



MIGRANT WOMEN AND FEMALE *Victims of trafficking*



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Migrant women and female victims of trafficking

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ITALY

PREFACE

The following report summarises the findings from an extensive desk research, conducted in the frame of the JeS project. In this regard, CESIE has been especially focussing on the topic of migrant women and women victims of trafficking in the Italian context and beyond as well as providing input on relevant initiatives, programmes, activities and latest research in the Italian context for the other research topics.

Migrant women today are still a group with high fragility due to the intersectionality of their discrimination. This is one of the reasons they may end up in conditions of sexual exploitation, becoming victims of trafficking. Initiatives, projects and activities need to consider this intersectionality of vulnerability factors in order to provide tailored support to survivors as well as the migrant women population in general, supporting their path to autonomy.

THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

Migration processes are unique and complex phenomena and all of them have their own reasons and individual story starting long before the actual journey. In 2022, according to UNHCR, 108.4 million people were forcibly displaced in the world out of which 50% were female (20% girls and 30% women), mostly coming from Syria, Ukraine, and Afghanistan (UNHCR, 2022). Women migrate for a variety of reasons. They may arrive as family members, labour migrants, students, asylum applicants and refugees (Ena, 2022).

In 2021, an estimated 1.7 million people were in an irregular situation in the EU (Eurostat & EMN, 2023), meaning not having (yet) received the official papers, a result of persecution, war, hunger, climatic disasters or contexts of external abuse and even intrafamily violence (Eurostat & EMN, 2023). Political, cultural and religious circumstances can push them to escape from their country of origin. Lulled by illusions, forced to leave by relatives, aware of the dangers that await them or not, they are ready to risk their lives and leave their families to come to Europe in the hope of finding a better life (Adeyinka et al., 2023).

The “migrant wave”, referred to as such in Europe particularly since 2015, and the war in Syria have resulted in many countries strengthening their border protection or at least protection, wanting to limit illegal immigration as much as possible. At the same time, these countries are making legal migration from non-European countries almost impossible and hence putting migrants, especially women and children, into more difficult and dangerous situations (Del Mar Jimenez-Lasserrotte et al., 2020).

Arriving in Europe, migrant women can end up in a situation of care or exploitation, oftentimes connected to how they are arriving: alone, with children or other family members or even pregnant. Migrant women, as their male peers, can also end up in refugee camps for months or even years. In all cases, being in an irregular situation in the country exposes them to a great vulnerability largely caused by social exclusion and lack of access to social and



health care services. Another problem encountered by these women is the cultural shock during the adaptation phase as well as experiences of discrimination, affecting their mental health and resulting in limited access to certain jobs due to prejudices towards their religion, e.g. for practising Ramadan or wearing the veil (Ortega-de-Mora & Terrón-Caro, 2023).

Being discriminated against for different reasons, e.g. their gender as well as their nationalities, religion or colour of skin, migrant women experience so-called intersectional discrimination, an overlap of various forms of discrimination based on different characteristics. In addition to these difficulties, there is the language barrier limiting the ability to interact with the local society, to find an accommodation or a job. This precarious situation oftentimes leads these women to accept heavy and underpaid work (e.g., agricultural work, care work, cleaning services and hospitality jobs) putting them into a position where they are an easy target for various trafficking networks offering “better” jobs (Prandi, 2019).

The term “trafficking in a person” is defined by Palermo Protocol as: “the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, through the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, by kidnapping, fraud, abuse of authority or a position of vulnerability, or by offering or accepting payments or benefits to obtain the consent of a person having authority over another for the purposes of exploitation. Exploitation includes, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or organ harvesting” (United Nations, 2000).

In 2021, 4.567 female victims of trafficking in human beings were registered in the EU (Eurostat, 2024). Due to the complexity of the issue, this is an estimated number of only the registered cases, while a large part remains unknown. The European Council estimates that there are five to ten times more victims within the EU than reported (Eurostat, 2024). Generally, the crime of trafficking in human beings involves three steps: recruitment, transportation, and exploitation (Boucaud, 2020). In this regard, migrant women are at risk of being “recruited” by trafficking networks at every step of the migration journey: before their departure in their countries of origin, during the physical migration journey itself or in other countries they pass through with traffickers putting pressure on them, making fake promises and recruiting them to be part of their trafficking networks (La Cascia et al., 2020).

Due to their different politics, colonial past and distance to the countries of origin, the main nationalities of migrant women and women victims of trafficking differs in EU countries and they change over time. In Italy, in 2022, 1433 women were victims of human trafficking, coming principally from Nigeria (Eurostat & EMN, 2023), while the top three nationalities of women victims of trafficking in Italy between 2003 and 2007 were Albania, Ukraine and Moldova (UNODC, 2010). Between 2006 and 2008 the main nationalities of women victims of trafficking in the Netherlands were China, Nigerian and Bulgaria, while it was Ukrainians, Czech themselves and Vietnamese in the Czech Republic in the same timeframe, additionally underlining that not all women victims of trafficking for sexual exploitation necessarily come from other countries, but there is also trafficking within the EU and inside member states themselves.¹⁵

Another important fact is that female victims of trafficking, with contrast to their male peers, are mostly exploited for sexual purposes: out of the 1.433 women identified in Italy in 2022, 1.230 were sexually exploited, while only 56 were in conditions of labour exploitation (Eurostat & EMN, 2023). These women are exposed to diverse kinds of violence, physical, psychological, sexual, socio-economic and cultural harm (Apard et al., 2020). Still, in many cases the women do not even recognise that they are being exploited, since they are under



the impression to be working to repay the debts.¹⁸ Furthermore, there are obstacles in reporting the traffickers, because women fear to be arrested for their illegal situation as well. In other cases, being victims of rape can be interpreted as adultery in their country of origin and expose them to be banned by their families and shame them (Ortega-de-Mora & Terrón-Caro, 2023).

In this regard, the European Council unveils 6 myths on human trafficking on their dedicated website painting a much more realistic picture of human trafficking in Europe (European Council, 2024):

1. “It doesn’t happen in the EU.”
2. “Only women are trafficked.”
3. “Only adults are affected.”
4. “It’s only about prostitution”
5. “People trafficked within Europe only come from outside the EU.”
6. “Traffickers are all men.”

The difficulty in detection of cases as well as for women to get out of trafficking network lies in the rituals and pacts are made that are often made before departure, under which enormous debts are contracted for the support provided to help them arrive to Europe, including implicit and explicit threats against families, and imposing the law of silence is imposed to protect the traffickers. These pacts become contracts for the women forcing them to repay considerable debts (from 30000 to 70000 euros) to reimburse the cost of the “trip” and/or accommodation; often contracted by a member of the family, who will not have scruples to exploit them, putting them on the streets for prostitution or on the fields working in very bad conditions in exchange for a poor salary (Apard et al., 2020).

Human trafficking violates the [Article 5 of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights](#), which is why the anti-trafficking directive was adopted in 2011 drawing from the UN’s protocol to prevent, suppress and punish trafficking in persons and the Council of Europe’s convention on action against trafficking in human beings (European Council, 2024).

The EU hence is aware of the evolving issue and strengthening its efforts in the field, however victims are oftentimes hidden in plain sight and, in the end, single member states have the responsibility to become active and implement effective detection and prevention programmes. (European Council, 2024) Still, even though the situation is serious, most EU countries do not have trafficking prevention programmes or gender-specific integration programmes (Eurostat & EMN, 2023).

In the future, European countries will need to strengthen their efforts and collaborate in establishing a common strategy policy to combat and prevent trafficking.

RESEARCH METHODS

CESIE’s research team applied a variety of different research methods in order to conduct the review. This included the PRISMA method and in-person interviews of colleagues, experts of specific topics as well as ‘snowballing’, i.e. screening all the articles that cite the articles the team included as well as checking the literature of each one for other pertinent sources. Furthermore, many of the best practices, projects and prevention initiatives cited under the respective research topics stem from our own work and experience or from the partners in our vast network. The two-case studies stem from an interview with one of CESIE’s expert in this topic, who is focussed on women victims of trafficking, while the other one has been found online in the media.



THE LATEST RESEARCH IN ITALY

No	Author (year)	Study purpose	Study type	Data collection	Participants and sampling	Main findings/Findings related to trafficking in human beings	Link
1	Adeyinka et al. (2023)	To show how sexual and physical violence is employed by smugglers, traffickers	Qualitative	Interviews	31 Nigerian teenagers and young women who arrived in Italy between January 2016 and June 2018 over a period of two years in three measurement moments	Of the 31 participants interviewed, 28 personally experienced rape and/or other forms of sexual violence. The experiences of violence were no less in official detention centres with respect to unofficial accommodation, some of them were funded by the European Union and the United Nations. In Libya, an alliance is seen between the smugglers/traffickers and the local militia, referred to as 'asma boys'. For eighteen of the participants, these violent encounters continued after their arrival in Italy. Some participants were locked up by the traffickers after arrival in Italy to prevent escape and forced into prostitution in the traffickers' homes.	https://www.mdpi.com/1660-4601/20/5/4309



No	Author (year)	Study purpose	Study type	Data collection	Participants and sampling	Main findings/Findings related to trafficking in human beings	Link
2	Prandi (2019)	Unveiling the dramatic conditions under which foreign live in Italy and Spain	Qualitative	Interviews	ca 100 women, thirty trade unionists, but also social workers and university researchers	In certain areas in Spain and Italy (e.g. Sicily), more than 30% of day labourers are employed completely illegally. If women are recruited, it is because they cost between €5 and €10 less per day than men. A third of women admit to having been molested or raped by their superiors, half to having been physically abused and threatened. And all of them were verbally abused and humiliated.	https://www.cairn.info/revue-projet-2019-6-page-79.html
3	Ena (2022)	Investigate health practitioners' preparedness to deal with people from different countries, especially in relation to gender difference	Qualitative	Literature review	Unknown	A major effort is needed in terms of training practitioners and reorganization of basic health services, making them competent in an intercultural sense. Health education of the migrant population as a whole and of women in particular is needed to contain risk behaviour and prevent the early onset of metabolic syndromes in general and of Type 2 diabetes in particular.	https://www.mdpi.com/2673-4540/3/2/23



No	Author (year)	Study purpose	Study type	Data collection	Participants and sampling	Main findings/Findings related to trafficking in human beings	Link
4	La Cascia et al. (2020)	To determine the factors that affect the psychological health of migrant women during the different stages of the migration journey.	Qualitative	Literature Review	Narrative review of the literature around the experiences of women during migration process, with a geographical focus on women migrating to the Mediterranean area	Little data is currently available on the burden of mental health disorders for female migrants. Most studies about the mental health status of migrants were not gender-disaggregated or focused specifically on migrant women's experiences of violence. Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) was found to be a common risk factor faced by all the women who leave their native country to migrate to other countries.	https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7536719/
5	Hadjicharalambous and Parlalis (2021)	A narrative review of the literature was conducted on the phenomenon of migration in the Mediterranean area, and specifically on sexual violence of migrant women	Qualitative	Literature Review	narrative review of the literature on the phenomenon of migration in the Mediterranean area, and specifically on sexual violence of migrant women. English-language publications in PubMed, Medline/Ovid, Google Scholar, Scopus and other databases	Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) was found to be a common risk factor faced by all the women who leave their native country to migrate to other countries. In the migration literature, the stages of migration are described to be: 1) pre-migration; 2) migration; and 3) post-migration. In the field of migration, SGBV is a recurring phenomenon, including five dimensions of violence: physical, psychological, sexual, socio-economic and cultural harmful practices.	https://www.mdpi.com/2411-5118/2/3/24



