

# **Crossing Borders** **Against Trafficking** **in Women and Girls**

**A Resource Book for working against Trafficking in the Baltic Sea Region**



By Foundation of Women's Forum, Stockholm

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## Preface

Trafficking in women for the purpose of sexual exploitation is a growing problem in the world with an estimated 500 000 women from all over the world trafficked each year into Western Europe alone. A large proportion of these comes from the former Soviet countries. Even though the work against, and research on, trafficking in women has been given consideration in Europe, not much work or research has been done in the Nordic and Baltic countries, and there is no clear estimation yet of the number of women and girls being trafficked in this region. However, NGOs and social workers have seen a considerable increase in the number of women trafficked from the Baltic to the Nordic countries.

Kvinnoforum (The Foundation of Women's Forum) therefore initiated research and formulated a strategy to counter trafficking in women and girls in the Baltic Sea region. The research started 1998 and has continued with the mobilisation of NGOs, government organisations and researchers in the work against trafficking with specific focus on prevention and rehabilitation. The process, which you can read more about in this resource book, led to the project "Crossing Borders Against Trafficking in Women and Girls". This project is both a contact network on prevention and rehabilitation and a resource databank on trafficking, which is available on the Internet.

The project, "Crossing Borders Against Trafficking", crossed geographical borders in order for us to meet organisations and individuals and inform them as well as ourselves on the phenomena of trafficking. We wanted to gather information on the work that was being carried out in the Baltic Sea region and to be a catalyst in the mobilisation of resources and willpower in this area. But we also wanted to cross the borders of civil society and state, the borders that separate "women's issues" from "youth issues" and "human rights issues". Therefore, in 1999, the group consisting of Nina Strandberg of Kvinnoforum, Natalia Ollus of MONIKA, Multicultural Women's Association, Finland and Tatjana Kurova of the Latvian Gender Problem Centre, travelled in the Baltic and Nordic countries to meet NGOs, research institutions, media, government organisations, municipalities and police.

We met organisations and researchers working with young people, HIV/STD prevention, violence against women, sex education, women's rights, human rights, crime prevention, protection of children, women in prostitution, gender issues, education, health and more. Trafficking is a multifaceted problem and therefore requires multifaceted action. Mobilising the existing resources and knowledge in the above areas is a good starting point for effective strategies to counteract the problem and make life, travel and work safer for women and girls.

The aim of this book is to provide a general background and resource for organisations and others who want to network on the issue of trafficking and/or find partners for joint projects. In this book we have described the background and

results of our work thus far. We also discuss the different approaches to trafficking and how the international NGO movement addresses the issue. In this book, the Bulgarian NGO “La Strada” also shares its knowledge concerning victims of trafficking and their traumas. This is followed by a list of references on trafficking and a list of links on the Internet to other networks and organisations in the world working against trafficking.

The final section of this book lists organisations and institutions that either met our group travelling while we were travelling in the Nordic and Baltic countries or contacted us to join the network. Although working in vastly different areas, the organisations all have in common that they are interested to incorporate work against trafficking in women and girls in their current activities, such as advocacy, networking, education or providing various services to the women and girls.

Some of the organisations that provide social services to women who have experienced violence, prostitution, psychological trauma etc have stated that women with experiences of trafficking are welcome to their centres. This does not necessarily mean that the organisation in question has formulated a specific rehabilitation programme for women with this specific traumatic experience, but that they are willing to listen to the women and do their best to assist them.

We hope that this resource book will prove useful in your work and that you will be inspired to make new contacts with others working in your field in the Baltic Sea region.

The resource book is also available on the Internet at  
[www.qweb.kvinnoforum.se/trafficking/](http://www.qweb.kvinnoforum.se/trafficking/)

The Internet version will be continuously updated. If you would like to be included in the next edition of this resource book or have written articles that you want to share with others, please contact us at the address below.

Good networking!

Nina Strandberg and Carolina J Wennerholm

Stockholm, November 1999

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# **Crossing Borders Against Trafficking in Women and Girls in the Baltic Sea Region**

By Carolina J Wennerholm, Kvinnoforum

Kvinnoforum has been working on the issue of trafficking in the Baltic Sea region since 1998, in three separate, but connected projects.

Since its foundation in 1988, Kvinnoforum has worked with disadvantaged women with multifaceted problems. Women and girls in prostitution has been an important target group and Kvinnoforum has developed experience in this field through work in Sweden as well as international co-operation. During the past few years Kvinnoforum has seen changes in the number of foreign women in prostitution in Sweden and been alarmed by the increase in this particular manifestation of gender inequality. Kvinnoforum thus identified the need to mobilise NGO resources to cater to the needs of these women. In order to get a comprehensive picture of the nature of the problem and to shatter the myths around the issue, Kvinnoforum decided to conduct a survey into the issues and the actions of civil society against it. Among other things this survey has resulted in a close collaboration with the Latvian Gender Problem Centre and MONIKA, Multicultural Women's Association in Finland. During 1999 the three organisations created a network of organisations and authorities engaged in or interested in working against trafficking. We have also gained a deeper understanding of the needs of these organisations in developing such work.

## **Research**

With funding from the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Kvinnoforum conducted the initial survey in 1998 in the Nordic and Baltic States, Russia and Belarus. The aim of the project was twofold: Firstly, to identify which NGOs, institutions and government organisations worked against trafficking in women and girls, prostitution and other related issues and secondly, which of these resources could be identified for mobilisation in the work against trafficking.

The research resulted in a report and a resource book on organisations in the region focusing on preventive and rehabilitative work. The results of the research indicated a great need for co-operation with other NGOs working against trafficking. Further, NGOs who did not address trafficking specifically were deeply interested in learning more and incorporating this issue into their usual activities. There was also an expressed interest in a European network for exchange of experiences and knowledge on trafficking.

## **Building a Network**

Based on the findings of the research project and in collaboration with Kvinnoforum's Latvian and Finnish partners, the project "Crossing Borders Against Trafficking in Women and Girls" was formulated. The project aimed at building a network of NGOs and other interested parties, such as research and government institutions, as well as individuals in the Nordic and Baltic States working or interested in working against trafficking in women. The project received funding by the European Commission's DAPHNE initiative.

During 1999, a team of representatives from the three organisations travelled to the Baltic and Nordic States to meet primarily with NGOs, but also with Government institutions and media, to disseminate and gather information on trafficking in women and girls in the region. Through this work, stronger contacts were established between the visited organisations and the project team, which has resulted in a regional network. Further, it has been possible to conduct open discussions on the interests and needs of organisations to mobilise and develop their work against trafficking.

The results of this project have exceeded expectation. NGOs, government and research institutions in the region have shown great interest in working against trafficking in women and in creating a network among NGOs on a national and a wider European level. The project has also contributed to bringing the issue onto the agenda in the countries of the region. For example Kvinnoforum has succeeded in sensitising the National Criminal Investigation Department of the Swedish Police on the human rights dimension of trafficking in women, instead of analysing it as a problem of illegal migration. Further, the Department has had discussions with Kvinnoforum when drafting recommendations to the government on the issue. Another example comes from Denmark where information provided by the project partners to the Danish newspaper "Politiken" resulted in a series of articles, which made politicians and the Danish Government act on the issue of trafficking.

The contacts and information gathered have been compiled into the present resource book and at the on-line resource base [www.qweb.kvinnoforum.se/trafficking/](http://www.qweb.kvinnoforum.se/trafficking/)

The book and the on-line resource base contain information on about 60 member organisations of the network and information on trafficking and related issues, with literature references, links to related web sites and organisations and one-line articles. The on-line resource base is framed by and fed into "Q Web, A Women's Empowerment Base" which is a global contact network on women's health and gender issues run by Kvinnoforum and RFSU, the Swedish Association for Sex Education. The Q Web site can be found at [www.qweb.kvinnoforum.se](http://www.qweb.kvinnoforum.se).

Through the information compiled during the project and in close discussions with the NGOs in the region, we have found that NGOs and governmental institutions' awareness and knowledge of trafficking is poor. However, most organisations are interested in gaining more knowledge and in developing the work against trafficking. Thus far, proper training and information concerning these issues are lacking. Moreover, general gender awareness and the development of equal opportunities are still largely neglected in the Baltic States.

## **Training and Capacity Building Against Trafficking in Women**

To address the needs identified in the second project, we developed a third trafficking project for the year 2000. The twofolded objective of the project is firstly to provide and execute an adequate training program for NGOs in the Baltic and Nordic region working or interested in working against trafficking. Secondly, the objective is to further develop the network nationally, regionally and eventually at a wider European level. Kvinnoforum has received additional funding from the DAPHNE initiative for this project which will be carried out in partnership with the Latvian Gender Problem Centre and MONIKA, Multicultural Women's Association in Finland.

The project will enable the setting up of National Focal Points in the participating countries - Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Denmark, Finland and Sweden. The National Focal Points will be responsible for developing the local training programs adapted to the local circumstances for each country. Further, they will serve as a national resource and knowledge base on trafficking for interested organisations. They will also have contacts with the media and lobby for education of professionals who have contact with trafficking in women, such as police officers, migration personnel and social workers. The National Focal Points will also be responsible for disseminating information to the already established network and maintaining contact with national NGOs and the other National Focal Points.

The training program will be developed locally by the National Focal Points, who will collaborate closely and exchange experiences regionally. Interested local NGOs will be invited to training workshops on trafficking prevention and rehabilitation in each country. The workshops will have two parts. One part will focus on training and some suggested topics are gender analysis of the roots of trafficking, mechanisms in preventing trafficking in women, prostitution, violence and sexual violence against women, methods for work with trafficked women, the role of men. The second part will facilitate the establishment of separate working groups on three aspects of trafficking: prevention, advocacy and rehabilitation. These working groups will result in task forces assigned to formulate a concrete action plan on how to continue the work in the respective field.

A gender perspective will permeate the project. A gender perspective entails that gender relations, that is, the social relations between women and men, are cross-cut by culture, socio-economic status, age, religion and such. Thus, gender relations vary, as do the needs, vulnerabilities, capacities and coping strategies of women and men. Therefore, the activities of the project must be based on the local needs of the women and developed in close collaboration with those local organisations that have knowledge about the local conditions and problems of women and men.

The project “Crossing Borders Against Trafficking in Women” is presently framed in a context where there is insufficient knowledge about the issue but where there is wide interest in gaining experience and developing methods of prevention and rehabilitation. Trafficking is an issue of women’s health and well being, of women’s human rights and of development in the Baltic Sea region. The information and knowledge about trafficking must be widely spread and worked against.

For further information and continuous updates on the project “Crossing Borders Against Trafficking in Women” please visit our web site, [www.qweb.kvinnoforum.se/trafficking/](http://www.qweb.kvinnoforum.se/trafficking/)

# What is Trafficking in Women and What Can Be Done?

By Nina Strandberg, Kvinnoforum

## Background

Trafficking in women and girls for the purpose of sexual exploitation is a growing problem around the world. The International Organisation for Migration estimates that about 500 000 women per year are trafficked from poorer regions of the world into Western Europe alone. Several factors lead women to look for working possibilities in other countries. Among these are women's unequal rights and access to formal labour, women's restricted abilities to gain power over their own lives in their home countries and the gendered aspects of poverty, which affects women more severely than men. Whereas the political changes in former Soviet states in the 1990's have opened new possibilities for some women, many other women have found themselves unemployed with their previous social security structures dismantled, often as the sole care-takers of their children. The number of Eastern European women who are victims of trafficking is increasing and it is estimated that two thirds of the women trafficked into Western Europe come from this region.

Unequal access to the formal labour market, high unemployment, low wages and high frequency of sexual harassment in the workplace lead an increasing number of women in Eastern Europe to look for working opportunities elsewhere. These are courageous women who decide to take control over their lives and create a better life for themselves in, for example, the EU. However, the gap between the wishes and needs of women to work in the EU and the very few legal ways of doing so is lucrative for traffickers to exploit. Having no other way to go on their own, women have to rely on someone else to assist them. Women answer ads for work in the EU or trust a friend of a friend who offers to arrange a job. The expenses for the trip are to be paid when the woman starts earning her money, working as a dancer, model, babysitter, maid, waitress etc. All she needs to do is sign a contract. Upon arrival the woman finds out that the promised job does not exist and instead she is forced to perform sexual services in the form of prostitution or pornographic film, often under slave-like conditions where her fundamental human rights are abused by profiteers/pimps.

Although many women are aware of the *nature* of the job, i.e. know that they will sell sexual services, they are not aware that they will only get to keep a small part of the money, if any, that they will be locked up and beaten, and that they will have no control over the number and nature of services they will have to provide. Advanced inhumane techniques are used to keep the women in compliance: debt-bondage, violence, threats, physical bondage, guilt, threat of harming their families, and so on. Because they are usually in the country illegally and risk being arrested for prostitution or illegal migration, the women seldom seek help from the police. Not



speaking the local language makes the women additionally vulnerable. The precarious situation of these women makes the work of NGOs all the more important.

## **Definitions and Approaches**

The definition of trafficking in women greatly debated in the anti-trafficking movement. As trafficking in women is a very complex issue, intertwined with various and often conflicting interests on behalf of states and NGOs, the definition becomes even more important. When outlining measures and policies to prevent trafficking, wording of the definition can make the difference between a law, policy or measure that assists the women involved and one that further victimises them.

Marjan Wijers from the Foundation Against Trafficking in Women in the Netherlands sheds some light on the issue by distinguishing between different approaches to trafficking and the strategies these imply:<sup>1</sup>

### **A Moral Problem**

According to Ms Wijers, this approach is used the most and sees trafficking in women and prostitution as an evil (inevitable or not) that should be controlled. Actions against trafficking within this approach aim at controlling and punishing the parties involved. The problem with this approach is that women in prostitution risk punishment, which in turn leads to stigmatisation of the victims.

### **A Criminal Problem**

The criminal approach aims at introducing heavier punishments, improving international police co-operation and other measures, which enable a more effective prosecution of the offenders. This approach has its risks, as the women's interests in personal security, protection and such, are often subordinate to the interests of the prosecution. The criminal approach often strikes at the women themselves, who are found guilty of prostitution or illegal migration.

### **A Migration Problem**

In the migrant approach, trafficking is a problem of illegal migration and actions aim at "keeping the women at home" such as stricter border control and supervision of mixed marriages. This approach reflects the interest of the state to be protected from undesirable aliens.

### **A Human Rights Problem**

Treating trafficking in women as a human rights problem offers two ways of analysis: prostitution is per se a human rights violation and should be abolished. The other is that prostitution as such does not violate women's human rights, but the conditions women in prostitution live under, such as deceit, abuse, violence, debt-bondage, blackmail, deprivation of freedom of movement etc. do.

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<sup>1</sup> Speech at Transnational Seminar on Trafficking in Women in Budapest on June 20-24, 1998

### A Public Order Problem

This approach views trafficking in women and prostitution as a public order or public health issue. Solutions are to increase control by introducing such measures as medical examination. According to Ms Wijers, all laws for women in prostitution come out of this approach.

### A Labour Issue Problem

With this approach, trafficking in women can be understood as the result of the poor legal and social position of women: as women, as workers and as migrants. This approach calls for labour opportunities and working rights, including pensions and state benefits etc for women in prostitution.

The approach determines what kind of strategies the state or NGO will employ to fight trafficking. These vary between on the one hand repressive strategies, that aim at suppressing organised crime, illegal migration or prostitution and on the other hand empowering strategies, that aim at supporting the women concerned and strengthening their rights.<sup>2</sup> Both repressive and empowering strategies can be of value. However, Ms Wijers warns of the dangers of mixing approaches and the interests of NGOs and states respectively, as these are often conflicting. The interest of the former is often to assist and protect the women who are victims, whereas the latter has a greater interest in restricting illegal migration and organised crime. Mixing approaches might lead to undesirable side effects for women, such as restriction of women's freedom of movement by denying them visas or entry into the country or using women as witnesses for combating organised crime without offering them corresponding protection.

The role of NGOs should be to protect the interests of the women, and to evaluate programmes and policies aimed against trafficking on how they affect the women. Women do of course have different wants and needs depending on cultural, economical and political circumstances on the structural level and values, experiences, hopes and plans on the individual level. It is therefore important that NGOs formulate strategies rising out of the specific needs of the women they work with and out of the NGOs' specific political and economic context.

