecutions, convictions, and victims identified.

On 350 pages of the TIP Report one can find detailed information on each of the 188 countries ranked. After an overview specifics are given on how each country handles prosecution, protection, prevention, and offers recommendations for further action . (<http://www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/2016/258694.htm>)

## Healing Vicarious Trauma

Related trauma can significantly affect the physical and emotional well-being of the professionals who assist and care for trafficking victims. This vicarious trauma, also referred to as '*compassion fatigue*' or '*secondary traumatic stress*,' refers to the negative reactions that can occur when professionals repeatedly witness or hear about victims' difficult experiences of trauma, violence, and abuse.

The signs of vicarious trauma resemble post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and can include emotional, behavioral, and physical symptoms, such as anxiety, depression, disturbed sleep, change in appetite, irritability, nightmares, loss of empathy, and numbness.

Direct service providers, social workers, shelter staff, law enforcement officials, prosecutors, interpreters, and others involved in various aspects of providing care to a victim or handling a trafficking case, are especially vulnerable to experiencing vicarious trauma.

To minimize the risk of vicarious trauma, it is important for anti-trafficking professionals to take steps to develop self-awareness and establish healthy coping mechanisms, including organizational policies and individual self-care strategies. A few strategies include:

### Informative Web Sites: (Each contains information related to human trafficking)

#### 2016 TIP Report

<http://www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/2016/index.htm>

#### TIP Fact Sheets 2016

- International Programs to Combat Trafficking in Persons
- Challenges in Protecting Vulnerable Populations
  - Human Trafficking Protection Checklist
- Human Trafficking in Conflict Zones
- Office to Monitor & Combat Trafficking in Persons: An Overview
  - Protecting Victims From Wrongful Prosecution and Further Victimization
    - The 3Ps: Prevention, Protection, Prosecution
      - Vicarious Trauma
- What is Trafficking in Persons?  
<http://www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/fs/2016/>

- Develop self-care and stress management strategies, e.g., exercise, build a strong social or community network, practice relaxation techniques, make time for extracurricular activities, etc.
- Establish formal support structures at work.
- Seek out support among peers in other organizations.
- Talk with a mental health professional (individual and group counseling).
- Establish professional boundaries.
- Participate in capacity building and training.  
<http://www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/2016/258689.htm>

**Stop Trafficking!** is dedicated exclusively to fostering an exchange of information among religious congregations, their friends and collaborating organizations, working to eliminate all forms of trafficking of human beings.

Use the following web address to access back issues of *Stop Trafficking!* <http://www.stopenslavement.org/archives.htm>

To contribute information, or make requests to be on the mailing list, please contact: [jeansds2010@yahoo.com](mailto:jeansds2010@yahoo.com)  
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