No	Author (year)	Study purpose	Study type	Data collection	Participants and sampling	Main findings/Findings related to trafficking in human beings	Link
6	Gomes and Sani (2023)	Collecting data on preventing women trafficking, and identifying and integrating women who are victims of human trafficking, particularly for sexual exploitation.	Qualitative	Literature Review	After screening 267 articles based on title, abstract, and full text, an 11-article sample was analysed for quality.	Trafficking in human beings (THB) is a global political, social, and public health challenge. Sexual exploitation has an unequivocal gender dimension, since the victims are primarily female. A crime of THB involves three steps: recruitment, transportation, and exploitation. Sometimes, THB victims do not want to be identified for fear of retaliation or the label of victimhood, making rescue, assistance, and investigation challenging. Also, women often struggle to recognize that they have been trafficked. One of the most important challenges facing these victims is integration into society. It is necessary to find a terminology for THB that is common worldwide.	https://www.mdpi.com/2624-8611/5/3/39



THE LATEST PROJECTS IN ITALY

No	Author (year)	Title, Acronym	Programme	Period of project	Implementation level	Main objective	Link
1	CESIE, Centro PENC, IRC- International Rescue committee, KMOP; KPOPZI, AIDROM; AAF;	SAFE HUT – Holding safe spaces for women and girls’ empowerment	AMIF	2023-2025	European (Italy, Bulgaria, Greece, Lithuania, Romania)	The main objective is to provide a safe place where women and girls victims of trafficking are encouraged to voice their needs and collectively raise attention on their rights and specific needs. Also, to promote and support their social and working inclusion.	https://socialhut.eu/
2	Organization Earth; Eleven Campaign; CESIE; FOPSIM; Girl Power Organisation	Women Score- social inclusion of refugee	Erasmus+	2020-2021	European (Greece, UK, Italy, Malta, Denmark)	The project aims to create an open dialogue between sport professionals and migrant/refugee women, which will use sports as a tool for change towards social inclusivity.	https://www.womenscore.eu/



No	Author (year)	Title, Acronym	Programme	Period of project	Implementation level	Main objective	Link
3	CESIE; Comune di Palermo, SYMPLEXIS; DIMOS NEAPOLIS SYKEON; KOPER; MESTNA OBCINA KOPER; INCOMA; AYUTAMIEN TO DE SEVILLA; CSI; DEMOS IPSONA; DIVERSITY DEVELOPME NT GROUP; SWIDEAS; UNION OF THE BALTIC CITIES	PITCH- A model for gender-sensitive integration strategies based on personalised, participatory, local and multi stakeholder approaches.	AMIF	2022-2024	European (Italy, Greece, Slovenia, Spain, Cyprus, Lithuania, Sweden, Poland)	PITCH aims to establish a common European ground to support the design and implementation of local integration strategies addressed to migrant women, based on a personalised, participatory, and multi-stakeholder approach. The project will do so by co-designing a model that will be adjusted into 7 local strategies, and implemented with migrant women in Italy, Greece, Slovenia, Spain, Cyprus, Lithuania and Sweden.	https://pitch- eu.eu/



No	Author (year)	Title, Acronym	Programme	Period of project	Implementation level	Main objective	Link
4	Enaip Impresa sociale s.r.l.	Paperittomat -hanke	Stea and City of Helsinki	2012	Communal and national, Permanent service	The legal advice provided by the Refugee Advice Centre provides up-to-date and expert information to the client so that he or she has the clearest possible understanding of his or her legal status and rights.	Paperittomille oikeudellista neuvontaa Pakolaisneuvonnas sa jo 10 vuotta! – Pakolaisneuvonta
5	EURISCE; Impact Hub Lisbon; Cruz Roja; IRECOOP Veneto; CISE; Impact Hub Budapest; Veneto Lavoro; Hellenic Republic Ministry of migration and asylum	MOMENTUM, breaking silos, promoting young migrant and refugee women's access to vocational training and labour market opportunities through social economy.	AMIF	2022-2023	European (Italy, Portugal, Spain, Hungary)	MOMENTUM brings together the most relevant stakeholders, civil society organisations, governmental and non- governmental organisations, employment centres, educational institutions, social economy organisations and entrepreneurs, to generate impact and social change through dynamic collaboration.	https://www.momentumproject.eu/



No	Author (year)	Title, Acronym	Programme	Period of project	Implementation level	Main objective	Link
6	Arci Lecce; Alfea cinematografica; Maison des cultures et de la cohésion; Pluralis; Alianza por la solidaridad; El legado Andalusí; Jasa; Lawaetz	EnFem, European Actions for the inclusion of migrant women	AMIF	2016-2018	European (Italy, Belgium, Spain, Slovenia, Germany)	To stimulate the integration of migrant women, overcoming stereotypes and combating the double discrimination to which they are often victims, first as women and then as migrants.	https://www.enfem.eu/it/



GOOD AND SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES IN ITALY

Title	Aims	Period	Activities	Results	Link
PENC Safe Space	The PENC centre is a non-profit organisation that carries out social solidarity and mental health activities aimed at the most vulnerable people. It brings a safe space to women and girls and psychological support.	Created in 2015; ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Psychotherapy and psychological support courses, individual and group.- Training and supervision activities on topics related to ethno-psychology clinics.- Remote psychological support.- Linguistic-cultural mediation.	Safe space for women and adolescent girls encouraging them to use their voices and collectively raise awareness of their rights and needs by the creation of social networks. It serves as a key point for specialised services for survivors of gender-based violence.	https://www.centropenc.org/
HEAL Employability Training Material	Facilitating the integration of third country national women victims of trafficking for sexual exploitation in Italy, Greece, Spain and Romania through a healing process comprising of psychological recovery and employment-related skills acquisition.	2019-2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Mapping exercise and feel need assessment- Networking among key actors- Development of recovery and integration programme.- Delivery of the programme and transfer to service providers. <p>Implementation of online and face-to-face awareness raising events.</p>	Recovery and Integration programme: Toolkit for psychological support sessions "Fanzines and coping with trauma"; multi-disciplinary employability training material; HEAL database.	https://cesie.org/media/heal-multidisciplinary-employability-training-materials-en.pdf



Title	Aims	Period	Activities	Results	Link
A tea with us	The English non-profit organisation helps Refugees arrives in Palermo to create a pilot project dedicated to female empowerment. It is aimed at 30 women between the ages of 18 and 55, both asylum seekers who have recently arrived in Italy. After a phase of needs analysis, a support desk for users in finding a job.	3 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Support to the creation of CV- Italian class Informatics basic lesson	To make them autonomous through the acquisition of tools that will concretely facilitate them in finding a job linked to their social integration process.	https://www.redattoresociale.it/article/notiziario/_a_tea_with_us_un_progetto_per_il_lavoro_e_l_integrazione_delle_donne_migranti



Title	Aims	Period	Activities	Results	Link
women 4 integration	The Women 4 Integration project aims is supporting socio-economic integration, promoting participation in social life and in public services offered by the public community, promoting integration programmes, fostering gender equality, enhancing work skills and entry into the labour market and improving the ownership of local institutions and actors.	Started in 2021; ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Training and professional development- Active job search- Internships and work support Enhancement of cultural and religious diversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- More than women involved Managed to adapt the activities implemented to the needs of the women beneficiaries.	https://www.ismu.org/programmes/women4integration/



Title	Aims	Period	Activities	Results	Link
Mano nella mano (Hand in Hand)	The aims of the project are the inclusion and parenting support for migrant women and unaccompanied foreign minors in the province of Palermo. Accompanying mothers to improve their quality of life by bringing out all their potential, accompanying them in accessing public and local services, acquiring awareness and parental competence and therefore the life of their family.	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Italian language learning workshops- Parenting education- Education in reproductive and sexual health- Support to service and job placement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Around 80 women involved	https://www.ciai.it/progetti/mano-nella-mano/



Title	Aims	Period	Activities	Results	Link
Alima - Accoglienza, Lingua e mutuo aiuto con le donne migranti nella periferia est di Roma (Reception, language and mutual aid with migrant women in the eastern suburbs of Rome)	Alim is a project aimed to empowerment of migrant women residing in the eastern suburbs of Rom. It offers paths of socio-cultural integration and identity (re)construction through the discovery and the study of Italian language.	January 2019-December 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Italian class- Services to promote social inclusion and women's empowerment- Mediation service- Enhancement of work and development of good practices		https://cidisonlus.org/progetti/alima-accoglienza-lingua-e-mutuo-aiuto-con-le-donne-migranti-nella-periferia-est-di-roma/



INFORMATION ON OTHER IMPORTANT ASPECTS

Title	Programme	Type	Aims	Period	Implementation level	Main results
WINGS - Supporting women survivors of trafficking through a comprehensive integration programme	AMIF	Social inclusion	To promote multi-level action aimed at migrant women survivors of trafficking and develop the generic framework on social and economic inclusion focused on survivors.	2022-2024	European (Italy, Spain, Greece, Belgium)	https://cesie.org/project/wings/
National Action Plan against trafficking and serious exploitation of human beings	/	Detection, prevention and social inclusion	Preventing trafficking in human beings and sexual exploitation in Italy	2022-2025	National - Italy	https://www.unodc.org/documents/treaties/WG_TIP_2023/Statements/Italy_WG_TIP_agenda_item_3_Child_trafficking_30.9_2_2.pdf



Title	Programme	Type	Aims	Period	Implementation level	Main results
Feeling Home	Erasmus+ KA2	Social Inclusion	To reduce the risk of social exclusion for migrant women through a multifaceted approach. This includes the promotion of education, the enhancement of tolerance, and the motivation of both trainers and learners towards a lifelong learning strategy tailored to the unique needs of migrant women.	2022-2023	European (Germany, Greece, Sweden, Spain, Italy)	https://feelinghomeproject.eu/informal-language-learning/
COMMUNITY LINKAGE- Improving gender-based violence service provision through the empowerment of migrant women as community-based mentors, trainers and agents of change.	CERV	Prevention and social inclusion	Improving gender-based violence service provision through the empowerment of migrant women as community-based mentors, trainers and agents of change.	2022-2024	Europe (Spain, Italy, Greece, Slovenia)	https://cesie.org/en/project/community-linkage/



CASE STUDIES

Case study 1

Gathering the data

Date of gathering data	17th of April 2024
Time and duration of the interviews	30 minutes
Location of the interviews	CESIE office
Type of the interviews	In-person
Type of the questions	Open ended questions
Language of the interviews	Italian
Number of interviewees	One
How were the interviewees selected?	Internally
Interviewees institution/ occupation/ position	NGO
Codes of the project and interviewees (CESIE-01
Interviewees' permission for using the gathered data	Yes (verbally)
Formats of gathered material	Audio recording
Transcripts	Yes

This We decided to conduct our case study observations with Arianna (fictional name), one of experts from CESIE. Arianna has years of work experience in supporting migrant women and victims of trafficking in Palermo. She has implemented numerous projects on the topic and is familiar with the landscape of services, challenges and realities lived by migrant women. She now collaborates with local community service providers to increase their capacity and extend their outreach.