Defining trafficking in women is, especially important when advocating for legal changes of government programmes. The Global Alliance Against Trafficking in Women, one of the two global coalitions, defines trafficking as:

All acts and attempted acts involved in the recruitment, transportation within or across borders, purchase, sale, transfer, receipt or harbouring of a person involving the use of deception, coercion (including the use or threat of force or the abuse of authority) or debt bondage for the purpose of placing or holding such person, whether for pay or not, in involuntary servitude (domestic, sexual or reproductive), in forced or bonded labour, or in

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<sup>2</sup> "Between Repression and Empowerment", speech at an international conference in Moscow; "The Trafficking of NIS Women Abroad", November 3-5, 1997, Conference Report

slavery-like conditions, in a community other than the one in which such person lived at the time of the original deception, coercion or debt bondage.<sup>3</sup>

Kvinnoforum finds this definition useful, as it does not focus on the victim's consent or the lack thereof. It focuses instead on the human rights abuses the victim encounters. This means that also women, who were aware of the nature of the activities they would be carrying out, count as victims of trafficking when faced with the above-mentioned abuse. This definition also includes trafficking for purposes other than sexual exploitation. For other definitions of trafficking, visit the projects web site: [www.qweb.kvinnoforum.se/trafficking/](http://www.qweb.kvinnoforum.se/trafficking/)

While it is important to have a clear definition of trafficking when advocating for legal changes, the opposite is important for practical preventive and rehabilitative work such as information campaigns and counselling. Here, a broad definition of trafficking prevents the exclusion of potentially good strategies and accommodates different NGOs, institutions and government organisations. As trafficking is an international phenomenon, international co-operation is imperative. All available resources to combat the problem need to be mobilised and exclusion of organisations must be avoided. Kvinnoforum does not, therefore, limit itself to one definition of trafficking in the project "Crossing Borders Against Trafficking in Women" and welcomes various organisations and documents in the network and databank, respectively.

## **Prostitution or Sex Work?**

As mentioned above, the human rights approach to trafficking offers two methods of analysis, which differ depending on what is seen as problematic with trafficking in women: the violence or the prostitution as such. The two different analyses coincide with the ideological split in the global movement against trafficking when it comes to views on prostitution and are represented by two different global coalitions.

One side sees both trafficking and prostitution as forms of sexual exploitation with trafficking as the cruellest form. This side argues that women do not enter prostitution by free will but because they have had their alternatives limited by societal structures and a labour market that discriminate against women and a society that has taught women to serve men sexually. Therefore there can be no distinction between voluntary and forced prostitution as this ignores the way society and the state have limited women's alternatives. Men who buy services from women exploit the women's vulnerable situation and exercise power over them. Eliminating violence from trafficking and prostitution can not be done as it is built

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<sup>3</sup> Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women, Foundation Against Trafficking in Women, International Human Rights Law Group in the "Human Rights Standards For The Treatment Of Trafficked Persons, January 1999.

into prostitution. Moreover, it would only ease the trauma a little as the act of selling sexual services in itself is traumatising for most women and thus a violation of women's human rights. Therefore, they argue that prostitution should be abolished and that the responsibility lies on the men and on society in general to take a stance against women being bought (or sold). The Swedish model of criminalising the buying of sexual services but not the selling is often taken as a good example of how to limit the exploitation of women and take away "the market" for traffickers. The Coalition Against Trafficking in Women, CATW, largely holds this view and states that "prostitution victimises all women, justifies the sale of any woman, and reduces all women to sex"<sup>4</sup>. Subsequently CATW works against all forms of sexual exploitation of women.

The other method of analysis focuses on the violence and coercion in trafficking and does not view prostitution in itself as exploitative. This side sees the above analysis of societal structures as "forcing" women into prostitution as moralising over women's choices. Women in prostitution, they argue, find themselves on a continuum between free will and force. Instead of trying to establish whether or not women want to be in prostitution, the focus should be on assuring that the human rights of women in prostitution are protected. That is, women in prostitution should have the right to freedom of movement, freedom from violence and most importantly, labour rights. If, they argue, prostitution was given labour status (sex work), national and international laws and mechanisms against slavery-like practices, forced labour and bad working conditions could be used against trafficking. Giving labour status to prostitution would empower women who want to be in prostitution and help those who are forced into prostitution. The Global Alliance Against Trafficking in Women, GAATW, represents this side, and works for eradication of trafficking through such means as giving labour status to prostitution.

Both sides generally agree that the stigma attached to women in prostitution all over the world derives from the fact that the women do not conform to the norms of female sexual behaviour and are therefore "bad women". The way to counter this is to work towards breaking down the division of good and bad women, Madonnas and whores, and to promote women's autonomy in defining their own sexuality.

The issue of prostitution is a difficult one as most people have strong feelings about it stemming from their personal, cultural and religious views. While it is important for NGOs to side with the women, this is more complicated when it comes to prostitution. When lobbying for legal changes or government action on prostitution, NGOs with a policy on prostitution tend to take sides with different groups of women, such as women in prostitution, drug abusing women in prostitution, young women about to enter prostitution, women who are not in prostitution and so on. The varying interests of the different groups of women define the strategy and proposed legal change and there is no universal solution that satisfies every group of women. If, for example, the CATW statement "Prostitution ... justifies the sale of

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<sup>4</sup> From "Philosophy of the Coalition Against Trafficking in Women", CATW web site

any woman, and reduces all women to sex” is true, then women outside prostitution are also affected by policies on prostitution and are hence part of the group whose interests need to be protected. Giving labour rights to women in prostitution would make life easier for women in prostitution who live legally in a country, but would make the situation worse for foreign women in prostitution unless it is coupled with unlimited working permits for sex work. It is therefore important for NGOs and others to be aware and clear about whose interest they are protecting.

Kvinnoforum shares the view that women’s reasons for entering prostitution need to be understood from a gendered analysis of the societal structures that work to women’s disadvantage. Kvinnoforum has always worked to protect the human rights of women who are most marginalised in society and has for many years worked with drug abusing women in prostitution. Kvinnoforum cannot see how giving labour status to prostitution would help this group of women. Nor can Kvinnoforum accept that governments treat prostitution as a job like any other as long as there are women who are subordinated, and as long as there are women who are hurt by prostitution and who desire to leave it. This would mean letting the most vulnerable women down. However, not protecting the human rights of women in prostitution would also mean letting the women down. Women in prostitution have the right to freedom of expression, freedom of movement, health, and the right to motherhood, justice and protection. Without losing the gendered analysis of prostitution, Kvinnoforum acknowledges the need for pragmatism and local solutions when proposing policies and legal changes regarding prostitution. Any strategy or suggested law should take the human rights of women into account and not further victimise the women in prostitution or render the women more vulnerable for violence and harassment from clients or law enforcers.

Kvinnoforum welcomes debate on the understanding of prostitution as well as the definition of trafficking. The network for organisations, institutions and individuals interested in working with prevention and rehabilitation of trafficking therefore has diversity as its principle and is open for representatives of both perspectives on prostitution. Likewise, the databank on trafficking contains articles and statements from both perspectives.

## **What Can Be Done?**

As trafficking is an international problem, international co-operation is of great importance. NGOs and others must engage in open and vivid discussions on concepts and definitions and explore innovative strategies to counter the problem. Being a multifaceted problem, trafficking requires a multifaceted approach where also NGOs and government organisations co-operate. Trafficking cannot be understood unless seen in a wider context of women’s rights, equal opportunities, women’s education and empowerment, women’s health, traditional gender roles, poverty of women and the gendered labour market. Policies and strategies need to

address this in order to be effective. Work is needed on the levels of prevention, rehabilitation and lobbying. Some of the things that can be done are:

### **Prevention**

- Addressing the root causes, including measures to increase gender equality, addressing sexual harassment, and addressing women's unequal access to the formal labour market.
- Informing young women about the risks of going abroad and what they can do to protect themselves. E.g. what should a safe contract look like? Where to go if in need of assistance?
- Promoting the self-esteem of young women and teach them their rights and value. Young women who value themselves are less likely to put themselves in potentially risky situations
- Educating of police, border guards, school teachers, youth organisations and others who come in contact with potential victims on how to promote the safety of these women.
- Lobbying for harsher punishment of traffickers, better enforcement of laws and police co-operation.

### **Rehabilitation**

- Developing of methods to work with women who have been victims of trafficking. Such methods must be based on a good knowledge of the multifaceted problem of trafficking and empower the women instead of stigmatise them.
- Providing safe houses and hot-lines for the women
- Developing witness protection programmes in the countries of destination
- Educating police, consular staff and social workers on victims' specific needs and problems.

### **Lobbying**

An effective strategy to counter trafficking in women requires that governments take the issue seriously, adopt relevant legal responses and provide the necessary funding. Local, national and international NGOs need to put pressure on governments and some of the human rights tools that could be used to do so are:

- The Convention for Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, CEDAW, which many governments have ratified.
- The Beijing Platform of Action, which urges governments to create national action plans on how to reach the goals of the Platform. The UN Commission on the Status of Women monitors these proceedings in the countries.
- The Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

It is important to continue to exchange knowledge, experiences and new ideas in the work against trafficking, especially in the preventive and rehabilitative work. The "Crossing Borders Against Trafficking" project's network is open to all organisations who want to be part of this exchange. Joining can easily be done at [www.qweb.kvinnoforum.se/trafficking/](http://www.qweb.kvinnoforum.se/trafficking/)

## Literature

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# **Victims of Trafficking Need Help**

By Nadejda Kostadinova, psychotherapist, Animus Association

As a person whose professional fate has been to meet some of the first victims of trafficking, I will describe the general picture of the support they need and with which we provide them. The program of Animus Association includes two types of work, social and therapeutic. On the one hand, this gives us a good view of the needs and problems of the women victims of trafficking and on the other hand, on the issues their consultants face.

The consultant prepares for the first meeting with the woman victim of trafficking. She/he knows how she had reached the association. She/he has discussed with her/his colleagues her case and has come up with a hypothesis. The consultants face both social and medical problems at the first meeting, which is called interview.

## **Crisis Intervention**

The consultant responsible for the case has to find out and prioritize the physical and social needs of the woman, i.e. to come up with a plan for a social program for each particular case. Such needs might be providing for the safety of the woman at her arrival, accommodating her at a hospital or a shelter, arranging for medical care, contacting her relatives, assisting her with formalities and thousands of other unexpected things. The consultant needs help for implementing the social program. Social workers, volunteers and students assist him/her.

There are some emotional problems, which should be discussed with the woman. These are the fears common to all women victims of trafficking, they feel endangered and afraid; that the pimp could find them if they went back home; that they will be outcasts in society; that they will lose the love of the people close to them; that they are too vulnerable without the support of a man; that they will be a shame to their family; that they are alone because they do not know where to seek help; that it will be hard to arrange their lives. In one word, they are afraid of the future.

Women need sessions with a therapist in order to share their problems in a secure environment. Those who consider suicide need to spend a long time with the psychotherapist before they calm down. The role of the consultant is to listen to the woman and to direct the session. She/he encourages the woman to step firm on the ground, to remember her capabilities and to recognize the strength, which helped her to survive. Below I have listed the reactions of most women victims of trafficking:



**Fear**

- to be alone;
- to be found and punished by her violator;
- that people will find out that she had been a prostitute;
- that she will be punished and sued as an illegal immigrant;
- of her own anger;
- of venereal diseases and AIDS;
- of nightmares.

**Feeling Guilty**

- that she made a mistake and had been “stupid”;
- that she broke cultural and religious rules;
- that she was not able to make money to support her family.

**Anger**

- toward herself because “she allowed all that to happen to her”;
- toward others, because they did not protect her;
- toward society;
- that her life had been broken.

**Feeling Betrayed**

- by the people who put her in touch with those involved in trafficking;
- by God;
- by the state;
- by her family.

**Distrust**

- of her own ability to judge people and events;
- of the people around her, even those who had not betrayed her.

**Feeling Helpless**

- that she has no right to control her own life;
- that “it will never get better”;
- that being a woman means being abused all the time.

**Shock**

- feeling stunned and unable to cry.

**Suspicion**

- “Did this really happen?”
- “Why did this happen to me?”

**Feeling Disoriented**

- inability to stay calm in one place;
- finding it hard to recognize the days;
- memory problems.

## **What Are The Problems the Consultant Faces?**

When the feeling of helplessness and shame takes over, some women decide to commit suicide. The consultant, who is worried about their life, makes interventions until the risk fades away or accommodates them at a special shelter.

Furthermore, it is normal for the woman victim of trafficking to be aggressive to the whole world as well as to the consultant. Her feelings are mixed anger, guilt, joy, helplessness, sadness. She might be unconsciously suppressing her emotions in order to manage to live through the painful experience. It is better to have no feelings, if you had been brutally abused. Sometimes the consultant feels that the anger of the woman is directed to her/him, because he/she is the only one who offers her a safe place to unleash her emotions. Releasing her anger is beneficial to her, but might be hard for the consultant, especially when it is directed to him/her. Thus, consultants should know that working with victims of trafficking is a physically and emotionally exhausting experience. It is necessary for the consultant to discuss the case with his/her colleagues in order to get their professional support.

It is hard to work with victims of trafficking, but it is important to continue the program of Animus Association. Moreover, the program should continue its development on the basis of the particular needs of the victims and the analysis of the professional experience of the consultants.

Source: *Fairplay, Digest of the Women's Alliance for Development*. No. 1 (5), 1999, Issue 1311- 0659. Pages 11-12. (Copied with permission)

# **The Experience of the Survivors**

By Maria Chomarova, Psychotherapist Animus Association

Psychotherapists believe that the reaction of all people subject to violence is similar. That is why it is crucial to know about the psychological and emotional problems of women who have escaped from the trap of trafficking.

The human body controls a limited number of psychological protection mechanisms, which are studied as part of the human anatomy. Scientists have created a special manipulation system, which is applied in totalitarian organizations such as concentration camps, some religious sects, etc. The same mechanisms are used in the trafficking in women:

## **Violence, Rape, Torture, Beating, Starvation**

The purpose is to put the victim into extreme conditions for survival. The psychological protection mechanism, which is based on the belief that the world around us can be controlled, is attacked. Everybody knows that people are mortal, but we are all afraid of death. That is why nature has provided us with protection mechanisms supporting the illusion that we can rule our lives. These protections are important because they help us to make plans, to take initiatives, to communicate. We can no longer use these protections when the problem of death turns from existential into painfully personal. Just like a fuse blows in cases of extra tension in order to protect the whole electric installation from blowing, people “turn off” and stop thinking when they face mortal danger, and their only purpose is survival. Violators use this psychological feature in order to make their victims obey unconditionally.

## **Physical Exhaustion**

The manipulation system includes the rule never give the victim a chance to have a rest, never leave her alone to let her think, to recover and undertake protective actions. The 20-hour working day brings a big profit but is also an important tool for breaking the psychological stability of the woman.

## **Total Control and Isolation**

The victim is isolated from the outside world. She is watched and is allowed to communicate with no one but her violator. The woman victim of trafficking usually lives and works at one and the same place. She needs communication but talking only to her violator makes her accept distorted information about the world and about herself. There is only one message: life is worth nothing, she is worth nothing. What has happened is her fault and she “owes money”. They

have paid for her, and she has to pay them back. Certainly, she can never pay enough and is sold to another pimp.

The system of buying and selling is very important for at least two reasons. First, it conveys the idea that the woman is a commodity, a slave, anything but a human being like everybody else. Second, she starts accepting the world of violence and control as the only existing reality. Sometimes violence is followed by small gestures, presents or signs of mercy such as taking the woman to a doctor. These actions aim at attaching the victim to the violator and they often succeed, because the need for attention and good attitude is in the nature of people.

I mentioned some of the basic mechanisms of brainwashing in order to clarify the emotional problems the survivors of trafficking have to go through. Usually, in the first days after the survivors' escape they are very well mobilized and adequate. As soon as they feel a little bit more stable and find out that somebody is really taking care of them, they start to realize how dreadful their experience has been. Then the symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder appear.

Some victims "cut out" the reality in the situation of trafficking. They manage to preserve part of their personality as a free human being. Each day of violence and control attacks their former ideas of the world. The symptoms of the trauma resemble the symptoms of psychological disease, but these are two absolutely different diagnoses and their treatment is absolutely different. Most often the symptoms are nightmares, visions of pictures and people connected to the past violence, etc. The greatest problem is that the woman is "blocked", because she has lost her former idea of the world as a predictable place. She has lost her ability to control her life. She feels empty and stunned because of the fact that she cannot bear the emotions inside herself.

