Report on the work of Interdepartmental Working Group for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings 2010

Ljubljana, April 2011
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Summary

Legislative framework – The adoption of the Council's Framework Decision followed by the Directive on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings, and protecting victims (repealing Framework Decision 2002/629/JHA) is an important milestone in the EU legislation. This document is presently one of the most debated documents reflecting the actual potential of EU Member States to take action against THB.

Prevention – Continuity and gradual enhancement of prevention activities for greater awareness of the public, the professional community and the target population (on-going at the time of reporting). E-materials, printed publications, training for professionals, projects targeting elementary and secondary school students who may potentially become victims of trafficking were the main prevention tools used.

Prosecution – As in previous years, the 2010 report shows criminal offences of trafficking in human beings dealt with by the police and prosecutors. A new feature in recording those cases was introduced based on GRETA's regulations and the setting up of control mechanisms as defined in the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings. A total of 12 proceedings for crimes of trafficking were initiated under Articles 113 (Trafficking in Human Beings), 122 (Enslavement) and 175 (Presenting Persons for Prostitution) of the Penal Code. In the outcome, 10 convictions for the above crimes were secured, however, some of these were the result of investigations conducted in previous years.

Assistance to and protection of trafficked victims – Both urgent accommodation and safe house assistance programmes were implemented. The Government allocated a little less than €100,000 for assistance and protection. Thirty-three (33) victims/aggrieved individuals affected by the above trafficking crimes were reported. Of those, the majority were females who were sexually exploited or forced to provide sexual services. Under the PATS project, 10 interviews with asylum seekers as potential trafficking victims were carried out. Society Kljuc continued assisting two persons involved in the (re)integration programme.

Supporting activities comprise of a full range of activities enabling a holistic approach to combating trafficking in human beings (THB) in Slovenia. Active participation at international and national events are of major importance. It should be emphasized that Slovenia often takes initiatives in assistance and cooperation programmes in SE Europe. To better achieve these goals Slovenia submitted its project on establishing joint investigation teams for combating THB in the SEE region in a response to the European Commission's tender. The project received support from regional interior ministers at the ministerial conference held in October 2010, and was approved by the EC.

Other THB-related issues – With THB being a multifaceted phenomenon related to violation of human rights, it has become customary for these reports over the last years to summarize issues of illegal migration, trafficking with children, internet child pornography and unaccompanied minors.
**Introduction**

In accordance with Resolution No. 240-05/2003-1 of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia as of 18 December 2003 the Interdepartmental Working Group for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings (IWG) is obliged to report on its activities for 2010.


The National Coordinator convened five IWG meetings (10 March, 7 May, 7 July, 8 October, 9 December) and three meetings of the core expert group for resolving concrete cases. Consultations of the core expert group have proven a very successful tool for resolving concrete trafficking-related issues that require immediate action. In the outcome of these meetings, resolutions containing guidance for different line ministries were distributed to IWG members.

Recognizing the need for a holistic approach in managing THB issues from the perspectives of prevention, prosecution and assistance to victims, these topics of action were defined in the 2010–2011 Action Plan adopted by the Government in January 2010 (Resolution No. 23100-4/2009/3 of 7 March 2010). This year’s report reflects the structure of the above document, providing implementation feedback by chapters.

The holistic approach means that a whole range of supporting and coordination activities were taking place in addition to those defined in the Action Plan. These were most often related to THB information provided to various international organisations and other activities stressing THB issues within other forums.

The 2010 report also adopts a new method of statistical screening of THB cases as defined by GRETA control mechanism, the Council of Europe Convention on Action against THB. Any future registration of THB cases will comply with those requirements.
I. Legislative framework

The National Assembly, i.e. its two competent committees, considered a draft position of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia on the Council's proposal for a Framework Decision on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings, and protecting victims, repealing Framework Decision 2002/629/JHA. The document had been submitted for consideration by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia in accordance with the Act on Cooperation between the National Assembly and the Government in EU Affairs.

The Directive forms part of a whole stream of comprehensive actions taken against trafficking, involving third countries in EU's global address of THB. The Directive is centred around pursuing actions in non-EU countries of origin, aiming in particular at raising awareness, reducing vulnerability, supporting and assisting victims, and supporting countries to develop appropriate anti-trafficking legislation. The Directive pays particular attention to the specific gender-related feature of trafficking, because women and men are often trafficked for completely different purposes. The Directive also facilitates more active cooperation in cross-border situations between the competent law enforcement, greater involvement of Europol and Eurojust, and the establishment of JITs. The Directive adopts an integrated and holistic approach based on human rights, and also integrates the principles contained in directives on illegal immigration (2004/81/EC and 2009/52/EC). More rigorous prevention, prosecution and protection of victims' rights, are major objectives of this Direction. The document also adopts a broader understanding of various forms of exploitation so that each of them could be tackled with the most appropriate means. The phenomenon of trafficking in human beings is now broader and includes additional forms of exploitation such as begging, exploitation of criminal activities (pick-pocketing, shop-lifting, drug dealing etc.), and also covers the removal of organs for the purposes of organ trafficking or illegitimate child adoption and forced marriage.

The IWG took note of the Directive and confirmed it has embraced the latest trafficking trends and that it is valuable for the EU area.

However, there are still insufficient legislative arrangements related to health care for victims who have no health insurance once they are handed over to NGOs and humanitarian organisations. By virtue of internationally binding documents, these victims are entitled to emergency medical service which is a minimum standard that has failed to address the actual health care needs of trafficked victims. In the 2010–2011 Action Plan the IWG took on the task of exploring these concerns and proposing a systemic solution. As the IWG failed to address this issue in 2010, it will commit itself to implement it in 2011.
II. Prevention

Prevention is one of the basic objectives of all efforts aimed at combating trafficking in human beings in Slovenia. It is primarily centred on raising awareness of the public at large and reducing a demand for services provided by victims of trafficking. Prevention also includes training for anti-trafficking experts, and most importantly, focuses on raising awareness of the targeted groups, i.e. potential victims of trafficking.

