



The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN WOMEN)

ROYAL MUN

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1. Introduction

1.1. Welcome:



Dear Delegates,

It's our honor and pleasure to have you on this edition of Royal MUN. Us presidents, Ivanna Rodríguez and Maria José Sánchez, are thrilled to be heads of the UN Women committee. UN Women is a global symbol of progress, relentlessly promoting gender equality and women's agency across the globe. We have the chance to address some of the most pressing issues that affect women and girls around the world in this committee, including human rights, dignity and equality. We look forward to your active participation, dedication and engagement as you are representing one of the honorable nations assigned for an active debate.

If you have any questions or doubts, please do not hesitate to contact us by the following emails or phone numbers.

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1.2. About UN Women:

The United Nations recognized the importance of promoting gender equality worldwide for many years. However, the organization had difficulties facing these challenges in directing its efforts towards this important goal.

A lack of focus on this situation of gender equality were some main obstacles in this area. In July 2010, the United Nations General Assembly took a significant action towards these challenges, and created UN Women, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women. This entity was created with the purpose of bringing together resources and mandates to have a bigger impact on promoting gender equality globally.

UN Women works towards advancing women's rights and opportunities across various spheres, including economic empowerment, political participation, and ending violence against women. Through advocacy, policy development, and program implementation, UN Women strives to create a world where women and girls have equal opportunities to thrive and contribute to society. The organization collaborates with governments, civil society, and



other UN agencies to address the diverse challenges faced by women and girls, aiming to build a more inclusive and equitable world for all.

Member states hoped to build a more cohesive and effective approach to promote gender equality and women's empowerment by bringing organizations together under the banner of UN Women. With a defined mission and a greater emphasis on finance, UN Women has made tremendous progress toward these critical aims.

2.1 Topic:

Topic A: "Strengthening Cross-Border Collaboration to Combat Human Trafficking of Women and Children"

The exploitation of women and children within international prostitution and trafficking networks has emerged as a major focus on international organized crime and has become a primary concern for the international community. While the practice of trafficking individuals for various purposes has existed for centuries, including for labor and sexual exploitation, the modern understanding of human trafficking, particularly as it pertains to women and children, has evolved significantly over the past few decades.

The vulnerability of women and children to exploitation and trafficking has been exacerbated by societal marginalization, poverty, and conflict. Captured women and children were frequently sold into slavery and trafficked for a variety of uses in ancient societies, such as sexual exploitation and domestic labor.

The early 20th century witnessed efforts to combat trafficking through international agreements such as the International Agreement for the Suppression of the White Slave



Traffic (1904) and the League of Nations' Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others (1921). However, trafficking persisted, particularly during periods of conflict and upheaval such as World War II.

Since the late 20th century, there have been increased international attempts to prevent trafficking. The United Nations adopted the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (2000), which supplements the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (2000). Numerous nations have passed laws and formed dedicated law enforcement divisions to combat human trafficking and safeguard the rights of its victims.

Here you will be able to find some terms and information that will enhance your comprehension of the topic:

- **Trafficking:** The illegal trade of humans through coercion or deception for exploitation, including forced labor, sexual exploitation, or other forms of abuse.
- **Sex trade:** The exchange of sexual services for money or goods, encompassing activities such as prostitution, pornography, and sex tourism.
- **Forced Labor:** Coercing individuals to work against their will, often under exploitative conditions and without fair compensation.
- **Victim:** A person subjected to exploitation or trafficking, experiencing physical, emotional, or psychological harm as a result.

2.2 Historical Context:

Throughout history, the trafficking of women and children has been a tragic reality, marked by exploitation, abuse, and suffering. From the transatlantic slave trade to indentured



servitude and labor exploitation during the industrial revolution, women and children have been trafficked for various purposes, including forced labor, sexual exploitation, and as child soldiers. Even in modern times, globalization and economic disparities have fueled the persistence of trafficking, leading to the emergence of modern forms such as sex trafficking and forced labor. Despite legal and policy responses, trafficking remains a significant global issue, exacerbated by conflicts and humanitarian crises. However, there is also increased awareness and activism, with concerted efforts by governments, NGOs, and civil society organizations to raise awareness, provide support to survivors, and prosecute traffickers. Addressing trafficking requires comprehensive approaches that tackle root causes such as poverty and inequality, while prioritizing the protection and empowerment of survivors to break the cycle of exploitation and abuse.

2.3 Relevant Dates:

- 1. 15th to 19th centuries:** Transatlantic Slave Trade - Millions of Africans, including women and children, are forcibly transported to the Americas as slaves, marking a horrific chapter in human history.
- 2. 1904:** Adoption of the "White Slave Traffic Convention" aimed at combating trafficking in women and girls for sexual exploitation, representing an early international effort to address the issue.
- 3. 1926:** League of Nations adopts the International Convention to Suppress the Traffic in Women and Children, targeting trafficking and forced prostitution.
- 4. Late 20th century:** Globalization leads to a rise in trafficking, including of women and children for various forms of exploitation.
- 5. 2000:** Adoption of the Palermo Protocol, providing a comprehensive international legal framework to combat trafficking, particularly focusing on protecting women and children.
- 6. Early 21st century:** Countries enact legislation and action plans to prevent trafficking, protect victims, and prosecute traffickers.
- 7. 2010:** Adoption of the Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons by the United Nations, urging comprehensive measures to address trafficking worldwide.



8. 2020: The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbates vulnerabilities to trafficking, particularly among women and children, as economic hardships, social disruption, and increased online activity create new opportunities for exploitation.

2.4 Current Situation:

Women and girls account for 71% of all trafficked victims detected globally. In order to combat women's and children's trafficking, law enforcement must strike a balance between destroying trafficking networks and defending the rights and welfare of victims. Arrests and raids by law enforcement may cause victims to experience trauma again, and forcing victims to testify in court against traffickers may impede their healing. Effective resolution of this issue requires cooperation between law enforcement, social services, and legal professionals in addition to trauma-informed practices and ongoing victim assistance.

This topic delves into the importance of international cooperation and coordination in addressing the complex and transnational nature of human trafficking. It involves discussing strategies to enhance collaboration among countries to prevent trafficking, prosecute perpetrators, protect victims, and dismantle trafficking networks.

2.5 Guide Questions:

- What are the current trends and statistics regarding trafficking in our respective countries?



- How are existing laws and policies addressing trafficking in women and children being enforced and what are the gaps?
- What measures have been taken at the national and international levels to combat trafficking?
- What are the socio-economic factors that contribute to the vulnerability of women and children to trafficking in our countries?
- What strategies can be implemented to hold perpetrators of trafficking accountable?
- How can we ensure that the voices of survivors are heard and integrated into our policy-making processes?

2.6 Relevant Information

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- The State of Palestine is considered as an observer state, therefore, it has voice but can't vote in the voting procedure of the working papers. However, if the committee considers necessary the vote of this country, they are in the right of making a motion to give a vote to Palestine.

3. Relevant links and sources

[JURIDICAL ANALYSIS OF VICTIMS OF THE ECONOMIC EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE TO REALIZE LEGAL PROTECTION FROM HUMAN RIGHTS ASPECTS](#)

[Trafficking in women and girls](#)

[UNODC Human Trafficking](#)



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[APA - Effects on Trafficking](#)

[ICAT - Statistics on Trafficking](#)