We as people are very vulnerable, we can be easily hurt and the recovery is difficult. The traumatic event comes suddenly but causes serious problems in the future. A writer once compared the hurt soul to a vase broken into small pieces. Finding those pieces and gluing them together is a long and complicated process. However, the mechanisms of psychological recovery are well known to people, just like the mechanisms of manipulation. Psychotherapy provides the victims with the chance to recover.

The process of recovery cannot be described in a couple of words. It aims at empowering the woman, giving her back her autonomy, guiding her safely through the ocean of emotions in order to look at herself as one whole and to start living as a free person.

Source: Fairplay, Digest of the Women's Alliance for Development. No. 1 (5), 1999, Issue 1311- 0659. Page 13. (Copied with permission)

# Things to Think About for Women and Girls Who Decide to Work Abroad

The co-ordinators of La Strada Bulgaria have developed a set of rules for women and girls who decide to work abroad.

1. Do not give your passport to anyone. Your identification documents should be with you all the time and nobody has the right to take them away from you.
2. When you sign a contract, make sure it contains:
  - your destination country;
  - the name of your employer;
  - conditions of payment;
  - living and labour conditions;
  - term of your work contract
3. Leave with your relatives:
  - a copy of your passport and your contract;
  - a recent photo of yourself;
  - the address and telephone number where you can be reached;
  - the address and telephone number of your employer abroad;
  - addresses and telephone numbers of your friends and relatives abroad;
  - the address and telephone numbers of your country's embassy in the country you are going to.
4. Agree with your relatives and friends on an "alarm signal" so that you can pass it to them in case your telephone is tapped. Your alarm signal can be a simple combination of words – for example: "The weather is bad".
5. Take with you the telephone number and addresses of your country's embassy and consulate in your destination country. In case you are threatened or coerced, you can call them.
6. The expiration date on your visa indicates the term of your stay abroad. Staying beyond that date diminishes your chances to travel in the future considerably.
7. Basic knowledge of the native language of the country you are going to is very useful.

8. Before you leave you have to call the embassy of your destination country and ask them for up-to-date and accurate information about immigration and employment formalities there.

Source: Fairplay, Digest of the Women's Alliance for Development. No. 1 (5), 1999, Issue 1311- 0659. Page 23. (Copied with permission)

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- Practical Guide To Assisting Trafficked Women (1997)
- Moving The Whore Stigma (1997), an outcome of the Asia and Pacific Regional Consultation on Prostitution held in Bangkok, Thailand on 17-18 February, 1997.
- Regional Meeting On Trafficking In Women, Forced Labour, And Slavery-Like Practice In Asia And Pacific , Report from a three day regional meeting held in Bangkok, Thailand on 19-21 February, 1997.
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- Handbook For Human Rights Action (In The Context Of Traffic In Women)(1996) , a result of an international workshop on human rights, conducted in June 1996 in Bangkok by GAATW, in conjunction with the Foundation For Women, Thailand and the International Human Rights Law Group, USA.

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Studies and reports:

- Trafficking and Prostitution: The Growing Exploitation of Migrant Women from Central and Eastern Europe, (MIP) May 1995.
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E-mail: [refuge@yorku.ca](mailto:refuge@yorku.ca)

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Each chapter is an original study of sex work, its risks, and its political

implications, covering several areas not researched in the past. Ron Weitzer, Sociology Dept, George Washington University, Washington DC 20052  
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# **Web Sites of Organisations and Networks working against Trafficking in Women and Girls**

## **Anti-Slavery International, ASI**

ASI promotes the eradication of slavery and slavery-like practices, and freedom for everyone who is subjected to them. Among the abuses, which ASI opposes, are trafficking of women and forced prostitution. ASI focuses on the rights of people who are particularly vulnerable to exploitation of their labour, notably women, children, migrant workers and indigenous peoples.

[www.antislavery.org/](http://www.antislavery.org/)

## **CAPCAT**

Coalition Against Prostitution and Child Abuse in Thailand. The CAPCAT Project is an all-volunteer, secular, non-profit, non-governmental project of both Thai and foreign citizens working together since September 1994 to find solutions to the problems of poverty, prostitution and the abuse of children in labour and prostitution.

[www.capcat.ksc.net/](http://www.capcat.ksc.net/)

## **Captive Daughters**

Captive Daughters is a non-profit organisation dedicated to ending sex trafficking of girls. The main office is in Los Angeles, California, USA.

[www.captive.org](http://www.captive.org)

## **Coalition Against Trafficking in Women**

The Coalition Against Trafficking in Women is a feminist human rights non-governmental organisation that works internationally to oppose all forms of sexual exploitation.

[www.uri.edu/artsci/wms/hughes/catw/](http://www.uri.edu/artsci/wms/hughes/catw/)

## **Coalition to Abolish Slavery & Trafficking (CAST)**

CAST is a network of human service providers and advocacy organisations assisting women and girls trafficked to Los Angeles.

[www.trafficked-women.org/](http://www.trafficked-women.org/)

### **Prostitutes' Education Network**

An information service comprised of information for sex workers and activists/educators who study issues of decriminalisation, human rights in the context of prostitution, violence against prostitutes and women, sex workers and pornography, as well as current trends in legislation and social policy in the U.S. and internationally.

[www.bayswan.org/penet.html](http://www.bayswan.org/penet.html)

### **ECPAT international**

ECPAT - End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography and the Trafficking of Children for Sexual Purposes.

[www.rb.se/ecpat/index.htm](http://www.rb.se/ecpat/index.htm)

### **Foundation Against Trafficking in Women (STV), Utrecht**

The Foundation Against Trafficking in Women / Stichting Tegen Vrouwenhandel, STV has worked against Trafficking in Women since 1982 and was the first NGO in Europe to address the issue. SVT has together with the Global Alliance Against Trafficking in Women produced a report on Trafficking in Women for the UN Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women.

[www.bayswan.org/FoundTraf.html](http://www.bayswan.org/FoundTraf.html)

### **The Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women (GAATW)**

GAATW was formed in 1994 with the aim "not to stop the migration of women but to ensure that human rights of women concerned are taken into consideration by authorities and agencies involved. Our strategy is to promote the involvement of grassroots women in all work against this form of modern slavery in order that any work done addresses the real problem and does not aggravate their vulnerable situation." GAATW has over 100 individual and organisation members and the site contains extensive documentation, on-line newsletter and much more.

[www.inet.co.th/org/gaatw/index.html](http://www.inet.co.th/org/gaatw/index.html)

### **Global Survival Network**

The GSN has done extensive investigations and subsequent media campaigns to expose the growing international trade in people, and the exploitation inherent in the associated debt bondage schemes.

[www.globalsurvival.net/](http://www.globalsurvival.net/)

### **International Movement Against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism, IMADR**

IMADR is an international non-profit, non-governmental human rights organisation devoted to promoting the rights of persons subject to racism and/or discrimination.

[www.imadr.org/](http://www.imadr.org/)

### **International Labour Organisation**

The ILO has a programme on conditions of work, which includes migration for employment.

[www.ilo.org/](http://www.ilo.org/)

[www.ilo.org/public/english/90travai/condit/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/public/english/90travai/condit/index.htm)

### **The International Organization for Migration, IOM**

IOM has trafficking as one of their projects.

[www.iom.ch/](http://www.iom.ch/)

### **Organized Crime Home Page - Committee For A Safe Society (CSS).**

The site contains information on trafficking and other crimes against women.

[www.alternatives.com/crime/](http://www.alternatives.com/crime/)

### **La Strada, the Czech Republic**

La Strada focuses on prevention of traffic in women, support of victims of traffic in women, influencing legislation and disseminating information on the issue.

[www.ecn.cz/lastrada/indexA.htm](http://www.ecn.cz/lastrada/indexA.htm)

### **The Vital Voices Global Democracy Initiative**

The Vital Voices Global Democracy Initiative is an ongoing global initiative which implements U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright's commitment to promote the advancement of women as a U.S. foreign policy objective. Vital Voices has a section on trafficking in women.

[www.usia.gov/vitalvoices/issues.htm](http://www.usia.gov/vitalvoices/issues.htm)

### **World Congress Against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children**

Fact sheets, Theme papers, Declaration and more from the World Congress in Stockholm, Sweden 1996.

<http://193.135.156.14/webpub/csechome/default.htm>

## **Web Sites of Other Networks in the Baltic Sea Region and Euroasia**

### **Ballad**

Ballad is run by the Baltic Institute as an independent forum for networking in the Baltic Sea Region.

[www.ballad.org/](http://www.ballad.org/)

### **The Baltic Institute**

The Baltic Institute is an independent Swedish foundation for Baltic co-operation, established in 1992. The institute constitutes a centre for information on co-operation in the Baltic Sea region and forms a platform for projects.

[www.balticinstitute.se](http://www.balticinstitute.se)

### **Baltic Youth Assembly 2000**

A democracy project for and by young people and its general objective is to reach the youth and increase their political interest and engagement.

[www.bya.nu/](http://www.bya.nu/)

### **Civic Action in Eurasia**

Resources, NGOs, and Research Related to Civic Action in Eurasia provided by Centre for Civil Society International.

[www.friends-partners.org/~ccsi/eurasia.htm](http://www.friends-partners.org/~ccsi/eurasia.htm)

### **Femina Borealis**

Women and Development in the North. Femina Borealis is currently involved in a project on women's shelters in the region.

[www.kun.nl.no/femina/](http://www.kun.nl.no/femina/)

### **Latvian NGO Centre**

The NGO Centre maintains contact with Latvia's NGOs and assist these with legal advice, training, information and more.

[www.ngo.org.lv/](http://www.ngo.org.lv/)



**SwebaltQ**

Mälardalens kvinnolobby runs a project for women entrepreneurs in the Baltic Sea region.

[www.kvinnolobbyn.u.se/swebaltq/projekt/index.html](http://www.kvinnolobbyn.u.se/swebaltq/projekt/index.html)

**Union of the Baltic Cities, UBC**

UBC is a network of currently 86 member cities from all 10 Baltic countries, with the purpose of developing co-operation and exchange between the Cities - Union members. The overriding goal of the Union is to contribute to democratic, economic, social, cultural and environmentally sustainable development of the Baltic Sea Region.

[www.ubc.net/](http://www.ubc.net/)

**Women's Information Network**

This web site provides a directory of Women's Non-Governmental Organisations in Russia & the NIS.

[www.owl.ru/win/winet/English/English.html](http://www.owl.ru/win/winet/English/English.html)

# List of Organisations in the Baltic Sea Region Including Bulgaria and the Netherlands

## BELARUS

### **DISCUSSION WOMEN'S CLUB**

P.O. Box 5,  
220119 Minsk,  
Belarus

Tel: + 375 17 263 77 36  
Fax: + 375 17 230 80 54, 263 77 36  
beri@cwer.belpak.minsk.by

Contact person: Ms Anna Sergeeva, President

### **Activities /Projects**

The main objective and aim of the organisation is to strengthen the influence of women in politics, social life, business and art.

We suppose that the serious problem is that women from Eastern Europe and the NIS who are trafficked in Western European countries have no information to whom they can appeal for aid there and what will be the result of such appeal, for example, to police. They are often afraid to be taken to a prison or to be imposed a fine or revenge of criminal organisations. These women usually don't know any foreign languages and don't have passports. Now we are trying to collect information about legislative and institutional measures, which are aimed, on help for the victims of trafficking in women in different countries. Then we are planning to spread this information in Belarus.

### **YOUNG WOMEN CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION, YMCA OF BELARUS**

Masherov avenue, 3-124,  
220004 Minsk,  
Belarus

Tel: + 375 17 223 35 88  
Fax: + 375 17 240 34 82

Contact person: Ms Irina Alkovka, Sociologist

### **Activities /Projects**

The main objective and aim of the organisation is to rise women's status in Belorussian society, to change young women's self-consciousness through delivering social-meaning information and opening personnel potential of young women. We are elaborating a project on trafficking. We are planning the work with la Strada, Poland and with organisations supporting traffic victims in Russia, Ukraine and Lithuania. Our main goal is to work in Belarus on prevention of trafficking in women through informational campaigns in mass media, working with women, pupils and students and women who are going abroad. Presently we are doing counselling with YMCA of Germany on the program of Au pair.

Services:

- Girls in prostitution (up to 18 years): preventive measures, health issues and sex workers rights.
- Government: counselling, lobbying policy makers and information.
- The public: fieldwork, counselling, preventive measures, seminars/lectures, method development, information, education and research.

## **BULGARIA**

### **ANIMUS ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION LA STRADA**

P.O.Box 97  
Sofia 1408  
Bulgaria

Tel: (+359 2) 981 67 40  
Fax: (+359 2) 981 67 40  
animus@mbox.cit.bg

### **Activities /Projects**

Women victims of trafficking can be offered the following programs for help and support:

Counselling Program for psychological support and coping with PTSD

- Identifying the abuse and assessing the danger with the victim
- Crisis intervention
- Assessing the ptsd
- Supporting the victim and helping her to regain control over her own life
- Plan for security if the victim is in danger
- Long-term psychotherapy curing the consequences of the experienced trauma

- Counselling the victim's families

#### Social Program for rehabilitation

- Meeting the women who has just returned to Bulgaria and working out a plan facing her immediate needs
- Arranging a shelter if necessary
- Co-operation during the time of issuing new identity documents
- Co-operation for return to her place of living if the women wishes so
- Research and co-operation for finding a job
- Support in contacting other services aiming at avoidance of re-traumatising and victimising attitude towards the women
- Police, municipality, social and medical services, etc.

#### Urgent Humanitarian Aid Program

Providing means for:

- Shelter
- Food
- Basic items such as clothes, toilet articles, etc.
- Children's or baby's articles if the women has a child

24-hour Help-line for support to women victims of violence (+ 359 2) 981 76 86

- Listening and support
- Identifying the problem
- Exploring alternatives
- Offering information for specialised help
- Offering information and raising awareness about the risks of involving into forced prostitution

The Victim Support Program does not:

- Get involved into investigating Bulgarian women who are known to miss and are abroad.
- Get involved into providing information to the police concerning trafficking in women.
- Does not refer victims to the police unless they explicitly wish so.
- Get involved into investigating girls in abroad who are trafficked from Bulgaria.
- Is not interested in the criminal aspect of the problem of TIW and so does not get involved into filing and providing information of such kind.

## DENMARK

### **THE DANISH CENTRE FOR INFORMATION ON WOMEN AND GENDER**

KVINFO

Christians Brygge 3,  
DK-1219 Copenhagen  
Denmark

Tel: + 45 33 13 50 88  
Fax: + 45 33 14 11 56  
kvinfo@kvinfo.dk

Contact person: Ms Katarina Blomqvist, Research Librarian

#### **Activities/Projects**

KVINFO is a documentation centre/library and has information about trafficking in women/prostitution.

### **THE DANISH CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS**

Stuðiestraede 38  
DK 1455 Copenhagen k  
Denmark

Tel: + 45 33 30 88 88  
Fax + 45 33 30 88 00  
center@humanrights.dk

Contact person: Ms Nell Rasmussen, Senior consultant, Women's Human Rights and Sexual and Reproductive rights

#### **Activities/Projects**

The centre for human rights was established in Denmark in 1987. The goals of the centre are to gather and develop knowledge about human rights nationally, regionally and internationally. The work of the centre includes research, information and publishing, education, documentation and interdisciplinary projects. The staff represents a broad range of disciplines such as law, anthropology, sociology, economics, history and journalism. Since 1999 there is a senior consultant working with women's human rights and sexual and reproductive rights. The centre co-operates with non-governmental organisations and public authorities on both national and international level. It also co-operates with the Nordic Council, the Council of Europe, OSCE, EU and UN.

**THE DANISH EQUAL STATUS COUNCIL**  
**LIGESTILLINGSRÅDET**

Minister of Equality  
Tordenskjoldsgade 27.3  
1020 Copenhagen  
Denmark

Tel: + 45 3392 3311  
Fax: + 45 3391 3115  
lr@lige.dk  
www.lige.dk

Contact person: Ms Kira Appel

**Activities/Projects**

Key issues are :

- Equal pay,
- Statistics,
- Male roles,
- Mainstreaming project,
- Gender based violence,
- Trafficking in women,
- Young people's choice of education,
- Equality projects in municipalities,
- Pension schemes, men and equality,
- Women researchers,
- Equality and the conditions on the labour market.