Research is also within the remit of prevention. It mainly focuses on exploring forms of trafficking and enhancing control mechanisms, either those of law enforcement and prosecution or other anti-trafficking institutions.

Raising awareness among the public at large

Awareness raising activities on THB issues were mainly coordinated by the Government Communication Office. All awareness raising work as envisaged in the IWG's Action Plan was carried out. The outcomes are presented below.

- 18 October – The EU Anti-Trafficking Day

The Government Communication Office financed and coordinated a consultation session on “Labour exploitation, forced labour and potential links to trafficking in human beings” held on 22 October 2010 in Centre Europe, Ljubljana. The event was organised to celebrate the EU Anti-Trafficking Day. It was attended by Ms Jasmina Rakita from the Labour Inspectorate, Ms Savica Pureber from the Supreme State Prosecutor's Office, Mr Franci Zlatar from the Slovenian Philantrophy, Mr Stojan Belšak from the General Police Directorate, Mr Peter Pavlin from the Ministry of Justice, Mr Jurij Popov from the Slovene Association of Journalists, and Mr Sandi Ćurin, National Coordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings. The event was attended by 50 people and was broadcast live over the Internet.

- Web site

Both at the Ministry's and Police's home pages anonymous e-reporting of trafficking in human beings has been made possible.

In 2010, the Government Communication Office regularly updated the contents of the web site presenting trafficking in human beings in the Slovenian and English languages. Information on IWG activities is available at www.vlada.si/delo_vlade/projekti/boj_trgovina_z_ljudmi where its core documents, international documents, research and studies are published. The web site is linked to the anonymous e-reporting application and relevant NGO sites. In 2010, a total of 6,776 and 614 visitors were recorded at the Slovenian and English web sites, respectively.

Advertising was provided on the web page www.najdi.si. The banner "Let's act against trafficking in human beings" is displayed interchangeably with the logos and contact numbers of organisations providing assistance to victims. Contextual advertising is connected with keyword search results (sex, prostitution, trafficking in human beings, etc.), and through the advertisements a connection with the IWG web page is established. The counter recorded over 82,000 displays. Between 18 and 22 October the advertisement on the www.najdi.si browser was displayed 300,000 times.

- The media

The data show that the Slovenian media released over 50 features on trafficking in human beings. In all of them, it is possible to notice a clear trend in shifting the focus of reporting from prostitution to the status of foreign labour, especially that of construction workers. Roughly half of those features reported on ruthless exploitation of labour force and substandard housing conditions they live in, describing their situation as modern-day slavery. Some media attention went to IGW and NGO activities, and crime detection and prevention related to trafficking in persons. Reporting intensified around events such as the press conference marking the official release of IWG's annual report or detection of new trafficking cases. Other players also regularly informed the public of their activities through the media.

A lot of media reported about trafficking in persons during the activist days against violence against women between 25 November and 10 December with Society Kljuc as the main proponent. In November, Caritas Slovenia introduced its project Care for Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings.

Raising awareness of the target population

By virtue of a public tender for co-financing of EU-related information, communication, and education activities of NGOs, the Government Communication Office co-funded two projects aimed at awareness raising of the youth, i.e. the Violet Project – How to avoid the traps of trafficking, and the Youth against Trafficking in Human Beings Project. The projects implemented by Society Kljuc were worth €10,000.

The Violet was also financially supported by the Municipality of Ljubljana. It covered a total of 1,794 elementary and secondary school students. The project also worked with 300 parents. Society Kljuc carried out the
In accordance with the annual police training programme, a seminar was organised on 18 and 19 May for police officers, prosecutors, Caritas Slovenia and Society 7www.karitas.si 7 which it financed from its own resources originating from its profitable activities. It involved 300-some children aged 10 from around Slovenia.

Caritas Slovenia published information and prevention materials aimed at raising awareness of the dangers of trafficking in persons among the youth and of those working with the youth. The brochure highlights potential critical points that may lure the youth into trafficking, informs them of consequences, and assistance they can seek if they encounter trafficking practice. The brochure has been designed to attract youngsters. It was adapted to suit the mindset of the computer/virtual generation. With a circulation of 25,000, the brochure formed part of the Care for Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings – Crisis Accommodation Project and was published in with the help of the Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs. It was disseminated to 478 elementary schools, 160 secondary schools, 24 student accommodation facilities, 62 social work centres, 59 job centres, 62 youth centres, 21 crisis centres, safe houses and maternity homes, 20 youth homes, education institutions and youth/minor housing groups, 5,000 Caritas counsellors and 99 organisations and interest associations working with the youth. Organisations’ feedback was very good. They were interested in receiving more printed materials and other aids for workshops to enhance their THB-related awareness raising capacities.

On the occasion of publishing the brochure the Caritas web site featuring trafficking in human beings at www.karitas.si was updated. Information advising the youth on how to act preventively in case of risk-related behaviour was added.

At University of Maribor’s Faculty of Criminal Justice and Security, second and third grade students were delivered lectures on trafficking in human beings. Lectures were carried out by the National Anti-Trafficking Coordinator. The PATS Programme provides informative and prevention-based consultations with asylum seekers in the Asylum Home of the Ministry of the Interior. In 2010, ten consultations took place (read more about PATS in Chapter IV, Assistance to victims of trafficking in human beings).

Raising awareness of and training for the professional community

In accordance with the annual police training programme, a seminar was organised on 18 and 19 May for police officers, prosecutors, Caritas Slovenia and Society Kljuc at the Police Training Centre in Gotenica. The seminar focused on defining elements of exploitation in trafficking. On the first day, practical cases were presented with a primary focus on identifying problems that criminal police officers, state prosecutors and NGO workers had to deal with during investigation, and in the post-investigation and assistance phases, respectively. Day two was dedicated to good practice examples that have proven valuable abroad with a view to raising participants’ awareness of new trafficking forms and informing them of the anti-trafficking solutions developed by other countries. The training was theoretical, but also involved practical case studies presented by criminal police officers and prosecutors. In a discussion on practical cases two issues of exploitation were stressed: labour exploitation and trafficking in children. The training had a positive impact on the ensuing investigations of the criminal police and improved certain aspects of providing assistance to victims of trafficking.