We interviewed Arianna at the CESIE offices on the 17th of April 2024. The interview lasted for about 30 minutes. As suggested by the questions' framework, we will divide the results into three sections: protection of the victims, support and prevention.



The first part of the interview focused on the protection of women who were victims of human trafficking. Arianna started by specifying that workers in the sector prefer using the term “survivors” to violence, rather than victims. This changes little, in any case, to the service and support that the women receive. The approach is unified for all migrant women and aims to help them move forward and start a new life away from past and present situations of violence. Establishing a solid economic independence – according to Arianna – is the best way to ensure the change. This approach diverges from the rhetoric of protection, which risks reducing women to passive agents, and invests in their proactive involvement. Many obstacles stand in the way of economic independence. Migrant women often lack the papers to work regularly and must turn to precarious jobs. Certifications and degrees obtained abroad have no recognition in Italy, forcing women to accept low-skilled jobs. The language barrier is also an obstacle to integration in the labour market – already considered exploitative and static by Italians themselves. It emerges, says Arianna, the need for integrated support for migrant women incorporating many professional figures, such as work consultants, psychologists and legal advisors.

The second part of the interview focused on support, and more precisely how Arianna gives her support to migrant women in the practice. As a project manager, Arianna’s work is not to directly support the women, but to establish the necessary connections between providers and recipients of help. The major preoccupation of her work is finding support that takes into account the cultural specificities of the women. This is hard to do considering that all working partnerships must be found in the third sector and established on a contractual basis that fits the projects’ budget. In the absence of a well-established welfare state, all responsibilities fall in the hands of the organisations and their ability to establish connections. The bureaucratic burden, according to Arianna, is consistent.

The third and last section of the interview focused on prevention. Arianna recentred the discourse on the prevention of violence, rather than the prevention of trafficking. When the women are in Palermo, the trafficking has already happened, and nothing can be done about that. On the contrary, much can be done to assist the women in getting out of violent situations in which they are constrained due to dependency. Many violence prevention programmes are active at the national level, and in Palermo as well, says Arianna, but most of the time the discourse is not taking into account the aspect of cultural sensitivity in relation to migrant women. She sees a lack in this, especially in the fields of sexual and reproductive education. Additionally, similar work should be conducted not only for women but also for wider segments of society that influence them. Arianna does not lose sight of the bigger picture in which violence is inserted and reminds us that the best antidote to violence is economic independence. When we asked her what should be done to get there, she replied instantly: facilitation of the bureaucratic system, work permits for migrants, minimum wage, and creation of safe spaces, even simply recreational ones, that get the women out of isolated contexts.



Case study 2 – Trafficking depicted in the media

The issue of female trafficking is one of relative interest in Italian progressive media. We observe that employing the mention “female trafficking” is itself a political positioning. In a country where debates on migration are highly politicised, semantics is a clear indicator. A right-wing newspaper would probably prefer the grammar of irregularity, with words like “clandestine”, “prostitution” or “criminality”. Individual stories are used for the purpose of shaming or generalising unlawful conduct. On the other hand, when we encounter the word “trafficking” we have a clear-enough statement that the responsibility for the phenomenon is put on the structure, and not on individuals. Real-life stories are used with sensibilisation aims, and tend to employ the vocabulary of violence, survivance and human rights. The objective is to arise empathy in the readers and humanise the survivors of exploitation.

The story we will consider in this case study belongs to the second category. Published on the online section of the magazine *Left* on the 31st of July 2023, it titles: ‘I, Madeleine, victim of trafficking in Italy’: a story of exploitation, despair and redemption. It tells the story of Madeleine, a young girl from Brazzaville, Congo, who managed to escape from a situation of sexual exploitation. Born in Brazzaville, Madeleine received the promises of an elegant woman who noticed her at her workplace. The woman said she lived in Italy, and that a young lady like Madeleine would have no problem finding a well-paid job. She offered to help her settling down, and paying for her flight ticket. Madeleine accepted, believing she had found the opportunity of her life. When she arrived to Italy, she realised that the woman had recruited her to work at her brothel. She was forced to do it to pay back a debt of 20 thousand euros that the woman allegedly contracted with her for paying her flight ticket. Courageously, Madeleine escaped the house and sought assistance from BeeFree, an anti-trafficking network offering refuge to women escaping from exploitation and violence. She had the chance to be welcomed at their hosting centre for women victim of trafficking, receive their assistance and slowly start anew.

The article reconstructs the whole story with remarkable sobriety and appropriated language, expressive but free of sensationalism. It also tells a representative story in the reality of women trafficking, portraying how the women are tricked into exploitative situations, threatened and obliged to pay imaginary debts to buy their freedom back. The article also narrates the stories of the other women of the centre, showing the diversity of backgrounds, dangers and abuses women can encounter in their journey to Europe: modern slavery, physical abuse, forced marriages and exploitation at the workplace, with violence as a common denominator. The article, however, does not portray the women as hopeless victims. It shows with sincerity how their misplaced trust or naivete brought them to perilous situations, when it is the case, without ever blaming them. It manages to give a human face to events that go under the name of trafficking, and that often feel obscure by abstract denominations or sensational narrations. In its being concrete and real, the article is successful at depicting the complex net of relationship that lay behind these real stories of violence, exploitation and broken dreams.

Link to the discussed article: <https://left.it/2023/07/31/io-madeleine-vittima-di-tratta-in-italia-una-storia-di-sfruttamento-disperazione-e-riscatto/>



Belgium

THE LATEST RESEARCH IN BELGIUM

No	Author (year)	Study purpose	Study type	Data collection	Participants and sampling	Main findings	Link
1	Camargo Magalhães (2017)	Analysing how labour market policies affect migrant women in the Belgian domestic work sector and suggesting improvements for their protection.	Policy analysis	Qualitative; policies, reports and statistics, literature	/	This study discusses the prevalence of migrant women in domestic work in Western Europe, specifically in Belgium. In 2010, 73.2 percent of domestic workers were women, mostly foreign-born. Many works in the informal sector as undocumented immigrants. Belgian labour market policies, such as restrictions on migration visas and work permits, exacerbate the vulnerability of migrant domestic workers, particularly women. Policy intersections like EU worker circulation and migration regulations further complicate their situation. The analysis, applicable to other countries, suggests policy changes to protect migrant domestic workers, including removing migration-control functions from social inspectors and reforming work permit systems to prevent exploitation.	https://www.knomad.org/sites/default/files/2017-11/KNOMAD%20WP29_The%20Influence%20of%20Labour%20Market%20Policies%20on%20Gender%20and%20Migration_0.pdf



No	Author (year)	Study purpose	Study type	Data collection	Participants and sampling	Main findings	Link
2	Vanduyndael and Wets (2015)	Examining recent migration patterns in Belgium, focusing on gender perspectives, migrant groups, regional disparities, and comparisons with neighbouring countries, while also exploring newcomers' socioeconomic profiles.	Analysis of administrative data	Quantitative: literature, government sources, International databases	/	The chapter in this book analyses recent migration patterns and the presence of foreigners in Belgium with a gender perspective, based on administrative data. It compares migration flows with France, the Netherlands, and Germany, noting Belgium's higher rate of migration for humanitarian reasons and lower rates for remunerated activities and studies. Differences in migration between Belgium's regions are detailed. Methodological notes on data analysis are provided, along with estimates of immigration based on residence permits. The chapter examines net migration, asylum data, foreign population profiles, and socioeconomic characteristics of newcomers. It concludes with insights into migration trends and their implications.	https://doi.org/10.4324/9781315885780
3	Camargo Magalhães (2017)	Mind the Protection (Policy) Gap: Trafficking and Labour Exploitation in Migrant Domestic Work in Belgium	Policy analysis	Qualitative: policies, reports and statistics, literature	/	The study reveals that while Belgian Anti-Trafficking in Human Beings (THB) policy has broadened its scope to include labour exploitation, the complexity of addressing trafficking and exploitation in domestic work extends beyond anti-THB measures. The interaction of migration, labour, and care regulations significantly influences the framework surrounding THB and labour exploitation. Using Belgium as a case study, the research underscores that structural factors contributing to workers' vulnerability cannot be effectively addressed solely through anti-THB policies. This highlights the necessity of considering broader systemic factors to combat exploitation and trafficking in domestic work effectively.	https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/15562948.2017.1305472?casa_token=Fi7lqD1ig9sAAAAA:LhD289_eHp5AWYDY0o0Yy1bjqM_gEdFAQeEy_SrItSAlt6NlZ7DemMoeqjPZSYOBsl4AGIA7460



No	Author (year)	Study purpose	Study type	Data collection	Participants and sampling	Main findings	Link
4	Purkayastha and Bircan (2023)	Present but not counted: highly skilled migrant women in Belgium	Migration and gender studies	Qualitative; semi-structured in-depth interviews	34 highly skilled migrant women with familial reasons for migration, snowball sampling	The article examines the overlooked trajectories of family migrants in the EU. It challenges the gendered stereotype of male economic migrants and dependent female migrants, revealing policy biases against migrant women in accessing the labour market. Despite the Single Permit Directive granting labour market access, skilled migrant women face systemic barriers. Migrant women navigate these obstacles by adopting alternative migration categories, such as students or temporary workers, to improve labour market prospects while balancing familial responsibilities. The study underscores the necessity for disaggregated data and dynamic data collection methods to capture the diverse experiences of family migrants accurately.	https://doi.org/10.1080/1369183X.2021.2003187
5	Maes et al. (2023)	Path-Dependencies in Employment Trajectories Around Motherhood: Comparing Native Versus Second-Generation Migrant Women in Belgium	Comparative and longitudinal analysis of migration and labour market dynamics	Quantitative; data from the Belgian Administrative Socio-Demographic Panel (BASD Panel) that links longitudinal microdata from the National Register and the Crossroads Bank for Social Security.	Women aged 15-50 years legally residing in Belgium	This study examines employment trajectories around motherhood for second-generation migrant women and native women in Belgium. Using longitudinal data and fixed-effects models, it finds no significant differences in employment changes between migrants and natives with low pre-birth employment rates. Limited differences are observed among those with medium to high employment rates before parenthood. This suggests a strong path-dependency in employment trajectories for both groups, with lower pre-birth labour market attachment among second-generation migrants contributing to observed migrant-native differentials in maternal employment.	https://doi.org/10.1007/s12134-020-00801-1