**DANISH IMMIGRATION SERVICE**

Ryesgade 53,  
2100 Copenhagen,  
Denmark

Tel: + 45 35 30 82 50  
Fax: + 45 35 30 84 78  
hso@udlst.dk

Contact person: Ms Henriette Skouenborg, Head of Division

**Activities/Projects**

The Danish Immigration Service considers cases concerning the admission and residence of foreigners in Denmark. Furthermore the Danish Immigration Service participates in the preparatory work for legislation concerning foreigners and the formulation of the overall policy for integration and immigration/refugees.

The committee on the integration and legal position of foreign women in Denmark, which is an inter-ministerial committee, does in its future report propose a strengthening of the legal and factual position of foreign women as well as social and educational support. The proposed integration law, which were presented before the parliament on 16 April 1998, generally attempts to enhance the position of immigrants, including women and children, by offering them education and job training possibilities.

Services:

- Prostitute women: preventive measures, information and research.
- Prostitute girls (up to 18 years): preventive measures, information and research.
- Government: preventive measures, information and research.
- The public: preventive measures, information and research.

### **DANISH SAVE THE CHILDREN**

RED BARNET  
Rantzaugade 60,  
200 Copenhagen,  
Denmark

Tel: + 45 35 36 55 55  
Fax: + 45 35 39 11 19  
redbarnet@redbarnet.dk

Contact person: Ms Susanne Kirk Christensen, Secretary, Programme Department

### **Activities /Projects**

Presently they work against trafficking in India and Bangladesh

### **DANISH WOMEN'S SOCIETY (DWS)**

DANSK KVINDESAMFUND  
Niels Hemmingsgade 10,3  
DK-1153 Copenhagen K  
Denmark

Tel: + 45 33 15 78 37  
Fax: + 45 3315 78 37

Contact: Ms Padmini Christiansen

## **Activities/Projects**

The organisation was founded in 1871. It desires a society, which makes it possible for men to better fulfil a nurturing and caring role and for women to better fulfil the breadwinner role. Equality and diversity are the key concepts for the organisation. The society is organised in branches covering the entire country. It also has a number of permanent committees and working groups, which among other things monitor governmental legislative initiatives within the policy area of concern to DWS.

DWS national issues include:

- Equal pay for work of equal value
- Shorter daily working hours
- Women's right to abortion must be maintained
- Reproduction technologies must respect the integrity of the female body
- Combating of sexual exploitation and trafficking in women
- Violence against women

DWS international issues include:

Active affiliate of the International Alliance of Women which has consultative status with UN and its specialised agencies

Main activities:

- Respect for diversity among women in the world and for how different women define their problems and needs
- Participation in the work of committees and working groups with an international perspective: Women and Development Committee (KULU), DANIDA, Committee on International Equality Affairs
- Participation in the Fourth UN Women's Conference in Beijing
- Preparation of material for CEDAW Convention (UN women's convention) in Danish. Works with dissemination of the CEDAW convention, an ongoing project.
- The Girl Child
- Co-founder of the network "Nordic Women's Organisations Association"

Key issues DWS: Women do not have equal pay. There is growing pressure against the right to abortion. Violence against women and trafficking in human beings. Implementation of the CEDAW Convention.



## **MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

Holmens Kanal 22,  
1060 K, Copenhagen  
Denmark

Contact person: Ms Hanne Marie Jensen

### **Activities/Projects**

We try to collect information, but not in a systematic manner and we are considering forming a network at the central administration level.

## **THE OPEN DOOR**

DEN ÅBNE DØR  
Tondergade 8  
Copenhagen  
Denmark

Tel: +45 33 24 9103  
Fax: +45 33 24 13 87

Contact person: Ms Beata Jagielska

### **Activities/Projects**

The Open Door is a crisis centre and a shelter for women with children and offer services to women who are homeless, often in connection with a crisis e.g. violence, social-, psychological-, family-, and economic crisis. The shelter is a quiet environment, has room for 7 persons and 12 children and is staffed 24 hours a day. The staff consists of psychologists, social workers, social pedagogue, and relaxation pedagogue. Services offered are to foreign and Danish women and consist of social and psychological counselling and support, assistance in finding education opportunities, as well as support of children with homework, language etc.

The Open Door is an independent NGO funded by the City Council and the Salvation Army who owns the building and provides second hand clothing and furniture.

## **PRO-CENTRET**

Nørre Voldgade 94,3 sal  
1358 Copenhagen K  
Denmark

Tel: + 45 33 33 98 00  
Fax: + 45 33 33 85 71  
PRO-Centret@post6.tele.dk

Contact person: Ms Annalise Kongstad

### **Activities/Projects**

The PRO-centre was founded in 1997 as a centre for consultation and information on prostitution. It aims at doing both preventive social work for women and men in prostitution as well as working internationally. The centre has two offices for consultation. One for women and one for men. Each office has staff that is qualified on the subject of prostitution both at a personal level and professionally.

The centre co-operates with universities and local authorities to enhance research on prostitution. Among others, a study on Thai women in prostitution in Denmark has been initiated as well as discussions on concrete support for this group of women. There are plans to expand this to the issue of import of women from Eastern Europe.

The centre also makes follow-ups on changes in the legal system, which relates to prostitution (like the discussion on decriminalisation of prostitution, criminalising the men, etc). The centre has initiated a network for prostitution workers that meet and exchange information. The centre is further a member of national, regional and European networks against trafficking in women and men.

The staff at the centre also does fieldwork looking up the women and men who are in prostitution. They are informed about the services of the centre. The fieldwork also serves the aim of developing methods for reaching women and men in prostitution.

There is a telephone service:  
For women: + 45 33 33 9806  
For men +45 33 91 2103

The centre is open Mondays-Thursdays 9-17 (9am-5pm)  
Fridays 9-15 (9am-3pm)

The services are open to women victims of trafficking.

### **WOMEN'S COUNCIL IN DENMARK**

KVINDERÅDET  
Niels Hemmingsensgade 10  
Postboks 1069  
DK 1008 Copenhagen KD  
Denmark

Tel: +45 33 12 80 87  
Fax: +45 33 12 67 40  
KVR@kvinderaad.dk

Contact person: Ms Åse Rick Sørensen

### **Activities/Projects**

The Women's Council in Denmark was founded in 1899 and has played an important role in the struggle for democracy and women's rights. Women's Council is an umbrella organisation for 49 women's organisations across all lines, at all levels and within all areas of society. The Council works as the co-ordinating body in dealing with the government, the parliament and international and national public authorities.

The Women's Council deals with women's and human rights as well as social, professional, economic and cultural interest of women. The objective is to strengthen women's rights and influence in society and to create a real equality between women and men nationally and internationally i.e. concerning equal pay, decision-making, health and consumer policies."

### **YMCA's SOCIAL WORK "REDEN"**

KFUK'S SOCIALE ARBEJDE REDEN

Gasvaerksvej 24  
1656 Copenhagen  
Denmark

Tel: + 45 33 23 40 52

Fax: + 45 33 23 40 51

dorit-otzen@reden.dk

Contact person: Ms Dorit Otzen, Manager

### **Activities /Projects**

The organisation's main objectives and aim are harm reduction, counselling, treatment and night shelter for street prostitutes.

The organisation is member of the Scandinavian workgroup "Sexhandel over grenser" against trafficking as well as member of the national group for the same purpose. We have worked since 1990 in this field. We have a meeting and counselling place in the Red-light district area in Copenhagen and a treatment centre for 10 women prostitutes with drug problems.

Services:

- Prostitute women: fieldwork, counselling, preventive measures, legal assistance, lobbying policy makers, rehabilitative measures, seminars/lectures, information, education, health issues and sex workers rights.
- Government: lobbying policy makers and sex workers rights.
- The public: seminars/lectures, information, education and sex workers right.

## ESTONIA

### **AIDS PREVENTION CENTRE**

AIDS ENNETUSKESKUS

Narva Street 48

EE 0010 Tallinn

Estonia

Tel/Fax: +372 641 0808

aids@anet.ee

Contact person: Ms Nelli Kalikova, Physician, Head of AIDS Prevention Centre

### **Activities/Projects**

"Seastar" - "Meretäht" - prevention of AIDS and STDs among sex-workers.

Estonian-Finnish project supported by EU; partners are AIDS Information and Support Centre (NGO in Tallinn) and Diaconess Institute in Helsinki, 1996-1999.

"Living For Tomorrow": Youth, sexual health and gender issues in Baltic/Nordic times of transition. Partner is University of Oslo, Nordisk Institutt for Kvinne- och Kjonnsforskning (NIKK), 1998-2000.

### **AIDS INFORMATION AND SUPPORT CENTRE**

AIDSI TUGIKESKUS

Kopli 32,

EE 14502 Tallinn

Estonia

Tel/Fax: + 372 6413165

aids@anet.ee

Contact person in Tallinn: Mr Juri Kalikov, Deputy of Head

AIDSI TUGIKESKUS

Aleksandra St. 32

Tartu

Estonia

Tel: +372-741611

Contact person in Tartu: Ms Svetlana Denks

## **Activities/Projects**

AIDS Tugikeskus (AIDS Information and Support Centre) is an NGO founded in 1994. NGO activities: HIV/STD prevention and treatment among youth, common public and vulnerable groups (sex-workers, youngsters, drug addicts). Provision of literature of safe sex and warning about HIV/STDs. Creation of a gay sensitive atmosphere and testing/preventive work with homosexuals. Psychosocial support for HIV-positive people. The centre has been in touch with the problem of trafficking for nearly four years. Sex-workers have been one of the main groups of our clients and visitors. The main project is “Meretäht-Meritähti-Seastar” - The Migratory Prostitution between Estonia and Finland, which is a part of EU’s Umbrella Network – HIV/STD Prevention on National Border Regions.

The centre has developed international relations with other ASO (AIDS Service Organisations) such as AIDS Tukikeskus in Helsinki, SEMMES, LASE in Latvia, HIV-groups in Finland, Sweden and the Baltic States, as well as with ESPO – the organisation of HIV-positive people in Estonia.

### Services:

- Women in prostitution: fieldwork, counselling, preventive measures, legal assistance, method development, information, education, research, health issues and sex workers rights.
- Girls in prostitution (up to 18 years): fieldwork, counselling, preventive measures, legal assistance, method development, information, education, research, health issues and sex workers rights.
- Government: information and sex workers rights.
- The public: fieldwork, counselling, preventive measures, seminars/lectures, method development, information, education, research, health issues and sex workers rights.

### Publications:

Abstracts to WORLD AIDS Conference in Vancouver “Changing faces of prostitution” Helsinki.

**ESTONIAN SOCIETY FOR REHABILITATION OF ADDICTS**  
PREVENTION CENTRE "TOOTSI TUBA"

Erika 7A  
104 16 Tallinn  
or  
Heina 4-10  
10317 Tallinn  
Estonia

Tel/fax: + 372 2 6 603 215  
esru.tootsi@neti.ee

Contact person: Mr Kalle Laane

**Activities/Projects**

The target group of the centre is children and their family members with problems related to crime and delinquency, dropout and truancy, alcohol, tobacco and drug use, high-risk sexual activity.

Services:

- Crisis work and psychotherapy for abused children
- Psychosocial work with children and teenagers who have lost connections with school for different reasons (so called "street children")
- Consulting, counselling and psychosocial group work for member of the dysfunctional families.
- Psychosocial individual and group work for adolescents, offenders and addicted adolescents in order to decrease relapse.

The services are open to women victims of trafficking.

**ESTONIAN UNION FOR CHILD WELFARE**  
LASTEKAITSE LIIT

Hariduse str 8  
10119 Tallinn  
Estonia

Tel: +37 2 6461662  
Fax: +372 6461663  
e.tomberg@tallinnlv.ee

Contact person: Ms Ene Tomberg

**Activities/Projects**

The Estonian Union for Child Welfare has the project "Child and violence" with local projects in counselling of children and families.

Ms Tomberg, as a training manager in Tallinn City Government Social and Health Care Department, has organised two conferences about women's health. Participants have been the representatives from the women's NGO's.

### **ESTONIAN WOMEN'S STUDIES AND RESOURCE CENTRE**

EESTI NAISUURIMUS - JA TEABEKESKUS (ENUT)

Narva mnt. 25 Room 410

10120 Tallinn

Estonia

Tel: +372 6409173

Fax: +372 6409173

enut@tpu.ee

Contact person: Ms Selve Ringmaa, Acting Director

#### **Activities/Projects**

Within the FEMINA BALTICA network (Finnish, Latvian, Lithuanian, Russian Women's Studies organisations) the centre runs a Mixed Families and Minorities Project. An ongoing activity is the planning of the first Baltic Gender Studies Summer school for young researchers.

Development of the Estonian NIKK databases EDITH and EMILJA. The work has just begun, so we have not put any information to those databases.

Development of the database of Estonian women's organisations.

Phare Democracy Program Macro Project - to set up a specialised library on women's and gender issues, improving public access to documents, publications on gender issues; promoting co-operation between academic and community institutions and NGOs; raising awareness of public officials and NGO representatives on gender issues by arranging seminars, conferences.

### **MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

Gonsiori 29

EE0100 Tallinn,

Estonia

Tel: + 372 62 69 754

Fax: + 372 62 69 743

#### **Activities/Projects**

The Department of Social Protection within the Ministry of Social Affairs works on specific measures against trafficking through legislative and preventive

measures, method development and information reports, seminars/lectures and projects.

The current measures include a victim support project, projects related to the offenders, re-socialisation project for the victims - mostly for minors and families at risk.

The activities are both at the national and international level

## **REHABILITATION CENTRE FOR DRUG USERS AND ALCOHOLICS**

Karja 6  
Narva  
Estonia

Tel: + 372 35 48436

Fax: + 372 35 48436

mandrey@estpak.ee

Contact person: Ms Tatjana Magerova

### **Activities/Projects**

A rehabilitation centre aiming at the rehabilitation of particularly teenagers from drug abuse. There are various working groups at the centre:

- Anonymous drug users
- Anonymous alcoholics
- Family group Al-Ateen - to support relatives and friends of alcoholics and drug addicts
- Teenage group Al-Teen –to help children who are alcoholics and drug addicts.

There is also a telephone line for psychological support to young men.

Youth club “SYNTONE” – a social club for children and teenagers providing social events and support.

Victims of trafficking are welcome.

## **TARTU CHILDREN SUPPORT CENTRE**

TARTU LASTENTUGIKESKUS

Kaunase pst.11-2

Tartu 50704

Estonia

Tel: + 372 7 437 333



Fax: ++ 372 7 437 333, + 372 7 484 767  
ch.abuse@online.ee  
www.online.ee/~ch.abuse

Contact person: Ms Lemme Haldre, Ms Ruth Soonets

### **Activities/Projects**

Our mission is to prevent violence against children and families in Estonia through information to the public (community) and training of professionals; and likewise to help abused children and their family members.

The activities of Tartu Support Centre for Abused Children include:

- 1) A multidisciplinary team (incl. psychologists, pediatricians, social workers, a juvenile police officer, a prosecutor, a pedagogue) provides abused children and victims of domestic violence with counselling and treatment.
- 2) Continuous training of professionals that are involved in work with children and families, and informing the public about the issues of domestic violence and child abuse.
- 3) Developing and extending a network of collaboration.
- 4) Organising lobby work and co-operation with politicians, authorities, NGOs and other institutions dealing with the same subject.

All consultations and treatment are confidential and free of charge. There are services open to women and girls victims of trafficking.

Projects:

- “*Big Brother, Big Sister*”, which aim is to find children of risk families, and train voluntary support persons for the children, and provide the pairs with supervision. “Big Brother, Big Sister” expects to facilitate positive development of risk children by one-to-one friendship of a grown-up volunteer and a child, and to spread ideas of humanism in Estonia.
- “*Working with Street Children*” aim is to work with girls, that live and study at special school. All these girls (age 10-18) have behavioural, emotional and school problems. Some of them have been sexually abused, some have the problems of drug or alcohol addiction, most of them are in high risk for prostitution.