At the annual consultation of administrative units held in May 2010, the National Coordinator and a police representative delivered a lecture on the role of civil servants in the process of granting status to trafficked victims.

The National Coordinator held a lecture at the annual consultation of the Inspectorate of the Republic of Slovenia on the subject of the multifaceted phenomenon of trafficking in persons for labour exploitation. The consultation was held in Maribor, in December 2010, and was attended by all labour inspectors in Slovenia.

In 2010, collective preparation for diplomats to be posted at diplomatic and consular missions abroad included information and awareness raising contents related to trafficking in human being to train the consular staff in recognizing potential trafficking cases during the procedure of issuing visas. Brochures “Traps of trafficking in human beings – You may also be lured” published by Society Kljuc in the Slovenian and English languages were submitted to the majority of diplomatic and consular missions of the Republic of Slovenia abroad.

In February 2010, the National Education Institution of the Republic of Slovenia organised a seminar for teachers Drugs and violence – action and prevention. The seminar gave a special focus on trafficking in human beings which was presented by the National Coordinator in a lecture. The participants were elementary school teachers, secondary school professors, counsellors and educators in students’ residence facilities. Such training is meant to stimulate educators to include trafficking issues in their work.

As part of the Recognizing and preventing violence programme financed by the Ministry of Education and Society Kljuc, lectures on trafficking in human beings were delivered to employees of 14 elementary and secondary schools across Slovenia. The lectures lasted from 4 to 8 pedagogical hours. A total of 450 educators participated.

At the conference dedicated to security and organised in June 2010 by the Faculty of Criminal Justice and Security, the National Coordinator presented trafficking in human beings for labour exploitation.
In 2010, Caritas Slovenia trained its counsellors in identification of trafficked victims and post-traumatic stress disorder. The participants improved their skills of handling trafficked victims who are also drug addicts. Previous experience of accommodating a trafficked victim/drug addict was theoretically analysed at this session. This particular case also illustrated an increase in the number of victims/drug addicts – a trend to which Caritas Slovenia has been pointing out regularly.

In June 2010, Caritas Slovenia organised an in-house course led by a social worker specialized in the fields of children's rights protection, guardianship, role and competencies of social work centres and NGOs’ role. The participants were given an opportunity to define the most important issues related to assistance to trafficked children. The session continued with translators, interpreters and teams of experts exchanging their experience. The main focus was on trafficking issues, treatment of victims, protection of the victim's identity etc.

In October 2010, Caritas Slovenia organised an international seminar on trafficking in children in Podljubelj, Slovenia. As there existed a need to hold an international seminar, the organiser brought together the experience of international experts to see whether strategies for addressing this line of trafficking can be translated into practice of NGOs and other humanitarian organisations in Slovenia. The majority of participants were Caritas volunteers who are in touch with the young and other risk groups on a daily basis as part of their professional work (school counsellors, psychologists, social workers, teachers, therapists). Also attending the seminar were two representatives of the Jesuit Refugee Service in Slovenia, and a few representatives of public institutions and social work centres.

**Tightening control mechanisms related to the issue of work permits**

Following the initiative of the National Coordinator, the Inspectorate of the Republic of Slovenia joined the activities of the IWG and appointed their own representative.

An overview of work permit issuing processes was prepared for 2010, and measures were taken in regard to those permits issued for risk-related professions (bar dancers, construction and season workers).

Third-country nationals can get employment in Slovenia in line with the Employment and Work of Aliens Act and the relevant derived legislation. Each year the Government of the Republic of Slovenia adopts a decree laying down work permit quotas to limit the number of aliens on labour market.

Aliens subject to provisions of this Act may seek employment or work in Slovenia if they have acquired a work permit and if the entity responsible for registering such workers has properly registered an alien. A work permit is a document enabling a domestic or foreign employer to enter into an employment contract or work contract or any other arrangement with the alien. It is issued in the form of a personal work permit, an employment permit or a work authorisation.

In 2010, the quota limit was 12,000 work permits, representing a decrease of 50% compared to the 2009 quota. At the end of 2009, only 42.3% of the quota was filled (10,152 permits were issued).

Of the 2010 quota limit of 12,000 work permits, 500 were intended for seasonal workers. However, with the implementation of the decree limiting employment and work of aliens (effective as of 20 February 2010) work permits for seasonal workers were abandoned. As a result, only 171 work permits for seasonal works (of the total 500) were issued in 2010. Of these, 96 were issued for the construction industry and 75 for the forestry and agricultural sectors. Since 20 February 2010 no seasonal work permits have been issued for the catering and tourism sectors.

The following seasonal work permit data for 2008, 2009 and 2010 were provided by the Employment Service of the Republic of Slovenia.

**Table 1: Seasonal work permits in 2010**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>9,332</td>
<td>1,615</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture, Forestry</td>
<td>1,416</td>
<td>1,255</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catering, Tourism</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>10,900</td>
<td>2,947</td>
<td>149</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 2010, a decree limiting and prohibiting employment of aliens reduced employment opportunities in adult entertainment and artistic shows organised in night clubs for aliens residing in countries with the no-visa regime.
in terms of entering Slovenia as well as those countries that have concluded visa facilitation agreements with the EU. To facilitate supervision the decree limited such shows to a single location defined by the employee in its application for work permit. This is why the number of these work permits fell from 678 in 2009 to 674 in 2010.

Because of a decline in labour demand and the implementation of state policies, there were less work permits and authorisations issued, resulting in the under-filled quota. In 2009, a total of 58,750 work permits were issued. In 2010, only 40,688 work permits were issued (down 18.06% on the previous year). Construction workers were issued with 12,623 permits in 2010, which is 16,931 less than in 2009.

