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# The Council of the Baltic Sea States

- was created in 1992, with a permanent secretariat in Stockholm
- provides an intergovernmental platform for regional cooperation
- Under the MFAs of the region and receives strategic guidance and priority areas from annual Summits or Ministerial meetings
- works through networks – and project – based activities



# Member States

- Denmark
- Estonia
- Finland
- Germany
- Iceland
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Norway
- Poland
- The Russian Federation
- Sweden
- The European Commission



# CBSS Task Force against Trafficking in Human Beings: Overall Objective

- The CBSS TF-THB strives to counteract trafficking in human beings in the Baltic Sea Region and its near vicinity through preventive and protective activities
- Mandated to fight human trafficking for all forms of exploitation
- Focus on adults - Expert Group on Cooperation on Children at Risk (EGCC)
- Delegates from ministry level in all CBSS Member States
- Information sharing to identify gaps and needs
- Implement joint activities and develop tools to enhance the counter trafficking work in the Region
- Emphasis on practical hands on work - inhouse project implementation
- *Identify, Map, Assess - Address*



# Main Projects and Achievements

- Trainings for Consular Staff and Diplomats - 550 people trained in the Region and beyond- in cooperation with the IOM
- Handbook for Consular Staff and Diplomats on How to Identify and Assist Victims of Trafficking
- Joint project and Study with the UNODC on Cooperation Models between Law Enforcement and Service Providers in Victim Identification and Assistance
- Regional Model Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation between Law enforcement and Social Services in Victim Identification and Assistance
- Hard Data – Study on Data Collection in the CBSS Member States
- Implementation of the Information Campaign Safe Trip
- *ADSTRINGO - Addressing trafficking in human beings for labour exploitation through improved partnerships, enhanced diagnostics and intensified organizational approaches*





EUROPEAN INSTITUTE FOR  
CRIME PREVENTION AND CONTROL  
AFFILIATED WITH THE UNITED NATIONS

Natalia Ollus, Anniina Jokinen and Matti Joutsen (eds.)

## EXPLOITATION OF MIGRANT WORKERS IN FINLAND, SWEDEN, ESTONIA AND LITHUANIA

Uncovering the links between recruitment,  
irregular employment practices and labour  
trafficking



UNIVERSITY OF TARTU



INSTITUTE OF CRIMINOLOGY



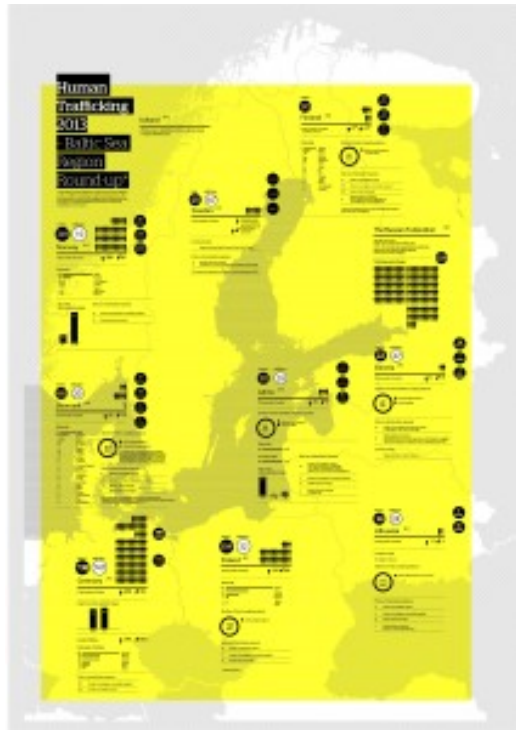
# ADSTRINGO Poland and Russia

## ADSTRINGO Poland and Russia

- Funded by the Swedish Institute
- Regional and National Workshops
- Research on Trafficking for Labour Exploitation in Poland and Russia



# Human Trafficking 2013 - Baltic Sea Region Round-Up Report



## Human Trafficking 2013 – Baltic Sea Region Round-up



# Human Trafficking 2013- Baltic Sea Region Round-up

Easily accessible macro-regional snapshot which outlines the direction of counter trafficking work in our region.

- Chapters on each Member State as well as an overview of recent actions taken by the European Commission specifically the work of the EU Anti-Trafficking Coordinator.

Highlights practices and concentrates on:

- new trends
- ongoing projects
- updates to the legal and institutional framework
- coordination mechanisms.



# Human Trafficking 2013- Baltic Sea Region Round-up

- Identification up in some countries- still low and very resource dependent
- Majority of victims from Europe
- Increasing internal trafficking
- Majority of identified VOTs women who have been sexually exploited
- Increased number of men identified- labour exploitation
- Increase of exploitation for begging



# Human Trafficking 2013- Baltic Sea Region Round-up

Various services available and offered by NGOs or state actors

Challenges:

- >Services for women – victims of sexual exploitation- not for men
- >Victims not accepting assistance
- >Strong emphasis on return rather than fullfledged victim centered approach
- >Full benefits only for persons who legally reside in the country
- >Full assistance and temporary residence only to persons who are willing to testify
- >Reflexion period not implemented



# Human Trafficking 2013- Baltic Sea Region Round-up

## Challenges:

- >Prosecution levels low and going down- few convictions
- >Judicial system not experienced or have the right knowledge tools
- >Cooperation models between law enforcement and assistance providers in place but not formalised and often on an ad hoc basis
- >Stigmatisation and criminalisation of victims
- >Lack of compensation to victims



# CBSS conference on How to Enhance Assistance to Victims in the Baltic Sea Region, Helsinki 19 March

- Arranged by the Finnish Presidency of the CBSS, the CBSS TF-THB and the EGCC-
- The main purpose of the conference was to serve as a platform for knowledge exchange on current best practices and challenges in victim assistance in the BSR
- How can adequate and rights based assistance to women, men, girls and boys best be assured
- 3 main themes; Cooperation Models and Monitoring Mechanisms, Assistance and Safe Housing and Reintegration and Return



# CBSS conference on How to Enhance Assistance to Victims in the Baltic Sea Region, Helsinki 19 March

## —● Main conference recommendations:

- Assistance not only to formally identified victims but also to presumed and potential Victims
- Unconditional assistance – independent on cooperation with authorities
- Exploitation an objective criteria not subjective
- Assistance programs need to be quick, flexible and comprehensive
- Address the demand – users of services
- Better guidance and identification tools for operative staff



# CBSS conference on How to Enhance Assistance to Victims in the Baltic Sea Region, Helsinki 19 March

## Main conference recommendations:

- Assistance and counselling need to be clear and realistic
- Increased cooperation and trust between actors- formalised cooperation mechanisms- National Coordination and National Rapporteurs
- One stop shop
- Return and reintegration – assess best long term solutions, monitor and follow up
- Compensation to victims
- Involve new actors in prevention and identification - think outside the box
- Self critique



# CBSS TF-THB 2014 and Beyond

- ADSTRINGO Findings and Practical Guidelines
- TRACE Project- Trafficking as an Enterprise- Financed EU's Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7)- France, Netherlands and Romania participating
- New EUSBSR Flagship Project
- Strengthening the Role of Municipalities in Counter Trafficking
- Joint Project with the EGCC - Potentially Assessing Successful Prosecution Methods





## —● THANK YOU!

—● **Task Force against Trafficking in Human Beings**

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