Publications:

- “Child Maltreatment”, published by AS Atlex, in 1997. It was the very first book in Estonian, concerning the subject of abuse, and was compiled by the specialists of Tartu Child Support Centre.
- “The Police Mental Health Partnership”, by Jean Adnopolz, Miriam Berkman from Yale University, the translation into Estonian is used in collaboration with the police.

## **YOUTH LINE**

Project "A home for Every Child"

Peetri pl 3-25

EE 2000 Narva

Estonia

Fax: +372 35 60503

mandrey@estpak.ee

Contact person: Mr Sergei Dzalalov, Psychotherapist or Olesja Muravitskaja

### **Activities/Projects**

The purpose of the project is social and psychological support of youth.

The project "Female Youth Line" deals with young girls and women, helping to form their views on how to be and become a real woman (a wife, a mother).

Warning of possible deviation in behaviour of the young girls, such as prostitution, promiscuity, and confusion of sexual roles.

The project "Youth telephone hotline" renders consultation services for youth on present problems.

## **YOUTH CREATIVE UNION VARIA ART**

NOORTE LOOMINGULINE ÜHENDUS

PK 3231

EE0090Tallinn

Estonia

Fax: +1-713 524 4104

art@varia-art.ee or Varia.Art@mail.ee

[www.varia-art.ee](http://www.varia-art.ee)

Contact person: Mr Oleg Vares

### **Activities/Projects**

The main purpose and tasks are to help in the all-around education and development of the abilities of the young people, to train youth through teamwork and organised activities, to support the undertaking of young people to protect the rights and interests of young people.

The main activities are youth training: training, seminars, conferences and courses. Leisure, entertainment, organisation and cultural and sports events, concerts, festivals, show programs etc.

# FINLAND

## **EMERGENCY CENTRE FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME IN FINLAND**

RIKOSUHRIPÄIVYSTYS

Centralbyrån

Stora Robertsgatan 20-22A

00120 Helsingfors

Finland

Tel: + 358 9 612 273 21

Fax: + 358 9 612 273 33

p.kjallman@rikosuhripaivystys.inet.fi

www.rikosuhripaivystys.fi/

Contact person: Ms Petra Kjällman

### **Activities/Projects**

The Emergency Centre for Victims of Crime in Finland offers victims of abuse or crimes, as well as their family members or others closely related, practical advice and psychological support. The aim is to enhance the role of the victim of crime in society. Thus, the Emergency Centre is a complement to other professional services in the Finnish society. The activities rely on voluntary work of educated and trained support staff as well as by those who answer the emergency telephone line.

Services:

- The emergency centre can be reached on tel 0600-16116
- Mondays 13-21 (1-9 p.m.)
- Tuesdays - Fridays 17-21 (5-9 p.m.)
- The support is spread out in the country and 10 district offices in the following listed provinces are involved in the activities (Helsinki, Tampere, Oulu, Joensuu, Turku, Jyväskylä, Kotka, Rovaniemi, Vaasa, Lahti).
- Legal support is given on tel. 0600-16117 Tuesdays-Thursdays 17-19 (5-9 p.m)
- A magazine is published four times a year.
- Research on victims of crime during 1998-1999.

Women with experiences of trafficking are welcome. Services are available in English.

**THE FINNISH ASSOCIATION FOR MENTAL HEALTH  
CRISIS PREVENTION CENTRE**

Simonkatu 12 B  
00100 Helsinki  
Finland

Tel: + 358 9 685 2828  
Fax: + 358 9 685 21 31

Contact person: Ms Lena Bremer

**Activities/Projects**

The crisis prevention centre for foreigners works to help all foreigners living in Finland as well as their families to cope with psychological and social problems.

The main activities are:

Client work – The client can discuss their problems in the own language (directly or through interpreter). Quick and flexible assistance. The client does not need to give his/her name. Services free of charge. Arrangements of continued or additional care when needed.

Training, counselling and co-operation – Local authorities and institutions are offered training and counselling services to facilitate their work with foreigners. Co-operation with other services in the social sector.

Expert services – Gathering and dissemination of information on the psychosocial well-being of foreigners for the use of authorities, institutions and the media. Aims at increasing tolerance and fight against prejudices.

The centre is open 9 –15 (9 am-3 pm). It is necessary to make an appointment.

**FINNISH NATIONAL FOCAL POINT/AIDS AND MOBILITY NETWORK**

Koulukatu 7 C 51,  
33200 Tampere,  
Finland

Fax: + 358 3 2140 789  
kris.clarke@pp.inet.fi

Contact person: Kris Clarke, Co-ordinator

### **Activities/Projects**

The work includes the co-ordination of activities in the area of AIDS and mobility, to develop educational programs for health care and social work professionals, and create material.

The services are: Preventative measures, lobbying policy makers, rehabilitative measures, seminars/lectures, method development, information, education, research and health issues for all target groups (prostitute women, prostitute girls, men buyers, government and the public)

Currently the Helsinki metropolitan area is the main area of activities but there are plans to develop further throughout Finland.

### **THE INGRIAN CENTRE**

INKERIKESKUS RY

Hämeentie 103 A

005500 Helsinki

Finland

Phone/Fax: +358 9 753 4464

inkerikeskus@kolumbus.fi

Contact: Kristel Ruusar, Director

### **Activities/Projects**

The Ingrian Centre supports Ingrian women and men from Russia and Estonia. The centre has cultural gatherings, works on promoting a positive image of Russian and Estonian immigrants, and offers the following services:

Two-week integration courses on how Finnish society works

Social support on problems such as loneliness, violence, homelessness or acute crisis. The social support is provided by the staff who are immigrants themselves. A psychologist comes in on Saturdays to provide professional help.

The services are offered in face-to-face meetings and via phone, although most visit the centre in person.

Any Russian speaking woman is welcome to the centre with their problems, and the centre will do their best to assist.

### **INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION FOR MIGRATION**

Helsinki Office

Mikonkatu 2E, 6th floor,

PO Box 851,

00101 Helsinki

Finland

Tel: +358 9 684 11 50

Fax: +358 9 684 11 511, +358 9 684 11510  
iomhelsinki@world.fi  
www.iom.int

Contact person: Mr José-Angel Oropeza, Regional Representative  
For Baltic & Nordic countries

### **Activities/Projects**

IOM is an intergovernmental agency of over 100 members and observer states with headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. It carries out its world-wide activities through some 70 field offices.

IOM Helsinki Office is planning to carry out a project on trafficking in women in the Baltic region. The purpose of the project is to increase the awareness of the emerging problems of trafficking in women among the general population, relevant authorities and NGOs in the Baltic States, and to discourage and prevent future trafficking in the Baltic Region. To achieve these goals, relevant national research projects will be carried out in the three Baltic countries in order to ascertain a comprehensive view of trafficking in women in the Baltic States. The project would include a nation-wide and a regional information campaign to increase awareness of women about the dangers of falling prey to traffickers.

## **MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, POLITICAL DEPARTMENT**

Kirkkokatv. 12,  
00170 Helsinki,  
Finland  
Tel: + 358 9 1602937  
Fax: + 358 9 1602940

Contact person: Mr Lauri Hollmén, Co-ordinator

### **Activities/Projects**

The department works on preventive measures, method development and research.

Finland was a member of the steering group of one IOM (international organisation for migration) study concerning the statistical data on trafficking in the European Union.

Among the current measures are: building up a network for monitoring, analysing and combating trafficking in human beings and organised prostitution from Russia and Estonia to Finland, Sweden and Germany, a project which is financed partly by EU's STOP-programme

## **MERITÄHTI MERETÄHT SEASTAR**

Vilhonkatu 4C 27

00100 Helsinki

Finland

Tel: + 358 9 6842 5570/71

Fax: + 358 9 622 33 86

meretaht@hdl.mailnet.fi

Office hours 10 – 15 (10 am-3 pm)

### **Activities/Projects**

Seastar is a project of The Helsinki Diakoniss Institute and offers the following services to foreign sex workers.

- Support and counselling
- Physician (gynaecologist) services
  - In Meritähti Mondays 15.30-18 (3.30 – 6 pm)
  - In Prostitute counselling centre (Mäkelänkatu 45 tel. 09 7262877)  
Wednesdays 14.30-18.00 (2.30-6 pm)
  - In Auroran sairaala (Palkkatilankatu 4, Building 16 B, tel 09 310 658 00)
- Offers condoms, lubricants and safer sex guides

The client can remain anonymous. Services are free of charge and the staff are bound to confidentiality.

Services are available in Russian

The services are open to women victims of trafficking.

## **MONIKA, MULTICULTURAL WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION**

Siltasaarenkatu 18 C, 6<sup>th</sup> floor

00530 Helsinki

Finland

Tel: + 358-9-5951879

reet.nurmi@stakes.fi

natalia.ollus@spray.se

Contact person: Ms Reet Nurmi, president or Ms Natalia Ollus, vice-president.

### **Activities/Projects**

The purpose of the association is to fulfil the aims of the official gender equality programme set by the Finnish government. The association provides help for immigrant and multicultural women and their children in cases of psychological,

physical and sexual abuse. The association works especially for preventing violence and the threat of violence within the family.

The association has established a crisis hotline for immigrant women in cases of violence and abuse, which provides help for victims of violence through crisis assessment and information on other aid-organisations. The association aims at establishing a Women's House, which will include a variety of different activities aimed especially at immigrant women and their children who are victims of physical, psychological or sexual violence. The association develops and maintains a national and international network of organisations and experts in the field of violence against women, including trafficking in women. The association also provides information for immigrant women on women's rights and gender equality in Finland.

The activities include:

- Provision of information on the situation of multicultural and immigrant women in Finland by organising seminars and meetings,
- Bringing together different cultures nearer each other,
- Working for maintaining the cultural identity of different ethnic groups in Finland,
- Publishes material on the situation of multicultural and immigrant women and violence in Finland both for the public and immigrant women themselves,
- Aims at influencing decision-making and the authorities at both the national and local level by propositions and statements as well as by removing prejudices against foreigners.

The association works in co-operation with other organisations and associations to fulfil its aims.

**PRO-CENTRE**  
**PRO-TUKIPISTE**  
Mäkelänkatu 45  
00550 Helsinki  
Finland

Phone: +358 9 7262 877

Fax: +358 9 7231 0250

E-mail: jaana.kauppinen@pro-tukipiste.inet.fi

minna.huovinen@pro-tukipiste.inet.fi

Contact persons: Ms Jaana Kauppinen, Director or Ms Minna Huovinen, Social worker



### **Activities/Projects**

Pro-Tukipiste is a centre for women and men in prostitution and has existed for 10 years. The centre provides the following services, mainly to Finnish women and men:

- Psychological work such as counselling, therapeutic discussions, support for those who want to leave prostitution, health counselling and health promotion.
- Medical consultation with a doctor every Wednesday and with a nurse five times a week.

The centre also does some advocacy/political work through media and statements on legislation where the centre advocates on behalf of the women in prostitution.

Pro-Tukipiste has 6 staff of which 2 are full time workers and one is outreach worker.

Victims of trafficking are welcome.

### **THE RAPE CRISIS CENTRE TUKINAINEN**

PL 243  
00121 Helsinki  
Finland

Tel: + 358 9 50 363 7872 or +358 9 586 03666  
Fax: + 358 9 685 19 79  
kristiina.valkama@tukinainen.kolumbus.fi

Contact person: Ms Kristiina Valkama

### **Activities/Projects**

Unioni, The League of Finnish Feminists, founded the Rape Crisis Centre in 1993 to give therapeutic and legal help to victims of sexual violence. The general aim is to make sexual violence more visible and enhance future developments in the society toward a more realistic understanding and attitude toward victims of sexual violence.

The activities include:

- National crisis on-call line, Tel: 0800-97899
- Legal on-call line, Tel: 0800-97895
- Therapeutic groups: for victims and for those close to the victim
- Therapeutic intensive courses
- Meetings with lawyers and possibility of trial assistance
- Crisis counselling
- Contacts with related areas of expertise (medical care, psychiatric care, psychotherapy)

- Courses and lectures

All services free of charge for victims of sexual violence.

All workers are female.

The clients age range is from 13-80 (mostly 20-25). Their experiences vary from unwanted sexual approaches and touching, to cruel and sadistic acts of sexual violence).

The services are open to women victims of trafficking.

## **STAKES, NATIONAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CENTRE FOR WELFARE AND HEALTH**

PB 220  
FIN-00531  
Helsinki  
Finland

Tel: +358 9 39 67 21 75  
Fax: +358 9 39 67 21 55  
marjut.jyrkinen@stakes.fi  
www.stakes.fi/sexviolence

Contact person: Ms Marjut Jyrkinen, Project Manager

### **Activities/Projects**

In compliance with the obligations set by the United Nations, the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health started in 1998 a five-year national Program for the Prevention of Prostitution and Violence Against Women (1998 - 2002). The program is chaired by the Minister of Social Affairs and Health, Ms. Eva Biaudet.

The program is put into practice at STAKES (National Research and Development Centre for Welfare and Health), where questions concerning prostitution and the sex trade have been dealt with already through the work of the National Expert Group on Prostitution (1994 - 1996).

The project gathers and disseminates information and follows up on prostitution and different forms of commercialised sex at international and national levels. The sex trade is a polymorphic continuously evolving phenomenon. The themes related to it are relatively difficult and sensitive to approach. At the national level, there is a lack of collected and reliably analysed information on the phenomenon. For these reasons, the key task of the project is to promote research both in applied and theoretical areas. In order to broaden the understanding of prostitution and to eliminate the violations of human rights

connected to the sex trade, the social and cultural patterns and structures behind it are being investigated in the project. The project draws attention to other initial partners in the sex trade who maintain it and benefit financially from it. Clients, procurers, and indirect profiteers are in focus under the project.

A further task of the project is to produce different kinds of operative models in order to create a basis for social decision-making and to promote co-operation with authorities and NGOs in striving to prevent prostitution and to reduce the disadvantages connected to the phenomenon.

More information at [www.stakes.fi/sexviolence/pp/en/index.html](http://www.stakes.fi/sexviolence/pp/en/index.html)

### **WOMEN'S SHELTER**

NAISTEN SOUJAKOTY RY

Terhokuja 5  
33840 Tampere  
Finland

Phone: +358 3 3140 0411

Fax: +358 3 3140 0440

[suojakot@sci.fi](mailto:suojakot@sci.fi)

Contact person: Ms Arja Loukola, Director

### **Activities/projects**

The women's shelter has existed for 26 years and provides support to women who are drug/alcohol abusers and/or have experiences of violence. The shelter has a variety of accommodations where women can stay for longer or shorter periods. The women are either referred to the shelter by the municipality or contact the shelter themselves. Tampere municipality pays for each woman for a minimum of three days, whereafter a longer-term plan for each woman has to be drawn up. As soon as a woman moves in to the shelter she draws up a survival plan together with the staff.

Among the staff are social instructors, psychiatric nurse and social workers – altogether 30 persons including the volunteers. The local parish was involved in setting up the centre, which is built on Christian principle. Christian counselling is available on request.

The shelter works in close co-operation with schools, the parish, police and medical services, and have client conferences where the individual client's needs and possibilities are discussed.

The women's shelter is interested in exchange of experiences and information, and on methods for working with women who have experience of prostitution or trafficking.

## GERMANY

### **SOLWODI – SOLIDARITY WITH WOMEN IN DISTRESS**

SOLWODI e.V  
Probstei-Str. 2  
56 154 Boppard  
Germany  
Tel: 6741 2232  
Fax: 6741 2310

Postfach 2108  
56021 Koblenz  
Germany  
Tel: 261 33719

Postfach 3741  
55027 Maiz  
Germany  
Tel: 6131 678069  
Fax: 6131 613470

### **Activities/Projects**

SOLWODI – solidarity with women in distress has the above contact centres for women from Africa, Asia and Latin America.

SOLWODI provides the following advice and support:

Talking to the women about their options for the future; negotiations with immigration and other authorities; visits in prison (deportation custody); assistance in the search for an apartment and providing of shelter; arrangement of adult literacy or German courses and of suitable training placements; support of witnesses in trial; counselling of victims of trafficking; support in returning to the country of origin etc. SOLWODI also carries out a reintegration project.