THE LATEST PROJECTS IN BELGIUM

No	Author (year)	Title, Acronym	Programme	Period of project	Implementation level	Main objective	Link
1	Safe.brussels (2023)	Namiddag rond ideeën om de opsporing, de oriëntatie en de gespecialiseerde begeleiding van vrouwelijke slachtoffers van mensenhandel te verbeteren'	A meeting/discussion brought together professionals from various sectors focused on aiding women and combating human trafficking	23/11/2023	National	Enhancing the detection, orientation, and specialized support for female victims of human trafficking by fostering collaboration among professionals, addressing obstacles to accessing assistance, dispelling fears of engaging with authorities, and empowering victims to assert their rights effectively.	https://safe.brussels/nl/een-brainstormingsessie-om-de-opsporing-de-oriëntatie-en-de-begeleiding-van-vrouwelijke
2	PAG-ASA (2024)	Waar zijn de vrouwelijke slachtoffers van mensenhandel gebleven?	An exchange of experience	Tbd, duration of one day, in 2024	National	Exchanging experiences among professionals working with at-risk groups and potential victims, collaboratively identifying strategies to reach more women effectively	https://pag-asa.be/nl/events
3	Activate (2022)	Enhancing the anti-trafficking identification, prevention and support mechanisms	Conference	27/09/2022	National	The main objective of the conference is to facilitate the exchange of ideas for improving coordination of protection and response mechanisms against human trafficking, introducing best practices in prevention, disseminating relevant projects, and potentially publishing recommendations to strengthen national and transnational cooperation among policymakers and public authorities.	https://www.activateproject.eu/conference/



No	Author (year)	Title, Acronym	Programme	Period of project	Implementation level	Main objective	Link
4	Transe-en-Danse (2023)	Heksen, Vrouwen, Wolvinnen en Onschuldigen: Plek van vrouwen in geschiedenis/cultuur	Workshops/conversation circles by/with migrant women and incorporating their experiences into a show.	2023	National, Regional	In structured workshops and discussion groups, migrant women engage in introspective conversations, sharing their experiences, aspirations, and obstacles. These dialogues inform a cohesive production, showcasing the diversity of their narratives. This initiative promotes inclusivity and mutual understanding within the community.	https://kbs-frb.be/nl/heksen-vrouwen-wolvinnen-en-onschuldigen-plek-van-vrouwen-geschiedenis-cultuur
5	CAW Antwerpen (2022)	Over de Drempel: op weg naar volwaardige participatie van vrouwelijke migranten en vluchtelingen	Empowerment through tailored guidance.	2022	National, Regional	This project guides vulnerable women (migrants/refugees) through bridge figures towards tailored growth pathways to promote their resilience and full participation in society.	https://kbs-frb.be/nl/over-de-drempel-op-weg-naar-volwaardige-participatie-van-vrouwelijke-migranten-en-vluchtelingen

GOOD AND SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES IN BELGIUM

Title	Aims	Period	Activities	Results	Link
RoSa vzw	To promote gender equality and combat gender-based violence, including human trafficking. Through	Ongoing	Providing information and resources, educational programs, advocacy and awareness-raising and research and analysis	Contributions to gender equality, awareness-raising, advocacy efforts, and educational programs, aimed at combating gender-based	https://rosavzw.be/nl/



Title	Aims	Period	Activities	Results	Link
	education, awareness-raising, and advocacy, they work to address the specific challenges faced by women, contributing to the broader effort to eliminate gender disparities and violence.			violence, including human trafficking.	
VONA	To improve the quality of care and support available to survivors of human trafficking, particularly those from non-EU countries, by addressing their unique needs and challenges in a gender-sensitive and trauma-informed manner.	Ongoing	Direct assistance to victims by covering the costs of psychological counselling, training of staff in trauma-informed and gender-sensitive care, and implementation by specialized centres	Direct psychological counselling assistance, staff training in trauma-informed and gender-sensitive care, and implementation by specialized centres like PAG-ASA, Payoke, and Sürya, aiming to enhance their support and wellbeing effectively	https://pag-asa.be/nl/hulp-aan-slachtoffers
Samusocial.Brussels	Providing emergency assistance to struggling homeless people in Brussels and restoring dignified relationships.	Ongoing since 2015	Emergency shelter, psychosocial counselling and medical consultations.	Regarding asylum seekers and migration, Samusocial currently has three accommodation centres that together accommodate 898 asylum seekers.	https://samusocial.be/missions-et-dispositifs-2/noodopvang/le-pole-asile-et-migration/



Title	Aims	Period	Activities	Results	Link
Caritas	Providing comprehensive support to victims of human trafficking, including women, through shelter, rehabilitation, legal aid, and awareness-raising programs. They work towards empowering survivors, promoting their rights, and advocating for policies to prevent and address human trafficking.	Ongoing	Supporting trafficking survivors with shelter, rehabilitation, legal aid, and awareness programs, empowering them to rebuild their lives. Additionally, Caritas advocates for policies to prevent trafficking and protect survivors' rights at local and international levels.	Their efforts have contributed to the rehabilitation and empowerment of trafficking survivors, increased awareness about human trafficking, and influenced policy changes to better protect survivors' rights.	https://www.caritasinternational.be/nl/projects/asiel-migratie/louvranges-opvolging-en-ondersteuning/
Ella vzw	Ella vzw, established in 1999 as a support centre for migrant girls and women, evolved into an organization that develops knowledge and raises awareness in society. Their	Ongoing since 1999	Supporting and empowering migrant women in Belgium through knowledge development, training, challenging stereotypes, publications, and collaboration on research projects.	Ella vzw's accomplishments include raising awareness of migrant women's challenges, providing skills training, challenging stereotypes in STEAM fields, publishing educational materials, and collaborating on research to improve teleworking	https://ellavzw.be/



Title	Aims	Period	Activities	Results	Link
	mission is focused on promoting the participation and full engagement of ethnic minority groups in Flanders and Brussels.			inclusivity for marginalized groups in Belgium.	
Gams.be	Preventing female genital mutilation (FGM) among at-risk girls and women in Belgium by raising awareness, managing risky situations to prevent excision, providing comprehensive care for those affected, training professionals, advocating for FGM prevention, and supporting abandonment programs at national and international levels	Ongoing since 1996	Preventative measures against female genital mutilation (FGM) through awareness campaigns, training sessions, and workshops, while also providing legal protection and multidisciplinary support services to at-risk individuals, including asylum seekers and refugees, to address their social, psychological, and legal needs.	Since 1996, GAMS Belgium influenced legislation, policy agendas, and established care centres, FGM trajectories, and trained healthcare professionals and community relays. Over the past 5 years, they protected 851 girls from excision, supported 1831 excised women, trained 7411 professionals, and aided 258 men.	https://gams.be/



INFORMATION ON OTHER IMPORTANT ASPECTS

Title	Programme	Type	Aims	Period	Implementation level	Main results
WINGS	A social-economic integration program	Social inclusion	Facilitating the social-economic integration of third-country national women victims of trafficking by piloting a comprehensive integration model focusing on language skills, psychological wellbeing, and increased job opportunities in Belgium, Greece, Italy, and Spain.	Launched in February 2022, ongoing	International	<p>Improved language and soft skills, enhanced psychological wellbeing, increased motivation for integration into the labour market among beneficiaries, strengthened capacities of victim support organizations, and the creation of internship or job opportunities by employers for project beneficiaries across partner countries.</p> <p>https://www.payoke.be/en/project/wings-supporting-women-survivors-of-trafficking-through-a-comprehensive-integration-programme/</p>
Blue Heart Campaign	An international awareness-raising initiative to combat human trafficking	Raising awareness, prevention, inclusion	It aims to raise awareness, mobilize action, and promote partnerships to combat human trafficking globally, while advocating for the rights and support of trafficking victims.	Ongoing, since 2009	International	<p>The Blue Heart Campaign has led to increased global awareness about human trafficking, mobilized action to prevent trafficking, and fostered partnerships among governments, NGOs, and other stakeholders. It has prompted legislative reforms, improved victim support services, and enhanced law enforcement efforts. Additionally, the campaign has empowered survivors, raised funds for anti-trafficking initiatives, and contributed to a growing movement to end human trafficking and support victims worldwide.</p> <p>https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/blueheart/</p>



Title	Programme	Type	Aims	Period	Implementation level	Main results
The Migrant Women and Girls Toolbox	Toolkit for policymakers, practitioners, and stakeholders involved in addressing the specific needs and vulnerabilities of migrant women and girls	Detection, prevention, social inclusion, legal framework, victim assistance and support services, advocacy	Providing practical resources, guidance, and support to policymakers, practitioners, and stakeholders working to address the specific needs and vulnerabilities of migrant women and girls affected by trafficking, with a focus on detection, prevention, and social inclusion.	Always available, ongoing	International	Increased awareness among stakeholders, enhanced capacity for gender-sensitive support, improved coordination, and the development of effective strategies to address trafficking in women. It empowers migrant women to access their rights and support services, contributing to a more comprehensive response to trafficking and better protection for those affected. https://belgium.iom.int/migrant-women-girls-toolbox



Title	Programme	Type	Aims	Period	Implementation level	Main results
Vlinderfonds (projectoprop 2023)	Fund to support cultural and social projects for migrant women in Brussels	Social inclusion	Funding cultural outings (such as museum visits, exhibitions, film screenings, and theatre performances) and creative workshops (such as drama, visual arts, and audiovisual techniques). Additionally, they fund workshops on parenting topics, activities strengthening the family-school relationship, and initiatives focusing on family history storytelling.	2023	National	<p>Vlinderfonds 2023 has supported a range of cultural and social projects for women with a migration background in Brussels. These include initiatives such as the AWSA-CLUB, which promotes intercultural exchanges and cultural outings for women from the Arab world, and the BUURTKEUKEN NIC NAC SOLIDAIR project, which fosters community bonding through shared meals. Additionally, the fund has contributed to programs like the LAMA VUITTON project, aimed at empowering women through sewing workshops, and the MAMA'S POWER initiative, providing support and training for mothers in poverty.</p> <p>https://kbs-frb.be/nl/vlinder-fonds</p>



Title	Programme	Type	Aims	Period	Implementation level	Main results
Gemma	A support initiative focusing on gender and migration	Social inclusion	Promoting gender equality and freedom of choice for individuals with a migration background, providing support, advice, and training to address gender-related challenges, and fostering social inclusion and empowerment among women with migration backgrounds in Antwerp.	Ongoing since March 8th, 2024	National	<p>The results so far from Gemma's initiatives include individuals breaking free from conservative environments, undergoing surgery to repair the effects of female genital mutilation, finding acceptance of one's identity, discovering educational and employment opportunities, and gaining the strength to take control of one's life.</p> <p>https://www.antwerpen.be/info/gemma#rubrieken-uuid-731d177b-1793-4bec-800b-19427471bca2</p>



Finland

THE LATEST RESEARCH IN FINLAND

No	Author (year)	Study purpose	Study type	Data collection	Participants and sampling	Main findings	Link
1	Pihlaja and Piipponen (2023)	Supporting the construction of a cooperation network between authorities and organisations and strengthening the competence of actors to identify trafficking in human beings related to gender-based violence and sexual abuse, to promote detection, and to assist victims to direct the district	Case study, quantitative and qualitative methods	Data (n=184) cases, 91% women	Clients of Victim Support Finland's special support service for victims of human trafficking between 1 November 2022 and 31 January 2023.	This report examines the cases of victims of human trafficking who have experienced sexual violence, including persons in forced marriages, who were clients of Victim Support Finland's special support service for victims of human trafficking between 1 November 2022 and 31 January 2023. Based on the study, to provide comprehensive assistance for victims of human trafficking the reasons behind the exploitation first need to be identified and addressed. Multi-sectoral and flexible cooperation across a range of organisations can provide the most comprehensive forms of support, helping the victim to leave the abuser, recover and create stability for their life. On the one hand, comprehensive healthcare and social welfare services and other support services contributed to the success of the criminal investigation and therefore the entire criminal procedure. On the other hand, the success of the criminal procedure or being heard during the procedure supported	http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-400-771-9