According to the proposed amendments of the Employment and Work of Aliens Act, it will be possible to stay a work permit/authorisation procedure until the court renders a final decision if any of the following apply: the competent state authority has submitted notification of filing an indictment against an employer on suspicion that they have committed the criminal offence of exploitation through prostitution, enslavement, trafficking in human beings, violation of labour rights, undeclared employment, or violation of social insurance rights.

| Table 2: Work permits in 2010 issued to bar dancers and construction workers |
|------------------|------|------|------|
|                  | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 |
| Entertainment    |      |      |      |
| Bar dancers      | 937  | 678  | 674  |
| Construction     | 46,568 | 29,554 | 12,623 |
| Total            | 47,505 | 30,232 | 13,297 |

Labour exploitation – which is likely to emerge as one of the purposes of trafficking – is on the increase. Just like other countries Slovenia is experiencing a surge in labour legislation violations due to the global economic crisis. This is especially true in the construction section. In the context of its humanitarian activities, the Slovenian Philanthropy visited residence halls for single persons and liaised with trade unions in their effort to address the problems and reduce the pressure on affected workers.
III. Prosecution

In order to effectively prosecute traffickers, the fight against trafficking in human beings must in addition to the offence of trafficking in human beings under Art. 113 of the Penal Code (Art. 387a) and the criminal offence of enslavement under Art. 122 of the Penal Code (Art. 387) also take into consideration the criminal offence of exploitation through prostitution (Art. 175 of the Penal Code, (Art. 185)). Areas indirectly related to trafficking in human beings are presented at the end of this report.

Police activities

In 2010, the police detected several forms of trafficking in human beings. Most cases were related to sexual and labour exploitation. Among the cases in 2010, two underage persons were processed as potential victims of trafficking. In assisting victims of trafficking, the police connected with Caritas Slovenia and Society Kljuc.

The police investigated 3 (one offence in 2009) criminal offences of trafficking in human beings. Criminal complaints were filed against five suspects (only one in 2009). A total of 10 aggrieved persons/victims (three in 2009) were involved. In addition to trafficking cases for which criminal complaints were filed with the competent state prosecutor's office, the police also dealt with four cases of suspected trafficking (one case in 2009). No enslavement offences were dealt with in 2010 or 2009.

The police processed 11 offences of exploitation through prostitution. Criminal complaints were submitted for 16 suspects. Seventeen (17) aggrieved persons/victims were identified, of whom 8 agreed to collaborate with the law enforcement. Eight (8) reports were submitted to the competent public prosecutor's offices. Investigations into criminal offences of exploitation through prostitution revealed that victims mostly came from Hungary, Dominican Republic, Bulgaria, Slovakia, Slovenia and Ukraine.

State prosecutors' activities

The good practice of assigning trafficking cases, through annual work plans, to appointed state prosecutors at district state prosecutor's offices and the special division of state prosecutors for the prosecution of organised crime continued in 2010. District state prosecutors regularly cooperated with the appointed supreme state prosecutor, intensifying their contacts depending on the complexity of each case. Through the efforts demonstrated by district state prosecutors, the above strategy yielded positive results. Although prosecutors deal with a limited number of such criminal cases, in 2010 they successfully completed several pre-trial and criminal proceedings; some judgements became final.

District state prosecutors and prosecutors of the special division for the prosecution of organised crime submitted 4 criminal complaints against 5 defendants for the criminal offence of trafficking in human beings. One criminal complaint against one defendant was dismissed; investigation was ordered for 5 defendants and charges were filed against 6 persons.

Better knowledge of the criminal offence of trafficking in human beings coupled with the active engagement of state prosecutors in the pre-trial and trial phases of criminal proceedings contributed to more careful consideration of criminal complaints and police reports. This was reflected in a concrete decision where criminal proceedings were instituted against a defendant in whose conduct no elements of a criminal offence of trafficking were identified. Offenders are equally represented by both males and females whose relationship may vary (a female victim assumes the role of offender in association with the male offender; spousal relationship, mother and son). Last year, for the first time ever, a police officer was found to be involved in the commission of an offence as an accomplice. Criminal proceedings were instituted against him by the specialized division.

All players involved in criminal proceedings have grown more aware of the complex nature of the offence of trafficking in human beings. With this awareness has come the practice of courts to agree with prosecutors' motions for detention when legal conditions apply.

Two (2) defendants were convicted for the act of committing the criminal offences of trafficking in human beings and exploitation through prostitution, and sentenced to imprisonment (one for a term of 3 years and the other for a term of 16 months). The court passed a judgement recognising two defendants guilty as charged for enslavement. They were released on probation; one was sentenced to 18 months of imprisonment subject to 3-year probation term and payment of pecuniary advantage, and the other was sentenced to 22 months of imprisonment subject to 2-year probation term. By the end of 2010 the State Prosecutor's Office has not yet
received a certified copy of the judgement in this case and, as a result, no decision as to the lodging of an appeal has been taken.

In 2010 another judgement has become final sentencing two defendants for the act of committing the criminal offence of trafficking in human beings. One defendant was sentenced to imprisonment for a term of 16 months while the other was sentenced to imprisonment for a term of 24 months while two fines were imposed and pecuniary advantage forfeited as accessory sentences.

The year 2010 was again marked by a trend according to which a certain number of pre-trial and criminal proceedings proving that offenders’ conduct included elements of the criminal offence of trafficking in human beings developed towards prosecution of the crime of exploitation through prostitution rather than trafficking in persons. This is due to two major factors; i.e. problems related to collection of evidence and victim identification. Although fully aware of the significance of prosecuting offenders for trafficking in human beings, state prosecutors still, yet not as frequently as before, tend to prosecute traffickers for other trafficking-related crimes because those are easier to prove and more likely to result in sentencing. This is confirmed by the 2010 data showing that state prosecutors submitted 9 criminal complaints against 12 persons for exploitation through prostitution. Some of the suspects were reported both for exploitation through prostitution and trafficking in human beings. Criminal complaints against 3 defendants were dismissed; investigation was ordered for 4 defendants and charges were filed against 4 persons. The cases dating back several years were resolved and 6 defendants were sentenced to imprisonment by courts of first instance (i.e. terms of 16 months to 48 months in prison plus accessory sentences). Three sentences of imprisonment imposed on 3 defendants in previous years became final in 2010.