SOLWODI also conducts public work such as:

Creating awareness of the problem with the help of the media and lectures; observing trials against traffickers and husbands; requesting improvements of the legal situation, lobbying politicians and authorities; training programmes for occupational groups etc.

Advice is also available at:

Bonn, Tel: 228 108 248 (first Wednesday of the month)

Kaiserslautern, Tel: 631 365 2350 (last Thursday of the month)

Victims of trafficking are welcome.

## LATVIA

**DAUGAVPILS PEDAGOGICAL UNIVERSITY  
HEALTH PROMOTION CENTRE (DPU HPC)**  
VESELÎBAS VEICINÂŠANAS CENTRS (DPU VVC)  
Daugavpils Pedagogical University  
Parades iela 1-117  
Daugavpils LV 5401  
Latvia

Phone: + 371 91 23775, +371 54 24496  
Fax: + 371 54 23468  
dpuvvc@nvo.dpunet.lv

Contact: Ms Irena Kunicka, Director of DPU HPC

### **Activities/Projects**

Irena Kunicka, lecturer at the Daugavpils Pedagogical University, started the Health Promotion Centre in 1998 as an NGO. The centre organises teacher training courses in health, reproductive health, sexuality, STD and AIDS prevention, etc. The Centre also carries out health promotion and AIDS preventive campaigns at the University and the Daugavpils schools, as well as hold workshops on reproductive rights for the students at the university. The Centre takes part in sexual and reproductive health projects, for example “Teachers and students summer training camp in reproductive health and family planning” and “Workshop about protection from sexual violence for primary school teachers”. The Centre is planning to produce booklets on what to do in difficult situations such as rape.

### **THE HUMAN RIGHTS SUPPORT NETWORK**

Brivibas iela 40-44  
105 Riga  
Latvia

Tel: + 371 7 505 066  
Fax: + 371 7 505 067  
ruta@ngo.org.lv

### **Activities/Projects**

The aim of the program is to support regional non-governmental organisations in Latvia and provide information to organisations and individuals about human rights.

It is funded by Sores foundation-Latvia and the Constitutional and Legal Policy Institute (COLPI). The network has co-ordinators in the following places: Aluksens, Daugavpils, Cesis, Jelgava, Jekabpils, Liepaja, Talsi, Tukuums, and Riga.

The main tasks are:

- Information about human rights to NGOs in the Latvian region
- To frame education programs in a human rights perspective
- To inform NGOs and individuals about concrete human rights problems and find solutions
- Information exchange between NGOs and NGO Support Centres.

### **INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION FOR MIGRATION, RIGA**

STARPTAUTISKĀS MIGRĀCIJAS ORGANIZĀCIJAS RĪGAS

UN house, Liela pils iela 21

LV 1167 Riga

Latvia

Tel: +371 7503627

Fax: +371 7503603

elina.niedre@undp.riga.lv

Contact person: Ms Elina Niedre

### **Activities/Projects**

As an intergovernmental body IOM acts with its partners in the international community to

- assist in meeting the operational challenges of migration
- advance understanding of migration issues
- encourage social and economic development through migration
- and work towards effective respect of the human dignity and well being of migrants.

For some years, IOM has been moving towards a comprehensive approach to address gender issues, both among the staff and in its programmes and activities. Thus in February 1995 it formed a Working Group on Gender Issues to examine a range of gender-related concerns. The Group's aim was to bring existing efforts into the mainstream, so that gender issues became an integral part of IOM's planning and action.

The first of the policy statements relates to gender-appropriate policies and programmes for migrant women. It reads as follows: "IOM is committed to ensuring that the particular needs of all migrant women are identified, taken into consideration and addressed by IOM projects and services."

## **LATVIA'S ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY PLANNING AND SEXUAL HEALTH**

PAPARDES ZIEDS

15R Vegnera iela

Riga

LV 1050

Latvia

Tel: + 371 724 2700

Tel/Fax: +371 782 0605/ +371 782 1227

lfpa@mailbox.riga.lv

www.iclub.lv/lfpa/

Contact person: Ms Ilze Melgalve, Executive Director

### **Activities/Projects**

"Papardes Zieds" disseminates information on family planning, sexuality, sexual relationships, reproductive and sexual health to society via brochures, lectures at schools, peer education, conferences and seminars. The organisation is a member of International Planned Parenthood Federation and has 200 individuals as members and 7 organisations. Other projects are training for organisations in different regions in Latvia, youth groups that meet once a month, collecting and dissemination of information on the current services situation, working on improving services through contact with service providers.

The organisation chooses a priority theme for every one or two years. Sexuality of handicapped persons and health for women in prostitution have been among the themes.

## **LATVIAN ASSOCIATION "FOR SAFE SEX"**

LATVIJAS ASOCIACIJA "PAR DROSU SEKSU"

Darza-3

LV-1007 Riga

Latvia

Tel: +371-245-4374

lapds@apollo.lv

Internet: [www.netneo.com/aids](http://www.netneo.com/aids)

Contact person: Mr Toms Vikings

### **Activities/Projects**

Sexual education for risk groups, gay and lesbian education, faith against people trading, HIV/AIDS STD information, 24-hour Internet assistance.

Co-operated project with IOM (International Organization of Migration")  
"Prevention Of Trafficking In Women In The Baltic Countries".

### **LATVIAN GENDER PROBLEM CENTRE**

Kalneciema 14  
LV-1048 Riga  
Latvia

Tel/fax: + +371 7 611 699  
gender@parks.lv

Contact person: Dr Tatjana Kurova, Director and Medical Doctor

### **Activities/Projects**

The main objective and aim of the organisation is prevention of AIDS and STD in Latvia and improving the situation in the field of prostitution.

The current measures include: Information and support centre for prostitutes; elaborating law proposal on prostitution; provision of a hot-line and social worker services for prostitutes besides street-work and medical consulting.

Services:

- Prostitute women: fieldwork, counselling, lobbying policy makers, rehabilitative measures, method development, information, education, research, health issues and sex workers rights. Prostitute girls (up to 18 years): fieldwork, counselling, method development, information, and research and health issues.
- Government: lobbying policy makers.
- The public: seminars/lectures, information, education and health issues.

Publications:

“Prostitution in Riga, Latvia- A socio-medical matter of concern” Acta Obstetricia Et Gynecologica Scandinavica 76 (1997).  
Booklets for prostitutes and their clients on STD and safe sex.



## **PSYCHOLOGICAL SUPPORT AND CRISIS CENTRE –YOUTH DEPARTMENT**

Daugavpils  
Latvia

Phone: +371 54 11212

Contact: Ms Tatjana Nesteruka

### **Activities/Projects**

The centre, which started in December 1997, supports people, young and old, who have psychological problems, are in psychological crisis, have been physically or psychologically abused, or just needs to talk about problems in the family, with relations, sexuality. The centre has a hot line for people in psychological crisis. The centre also carries out seminars and training for other professionals and for those who want to become volunteers at the centre. There are four staff and 20 volunteers working at the centre.

Women and girls with experience of trafficking are welcome.

## **YOUTH HEALTH CLINIC**

JAUNATNES VESELIBAS KLINIKA  
Raina Bulv. 27  
Riga  
LV-1050  
Latvia

Tel/Fax: + 371 722 4083

pukitis@acad.latnet.lv (Margarite Pukite)  
or Dan.Hellberg@ltdalarna.se (Dan Hellberg)

Contact person: Ms Margarite Pukite, Director, Gynaecologist  
or Mr Dan Hellberg, President of the Board, Associate Professor

### **Activities/Projects**

The intention of the Riga Youth Health Clinic is to provide medical services for young Latvian women, up to 23-25 years of age and to serve as a model of a Youth Centre of Western European type in Latvia.

The clinic welcomes any young Latvian woman or man for individual counselling, as well as groups of young persons, health workers interested in youth health, politicians and health decision makers for education or information. We plan educational activities among young persons and among health workers. For the individual patient, all visits are free of charge. Medical investigations and treatment of diseases related to reproduction are subsidised whenever possible.

Staff at the Riga Youth Health Centre include gynaecologists, midwives and psychologists.

The main activities are

- Prevention of unwanted pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases
- Diagnosis and treatment of diseases related to the reproductive organs
- Reproductive and sexual education
- Providing contraceptive advice, when needed
- Helping young persons with social or psychological problems, which can be related to family, school, friends etc
- Providing medical courses in reproductive health in Latvia or in Sweden for Latvian health workers
- Lectures for youth classes in school, and lectures about sexuality and puberty in orphanages.

Women with experience of trafficking are welcome.

## LITHUANIA

### **CRIME PREVENTION CENTRE IN LITHUANIA** LAIKINAI EINANTIS DIREKTORIAUS PAREIGAS

Gyneju str. 6  
2600 Vilnius  
Lithuania

Tel: + 370 2 313139 (617 331 to the Director)  
Fax: + 370 2 223 985  
nplc1@auste.elnet.lt  
www.nplc.lt

Contact person: Mr Andrejus Piliavecias, Acting director, Mr Saule Vidrinskaite, Programme Coordinator for Legal Education

### **Activities/Projects**

The Crime Prevention Centre was founded 1997 as an initiative of UNDP and is a government institution funded by the Lithuanian Association of Local Authorities and the Supreme Court. The aim of the centre is to develop the policy of crime prevention and the elimination of its causes and conditions in Lithuania. Further it shall initiate, organise and co-ordinate the crime prevention programs and measures in the country. It shall also build up and introduce an efficient system of crime prevention in Lithuania as well as to tender assistance to the crime prevention subjects and develop regional and international co-operation in the field of crime prevention.

CPCL has started the Crimes Victims Support Program. This program is only the beginning of a research of crime victim's rights and social situation.

One of the centre's projects is the "Street law" project funded by the Soros Foundation, which aims at carrying out legal education in society. The project goes out to secondary schools and gives information about what is legal and not.

Services:

Women in prostitution: legal assistance.

Girls in prostitution (up to 18 years): Legal assistance and seminars/lectures.

Government: counselling and lobbying policy makers.

The public: preventive measures

Major programs and projects 1998-2000:

- Building up of the informational system of the Centre
- Program of the crime prediction and prevention strategy
- Program of child and juvenile justice concept and the project of its implementation
- Program of the legal protection of the victims of crime
- Project of control and prevention of economic and financial crimes
- Comprehensive program of the organised crime prevention and anti-corruption measures.
- Program of probation in the criminal justice system
- Program of crime prevention in the capital
- Training program of prevention subjects
- Program of legal education

## **DEMETRA**

Kauno 6

Vilnius

Lithuania

Tel: +370 2 239593

Fax: + 370 2 720225

algis@ktl.mil.lt

Contact person: Ms Svetlana Kulsis

## **Activities/Projects**

In 1998 Demetra opened a consultation site with the main objective to assist and support sex workers as well as drug addicts. Services are provided anonymously and without any charge. The activities of Demetra include psychological support, education and information, promotion of safer sex, test of sexually

transmitted diseases and HIV/IDS, development, publication and dissemination of information and education material.

**LITHUANIAN HUMAN RIGHTS ASSOCIATION  
MISSING PERSON'S FAMILIES SUPPORT CENTER**

A.Jaksto g. 9-207

Vilnius

Lithuania

Tel: + 370 2 615 619 (+ 370 2 622 497)

Fax: + 370 2 615 619

HRA@mail.adecoma.lt

www.missing.lt

Contact person: Ms Ona Gustiene

**Activities/Projects**

The organisation was founded in 1996 and aims at making the search for missing women and men more active, at preventing trafficking in women and men, as well as at supporting the victims' reintegration into Lithuania. Their activities include active research into the destiny of missing persons such as Contact persons with organisations in western Europe, waiting for deported Lithuanian women at the airport of Vilnius to help them identify missing persons, etc. Other activities include lobbying (state authorities, governmental bodies, political parties, etc), mass media and information campaigns (TV, newspapers, radio), education and training of girls in secondary school. The activities within the field of reintegration of victims of trafficking include finding a temporary shelter for living, finding a job, moral and psychological support.

A web site in Lithuanian and English for registering missing persons and a list of women and men with photographs and characteristics of the missing persons.

Publications: two sorts of booklets in Lithuanian, English, German and Russian languages

The services are open to women victims of trafficking.

**LITHUANIAN POSITIVE GROUP**  
LIETUVAS POZITYNISJA GRUPO  
P.B 1354  
LT-2056 Vilnius  
Lithuania

Tel: + 370 2 475524  
Fax: +370 2 220549  
kilis@post.omnitel.net

Contact person: Ms Neringa Maleckiene

### **Activities/Projects**

The organisation has worked for 6 years with providing support to HIV positive people and their families on a volunteer basis. The organisation has 17 volunteers and a crisis line for persons who are worried about HIV/AIDS or want to ask questions. The organisation is funded by the private initiatives the Soros Foundation and the Nordic Information Bureau.

The Programmes are:

- Baltic AIDS support groups to help people living with HIV. Baltic conferences are organised every six months in this programme.
- Health promotion programme for the women in the sex industry
- A project with the aim that all HIV positives should be equally and legally accepted in our society
- The project "Health for all" with the help of the Catholic Church.

**LITHUANIAN WOMEN'S INFORMATION CENTRE**  
MOTERU INFOMACIJOS CENTRAS  
P.O. Box 1218  
Vilnius 2001  
Lithuania

Tel./fax.: +370 2 628 543  
wiic@undp.lt  
www.undp.lt/wiic/

Contact person: Ms Ugne Sipariene, Journalist

### **Activities/Projects**

The WIIC acts as a focal point on the pulse of women's issues in Lithuanian society, by acting as a catalyst on the most pressing problems facing women in the transitional post-communist stage. Decentralising power towards a free democratic civil society has had profound changes in the way gender is socially constructed and maintained. In many ways, rights that women should be entitled

to are somehow pushed back in the political machinery, instead of ensuring their full emancipation at this pivotal stage. Hence, WIIC plays a key role in ensuring that women's issues remain at the forefront of political, social and economical changes in which women become 'visible'. In particular, we are keen to see the implementation of the 'Action Plan for the Advancement of Women in Lithuania' in which women play a central role in politics and the decision-making processes, which has a direct impact and influence on their lives.

The Centre has an extensive network of contacts with women's organisations, women's NGO's within Lithuania, its Baltic's neighbours, and some Eastern European countries, highlighting problems of abuses and problems of women. To present a united front, the network shares strategies on intervention, organises joint conferences and campaigns, disseminates and shares information, etc.

### **LITHUANIAN WOMEN'S NGO "PRAEITIES PEDOS"**

"PRAEITIES PEDOS"

Gedimino 46-6

2001 Vilnius

Lithuania

Tel/Fax: +370 2 62 27 26

tima@kada.lt

Contact persons: Ms Rima Praspaliauskiene or Ms Dalia Marcinkeviciene

### **Activities/Projects**

The main activities are: research on gender issues; preventive measures against trafficking in women; education of gender equality and human rights.

Lithuanian women's NGO "Praeities Pedos" was established in 1998. We have realized (November 1998 - March 1999) project of Trafficking in Women "Stop Trafficking" which was sponsored by OSI Regional Women's Program and Global Survival Network. NGO "Praeities Pedos" is working on new project "Preventive – Informational Campaign Against Trafficking in Women and Children" recently.

Publications:

Dalia Marcinkeviciene & Rima Praspaliauskiene (eds.) "Prekyba moterimis" (Trafficking in women), Vilnius, 1999, 104 pp., ISBN

9986-9301-0-3

Preventive leaflets

## **THE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Saltoniskiu 19-601,  
2600 Vilnius,  
Lithuania

Tel: + 370 2 65 99 89  
Fax: + 370 2 72 38 55

Contact person: Ms Irena Katiliene, Commissar Inspector

### **Activities/Projects**

The organised crime investigation service is directly subordinated to the police department.

The activities include operative investigation of criminal groups dealing with trafficking in people; accumulation and analysis of information on trafficking in people; control of investigation of these crimes in subordinate criminal police services and practical assistance. Also development of methods for a more active prevention of trafficking in people for the Government of the Republic. At present, a plan of trafficking in people and prostitution prevention up to 2000 is under preparation by the Police Department together with other public institutions.

Services:

- Women in prostitution: fieldwork, preventive measures and information.
- Girls in prostitution (up to 18 years): fieldwork, preventive measures and information.
- Men buyers: fieldwork, preventive measures and information.
- Government: fieldwork, lobbying policy makers, seminars/lectures, method development and information.
- The public: fieldwork, legal assistance, seminars/lectures, information and education.