No	Author (year)	Study purpose	Study type	Data collection	Participants and sampling	Main findings	Link
						the victim's recovery and future oriented attitude, preventing re-victimisation.	
2	Tasa et al. (2021)		A retrospective register-based study	Data collected between 2014 to 2018 from the electronic medical records of the public maternity clinic and maternity hospital in Helsinki, Finland.	62 individual pregnancies of undocumented women.	Undocumented women entered prenatal care later than recommended. Most women received inadequate prenatal care and some of them did not receive prenatal care at all. The prevalence of infectious diseases was significantly higher and the coverage of prenatal screenings deficient amongst undocumented pregnant women.	https://doi.org/10.1186/s12884-021-03642-Z
3	Jokinen et al. (2024)	The ultimate aim of the EASY project is to enhance support for victims/survivors of forced marriage and strengthen the work against forced marriage in the four partner countries.		The best practices were collected mainly via semi-structured (individual or group) interviews with experts and/or survivors, that were based on a shared interview framework. The interviews were conducted in the summer and autumn of 2023.1 The experts interviewed included, e.g., NGO representatives and counsellors	The content is based on a desk review of academic and other relevant literature, as well information collected by the EASY project partners. Finland, Germany, Ireland, Catalonia (Spain)	This report outlines the concrete challenges, factors and concepts that must be addressed when developing effective responses to tackle forced marriages and providing support to victims and persons affected.	NEVER+EASY+ Best+practice+ booklet+2024. pdf (heuni.fi)



No	Author (year)	Study purpose	Study type	Data collection	Participants and sampling	Main findings	Link
4	Melander and Mahmood (2022)	This report assesses the application practice of the criminal provision on the abuse of a victim of sexual trade. The report focuses on the contents and problem areas of the provision. The report also assesses the functioning of the authorities' processes related to the application of the provision.	Quantitative and qualitative, juridical aspect	From the Legal Register Centre, Prosecutions received from the Public Prosecutor's Office and the police datasets	Data from police (n=144), prosecutor (n=126) and court (n=66) cases.	The key finding is that while the fundamental elements of the provision concerning the abuse of a victim of sexual trade function well, the provision is not always applied consistently in practice. It is considered necessary to specify the scope of application of the provision in legal practice. The penal scale determined in the provision is not in line with the abusive nature of the act punishable under the provision. More attention should be paid to the progress of cases involving application of the provision in the criminal procedure. Furthermore, certain amendments improving the position of the injured party should be made to the Code of Judicial Procedure and the Tort Liability Act.	http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-259-952-Q
5	Lehtovaara and Jyrkinen (2021)	In this article, we examine highly educated and skilled migrant women's job search processes, the expectations and emotions that arise, often via multifarious hurdles in finding work in Finland – a country that presents itself as a model country of equality.	Qualitative	Personal interviews,	Migrant women (n=12), from 11 different originating countries, migrated to Finland from the 1990s to the 2010s.	There are multiple hurdles in highly educated women workers' employment, which relate to structural and cultural aspects and which end up in discrimination in recruitment processes.	https://doi.org/10.18291/njwls.128588



THE LATEST PROJECTS IN FINLAND

No	Author (year)	Title, Acronym	Programme	Period of project	Implementation level	Main objective	Link
1	Turun valkonauha ry	Kaikkien naisten talo		2017 -	National	House for all women project by Turun valkonauha ry started in July 2017. The aim of the project is to support the vulnerable women with immigrant backgrounds and their families through the means of the day centre and voluntary activities.	TOIMINTA – Kaikkien naisten talo TOIMINTA – Kaikkien naisten talo
2		EASY "It is never easy to talk about this"-Increasing dialogue, awareness, and victim-centred support for victims of forced marriages	CERV	2023 - ongoing	Spain, Ireland, Germany, Finland	Aims to increase community engagement and dialogue, raise awareness, and develop victim-centred support for victims of forced marriages.	EASY. Increasing dialogue, awareness, and victim-centred support for victims of forced marriages Heuni
3	Nicehearts ry	From Stay-at-Home Parenting to Education and Employment	ESR	2019-2021		<p>The aim was to promote immigrants to Finland, especially housewives or otherwise</p> <p>Social inclusion of women who have been inactive for a long time</p> <p>supporting their transition from home to education and working life.</p>	ItseNaiset – Kotiäitiydestä kohti opiskelua ja työelämää (nicehearts.com)



No	Author (year)	Title, Acronym	Programme	Period of project	Implementation level	Main objective	Link
4	Spring House	WOW – e. Women's Opportunities for Work and Education	Erasmus+	1.2.2022–31.7.2024	National	Supporting migrant women's working life and study opportunities together with working life	WOW-e maahanmuuttaneiden naisten tukena – Staffpoint

GOOD AND SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES IN FINLAND

Title	Aims	Period	Activities	Results	Link
Naisten linja, Womens line	Offers services to girls and women who have experienced violence and abuse.	Ongoing	Phone service, chat and support groups	/	In English Naisten Linja



Title	Aims	Period	Activities	Results	Link
Nollalinja	<p>Nollalinja is a nationwide free-of-charge helpline for anyone who has experienced violence or a threat of violence in a close relationship.</p> <p>Nollalinja is also available for family members of victims of violence and for professionals and officials who require advice in their work with customers.</p> <p>Nollalinja is staffed by trained and experienced health and social services professionals, who are there to listen to you, support you and advise you around the clock, on every day of the year.</p> <p>You can talk to our professionals in Finnish, Swedish or English.</p>	Ongoing	In addition to Nollalinja helpline, you may also talk to a crisis worker with the Nollalinja chat service. From the 2nd of May 2024, the chat is open Monday to Wednesday from 9am to 3pm and Thursday to Friday from 2pm to 8pm. The chat operates on the www.nollalinja.fi website	/	Nollalinja



Title	Aims	Period	Activities	Results	Link
Monika-naiset liitto ry	MONIKA – Multicultural Women's Association, Finland is an umbrella organisation of multicultural women's organisations that helps and supports women in different languages.	Ongoing	Help from Crisis Centre Monika for those who have experienced violence or a threat of violence; Shelter Mona, for women find it dangerous to stay at home, or in their community, because of violence	/	https://monikanaiset.fi/en/
Monika-naiset liitto ry	MONIKA – Multicultural Women's Association, Finland is an umbrella organisation of multicultural women's organisations that helps and supports women in different languages.	Ongoing	Help from Crisis Centre Monika for those who have experienced violence or a threat of violence; Shelter Mona, for women find it dangerous to stay at home, or in their community, because of violence	/	https://monikanaiset.fi/en/
Helplines for abuse and domestic violence	Support, advice and counselling for anyone who has experienced violence or threat of violence	Ongoing	/	/	https://findahelpline.com/countries/fi/topics/abuse-domestic-violence



INFORMATION ON OTHER IMPORTANT ASPECTS

No	Author (year)	Title, Acronym	Programme	Period of project	Implementation level	Main objective	Link
Step forward	A tool for developing an organisational strategy to provide victim-centred support for migrant women victims of gender-based violence	/	The strategy places a strong focus on improving the capacity of counsellors – the cornerstones of assistance – to provide the assistance. The framework encourages organisations to assess their current practices, and to develop clear goals, policies, and management practices through participatory processes.	/	/	/	/
Link: Strategy Tool-ENG.pdf (heuni.fi)							

3.5 LAUREA UAS STUDENT CONTRIBUTION ON MIGRANT WOMEN AND FEMALE VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING

As earlier mentioned, Laurea Bachelor and Master students of Social Services and Correctional Services have written JeS-topics related blogs and research articles as part of their studies both in Finnish and in English. These articles and blogs will be added to the JeS website and will additionally be modified for the WP4 purposes to meet the needs of varied educational materials.



Title	Writer	Country	Type	Article topic	Link
Naiset maahanmuuttajina, mitä uhkia he kohtaavat? (Female Migrants and the Threats They Face)	Knuu-tinen-Suotula, S., 2024	Finland	JeS Article (in Finnish)	Immigrant women are often in a vulnerable position. They are frequently exploited in various ways, with one of the greatest risks being becoming a victim of human trafficking. Trafficking or other forms of exploitation can begin in the country of origin and, depending on the case, continue through various transit countries to the destination country and beyond. In addition to trafficking, women are often more susceptible to sexual and other forms of violence and exploitation.	https://jointstories.eu/fi/
Seksuaaliväki-valtaan perustuva ihmiskauppa: traumasidos ja pakottava kontrolli (Human Trafficking Based on Sexual Violence: Trauma Connection and Forced Control)	Nikkilä-Sjölund, M., 2024	Finland	JeS Article (in Finnish)	The article first briefly addresses the characteristics of human trafficking related specifically to sexual violence, into which girls and women are most typically ensnared. It then explains the concepts of trauma bonding and coercive control, and how these can arise as a result of prolonged mistreatment and traumatization. Finally, the article describes the support needed by victims of human trafficking, the actions of authorities, and future needs.	https://jointstories.eu/fi/
Naisiin kohdistuva väkivalta ihmisoikeus-kysymyksenä (Violence Against Women as a Human Rights Question)	Nikkilä, R., 2024	Finland	JeS Article (in Finnish)	This article addresses violence against women as a human rights issue. Violence against women and domestic violence are widespread and have deep historical roots. The article covers the background of violence against women, its various manifestations, statistics, and measures that have been taken to address violence against women, domestic violence, and its consequences.	https://jointstories.eu/fi/
Naiset ihmiskaupan uhreina	Pesonen, J., 2024	Finland	JeS Article	The article examines human trafficking more closely from the perspective of female victims and how trafficking of	https://jointstories.eu/fi/



(Women as victims of trafficking in human beings)			(in Finnish)	women manifests both internationally and within Finland. The article also addresses the issue from the standpoint of why women are more frequently victims in general and whether becoming a victim is related to women's status and rights on a broader level.	
Immigrant Women and Health Services in Pregnancy	Blog by Catalina, C., 2024	Spain	JeS Blog	"Before coming to this country, I tried to get pregnant many times, but it just didn't happen. After a year in Finland, I became pregnant, and I was the happiest I have ever been. Because we are not Finnish and we don't have close Finnish friends, we didn't know what to do or where to go, so I went to my health station and asked there. The person in the reception did not speak English very well, so she had to ask a nurse to come and help."	https://jointstories.eu/
Shaping Healthcare (Work) for Migrant Women	Blog by Anne, U., 2024	Netherlands	JeS Blog	All over the world women are perceived as care takers. Throughout history women have taken on this role. Mothers, grandmothers, daughters, all providing personal- and professional care. More than eighty percent of caregivers are female, who spend fifty percent more time on providing care than the average male. Within this group we can see women with a migration background. How do these migrating women shape and pursue this role when changing their familiar environments.	https://jointstories.eu/
Resilience of Migrant Women and Female Victims of Trafficking	Blog by Lorena, A. N., 2024	Spain	JeS Blog	It is essential to understand the difference between a migrant woman and a female victim of trafficking. Migrant women are women who emigrate to another country for diverse reasons, such as, poverty, conflict, climate-related disasters or gender-based violence (UN Women, 2023). Trafficking with people is when someone is taken from one country to another country for the aim of	https://jointstories.eu/



exploitation, such as sexual or labour exploitation (U.S Department of Justice, 2023).