In 2010, for the first time ever, during a pre-trial phase of proceedings prosecutors and law enforcers were dealing with trafficking for labour exploitation in the construction industry. It became obvious that the legal elements of forced labour will be difficult to prove in court. This is so because it is difficult to draw a line between labour law violation and forced labour; gathering evidence supporting the existence of forced labour is also highly demanding. At this point sensitivity to fundamental human rights, freedom and dignity is of ultimate importance.

Table 3: Criminal proceedings and sanctions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Punishment for trafficking in human beings</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No. of criminal proceedings for criminal offences (trafficking in human beings, enslavement; exploitation through prostitution)</td>
<td>(5* ; 0 ; 5*+7*) 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of convictions for criminal offences (trafficking in human beings, enslavement; exploitation through prostitution)</td>
<td>(2 ; 2 ; 6) 10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Punishment for exploitation of services of a victim</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No. of convictions in regard to exploitation of services of a victim of trafficking</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sanctions and measures</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No. of convictions for criminal offences of trafficking in human beings in regard to deprivation of liberty</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term of imprisonment in regard to deprivation of liberty:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– minimum term</td>
<td>1 to 4 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– maximum term</td>
<td>3 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of court decisions imposing forfeiture of property</td>
<td>3 + accessory sentence</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Five persons were prosecuted for both trafficking in human beings and presenting persons for prostitution*
IV. Assistance and protection

Care for Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings Project

- Crisis Accommodation Programme
In 2009, the Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs published a public tender worth € 45,000 per year for the selection of an operator of the Care for Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings - Crisis Accommodation to be implemented in 2010 and 2011. Caritas Slovenia was selected as best bidder. The Project puts in place initial assistance to victims of trafficking in their physical, psychological and social recovery when they are urgently removed from the threatening situation.

In 2010, Caritas Slovenia accommodated one person who was assisted in returning to the country of origin. Three potential victims of trafficking were assisted financially, and one person reported as a trafficked victim in 2006 was supported in information and in liaise with the competent institutions. A total of 2 days of accommodation were provided.

As part of the project, Caritas Slovenia published an information and prevention leaflet aimed at raising awareness among young people of the dangers and traps of trafficking in persons. In 2010, Caritas Slovenia provided a 24/7 phone call service at 031-470-151. Professionally trained counsellors and volunteers were available for counselling and assistance at all times.

Cases in point:
On 19 April 2010 the police officer on duty contacted the project head and a counsellor and informed them of the arrival of a large number of foreign nationals requiring accommodation. A whole team of experts was engaged (including interpreters, counsellors etc.), but no accommodation was provided because the reports were withdrawn.

10. On 10 June 2010 a national of Ukraine, who had been staying with Caritas Slovenia between 13 July and 4 August 2006, placed a telephone call. She had been summoned by court and she requested information about the necessity of responding to the invitation or the possibility of excusing herself. After further inquiries, the Criminal Police Directorate notified the victim that her presence in court was not absolutely necessary.

On 17 August 2010, the project head and the counsellor in charge were informed of a possible crisis accommodation case involving a woman. Although she would have been accommodated immediately upon establishing her identity and receiving identity documents, this never happened.

Between 26 and 27 August 2010 a 29-year old Czech national was referred to Caritas by the police. Her psychosocial and material needs were taken care of, and she was assisted in reclaiming her property. Although believed to be two months pregnant, she refused any medical treatment. Caritas assisted her in returning back home through the Prague-based organisation La Strada that helps victims of trafficking in human beings. La Strada was contacted for the purpose of resolving the case of this particular victim.

14. 9. On 14 September 2010 Caritas Slovenia, in cooperation with the Hungarian embassy in Slovenia, provided material support to a family of three Hungarian nationals, potential victims of trafficking whose asylum applications were rejected.

On 21 December 2010 the police officer on duty informed a Caritas counsellor that the police were about to enquire night club owners and, quite possibly, five women from Ukraine and the Dominican Republic. A team of experts, including interpreters for the Russian, Ukrainian and Spanish languages, and volunteers were requested to stand by in this case. Two days later the criminal police informed the counsellor managing this case that no accommodation would be needed.

The Care for Victims Project helped Caritas Slovenia establish contacts with new translators and interpreters. Caritas is currently able to provide interpretation into 20 languages.

- Safe Housing Programme
In 2009, the Ministry of the Interior published a public tender worth €40,000 per year for the selection of an operator of the Care for Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings – Safe Housing to be implemented in 2010 and 2011.

In 2010, the operator Society Kljuc accommodated two persons on a long-term basis. A foreign female national resided at Kljuc housing facility throughout the year while the applicant for international protection stayed there 7 months. The a/m foreign national was actually the first accommodated victim who testified in court and was granted a temporary residence permit by the competent administrative unit for this purpose. The costs of housing for the two victims actually exceeded the amount allocated for the 2010 projects (€54,798).
The two cases were examples of intensive cooperation with the Ministry of the Interior, the Police and Supreme State Prosecutor's Office, parties to agreements on cooperation in assistance to victims of trafficking. International cooperation with relevant ministries and non-governmental organisations in countries of origin was established and has proven to be essential in exchanging information needed for managing certain aspects of users.

As part of the project financed by the Ministry of the Interior, Society Kljuc reprinted information leaflets on trafficking in human beings and distributed them to the Slovenian consular posts abroad. Many were distributed to the youth, the public at large and members of professional community.

Society Kljuc, the Police and Asylum Home cooperated in identification of potential victims in the case of 7 Romanian nationals and 1 Cuban national. The Aliens Centre requested Society Kljuc to contact a Bulgarian NGO for assistance in repatriation of Bulgarian nationals.