## **VILNIUS WOMEN'S HOUSE CRISIS CENTRE**

P.O. Box 532  
Lt-2024 Vilnius  
Lithuania

Or  
Pilies 36 - 10  
LT-2001 Vilnius  
Lithuania

Tel/Fax: + 370 2 616 380  
vmotnam@pub.osf.lt

Contact person: Dir. Ms Lilja Vasiliauskiene, Ms Marina Zablockyte, Day worker

### **Activities/Projects**

The Women's House Organisation is a women's NGO, with broad goals in the field of women's social health and well-being, concerned with empowering women and fighting violence against women. The priority area is help and assistance for the victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. The organisation was founded in 1993 and has had various activities and projects ranging from local seminars on unemployed women to participation in international conferences, the UN IV International Conference for Women in Beijing 1995, as well as support programs for delinquent girls.

The Crisis Centre for battered and sexually abused women is the main project since 1996. It operates as a hot-line and the Day Centre, open for 12 hours on working days. The activities included here are:

- A help line where victims can get support and information
- Women can come to the centre at the day time and get practical assistance from the day workers and volunteers, such as writing reports to police stations, going to court or child right agency.
- At request, the CC workers can arrange consultations from lawyers, psychologist or medical doctors for the women.

## **The NETHERLANDS**

### **FOUNDATION AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN (STV)**

STICHTING TEGEN VROUWENHANDEL

Postal address: P.O. Box 1455

3500 BL Utrecht

Visiting address: Bemuurde Weerd OZ 31

3514 AP Utrecht

The Netherlands

Tel: + 31 30 2716044

Fax + 31 30 2716084

STV@stv.nl

### **Activities/Projects**

The Foundation Against Trafficking in Women (STV) is nation-wide project oriented organisation with the threefold aim:

- Identifying and exposing trafficking in women
- Organising care for victims of trafficking in women;



- Developing national, European and international strategies to prevent and combat trafficking in women

STV works in the following fields: policy monitoring, lobby and advocacy work; improving support services for victims of trafficking; prevention; public relations, and documentation and information services.

Currently STV is engaged in the following projects:  
National reporting centre; regional relief networks; training and information programmes; police and justice; legislation; La Strada prevention program, and international networking.

STV is a member of the Global Alliance Against Trafficking in Women (GAATW) and the European NGO Network on trafficking in Women, which was founded in April 1997.

## NORWAY

### **FEMINIST GROUP OTTAR**

Postbox 4676 Torshov  
0405 Oslo  
Norway

Tel: (+47) 22 71 80 47  
(+47) 95 15 74 22  
ottar@newmedia.no  
<http://home.newmedia.no/~ottar/>

Contact person: Ms Ane Stø, tel: (+47) 95 15 74 22

### **Activities/Projects**

The Feminist Group Ottar is a radical, feminist and activist organization, which was founded in 1991. Our name "Ottar" is an inspiration from the feminist pioneer Elise Ottesen Jensen. During a great part of the 20th century she fought for women's sexual rights.

We fight against all kinds of pornography and prostitution. We work to strengthen legislation against pornography and to penalize the clients of prostitution. We hold speeches in high school about pornography and prostitution, and organize demonstrations, debates and direct actions against prostitution. We are a member organization of the Network North against Prostitution and Violence. We work for women's sexual and reproductive rights, for example to protect the right to abortion.

We work to strengthen the economical situation of women.  
We work for international solidarity.

Addresses to our local groups:

Oslo: Kvinnehuset, Holsts gate 1, 0473 Oslo. Tel/fax: (+47) 22719904, e-mail:  
ottar@newmedia.no

Bergen: Postboks 755 5001 Bergen, e-mail: ottar.bg@online.no

Stavanger: Boks 516, 4001 Stavanger.

## **FOKUS, FORUM FOR WOMEN AND DEVELOPMENT**

Stortg. 33 C,  
N-0184 Oslo  
Norway

Tel: + 47 22 20 95 70

Fax: + 47 22 20 95 69

fokuskvinner@online.no

Contact person: Ms Vibeke Hermanrud, Administrator

### **Activities/Projects**

FOKUS is a resource centre for women, gender and development with emphasis on information activities in Norway and development co-operation and project activities in the South. 50 women's organisations and women's committees/groups in political parties, development and solidarity organisations are affiliated to FOKUS. In addition to fundraised money, the Norwegian authorities (Ministry of Foreign Affairs/NORAD) support parts of FOKUS project management and information activities.

The activities include:

- Administrates funds to information activities by women's organisations in Norway.
- Publishes a quarterly magazine, a monthly news bulletin, reports and study material.
- Organises seminars and conferences.
- Co-ordinates workshops and task forces.
- Advocates the integration of women's empowerment and gender perspectives in all government and non-government development policies.
- Co-ordinates preparations for international conferences and maintains active national and international networks.

FOKUS gives support to projects like Crises Centre (Women's house) in Vilnius, Lithuania, in Thailand and in South Africa working with prostitution and violence against women.

Publications: a quarterly magazine “Kvinne Sammen” (Women together)

### **OSLO KOMMUNE, PRO SENTRET**

Tollbugt. 24,  
N-0157 Oslo  
Norway

Tel: + 47 23 10 0215  
Fax: + 47 22 41 05 44  
liv.jessen@gamle-oslo.oslo.kommune.no

Contact person: Ms Liv Jessen, Manager

### **Activities/Projects**

The centre provides social service and support for prostitutes, male and female. It is the national centre for documentation, advice and education. It participates in the Nordic Network, working on describing the situation and extent of foreign prostitutes in Norway and planning a co-project under the Leonardo Da Vinci Programme 1999.

Services:

- Women in prostitution: fieldwork, counselling, preventive measures, legal assistance, rehabilitative measures, method development, education, research, health issues and sex workers rights.
- Girls in prostitution (up to 18 years): fieldwork, counselling, preventive measures, legal assistance, rehabilitative measures, method development, and research and health issues.
- Men buyers: preventive measures.
- Government: preventive measures, seminars/lectures, information and sex workers rights.
- The public: preventive measures, seminars/lectures, information and education.

### **NATTHJEMMET, STIFTELSEN KIRKENS BYMISSON**

Box 2676  
ST. Hanshaugen,  
N-0131 Oslo  
Norway

Tel: + 47 22 46 46 78  
Fax: + 47 22 46 22 75  
prostnat@online.no

Contact person: Ms Kirsten Frigstad, Manager

### **Activities/Projects**

The organisation provides a night shelter for women in the street prostitution

Services:

- Women in prostitution: counselling, preventive measures, legal assistance, lobbying policy makers, rehabilitative measures, method development, information, research, health issues and sex workers rights.
- Men buyers: preventive measures and information.
- Government: preventive measures, lobbying policy makers, information and sex workers rights.
- The public: preventive measures, seminars/lectures, information, education and sex workers rights.

### **NORDIC INSTITUTE FOR WOMEN'S STUDIES AND GENDER RESEARCH**

NORDISK INSTITUTT FOR KVINNE- OG KJØNNSFORSKNING

NIKK

PB 1156 Blindern

0317 Oslo

Norway

Tel: + 47 22 85 89 21

Fax: + 47 22 85 89 50

[nikk@nikk.uio.no](mailto:nikk@nikk.uio.no)

Contact person: Ms Maria Grönroos, Information Co-ordinator

### **Activities/Projects**

Nordic Institute for Women's Studies and Gender Research NIKK is a regional and multi-disciplinary research institute for the Nordic countries (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden and the autonomous territories of the Faeroe Islands, Greenland and Åland Islands). The NIKK is financed by the Nordic Council of Ministers, located at the University of Oslo, Norway.

- Serves as a platform for co-operation for Women's Studies and Gender Research in the Nordic countries
- Promotes, initiates, co-ordinates and informs about Women's Studies and Gender Research in the five Nordic countries and internationally
- Conducts research projects

The "Living for Tomorrow" project: "Youth, sexual health and the cultural landscapes of gender and sexuality in Nordic/Baltic/N.W Russian times of transition. An HIV/AIDS era initiative". A three-year research and development project(1998 -2000) in Estonia. Its aim is to increase young women's and men's

consciousness about the importance of sexual health and safer sex. Issues of trafficking in women are included in the discussions.

## **WOMEN'S FRONT OF NORWAY**

KVINNEFRONTEN

Holstsgate 1

N-0473 Oslo

Norway

Tel: +47 22376054

kvinnefronten@online.no

Contact person: Ms Anne Søyland

### **Activities/Projects**

Kvinnefronten/Women's Front is an active, radical, politically independent feminist organisation that was founded in 1972. The goal is women's liberation. We want to change the world as well as our own lives. We have 4-500 members across the nation. An annual meeting every second year decides strategies and elects the national board of 15 women from all over the country. We have formal groups in some cities that take action at different occasions. We are active in FOKUS, the umbrella organisation for Norway's women's organisation concerning North-South-relations. And in different international networks like Women's Global Network for Reproductive Rights and Coalition Against Trafficking in Women. Through FOKUS we co-operate with women's groups in Tanzania, Brazil, Botswana and umbrella organisations like Inter African Committee on harmful traditions (circumcision etc).

Kvinnefronten/Women's front of Norway is against all kinds of oppression of women. We think the different kinds of oppression are linked together, thus there is a diversity of interest areas for the organisation as well as the groups and individual members. International solidarity has always been important.

## SWEDEN

### **BALTIC SEA YOUTH PROJECT – NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL**

LANDSRÅDET FÖR SVERIGES UNGDOMSORGANISATIONER

Kungsgatan 74 ,5 tr.  
SE-111 22 Stockholm  
Sweden

Tel: +46 8 440 86 86

Fax: + 46 8 20 35 30

asa.olsson@lsu.se

www.bsyp.youth.se

Contact person: Ms Åsa Olsson

### **Activities/Projects**

The Baltic Sea Youth Project is a joint project of all national youth councils in the Baltic Sea Region (Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania , Norway, Poland, Russia and Sweden). Its aim is to strengthen youth organisations and their impact on societies, thus supporting democratic development. The Project is designed for and run by youth.

The activities include:

- Contact forum
- Regional training for trainers
- National training seminars
- Interchange program
- Delegation trips

These activities will contribute to:

- Skilled youth leaders and member of youth organisations
- Provision of possibilities to start and develop bilateral-or multilateral projects
- Strengthen co-operation between youth organisation and national youth councils and other actors

### **COUNTY COUNCIL OF VÄSTERBOTTEN**

VÄSTERBOTTENS LÄNS LANDSTING

Samhällsmedicin, hälsoenheten

Köksvägen 11

901 89 Umeå

Sweden

Phone: +46 90 785 71 92

Fax: +46 90 77 34 66  
evabritt.carlsten.lt@vll.se , annchristine.lofgren.lt@vll.se or  
natasha.andersson@swipnet.se

Contact: Ms Eva Britt Carlsten, Ms Anne-Christine Löfgren or Ms Natasha Andersson

### **Activities/Projects**

In her work as a travel agent and interpreter in Umeå in the North of Sweden, Natasha Andersson realised that Swedish men from the County travelled to St Petersburg, presumably for sexual contacts. The men often invited the women to Sweden for a shorter period, and sometimes the women married the men and stayed.

After discussions with the County Council, Natasha Andersson applied for funding from the National Institute for Public Health (Folkhälsoinstitutet) for HIV preventive activities. The National Institute assigned the County Council of Västerbotten to carry out the project in co-operation with Natasha Andersson.

In co-operation with a travel agent the County Council distributed condoms and information on safe sex to Swedish male tourists going to Russia and Estonia. Some of the women who married and moved to Sweden, encountered problems in the new family constellation. To support these women, the County Council opened a telephone service in Russian for information on Swedish society. Natasha Andersson, herself Russian, runs the telephone service. Although the emphasis for the telephone service is on society information, Natasha Andersson talks to the women about whichever problem they might have, mainly relationship problems. She then assists in referring the callers to relevant municipal or NGO services such as women's shelters, social workers, hospitals etc. An average of 40 calls a month has been registered. A Russian women's society was recently established to create a space for women to support each other.

The information telephone line is open weekdays between 8-20 for Russian speaking women living in the region of Västerbotten, Sweden. Phone: +46 90 77 15 60

### **NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR IMMIGRANT WOMEN RIKSFÖRBUNDET INTERNATIONELLA FÖRENINGEN FÖR INVANDRARKVINNOR, RIFFI**

Norrtullsgatan 45  
113 45 Stockholm  
Sweden

Phone: +46 8 30 21 89  
Fax: +46 8 33 53 23

Contact: Ms Kaisa Pellinen Hernandez, Behaviour scientist/social worker

### **Activities/Projects**

RIFFI is an umbrella organisation of about 20 organisations for immigrant women in Sweden. RIFFI has for the past 32 years worked to promote equality, equity, integration and the right of immigrant women to education and employment. RIFFI is open to women of all nationalities irrespective of their political and religious beliefs. The local member organisations offer courses to immigrant women in a variety of subjects such as language, cooking, painting, and sawing.

Women's health is one of the important issues that RIFFI has worked with and has for example highlighted issues such as violence against women, nutrition, female genital mutilation, health care, drugs, abuse of children. Kaisa Pellinen Hernandez has worked specifically with immigrant women who have been subject to violence where many of the women have married Swedish men who after marriage turn out to be abusive. The organisation does not have a shelter but there are discussions about starting one.

### **NATIONAL BOARD OF HEALTH AND WELFARE**

SOCIALSTYRELSEN

106 30 Stockholm

Sweden

Phone: +46 8 555 530 00

Fax: +46 8 555 532 52

annika.eriksson@sos.se

Contact person: Ms Annika Eriksson

### **Activities/Projects**

Within the framework of the Governments initiative against violence against women, the National Board of Health and Welfare is charged to undertake development work on questions concerning violence against women and on prostitution. The work will seek to facilitate the expansion of competence and improvement of methods within the social and health services. Included in this task is the initiation and support of collaborative projects and of the dissemination of information and the following of international developments. Included is also to carry out a survey on the nature and extent of prostitution in Sweden as well as to follow the international trends in prostitution.

### **NATIONAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT**

RIKSKRIMINALPOLISEN

National Criminal Intelligence Service

Illegal immigration intelligence unit



P.O. Box 12256  
102 26 Stockholm  
Sweden

Phone: +46 8 401 00 00  
Fax: +46 8 40137 35  
rikskriminalpolisen@rkp.police.se (attention: name)

Contact: Ms Kajsa Wahlberg, Detective Inspector, National Rapporteur  
Mr Patrik Engström, Detective Inspector, Assistant on trafficking in women  
Ms Sofia Ask, Detective Inspector, Child pornography

### **Activities/Projects**

The National Criminal Investigation Department has the Swedish Government's mandate to be the national rapporteur on trafficking in women and reports twice yearly to the Government. Ms Wahlberg is the national rapporteur on trafficking in women and co-ordinates the report on the situation of trafficking in Sweden to the Government. The report, which is in Swedish, can be acquired from the above address. Every county has a police rapporteur on trafficking in women and child pornography and these report back to Ms Wahlberg and Ms Ask respectively. Ms Ask is responsible for issues of child pornography.

### **NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR BATTERED WOMEN'S SHELTERS IN SWEDEN**

RIKSORGANISATIONEN FÖR KVINNOJOURER I SVERIGE

Box 195 17  
SE-104 32 Stockholm  
Sweden

Tel: +46-8-442 99 30  
Fax +46-8-612 73 25  
Visit: Birger Jarlsgatan 110  
kvinnojourer.roks@roks.se  
www.roks.se

Contact person: Ms Eva Hassel Calais

### **Activities/Projects**

ROKS is the acronym for the National Organisation of Battered Women's Shelters in Sweden. ROKS is an independent non-profit organisation which co-ordinates the work of 111 shelters from north to south. ROKS is not affiliated with any political party or religion. ROKS works to prevent violence against women and girls and to promote women's autonomy and equality in all areas of society. ROKS believes that all forms of male sexual violence are intimately

connected and exist on a continuum of male violence and control. These forms of violence vary by degree and not in kind.