Migrant Women and Trafficking
Victims in Finland and Venezuela

Blog by
Juliana, F. &
Ayan, M.,
2024

Spain

JeS Blog

In the huge expanse of global migration, the stories of migrant women and victims of trafficking often remain veiled in shadows, their struggles unnoticed and their voices unheard. We are focusing our lens on Finland and Venezuela, two countries with distinct contexts and approaches in addressing the challenges faced by these vulnerable groups.

<https://jointstories.eu/>



Slovenia

THE LATEST RESEARCH IN SLOVENIA

No	Author (year)	Study purpose	Study type	Data collection	Participants and sampling	Main findings	Link
1	Kogovšek Šalamon et al. (2023)	To analyse whether the regulatory framework in Slovenia regarding criminal offenses related to the exploitation of prostitution can be characterized as repressive, restrictive, or integrative.	Qualitative study	Content analysis of files from district courts	Files from district courts (n=20), purposive sampling	The prevailing model in Slovenia combines elements of both repressive and integrative approaches, leaning towards a restrictive framework.	https://www.policija.si/images/stories/Publikacije/RKK/PDF/2023/03/RKK2023-03_NezaKogovsekSalamon_SocialnopravniVidiki.pdf



No	Author (year)	Study purpose	Study type	Data collection	Participants and sampling	Main findings	Link
2	Pajnik and Kavčič (2006)	To discuss the demand side of the sex industry, and its connection with human trafficking and prostitution.	Qualitative and quantitative study	Telephone survey, semi-structured interviews both over the phone and face-to-face	Survey: general public, n=306, purposive, representative sampling; semi-structured interviews: key stakeholders, prostitutes, customers, nightclub owners, pimps, web forum administrator, n=20, purposive and snowball sampling, non-representative sampling	The majority of victims come from Ukraine, Romania, and Moldova. Some victims may be coerced into so-called voluntary prostitution. It is often difficult for people to identify victims of human trafficking. Victims may not even realize that they are being victimized, and their movement is often restricted. Perpetrators also take money from the victims. To prevent human trafficking, it is important to have discussions about prostitution and human trafficking in schools, and to raise awareness through workshops, advertisements, and visual materials such as pictures and videos.	https://www.mirovni-institut.si/en/projects/iom-the-demand-side-of-sex-perspective-s-on-trafficking-and-prostitution-the-case-of-slovenia/



No	Author (year)	Study purpose	Study type	Data collection	Participants and sampling	Main findings	Link
3	Pajnik and Kavčič (2007)	To analyse statistical data and court cases in the field of human trafficking	Qualitative study	Analysis of legal acts obtained online, and court files obtained in person	Slovenian and foreign legal acts: sample size and sampling method are not specified; court files: n=17, all files from the period 2001–2005	The victims include Slovenian and foreign citizens, while the majority of the perpetrators are male and from Slovenia. Many of the perpetrators are unemployed and facing social and economic difficulties. Some of the wealthier perpetrators own businesses such as nightclubs, massage parlours, marriage agencies, and taxi services. The research includes recommendations for managing data on victims and ongoing cases, providing assistance and protection to victims, as well as conducting further research.	https://www.mirovni-institut.si/p/rojekti/vzp-ostavitev-in-spremljanje-mednarodn-o-primerljivih-kazalcev-o-trgovini-z-ljudmi/
4	Pajnik and Renault (2014)	To investigate if online discourses strength the divide between prostitution and trafficking in human being or offer new approaches to understanding these phenomena as interrelated.	Qualitative study	Content analysis of non-commercial websites	Non-commercial websites dealing with prostitution and human trafficking (n=351), purposive sampling	Non-commercial websites' discourses on prostitution and human trafficking display bipartite polarization, highlighting the persistence of the prostitution paradigm and the trafficking paradigm.	https://doi.org/10.1177/0539018414531677



No	Author (year)	Study purpose	Study type	Data collection	Participants and sampling	Main findings	Link
5	Radačić and Pajnik (2017)	To compare Croatian and Slovenian policies related to prostitution.	Qualitative study	Semi-structured interviews	Professionals that meet with such cases, and (n=3) sex workers (n=9). Purposive sampling.	Pimps are primarily citizens of the Republic of Slovenia that legalize their activities through different economic activities (e.g., night clubs). They can come to prostitutes under the pretext of clients. The Police is proactive in identifying victims and pimps. They investigate with classic gathering statements and police undercover work.	https://www.researchgate.net/publication/321998770_Prostitution_in_Croatia_and_Slovenia_-_Sex_Worker's_Experience_ed_L_Radacic_M_Pajnik



No	Author (year)	Study purpose	Study type	Data collection	Participants and sampling	Main findings	Link
6	Šalamon (2006)	To assess the awareness of human trafficking among female asylum seekers, measure the prevalence of sexual exploitation among them, and investigate their motives for seeking opportunities in foreign countries	Qualitative and quantitative study	Survey, interviews	Interviewing: female asylum seekers, n=7, purposive, non-representative sampling; interviewing: key stakeholders, n=2, sampling method not stated	Asylum seekers often mention poor economic conditions, the possibility of earning extra income, and access to luxury goods as reasons why girls and women end up in prostitution. Many people in their home countries are not aware of the risks of international human trafficking. Slovenia is commonly used as a transit country for asylum seekers, who may become victims of prostitution or forced labour due to their low education, lack of knowledge of the language, and young age, which make it difficult for them to find employment or regularize their status without being exploited or abused. Research findings indicate that prostitution also occurs within the Asylum in Ljubljana.	https://plus.cobiss.net/cobiss/si/sl/bib/prflj/1859016



No	Author (year)	Study purpose	Study type	Data collection	Participants and sampling	Main findings	Link
7	Šori (2005)	To explore the various forms of prostitution in Slovenia and understand the attitudes, lifestyle, and relationships of sex workers and their clients	Qualitative study	Semi-structured face-to-face, telephone and written interviews	Key stakeholders, female and male prostitutes, clients, sample size not stated; purposive, non-representative sampling	The victims of human trafficking in Slovenia can be Slovenian or foreign citizens. The most common forms of prostitution in Slovenia are residential prostitution and prostitution in nightclubs. Perpetrators deceive victims with false promises of payment and use the method of debt addiction. They recruit victims by pretending to be clients and then use threats, physical violence, and sexual violence to force them to work for them. The customers are mainly men who do not share their experiences with prostitutes with others.	https://www.etno-muzej.si/fil/es/etnolog/pdf/0354-0316_15_Sori_Prostituci ja.pdf



THE LATEST PROJECTS IN SLOVENIA

No	Author (year)	Study purpose	Study type	Data collection	Participants and sampling	Main findings	Link
1	Dolinar et al. (2018)	Sem Ana in nisem tvoja Ančka (I am Ana and I am not your Ana doll)	Co-funded by the Public Scholarship, Development, Disability, and Maintenance Fund of the Republic of Slovenia, the Ministry of Education, Science, and Sport of the Republic of Slovenia, and the European Social Fund	From June to September 2017	Qualitative and quantitative research was conducted by interviews with sex workers and organizations that are (in)directly related to the field of sex work and questionnaires for clients of sex workers. Research represents the needs and problems of sex workers in Slovenia.	To form rapid needs assessment in the field of prostitution, reduce harm, and improve the working conditions by awareness of clients of sex workers.	https://spol.si/blog/2018/01/17/se-m-ana-in-nisem-tvoja-ancka/



No	Author (year)	Study purpose	Study type	Data collection	Participants and sampling	Main findings	Link
2	Društvo Ključ – center za boj proti trgovanju z ljudmi (n.d.–a)	Celostna oskrba žrtev trgovine z ljudmi (Comprehensive care for victims of trafficking in human beings)	Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Slovenia	Since 2001	This support encompasses telephone counselling, psychosocial aid, help in relocating victims from threatening situations, crisis accommodation, accommodation in safe facilities, aid in connecting with law enforcement authorities, assistance in arranging the repatriation of victims in their country of origin if desired, and referral of victims to a relevant organization in their country of origin.	To provide tangible, no-cost support to victims, including foreign victims in Slovenia and Slovenian citizens.	https://društvo-kljuc.si/nasledo/kurativni-projekti/celostna-oskrba-zrtev-tzl/



No	Author (year)	Study purpose	Study type	Data collection	Participants and sampling	Main findings	Link
3	Društvo Ključ – center za boj proti trgovanju z ljudmi (n.d.–b)	(Re)integracija žrtev trgovanja z ljudmi ((Re)integration of victims of trafficking in human beings)	Since its beginning, it has had different funders ¹ . Currently, it is funded by the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Slovenia (the Police).	Since 2016	Offer support for starting an independent life, integration into the educational system, and help with learning, psychotherapy, psychosocial counselling, organization of leisure activities, and support for expanding the social network.	To establish system solutions for persons with the experience of trafficking in human beings in the process of (re)integration.	https://društvo-kljuc.si/naslovni-projekti/reintegracija/

¹ The project was in the period 2016–2019 co-funded by the Embassy of the USA in the Republic of Slovenia, in the period 2019–2020 by Slovenian police with the help of European Union funds from the internal security fund and in the period 2021–2023 by the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Slovenia (Društvo Ključ – center za boj proti trgovanju z ljudmi, n.d.–b; Tiegl, 2024) .



