Parliamentary Assembly
Assemblée parlementaire
https://pace.coe.int

COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Doc. 12411
14 October 2010

Trafficking of migrant workers for forced labour: time for a closer look

Motion for a resolution
tabled by Mr John GREENWAY and other members of the Assembly

This motion has not been discussed in the Assembly and commits only those who have signed it

---

Human trafficking is the fastest growing form of organised crime and is placed third behind narcotics and arms trafficking as the largest transnational crime profit source.

Trafficking and smuggling for labour exploitation purposes has become a global pandemic, affecting almost every country whether as a source, a transit or a destination country. Estimates count at least 2.4 million trafficked people, half of them are minors. Yet there are only a few thousands convictions of traffickers every year.

The issue of trafficking for sexual exploitation is currently high on the political agenda. However, other forms of trafficking for labour exploitation purposes are increasingly coming in the forefront. We are only now beginning to scratch the surface of smuggling and trafficking for exploitation in areas such as domestic service, agriculture, sweatshops or construction.

Traffickers take advantage of the ignorance of migrant workers and the many constraints they have to face. The core features of trafficking are always the same: control and exploitation of a human being by use of force, threats or the vulnerability of the victim.

Member states should invest more resources in fighting against smuggling and trafficking for labour exploitation purposes. Indeed, most of the victims are never identified and thus never receive justice. Unfortunately, the more resources you allocate, the more victims you find.

Considering the huge need for information, statistics and research on this subject, the Parliamentary Assembly should prepare a report on this important issue.

Signed (see overleaf)

Signed[1]*:*

GREENWAY John, United Kingdom
ANDERSON Donald, United Kingdom, SOC
BEMELMANS-VIDEC Marie-Louise, Netherlands, EPP/CD
CHOPE Christopher, United Kingdom, EDG
CORLĂŢEAN Titus, Romania, SOC
DÍAZ TEJERA Arcadio, Spain, SOC
GIRARDIN Annick, France, SOC
GROTH Annette, Germany, UEL
KOSZORÚS László, Hungary, EPP/CD
KÜHNEL Franz Eduard, Austria, EPP/CD
LAAKSO Jaakko, Finland, UEL
LINDBLAD Göran, Sweden, EPP/CD
MEMECAN Nursuna, Turkey, ALDE
POURBAIX-LUNDIN Marietta, de, Sweden, EPP/CD
POURGOURIDES Christos, Cyprus, EPP/CD
SANTINI Giacomo, Italy, EPP/CD
SASI Kimmo, Finland, EPP/CD
TINDEMANS Elke, Belgium
TÜRKÖNE Özlem, Turkey, EPP/CD
VAKSDAL Øyvind, Norway, EDG
WOHLWEND Renate, Liechtenstein, EPP/CD
ZERNOVSKI Andrej, "The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia", ALDE

1. ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe
EDG: European Democrat Group
EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party
SOC: Socialist Group
UEL: Group of the Unified European Left