Concerning the TV programme Preverjeno featuring a 13-year old girl and an adult man whose marriage was not objected by the Ljubljana Social Work Centre which confirmed the girl's maturity for marriage and refused to interfere with the case, Society Kljuc filed a criminal complaint against the competent entity and reported the case to the social inspection and the Commission for the Prevention of Corruption.

The Municipality of Ljubljana continued financing the programme Care for Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings – Crisis Accommodation and Safe Housing, thus enabling Society Kljuc to establish contacts with victims' families, to get involved in searching for missing persons, to provide short-term accommodation to victims, to supervise the employees and deliver a series of lectures and awareness raising campaigns focusing on traps of trafficking in human beings.

Table 4: Victims of trafficking in human beings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Childre n</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Victim identification</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of victims identified in a year</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forms of exploitation in regard to identified victims:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– sexual abuse</td>
<td>31</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– forced labour or services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– slavery or slavery-like practices</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– servitude</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– removal of body organs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– other</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of persons who are believed to be victims according to reasonable suspicion of the authorities:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– trafficking in human beings at the national level</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– trafficking in human beings at the supranational level</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assistance to victims</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of trafficked victims who received assistance in any form</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of trafficked victims who refused assistance</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of sheltered housing for victims of trafficking in Slovenia</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total no. of beds available in shelters for victims of trafficking</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of trafficked victims accommodated in shelters</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Period of recovery and reflection</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of victims (including those reasonably suspected to be victims) who have been granted a period of recovery and reflection</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Residence permit</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of trafficked victims who have been issued with residence permits</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– by virtue of personal circumstances</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– by virtue of collaboration in investigation/criminal proceedings with the competent authorities</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Compensation and legal remedies</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of trafficked victims who received compensation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Compensation granted:
– minimum sum granted to victims (Eur)
– maximum sum granted to victims (Eur)

Repatriation and return of victims
No. of trafficked victims repatriated to Slovenia
No. of trafficked victims returned to other countries from Slovenia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No. of victims originating from</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bosnia and Herzegovina</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulgaria</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romania</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovak Republic</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovenia</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dominican Republic</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Khazakstan</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Trafficked victim data are data about identified victims in the civil context, and almost entirely match the number of identified aggrieved parties/victims who are parties in a criminal proceedings.

Table 5: No. of victims by country of origin

PATS Project

On 17 November 2010 the Ministry of the Interior concluded a two-year contact with the Jesuit Association for Refugees (Contract No. C1711-10-460258) implementing the programme “Introducing mechanisms for the identification of, assistance to and protection of victims of trafficking in human beings and/or sexual violence during the procedure of granting international protection in Slovenia – PATS”. The contract entered into force on December 1, 2010.

The PATS programme is a prevention project tailored specifically to raise awareness of trafficking among applicants requesting international protection in the Republic of Slovenia. The project targets newly arrived applicants for international protection, notably unaccompanied minors and single women. The operator provides information consultations which are carried out through an interpreter in a language the applicant understands.

The operator of the project is available 24/7, guaranteeing consultation services. According to the earlier version of the contract, the operator was obliged to provide consultation within 12 hours of notification by the contracting authority, but this caused problems in terms of recruitment of interpreters. On 21 December 2010 the operator suggested amending the contract and prolonged the term to 36 hours. This proposal was agreed to in 2011. A total of 10 consultations took place in 2010.

Within this period, on four occasions the Asylum Home convened a meeting of the group set up in line with the Agreement on SOPs for the Prevention of Gender-Related and Sexual Violence. In four cases the project operator suspected the individual might be a victim of trafficking. Additional consultations were carried out and the suspicions turned out to be groundless for two persons, while in two cases the applicants had had experience as trafficked victims in country of origin, but no further action was taken as they felt safe at the Asylum Home.

(Re)integration of victims of trafficking in human beings

Society Kijuc continued assisting a 23-year old victim of trafficking who had been staying with Kijuc from 2008. In handling the situations of such persons, who are stateless persons, Kijuc has faced considerable challenges of arranging identification documents, tax numbers, opening bank accounts, registering with the competent employment services and social work centres, which on some occasions resulted in adapting computer software
and records for specific cases, and required a lot of patience, escorting to institutions and a great deal of coordination between all players.

The two beneficiaries residing in the safe facility were given a chance to attend, at no cost, a Slovenian language course organised by the Cene Stupar Centre for Continuing Education. One of them enrolled in a free of charge secondary school programme with the British International School of Ljubljana while the other participated in a work rehabilitation programme at a hairdresser's for which she received payment.

Again, international cooperation has turned out to be the key element in handling the social situation and the psychological and social recovery of persons in the (re)integration programme. Contacts were established with families and other relevant individuals, banks and other institutions in regard to debt repayment, local governmental and non-governmental organisations who assisted in gathering the right documents and certificates, and reported on the current situation in the local environment where the two persons used to reside. Within the (re)integration project Society Kljuc works in tandem with partners of those affected, various individuals and families who are willing to assist Kljuc clients in settling their lives.
V. Cooperation in regional and international organisations

In the context of the Universal Periodic Review on human rights, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs received and accepted 19 recommendations in regard to trafficking in human beings in February 2010.

In its annual Trafficking in Persons Report outlining the situation across the world, the U. S. State Department again placed Slovenia in the first group of countries attaining highest level of standards in combating trafficking in persons according to the 2010 criteria. The National Coordinator was in regular contact with the U. S. Embassy in Slovenia, providing assistance in compiling the report.

In August 2010, the UN General Assembly adopted a Global Action Plan for the Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings to facilitate the implementation of the existing elements and to promote universal ratification of the UN Convention against Organised Crime and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children. With the Global Action Plan UN Member States enforce their commitments to prevent and combat trafficking in persons. The Plan established a special Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings to which, of all Member States, only Austria and Luxemburg have contributed thus far.