No	Author (year)	Study purpose	Study type	Data collection	Participants and sampling	Main findings	Link
4	Društvo Ključ – center za boj proti trgovanju z ljudmi (n.d.–c)	Pogum (Courage)	Co-funded by the Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs, and Equal Opportunities of the Republic of Slovenia	2022	The POGUM project offered therapeutic and integration activities to empower Ukrainian women refugees, helping them build resilience and avoid exploitative work. The SOOS TzL project provided healthcare access and advocacy for trafficking victims while educating healthcare professionals on supporting these individuals. We did not find information about the implementation level.	To alleviate the hardships and create equal opportunities for women displaced by the war in Ukraine and brought to Slovenia, to empower them, and to inform them that because they are refugees, they do not need to accept risky offers for income.	https://društvo-kljuc.si/nasledek-projekti/zakljuceni-projekti/



No	Author (year)	Study purpose	Study type	Data collection	Participants and sampling	Main findings	Link
5	Mirovni inštitut – Inštitut za sodobne družbene in politične študije (n.d.)	Glasovi migrant (Voices of immigrant women (Viw))	Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union	1.10.2020–30.9.2022	During the project, partners conducted case studies and analysed personal stories of the successful integration of migrant women in European countries, established an e-learning package, and formed recommendations for politics. The Slovenian partner found that the migration experience significantly influenced the interviewee's life. She noted a considerable improvement in her quality of life in Slovenia compared to her country of origin, leading to feelings of increased security.	To contribute to establishing an inclusive higher education system by addressing the critical social challenge of women's migration in the current European context.	https://www.mirovni-institut.si/p/rojekti/glasovi-migrantk/



GOOD AND SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES IN ITALY

Title	Aims	Period	Activities	Results	Link
Caritas Slovenia (Slovenska karitas)	A charitable organization of the Roman Catholic Church in Slovenia with the purpose of realizing the charitable and social mission of the Church. In the field of human trafficking, their focus is on prevention, assistance to victims, education, and international cooperation.	Established in 1990, since 2006, they offer help and support to victims of human trafficking	They provide victims of human trafficking with a safe environment, including accommodation, food, and care. Additionally, they offer 24-hour phone support, healthcare, interpretation services in 19 different languages, safety, counselling (including psychosocial support, advice, and information about their rights in a language they understand), and assistance in arranging for the victim to return to their country of origin.	They offered preventative activities for primary and secondary schools, legal representatives of unaccompanied minors and other legal guardians in Slovenia, as well as the general public.	https://www.karitas.si/pomoc/pomoc-z-zrtvam-trgovine-z-ljudmi/kam-po-pomoc/
Celostna oskrba žrtev trgovine z ljudmi-krizna namestitvev (Comprehensive care for victims of trafficking in human beings-crisis accommodation)	To provide comprehensive care lasting to 30 days for identified victims who need immediate withdrawal from the sheltered environment.	Since 2006	The accommodation includes appropriate safe accommodation and material aid, assistance in providing basic health care, psychosocial support and assistance, information and counselling regarding victims' rights in a language they understand, translation and interpretation, and assistance in arranging the return to the country of origin.	Since 2016, 63 victims of human trafficking were included in the program (Tiegl, 2024).	https://www.karitas.si/pomoc/pomoc-z-zrtvam-trgovine-z-ljudmi/kam-po-pomoc/



Title	Aims	Period	Activities	Results	Link
Celostna oskrba žrtev trgovine z ljudmi-varna namestitvev (Comprehensive care for victims of trafficking in human beings-safe accommodation)	To provide victims who cooperate with the police with safe accommodation, help and support.	Since 2001	Safe accommodation for victims of human trafficking implemented by Ključ Society - Centre for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings (Društvo Ključ – center za boj proti trgovanju z ljudmi). The program is funded by the Ministry of the Interior of Republic of Slovenia.	Since 2016, 20 victims of human trafficking were included in the program (Tiegl, 2024).	https://drustvo-kljuc.si/nase-delo/kurativni-projekti/celostna-oskrba-zrtev-tzl/



Title	Aims	Period	Activities	Results	Link
Prava zveza (Right relationship)	The project's main goal is to provide mutual education, share relevant information, and offer support and help in challenging cases. It aims to empower young people to recognize different forms of violence, identify their own violent behaviour, and take appropriate action in cases of violence.	Since 2015	Organizations in Slovenia are collaborating to achieve better results in their shared working field.	The Ključ Society – Centre for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings (Društvo Ključ – center za boj proti trgovanju z ljudmi) collaborates with several other organizations, including the Legebitra Association (Društvo Legebitra), the Young Dragons Public Institute (Javni zavod Mladi zmaji), the SOS Telephone Association for Women and Children – Victims of Violence (Društvo SOS telefon za ženske in otroke – žrtve nasilja), the Reclaim the Power Association (Združenje za moč), Association for nonviolent communication (Društvo za nenasilno komunikacijo, Social marketing Out of principle (Socialni marketing Iz principa), and Association DrogArt (Združenje DrogArt).	https://drustvo-kljuc.si/nase-delo/preventivni-projekti/prava-zveza/



Title	Aims	Period	Activities	Results	Link
The National Working Group for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings (Medresorska delovna skupina za boj proti trgovini z ljudmi)	The aims include tasks related to legislation, prevention, detection, investigation, and prosecution of crimes, as well as providing assistance to and protection of victims, and fostering cooperation within regional and international organizations. The working group consists of 18 members from different institutions and 7 independent external members from various institutions and organizations.	Established in 2003	Their activities include developing periodic action plans and supervising their implementation; creating periodic reports for the Slovenian Government; assisting the national coordinator in proposing improvements to policies and measures for combating trafficking in human beings, especially related to prevention and providing support to trafficking victims.	Annually, they publish action plans and reports of their work, which are available on their webpage.	https://www.gov.si/en/registries/working-bodies/the-national-working-group-for-combating-trafficking-in-human-being/



INFORMATION ON ANY OTHER IMPORTANT ASPECT

Title	Programme	Type	Aims	Period	Implementation level	Main results
Celostna oskrba žrtev trgovine z ljudmi-krizna namestitvev (Comprehensive care for victims of trafficking in human beings-crisis accommodation)	Crisis accommodation for victims of human trafficking implemented by Caritas Slovenia. The program is funded by the Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs, and Equal Opportunities of the Republic of Slovenia.	Assistance to victims	To provide comprehensive care lasting to 30 days for identified victims who need immediate withdrawal from the sheltered environment.	Since 2006	The accommodation includes appropriate safe accommodation and material aid, assistance in providing basic health care, psychosocial support and assistance, information and counselling regarding victims' rights in a language they understand, translation and interpretation, and assistance in arranging the return to the country of origin.	Since 2016, 63 victims of human trafficking were included in the program (Tiegl, 2024).



Title	Programme	Type	Aims	Period	Implementation level	Main results
Celostna oskrba žrtev trgovine z ljudmi-varna namestitvev (Comprehensive care for victims of trafficking in human beings– safe accommodation)	Safe accommodation for victims of human trafficking implemented by Ključ Society – Centre for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings (Društvo Ključ – center za boj proti trgovanju z ljudmi). The program is funded by the Ministry of the Interior of Republic of Slovenia.	Assistance to victims	To provide victims who cooperate with the police with safe accommodation, help and support.	Since 2001	They help victims, both foreigners who are victims in Slovenia and Slovenian citizens. Victims who participate in the program receive counselling and crucial assistance, including support for attending court hearings or medical examinations. In addition to practical help, they also benefit from essential financial aid provided on a weekly basis. The program also includes thorough training for professionals responsible for providing care. To offer even more flexibility, victims have the option to return to their countries of origin within the program's framework.	Since 2016, 20 victims of human trafficking were included in the program (Tiegl, 2024).



Title	Programme	Type	Aims	Period	Implementation level	Main results
(Re)integracija žrtev trgovine z ljudmi ((Re)integration of victims of trafficking in human beings)	(Re)integration of victims of trafficking in human beings. It is funded by the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Slovenia (the Police).	Integration of victims	To establish a system solution for victims in the process of (re)integration.	Since 2016	(Re)integration includes learning the Slovenian language in cases of foreign victims, enrolment in the educational system of certification of already acquired education, assistance in finding employment, and organizing free time through voluntary work and other free-time activities (e.g., sports).	Since 2019, 30 victims of human trafficking were included in the program (Tiegl, 2024). They were included in the educational system, and were offered psychosocial support and help, support in organizing documents, learning, looking for a job, escorting to institutions, and inclusion in counselling activities.



Title	Programme	Type	Aims	Period	Implementation level	Main results
PATS project	Identifying, assisting, and protecting victims of human trafficking and sexual violence within the asylum system. The program is implemented by Ključ Society - Centre for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings (Društvo Ključ - center za boj proti trgovanju z ljudmi)	Assistance to victims	To provide asylum seekers with crucial information on human trafficking, sexual violence, and gender-based violence, as well as supporting.	Since 2005	As part of this initiative, staff members from the Ključ Society - Centre for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings (Društvo Ključ - center za boj proti trgovanju z ljudmi) visit asylum centres to educate individuals on recognizing and reporting human trafficking, and where to seek help. Additionally, they ensure that asylum seekers have access to a range of support programs (Tiegl, 2024)	Since 2016, 1,704 asylum seekers were offered help in the PATS program (Tiegl, 2024).



Title	Programme	Type	Aims	Period	Implementation level	Main results
Podpora osebam v prostituciji (Support for people in prostitution)	The support program is designed for individuals involved in prostitution, recognizing that they may also be victims of human trafficking. The project co-funded by the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Slovenia.	Assistance to potential victims	The program aims to provide various forms of help and support, either in person (through meetings with professionals) or anonymously (via telephone, email, or social networks).	Ongoing program	Professionals in the project provide personalized care and guidance to individuals involved in prostitution. They work to raise awareness about improving overall health, including mental health, and empower individuals to take control of their lives. The program aims to enhance psychological well-being, build confidence, expand options, and offer support for a safe exit from prostitution, if the individual chooses to do so.	The program is available to all, providing free and accessible support without any obligation to exit prostitution. This inclusive approach ensures that help is available to those who need it, regardless of their current situation.



Title	Programme	Type	Aims	Period	Implementation level	Main results
Celostna oskrba MOL (Comprehensive care MOL)	The program is funded by Municipality of Ljubljana (MOL).	Assistance to victims	To provide crisis accommodation	Ongoing program	The program offers five-day crisis accommodation to individuals who have not yet been identified by the police as victims of human trafficking but who need a rescue from their current situation (Tiegl, 2024).	/



Prava zveza (Right relationship)	Organizations in Slovenia are collaborating to achieve better results in their shared working field.	Multiagency cooperation	The project's main goal is to provide mutual education, share relevant information, and offer support and help in challenging cases. It aims to empower young people to recognize different forms of violence, identify their own violent behaviour, and take appropriate action in cases of violence.	Since 2015	The Ključ Society - Centre for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings (Društvo Ključ - center za boj proti trgovanju z ljudmi) collaborates with several other organizations, including the Legebitra Association (Društvo Legebitra), the Young Dragons Public Institute (Javni zavod Mladi zmaji), the SOS Telephone Association for Women and Children - Victims of Violence (Društvo SOS telefon za ženske in otroke - žrtve nasilja), the Reclaim the Power Association (Združenje za moč), Association for nonviolent communication (Društvo za nenasilno komunikacijo, Social marketing Out of principle (Socialni marketing Iz principa), and Association DrogArt (Združenje
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Title	Programme	Type	Aims	Period	Implementation level	Main results
					DrogArt) (Tiegl, 2024).	



