

Parliamentary Assembly Assemblée parlementaire

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Recommendation 2011 (2013)¹ Provisional version

Trafficking of migrant workers for forced labour

Parliamentary Assembly

1. The Parliamentary Assembly refers to its Resolution 1922 (2013) on trafficking of migrant workers for forced labour.

2. The Assembly notes that human trafficking, including for forced labour purposes, is a global phenomenon that affects all Council of Europe member States, as countries of origin, transit and/or destination. It is concerned that few victims of trafficking for forced labour are identified and that the perpetrators and end-users are rarely detected, prosecuted and convicted.

3. The Assembly welcomes the fact that the Committee of Ministers continues to invest efforts in fighting human trafficking, including for forced labour, in particular by supporting the Council of Europe's Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA), which monitors the implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (CETS No. 197).

4. The Assembly invites the Committee of Ministers, in the context of the preparation of the programme of activities for 2014-2015, to give priority to the issue of fighting human trafficking, including for forced labour. In this context, it calls on the Committee of Ministers to:

4.1. examine the problem of obtaining comprehensive and coherent data on human trafficking, including for forced labour purposes, in order to remedy the current lack of reliable statistics, inviting GRETA to assist in this;

4.2. carry out training programmes for those active in dealing with trafficking issues, and in particular those involved in identifying and assisting victims among migrant workers (law enforcement and other officials, labour inspectors, members of trade unions and employer organisations, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and others). In this work, the Committee of Ministers is invited to involve GRETA and explore the possibility of a joint programme with the European Union as part of its Strategy towards the Eradication of Trafficking in Human Beings 2012-2016;

4.3. invite the Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) and GRETA to examine the link between corruption and trafficking in human beings, including by undertaking itself, or by commissioning research on this issue, and ensuring that allegations of corrupt dealings by public officials are investigated promptly, thoroughly and impartially;

4.4. provide the Council of Europe's Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA) with sufficient financial and human resources, and ensure the independence of the experts appointed.

^{1.} Assembly debate on 25 January 2013 (9th Sitting) (see Doc. 13086, report of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons, rapporteur: Ms Groth; Doc. 13108, opinion of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination, rapporteur: Ms Mattila). Text adopted by the Assembly on 25 January 2013 (9th Sitting).