Regional ministerial conference "Brdo Process"

By the initiative of the Ministry of the Interior, trafficking in human beings featured high on the agenda of the 10th Regional ministerial conference on illegal migration, organised crime, corruption and terrorism held on October 20, 2010, at the Congress Centre at Brdo near Kranj, Slovenia. Interior ministers of the Brdo Process countries agreed that more effective measures are needed in investigation and prosecution of criminal offences of trafficking, and backed the proposal to hold regular meetings of the informal network of SEE National Coordinators. The materials and draft solutions for discussion at the ministerial conference were prepared by the Slovenian National Coordinator who was also in attendance of the conference. Attending the event were the representatives of Caritas Slovenia and Society Kljuc who were invited by the Slovenian Minister of the Interior.

By placing trafficking in human beings on the agenda of the ministerial conference, Slovenia sought and received the support of the participating interior ministers for a project competing for EU funds. Given that trafficking in persons has been recognised as one of the most threatening forms of crime in SE Europe, the Ministry of the Interior centred its approach on the need for more effective prosecution of offenders and detection of new forms of trafficking, as well as on shifting the focus on secondary crime such as financial flows monitoring, money laundering, corruption etc. The Ministry launched an new initiative on handling trafficking issues and proposed setting up joint investigation teams (JITs) to facilitate more effective action. In the first half of 2010, the Ministry prepared a project Introduction of the Requirements for Establishing Joint Investigation Teams to fight trafficking in human beings in SE Europe and applied for funds under ISEC FPA programme. The project aims to establish "strategic activities" serving as a logistic platform for further operational cooperation. The project was approved and will be implemented in 2011 and 2012.

Other international activities

The role of the National Coordinator is not only shaping the national policy of trafficking in human beings but also representing Slovenia and promoting good practice examples in the most relevant international forums. With the growing importance of the issue of trafficking in persons, the Coordinator's plans are quite ambitious. This is the list of key 2010 international events attended by the National Coordinator:

- Meeting of National Coordinators held in Budva on the initiative of Montenegro in February 2010; After a rather long period of calm this was the first meeting of its kind in the region. This is why Slovenia took the initiative to formalize such meetings in future, and prepare the contents. This proposal evolved further at the Brdo Process ministerial meeting.

- Under the Spanish Presidency a conference on trafficking in children and labour exploitation was held in Madrid on March 5.

- A meeting at the Council of Europe in Strasbourg was held on 31 March defining statistical indicators in the context of implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings. The agreed model of reporting trafficking statistics was put into practice in Slovenia.

- Servitude was the main topic at the annual OSCE conference held on 17 and 18 June. This occasion was marked by a publication containing extensive information about the issue.

- In December, members of the informal network of National Coordinators for combating trafficking in persons met in Brussels.

The National Coordinator is also member of the expert team with the European Commission (appointed by virtue of Commission Decision 2008/604/EC) participating in the creation of anti-trafficking policies at the EU level. In 2010, the Coordinator participated in three meetings of the EC expert group.

In September 2010, the interior minister of Slovenia met with Dr Helga Konrad, International Consultant on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings of the Austrian Institute for International Affaire. The purpose of Dr
Konrad’s visit was to present Austria’s regional initiative “Strengthening the External Dimension and Partnerships in preventing and Combating Trafficking in Women in the EU and third countries”. Dr Konrad also met representatives of Society Kljuc. As a follow up, the ministerial meeting held in Austria was attended by Ms Tanja Salecl, Director of the Office for Equal Opportunities, Ms Violeta Neubauer, and representatives of the Slovenian Embassy in Vienna.

The National Coordinator and a representative of Slovenia’s Police attended the closing conference of the project Establishing Mechanisms for the Prevention of Trafficking in Human Beings for Labour Exploitation organised by ICMPD and the Office for Human Rights of the Government of the Republic of Croatia held in Zagreb. On this occasion, they proposed the launching of a similar project on cooperation in training in labour exploitation.

On 23 November 2010, a representative of the Slovenian Ministry of Justice presented to the delegation of the Ukrainian Ministry of Justice on a study visit at the Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs the preparatory work undertaken for the ratification of and implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human beings ratified by the National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia on 15 July 2009.

The police were engaged in a range of other international cooperation activities with Interpol, Europol, and, notably, the SECI centre in the preparation of their regular annual report on trafficking in human beings in the Balkan region. Slovenia’s police are also engaged in preparing FRONTEX criteria for identification of victims of trafficking at the external EU borders. They are also taking part in shaping a manual for training border police officers/guards in detecting victims of trafficking in persons at the external EU borders.

In accordance with the anti-trafficking activities and those aimed at countering illegal migrations agreed in 2009, a joint investigation was carried out with success together with Moldova’s competent investigation unit for prevention of trafficking in persons. Two criminal associations were dismantled in Moldova while a criminal group member, whose task was to forge documents for migrating nationals and trafficked victims, was identified in Slovenia.

A Slovenia’s police representative attended a seminar on labour exploitation in relation to trafficking in persons. Hosted and organised by the national anti-trafficking investigation group, the seminar took place in February 2010 in the Netherlands.

Caritas Slovenia continued to work internationally and further developed their contacts with organisations with similar purposes abroad (representative offices of Caritas Europe and Caritas Internationalis, IOM, Coatnet, La Strada etc.)

In 2010, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs entered into a contract worth €2,500 with the SLOGA Platform (Slovenian Global Action) for the purposes of processing conference costs of Slovenian NGOs engaged in anti-trafficking activities travelling abroad. SLOGA reported covering €600 for Society Kljuc for their participation at the international anti-trafficking conference in Vienna. Although the Platform promoted refunding of costs to NGOs, no other organisation expressed interest in requesting.
VI. Other issues related to trafficking in human beings

 Trafficking in human beings is related to other issues, as underlined in Chapter III Prosecution of THB offences. According to the IWG, THB-related issues are internet child pornography, illegal migration, violence against children and labour exploitation. Although those are not considered trafficking in human beings in a narrow sense, they are indirectly related to it. In that context, information was provided to various international organisations in terms of the implementation of international conventions closely or loosely relating to THB. Some key information on 2010 THB-related issues is outlined below.