Spain

THE LATEST RESEARCH IN SPAIN

No	Author (year)	Study purpose	Study type	Data collection	Participants and sampling	Main findings	Link
1	Amnistía Internacional (2020)	Identification of traffic victims in Spain	Qualitative research	Interviews	60 representatives of the victims 22 NGOs 6 victims	Many women victims of trafficking are invisible and not accounted into the official numbers because a) the data obtained by the Government is based on police operations instead of signs of trafficking; the lack of mechanisms to detect people at risk of trafficking on the Spanish coast; The data does not include migrants who have entered through the border and who could be at risk of being victims. 99% of victims of trafficking with sexual purpose are female.	https://doc.es.amnesty.org/ms-opac/recordmedia/1@000032723/object/43787/raw
2	Gobierno de España, Ministerio del Interior (n.d.)	Human Trafficking: situation in Spain	Statistic and qualitative research	Statistics		Regarding trafficking and sexual exploitation, 564 victims were identified in 2022 (129 for trafficking and 435 for exploitation), 14 of them minors, with women being the group most affected by this criminal activity, with 95% of the total number of victims, compared to 5% of men. It should be noted that almost three out of four victims of trafficking or sexual exploitation are of Latin American origin, mainly from Colombia.	https://www.interior.gob.es/opencms/es/servicios-al-ciudadano/trata/situacion-en-espana/#:~:text=Por%20lo%20que%20respecta%20a,a%20un%205%25%20de%20hombres.



No	Author (year)	Study purpose	Study type	Data collection	Participants and sampling	Main findings	Link
3	Delegación del Gobierno para la Violencia de Género; Meneses Falcón et al. (n.d.); Castaño Reyero and Gortázar Rotaeché (n.d.).	Apoyando a las Víctimas de Trata. Las necesidades de las mujeres víctimas de trata con fines de explotación sexual desde la perspectiva de las entidades especializadas y profesionales involucrados. Propuesta la la sensibilización contra la trata	Qualitative and Quantitative Research	Literature review and interviews		The victims of trafficking for sexual exploitation in Spain are mainly foreign women and girls, who are difficult to detect and quantify. Victims of trafficking have a number of common characteristics: they come from developing countries, with high levels of unemployment and insecurity; they come from poor or very low-income families; they are young and even some are minors; they are socially, family and psychologically vulnerable; they have very low educational and professional levels; they have dependent families or children and are mainly single mothers.	https://violenciagenero.igualdad.gob.es/violenciaEnCifras/estudios/investigaciones/2015/pdf/Apoyando_Victimas_Trata.pdf
4	Sánchez (2023)	La voz de las supervivientes: 2.140 mujeres fueron víctimas de explotación sexual en España durante 2022	Qualitative Research	Press and Literature Review		In Spain, according to data from the Statistical Balance on trafficking and sexual exploitation of the Ministry of Interior, in the period between 2018 and 2022, 2,240 victims have been registered. Of the total, 2,140 were women, 24 girls and adolescents and 3 boys and adolescents. According to the Ministry of Interior, among the nationalities that have suffered sexual exploitation in Spain are: Colombia (454), Romania (292), Dominican Republic (235), China (193), Brazil (190) and Venezuela (121). The remainder corresponds to Spanish women with a total of 364 cases.	https://www.elespanol.com/en/clave-ods/noticias/20230923/voz-supervivientes-mujeres-victimas-explotacion-sexual-espana/796420542_0.html



No	Author (year)	Study purpose	Study type	Data collection	Participants and sampling	Main findings	Link
5	AMIGA (n.d.)	Memoria 2019	Field Research	Activities carried out by the Organisation and its results		The conclusions of this research are that the victims of prostitution and forced sexual labour are mainly women and that the gender is a highly relevant issue and all the cultural background behind it.	https://amiga.org.es/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Memoria-Trata-2019-1.pdf

THE LATEST PROJECTS IN SPAIN

No	Author (year)	Title, Acronym	Programme	Period of project	Implementation level	Main objective	Link
1	Cámara de Comercio de Sevilla (Spain)	SMART Volunteering for Female Migrants	AMIF	2018–2019	Spain, Italy, France, Cyprus and Belgium	SMART Volunteering for Female Migrants was funded by AMIF and focused on the development, testing and implementation of innovative practices and initiatives allowing migrant & refugee women to effectively integrate into the European societies. By using the best integration tools and methods identified during the project, it contributed to transfer their	https://www.smartvolunteering.eu/



No	Author (year)	Title, Acronym	Programme	Period of project	Implementation level	Main objective	Link
						demonstrable results into the area of civic and social participation, thus bridging the gap between migrant women participation in social life and the third sector.	
2	CESIE	PITCH	AMIF	2022-2024	Italy, Greece, Slovenia, Spain, Cyprus, Lithuania, Sweden and Poland.	PITCH aims at establishing a common European ground to support the design and implementation of local integration strategies addressed to migrant women, based on a personalised, participatory, and multi-stakeholder approach.	https://pitch-eu.eu/
3	Cooperazione Internazionale Sud Sud (Italy)	BINIs – Best practices In tackling trafficking Nigerian Route	Asylum Migration and Integration Fund (European Commission – DG Migration and Home Affairs)	2018	Austria, Finland, Germany, Italy, Malta and Spain.	To enhance the skills and capacities of governmental and non-governmental actors to fight and prevent human trafficking (with a focus on Nigerian women and girls).	https://www.pfcmalta.org/bini-best-practices-in-tackling-trafficking.html
4	Fondo Provinciale Milanese per la Cooperazione Internazionale	WIN	AMIF		Spain, Bulgaria and Italy	Integration of Women Victims of Trafficking	https://amiga.org.es/win-trafficked-women-integration/



No	Author (year)	Title, Acronym	Programme	Period of project	Implementation level	Main objective	Link
5	"Integration of Vulnerable Migrant Groups"	ASSESS		2013–2014	Spain, Bulgaria, Malta, Hungary, Italy, Austria, Greece, Belgium, Slovakia and Poland	The project aimed to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the integration measures of three vulnerable groups: women, children and victims of human trafficking. The assessment has the objective of identifying the strengths and weaknesses in the application of the Common Basic Principles in the Integration of Migrants.	https://www.accem.es/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/ASSESS-Descripcion-del-proyecto.pdf
5	Project manager: Neža Kogovšek Šalamon, Peace Inštitut, Slovenia; Partner in project: Institute of Criminology at the Faculty of Law, Slovenia	Crimmigration between Human Rights and Surveillance (Krimigracije med človekovimi pravicami in nadzorom)	ARRS J5–7121 (B)	2016–2018	Project results included the international conference "Understanding Causes and Consequences of the Criminalization of Migration" (May 2018) and the publication of several scientific articles and monographs: https://www.mir.ovni-institut.si/en/projects/crimmigration-between-human-rights-and-surveillance/	The project aims to achieve the following objectives: to enhance understanding of the processes of criminalization and the expansion of the punitive state before, during, and after migrants' entry into the EU; to gain insight into border management, externalization of border control, and the role of Frontex; to analyse crimmigration through the perspective of theories of equality, racism, and xenophobia; to deepen understanding of the underlying motivations of migration policies and criminalization; to evaluate the strengths, weaknesses, and ongoing challenges of EU legislation in balancing fundamental rights and the need for control; to develop new theoretical concepts in the field of criminal migration; to raise awareness of the relationship between control and fundamental rights within the Slovenian scientific community through the publication of research results in Slovenia; and to contribute to the academic discourse at the EU and international levels by publishing research results in international journals, thereby promoting Slovenian research achievements on the global stage.	https://cris.cobiss.net/ecris/si/en/project/10034



GOOD AND SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES IN SPAIN

Title	Aims	Period	Activities	Results	Link
II Advanced Course on the Functionality of the VioGén System Comprehensive Monitoring of Gender Violence (VioGén System)	<p>The aim of these training sessions is to provide security forces and corps professionals with up-to-date knowledge on gender-based violence.</p> <p>Improving police risk assessment forms, police protection measures to prevent recidivism and personalised security plans. the number of women who fall victim to this scourge.</p>	2019	Course	This training has been given to 1,700 agents of the National Police, the Guardia Civil and the Local Police, who are part of the Comprehensive Monitoring System for Cases of Gender Violence (VioGén).	La Moncloa. 20/05/2019. El Ministerio del Interior imparte un curso para reforzar la formación de las Fuerzas y Cuerpos de Seguridad en prevención de la violencia de género [Prensa/Actualidad/Interior]



Title	Aims	Period	Activities	Results	Link
Network #ROMPELACADENA	Fight against trafficking in human beings by centralising specialised resources to ensure coverage of the entire protection and comprehensive assistance itinerary for possible victims of trafficking in human beings (VoTs).	2024	<p>In all of them, we offer specialised care from a multidisciplinary team, including social, psychological, legal, educational and work integration support.</p> <p>We also have a central 24-hour emergency telephone number that covers the whole country</p>	<p>There are currently 10 units in the network, in which 6 are mobile and rescue units, 8-day centres and 88 shelters.</p> <p>Throughout 2021, affected people received, legal and psychological counselling, as well as training workshops.</p> <p>All with the aim of facilitating their reintegration into society with equal opportunities.</p>	https://diaconia.es/rompelacadena/
Cope and Hope	The Cope and Hope project aims to generate rehabilitation models to promote inclusion and support migrant women victims of violence and human trafficking.	2022	On topic-related trainings, workshops, language courses, awareness campaigns	<p>120 migrant women victims of trafficking receiving training for their employment.</p> <p>700 stakeholders in the field of integration receive information on good practices.</p> <p>50 key decision-makers are interested in capitalizing and the results of the project.</p> <p>600.000 citizens of the European Union are reached through the awareness Campaign.</p>	https://abd.org/en/programs/cope-and-hope/



Title	Aims	Period	Activities	Results	Link
PASARELA Project	<p>To provide the necessary psychological, legal, social, housing and employment support to achieve real and effective autonomy.</p> <p>It consists of reception resources aimed at migrants in a situation of vulnerability who are in a regular administrative situation or in the process of regularisation in Spain, mainly people with dependent minors.</p>	2023	<p>Reception of the target population</p> <p>Initial assessment and follow-up</p> <p>interviews</p> <p>Fortnightly meetings</p> <p>Workshops</p>	<p>Throughout 2023:</p> <p>51</p> <p>People assisted in the different localities</p>	https://diaconia.es/proyecto-pasarela/
TAMAR Project	<p>At Tamar Project we attend and support women who are prostituted and women who are victims of trafficking for sexual exploitation in the province of Seville.</p>	2024	<p>Our MOBILE UNIT carries out periodic and also urgent outings, working directly in all kinds of places where women are forced to prostitute themselves.</p> <p>Urgent attention through a 24-HOUR TELEPHONE line for those women who require an immediate response.</p>	Not found	https://agapemas.org/en/tamar-project/



Title	Aims	Period	Activities	Results	Link
Against Trafficking in Women. Don't Invest in Suffering. #contralatrata demujeresTOMA CONCIENCIA	Prevention and awareness campaign against trafficking of women and girls for sexual exploitation.	2017	Awareness Spot	Campaign against trafficking of women and girls for sexual exploitation.	Contra la Trata de Mujeres. No Inviertas en Sufrimiento #contralatrata demujeres (youtube.com)



INFORMATION ON OTHER ASPECTS

Title	Programme	Type	Aims	Period	Implementation level
Programa de Atención y Acogida a Mujeres Víctimas de Trata y Explotación Sexual	Proyecto Esperanza de Adoratrices	Comprehensive support and social inclusion.	Aimed at women victims of trafficking and sexual exploitation, including those in irregular situations, offering comprehensive support, safe accommodation, legal assistance, and labour reintegration programmes.	Currently	Spain



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