ROKS provides service to its member shelters, gives lectures and educates and takes part in the public debate on violence against women and organises courses and conferences. The latest conference took place in January 1997. The conference - Rape as A Political Act- dealt with Teenagers understanding of Rape, Rape in and as Pornography, Rape in War, Rape and the Law and Resistance to Sexism. Invited Speakers were Amy Elman, Assistant Professor, Kalamazoo College, Mich, USA; Stina Jeffner, Graduate Student at Uppsala University; Natalie Nenadic, Graduate Student at the Rape/Genocide Law Project, Yale Univ.USA, and Diana Russell, Professor, Berkely, CA, USA.

ROKS publishes a feminist magazine called KVINNOTRYCK, four issues per annum.

The Swedish Government and the local shelters support ROKS by their Municipality.

## **PROSTITUTION GROUP, GOTHENBURG, CITY UNIT AT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE OF CENTRUM**

PROSTITUTIONSGRUPPEN

Stora Nygatan 29,  
411 08 Gothenburg,  
Sweden

Tel: + 46 31 85 11 99

Fax: + 46 31 85 19 59

[elisabeth.petterson@centrum.goteborg.se](mailto:elisabeth.petterson@centrum.goteborg.se)

Contact person: Elisabeth Pettersson, Social Welfare Officer

### **Activities/Projects**

The prostitution group is a part of the social welfare system of Gothenburg. We collaborate with any suitable authority.

Women victims of trafficking are one of our target groups in our daily work with outreach, support and counselling. When we don't come into contact with them we ask the foreign police for help. Current measures against trafficking are membership in EUROPAP and the Nordic Network, collaboration with the police in order to prohibit the establishing of trafficking syndicates.

Services:

- Women in prostitution: fieldwork, counselling, preventive measures, rehabilitative measures, method development, information, research and health issues.

- Girls in prostitution (up to 18 years): fieldwork, counselling, preventive measures, rehabilitative measures, method development, information, and research and health issues.
- Men buyers: fieldwork, counselling, preventive measures, rehabilitative measures, method development, information, research, and health issues.
- Advice, support and practical support to these groups.
- Government: lobbying policy makers, seminars/lectures, method development, information and education.
- The public: preventive measures, rehabilitative measures, seminars/lectures, method development, information and education.

Victims of trafficking are welcome.

### **THE PROSTITUTION GROUP, MALMÖ**

PROSTITUTIONSGRUPPEN

SDF Centrum

Engelbrectsgatan 15

S-211 33 Malmö

Sweden

Tel +46 40 34 59 36

Fax +46 40 34 54 03

mikael.bogarve@malmo.se

Contact person: Mr Mikael Bogarve, social worker

#### **Activities/Projects**

The prostitution group is part of the social welfare system in Malmö. The prostitution group serves all parts of the community. We collaborate with all authorities we find suitable.

Victims of trafficking of women our one of our target groups. We do a lot of street work among the prostitutes in the prostitution area. We can offer support, advice and counselling. We work with both female and male prostitutes. The main part of the prostitutes we come in contact with are drug addicts.

Victims of trafficking are welcome.

### **SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES, OUTREACH UNIT**

Socialtjänstförvaltningen

Uppsökarenheten

Hornsgatan 124

106 64 Stockholm

Tel: +46 8 508 25 651, Mobile: +46 70 4725 651

Fax: +46 8 508 25 660

Contact person: Ms Agneta Borg, Head of Unit

### **Activities/Projects**

The Unit consists of several sub-units; outreach workers working with drug abusers and people in prostitution, outreach workers working with young people, the Prostitution Centre and the Spiral Project (See below).

The outreach work directed towards people in prostitution has been going on in Stockholm since 1978 and has, since then, gone through organisational changes and developed its methods. The Unit is part of the social welfare services, Stockholm City, but services also municipalities in the outskirts of Stockholm. The Unit co-operates with the different authorities relevant in each case and with respect for the individuals personal integrity. The outreach work is advisory and intermediary.

Starting year 2000 the unit will develop new methods of reaching indoor prostitution and buyers of sexual services. The unit is also assigned to inform about prostitution through lectures and study visits at the unit, and to co-operate with those working with prostitution issues in Stockholm, both NGOs and authorities. The unit is also part of the Swedish and Nordic network on prostitution.

### **Prostitution Centre, Stockholm**

Prostitutionscentrum (PROS-Centrum)

Postal address: Socialtjänstförvaltningen

Uppsökarenheten

106 64 Stockholm

Visiting address: Högbergsgatan 27, Stockholm

Phone: + 46 8 508 25 241/242/243

Hot-line: +46 20 965 965

Contact persons: Ms Cristina Almelund, Ms Lisen Lindström or Ms Ann Wilkens

### **Activities/Projects**

The Centre is a treatment unit within the Outreach Unit of the Social Welfare Services, Stockholm. The Centre works with women and men who want to leave prostitution or work with their experiences from prostitution. The Centre is open daytime and has three social workers that offer social counselling, advice and practical assistance. Relatives are offered information and some counselling. Like the Outreach Unit, the Centre is assigned to inform other authorities and personnel working with related issues, about prostitution.

The Centre is primarily for persons in prostitution who are not drug abusers and several of the women clients come from indoor prostitution. All clients can be anonymous. Counselling is offered individually or in group sessions. Services are free of charge and victims of trafficking are welcome.

**The "Spiral" Project**  
SPIRALPROJEKTET  
Drakenbergsgatan 57 nb  
SE - 117 41 Stockholm  
Sweden

Tel: +46 8 668 6987  
Fax: +46 8 50825501  
Contact person: Ms Annie Söderberg

### **Activities/Projects**

The project started in 1978 with the aim to support women drug addicts and women in prostitution with health care, economic planning and help to become free from debt, therapeutic conversations. It has developed to also include training, support to become free from drug addiction, dental care, HIV/AIDS support, external information campaigns and others. The project is often contacted for lectures in education/training of the various actors of the social sector (such as social workers, midwives, medical students, staff of prisons and others). The project is run in close co-operation with the social authorities such as health clinics and hospitals, the social insurance office, the employment office, training and education institutions.

The services are open to women victims of trafficking.

**THE SWEDISH ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS**  
SVERIGES KVINNOJOURERS RIKSFÖRBUND  
Box 318  
SE - 611 22 Nyköping  
Sweden

Tel: +46 (0)155-215566  
Fax: +46 (0)155-215510  
E-mail: [kvinnojournas@telia.com](mailto:kvinnojournas@telia.com)  
[www.kvinnojournas.com](http://www.kvinnojournas.com)

Contact person: Ms Eva Ohlsson

### **Activities/Projects**

The Swedish Association of Women's Shelters started in October 1996 by 16 shelters from different places in Sweden. Today we have about 25 women's shelters in our association. We have about 1000 women working as volunteers or employed at the battered women shelters. Most of the shelters have an apartment or a "women's house" where the abused women and children can stay as long as

they need. We are also helping the women with "practical" things and we have a lot of calls from women.

As organisation we co-operate with both authorities and non-profit organisations. For example we co-operate with the national Board of Health and Welfare and with the Swedish Association for Victim Support. Our opinion is that if you are looking for victory you must co-operate with authorities and organisations that are working in the same direction as us.

The Swedish Association of Women's shelters main goal is to support abused women and their children. We also give special attention to the children's situation. Other special groups are women who are more vulnerable than others are and they are:

- Young girls who are beaten up by their boyfriends
- Immigrant women who often have a difficult situation.
- Disabled women who sometimes have difficulties to defend themselves.
- Elderly women
- Women with drug problems. Many of them can't defend themselves and get heavily abused by their husbands.

At the moment we are working with a project about the children's situation and we also have a project about young girls. We also want to start a project working with external information strategies. We are searching for European partners for these projects.

## **RUSSIA**

### **AGENCY FOR SOCIAL INFORMATION**

Koutouzovsky prospect, 22,  
ent. 14a, ASI,  
121151 Moscow  
Russia

Tel: + 95 249 3989, 230 6229

Fax: + 95 249 8515

asi@aha.ru

www.asi.org.ru/

Contact person: Ms Maria Propper, PR Manager

### **Activities/Projects**

The agency focuses its reporting on a new Russian social phenomenon – the “third sector”. The main of the agency is to collect and distribute information about Russian NGOs. Agency publishes a weekly news bulletin, which contains not only news, but also organisational profiles and announcements regarding

upcoming events within the next ten days. Each issue is distributed to the media, corporations, various governmental structures, and both Russian and International non-profit organisations. Agency publishes a monthly informational and analytical bulletin. Every issue of the bulletin is devoted to a specific social problem and presents statistical information, interviews and analytical articles.

ASI does not have special projects connected with trafficking, but we organise different public events and press conferences for mass media. We publish materials on events connected with such a problem if different NGOs participate in it. One of the correspondents is invited to participate in the Transnational Training Seminar on Trafficking in Budapest, Hungary in June 1998.

Services:

Government: information.

The public: information. And we are working on disseminating of information between mass media, NGOs and authorities.

#### **ASSOCIATION OF RUSSIA'S CRISIS CENTRES (ST PETERSBURG OFFICE)**

P.O. Box 604

St Petersburg 191002,

Russia

Tel/fax: 7-812-112-3948

ruslen@mail.admiral.ru

Contact person: Ms Elena Zabadykina

#### **Activities/Projects**

Hotline: 7-812-327-3000.

Crisis Centre for Women. Agency of social and legal aid for violence survivors "Alexandra".

#### **CRISIS CENTRE FOR WOMEN**

Lermontova 315, 10

Irkutsk

Russia

Voice: +395 2 465869

Fax: +395 2 465509

women@aport.ru or shevtsova@mail.ru

Contact person: Ms Ludmila Svistundva or Ms Irina Shevtsova

**Activities/Projects**

Hotline for women, no: +395 2 511966

**ST. PETERSBURG CENTER FOR GENDER STUDIES**

13 Stakhanovtsev street  
Rooms 415-417  
St Petersburg 195 196  
Russia

Tel. 7812 445-1248  
Fax: 7812 528-1830,  
pcgi@sisters.spb.ru

Contacts: Ms Olga Lipovskaya, Ms Irina Mernenko

**Activities/Services**

Research Institution  
Information, educational & training programmes (feminist perspective)

**SYOSTRI SEXUAL ASSAULT RECOVERY CENTRE**

P.O. Box 38,  
Moscow 113035,  
Russia  
Tel/fax 7095 141 7226 hotline (9am - 9pm, weekdays)  
syostri@cityline.ru  
www.owl.ru/win/women/sisters  
www.doktor.ru/sisters

Contact person: Ms Irina Tchernenkaya

**Activities/Services**

Psychological group & individual counselling, legal and medical aid, referrals,  
information and educational programmes.

## REGIONAL NETWORKS

**FEMINA BALTICA NETWORK**

C/o Turku/Åbo Women's Centre  
Nylandsgatan 1  
20500 Åbo/Turku



Finland

Tel: +358-22336172

Fax: +358-22336174

cpeltone@saunalahti.fi

Contact person: Carita Peltonen, Project Director or Johanna Söderholm, Project Co-ordinator

### **Activities/Projects**

The goal of the Femina Baltica network is to build a long-term and large-scale co-operation of women at all levels in the societies around the Baltic Sea. The project will focus on supporting the awareness on gender equality and promote models to develop equality. One of the goals of Femina Baltica is to encourage women's participation in different spheres of social, political, economic and academic life. This can be done by supporting activities and facilitating exchanges of experience between women of all ages and from all areas of life in the countries around the Baltic Sea.

The Femina Baltica network was established in January 1998 in Tallinn, Estonia, in order to create a network for women's co-operation. The network includes non-governmental organisations, researchers and decision-makers. The network is co-operating with the Femina Borealis network, which has been doing similar work in the Barents Sea region since 1994. The Femina Baltica network is financed by Interreg 11A and Phare.

Co-operation partners in the network are Turku Women's Centre, Turku, Finland; Youth Initiative Centre, Riga Municipality, Latvia; Tallinn municipality, Estonia; Siauliai Municipality, Lithuania.

During 1999 the Femina Baltica network arranged four theme meetings, with workshops and public lectures, in each of the partner municipalities. Each meeting focused on different themes relating to activities, problems and discussions in respective community:

February, in Tallinn, Estonia - Women's Health and Reproduction, Women's Research

April, in Siauliai, Lithuania - Violence against Women, Women as Decision-makers in the Municipality.

May, in Riga, Latvia - Young Women, Minorities, Education

September, in Åbo/Turku, Finland - Women and Power, Women in the Unions, Culture.

## **FEMINA BOREALIS – Barents Region**

The Northern Feminist University  
Kvinneuniversitetet Nord  
N-8286 Nordfold  
Norway

Tel: + 47 75 77 90 50  
Fax: + 47 75 77 90 70\_  
Kun.Nord@kun.nl.no  
Marit.Stemland@kun.nl.no  
[www.kun.nl.no/femina/](http://www.kun.nl.no/femina/)

Contact person: Ms Marit Stemland

### **Activities/Projects**

Femina Borealis is a network of feminist academics and activists in the Barents region. Femina Borealis has started a network- and training project for crisis centres in the Barents Region, as part of a bigger project called Network for Crisis Centres in the Russian Barents Region and in the Barents Region as a Whole (NCRB). The aim is to create a network that is transnational and provide short term training for activities aimed at providing and organising crisis centres and shelter for battered women. The project will stimulate exchange of experiences and the creation of models for crisis centres and shelter activities that fit into the cultural context. Collaborative twin-institutions in North Finland, Sweden and Norway are partners in the project, and participate in this joint Nordic-Russian training for staff and volunteers. The project will also try to develop a funding strategy so that organisations will not have to struggle for funding on a day to day basis.

## **NETWORK NORTH AGAINST PROSTITUTION AND VIOLENCE**

Postboks 95  
N-9846 Tana  
Norway

Tel: + 47 97 19 38 33 (Asta Beate Håland)  
Tel: +47 78 92 86 54 (Marit Smuk Solbakk)  
Fax: + 47 78 92 88 73  
[nettverk\\_i\\_nord@hotmail.com](mailto:nettverk_i_nord@hotmail.com)

Contact person: Ms Marit Smuk Solbakk or Ms Asta Beate Håland

### **Activities/Projects**

Network North is a network with members in Norway, Finland, Sweden and Russia. They fight for the abolition of prostitution and against the legalisation of pimping. Through actions and the exchange of information they aim to change the situation based on the idea that a category of women is intended to be at the

disposal for sexual purposes. They want to penalise the men who buy the women. They view the issue of the market of sexuality as having no borders. It is a global problem.

### **NORDIC WOMEN'S NETWORK**

A network for national umbrella women's organisations in the Nordic countries.

**NYTKIS** – The Coalition of Finnish Women's Associations for Joint Actions

Simonkatu 8a  
00100 Helsinki  
Finland

Tel: + 358 9 69307241  
Fax: +358 9 693 19 68  
nytkis@kaapeli.fi  
www.nytkis.org

Contact person: Mona Rautelin

**SAMS** – Forum for Co-operation of Women in Sweden

Luntmakargatan 66 ,3tr.  
S-113 51 Stockholm  
Sweden

Tel: + 46 8 612 22 84  
Fax: + 46 8 612 22 84  
femail@sams.a.se  
www.sams.a.se

### **WOMEN'S COUNCIL IN DENMARK**

Niels Hemmingsgade 10  
Postboks 1069  
DK 1008 Copenhagen K  
Denmark

Tel: + 45 33 12 80 87  
Fax: +45 33 12 67 40  
KVR@KVINDERAAD . DK

### **NORWEGIAN ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN'S RIGHTS**

Majorsveien 39  
Postboks 8901  
Youngstorget 0028 Oslo

Norway

Tel: + 47 333 12 563

siri.hangeland@vestfold.net

Contact person: Siri Hangeland

### **WOMEN'S RIGHTS ASSOCIATION IN ISLAND**

Tungata 14

101 Reykjavik

Island

Tel: + 353 551 8156

Fax: + 354 562 5150

krfi@islandia.is

www/islandia.is/krfi

The network is a:

- Co-ordinating body for the advancement of women and gender issues
- Promoter of co-operation between genders studies and women in politics
- Prompter for new visions and ideas on the field of gender equality
- Moulder of attitudes in favour of women in decision-making and towards a gender perspective
- Platform for learning dialogue reflection, debate on strategies and information
- Platform for joint actions for women's NGOs and IGOs in the Nordic countries
- Forum for more than 5 million women's phones in the Nordic states.