Prohibited crossing of state border or territory

In the past, many more offences of illegal border crossing were recorded and were more often related to THB. The reason was that victims of THB were more often recorded as illegal immigrants, which is not the case today. In 2010, the police investigated 361 criminal offences and filed criminal complaints against 547 suspects. 20 reports were submitted to competent state prosecutor's offices.

Internet child pornography and issues related to trafficking in children

In 2010, district state prosecutors' offices received criminal complaints against 18 perpetrators of the offence of showing, possession, manufacture and distribution of pornographic material under Article 176 of the Penal Code (KZ-1). One defendant was also charged with a sexual assault against a person younger than 15 under Art. 173 of the Penal Code (KZ-1). Prosecutors dismissed criminal complaints against 4 defendants and required an investigation against 5 defendants. Upon a proposal of the state prosecutor the investigating judge issued a detention order against one defendant for the reasons of the risk of re-offending (point 3 of the first paragraph of Art. 201 of the Criminal Procedure Act). Following the charges filed, the court annulled the detention order on the grounds of disproportion between the gravity of the offence and the penalty prescribed and interference with the defendant's right to freedom.

Charges were filed against 7 defendants. One of those criminal cases in 2010 included 744 pornographic collages and 15 pornographic pictures depicting minors and their realistic images, as well as 977 pornographic CDs or DVDs and 26 pornographic video clips.

It became obvious that the legal elements of such criminal offences involving minors and their realistic images will be difficult to prove in court. Another difficulty in terms of proving arises in case of user's internet IP address assigned to a company.

In 2010, international law enforcement cooperation relating to that crime continued successfully. As a result, pre-trial proceedings were instituted in one case after a notice from Luxembourg law enforcement agencies to Interpol Ljubljana, and charges were filed against one of the defendants within the international operation Santiago lasting for several years.

In 2010, a sentence was passed on one defendant only: it was a suspended sentence against which a state prosecutor appealed proposing a prison sentence. The appeal was dismissed by an appeals court and the judgement of the court of first instance was confirmed.

Guardianship for unaccompanied minors

Like in previous years, in 2010 the Slovenian Philantrophy continued to provide guardians for unaccompanied minors to assist them in international protection procedures in Slovenia, in procedures where they were treated as illegal immigrants and also after acquiring international protection status. Guardianship was provided by volunteers and employees of the Slovenian Philantrophy. In addition to guardianship for special cases to serve the best interests of the child, the Slovenian Philantrophy provided unaccompanied minors with other forms of assistance such as Slovenian lessons, homework and study help, social, culture and sports activities, tours and trips. When talking to minors, guardians paid particular attention to a potential issue of trafficking in human beings.

In 2010, The Slovenian Philantrophy provided guardianship for special cases to 46 unaccompanied minors. Most minors came from Afghanistan (22), followed by Palestine (8), Nigeria (3), Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Tunisia (2), and Eritrea, Kosovo, Serbia, Sudan and Somalia (1). There were 41 boys and 5
girls, most of them were 17 years old (21 minors), followed by those aged 16 (14 minors), 15 (7 minors), 14 (3 minors) and 13 (1 minor).

In 41 cases guardianship was provided to unaccompanied minors during international protection procedures. 3 of those minors left the Asylum Centre prior to applying for international protection and 9 minors were issued with a decision on return to Croatia. In 20 cases guardianship for special cases (to solve the issue of unaccompanied minors in Slovenia) was provided to minors staying at the Aliens Centre in Postojna. 15 of those minors applied for international protection. 3 minors under guardianship for special cases were returned to their country of origin and 1 acquired the Slovenian citizenship. 1 minor was returned from the Aliens Centre to Croatia. The Slovenian Philantrophy also provided guardianship to 2 unaccompanied minors enjoying subsidiary protection status in Slovenia.

The 2010 statistics show that guardianship was provided mostly to boys aged between 14 and 18. No minor under guardianship was recognised as a victim of trafficking in human beings. There was a strong suspicion of trafficking associated with a girl. She applied for international protection in Slovenia and was informed of potential risks of trafficking in human beings within the PATS project, but she did not recognise herself as a victim. She left the country soon. In 2010, the trend of increasing numbers of children coming from Afghanistan continued.

There is a growing need for accommodation facilities designed for all groups of unaccompanied minors providing them with professional treatment all day long, safety and psychosocial interventions tailored to their needs. The fact that many unaccompanied minors staying at the Asylum Centre still disappear mysteriously is fairly alarming, especially because they are vulnerable targets for traffickers in human beings.
Conclusion

In 2002 the fight against trafficking in human beings was marked in Slovenia by the establishment of the IWG and the appointment of the National Coordinator.

According to the IWG, the fight against trafficking in human beings could be divided into three phases as follows: the identification of issues, implementation, and the strengthening of anti-trafficking system. The last phase began in 2010.

Considering the fact that a sustainable system to combat trafficking in human beings was established in the implementation phase, 2010 was marked by convictions resulting from law enforcement efforts of the previous years. Advances were also made in assistance to victims of trafficking in human beings; for the first time accommodation in a safe house was provided to a victim who appeared as witness in criminal proceedings and was granted a temporary residence permit in Slovenia based on that.

A well-established policy on prevention activities was implemented with success. Awareness raising campaigns targeting specific and general public continued, as well as staff training. The training focused on new trends and forms of trafficking in human beings, especially on labour exploitation, which was an issue in 2010.

Because trafficking in human beings goes beyond the boundaries of individual states and poses a challenge to intergovernmental and interinstitutional cooperation, considerable effort was invested in seeking more effective measures to suppress this crime in the entire SEE region. To that end, last year Slovenia launched two projects based on the idea of establishing joint investigation teams (an international project in SEE) and an informal network of national coordinators for SEE. Slovenia is the proponent of both projects. Since they are ongoing, their results will be presented in future IGW's reports.