



REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA
MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

Arrangement of the services to the THB victims

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Victim support work is:

- Proactive listening;
- Offering emotional support;
- Counselling;
- Assessing the needs and identifying the problems;
- Setting the goals and planning the activities.

Background

- Transposing EU THB directive; EU directive on child pornography, etc in 2013.
- Legislation changes (victim support act, aliens act, social welfare act, state aid act, etc.).
- The structure for the services for THB and minor victims of sexual crimes was established. There are special focus set to the unaccompanied minors, who are illegal in Estonia or who are in the process of applying refugee status or resident status.

Legislation

Trafficking was criminalized as a distinct provision in Penal Code since 14.04.2012.

http://www.eucpn.org/poldocs/EE_PT_Leg2013.pdf

§ 133 Trafficking of human beings

§ 133-1 Support to human trafficking

§ 133-2 Pimping

§ 133-3 Aiding prostitution

§ 138-1 Forcing person to donate organs or tissue

§ 139 Illegal removal of organs or tissue

§ 140 Inducing person to donate organs or tissue

§ 175 Human trafficking in order to take advantage of minors

Principles

- Victim is entitled to help and support before and during criminal proceedings as well as for a relevant time after the proceeding ends.
- Help and support is provided only if the victim consents to it; if a person does not wish to receive services, they will not be provided to them.
- Low threshold.
- If there is a notification from the Police, then the services are offered.

Services by VSA

A victim of THB is entitled to the following services:

- counselling;
- assistance in communicating with national and local government authorities and legal persons;
- safe housing;
- catering;
- necessary health care services;

Services by VSA

- necessary financial aid;
- necessary psychological aid;
- translation/interpretation so as to receive services;
- other services necessary for the victim's physical and psychosocial recuperation.

- A victim of human trafficking is a person in the case of whom criminal proceedings have been commenced with regard to the criminal offence committed against him or her based on the elements of criminal offence specified in §§ 133-133³, 138-140 or 175 of the Penal Code.
- A sexually abused minor is a person under the age of 18 in the case of whom criminal proceedings have been commenced with regard to the criminal offence committed against him or her based on the elements of criminal offence specified in §§ 141 to 145¹, 175¹ or 178 to 179 of the Penal Code.
- A unaccompanied minor is a person under the age of 18 in the case of whom criminal proceedings have been commenced with regard to the criminal offence committed against him or her based on the elements of criminal offence specified in §§ 141 to 146, or 178-179 or 180 of the Penal Code.

Number of persons getting services

- 2013 2 unaccompanied minors sent to services, no victims of THB.
- 2014 3 victims of THB (2 minors, victims of sexual exploitation), 1 man, victim of labour exploitation and also 1 unaccompanied minor is still getting services.
- Appr 50 cases of sexual abuse are sent to the victim support services every year.

Role of Social Insurance Board

- SIB has the assignment to coordinate and offer the services to THB victims, minor victims of sexual crimes and unaccompanied minors since 1.04.2013.
- Services are financed from the state budget. Yearly budget is 50 000 euros.
- There are 3 contracts with the NGOs who offer services.

Contracted service providers

1. NGO Lifeline has the contract for 1 year, 5 persons are entitled to get services (833 euros per month and preparation funds 233 in month). They offer counselling services, incl. social, judicial, psychological, also accomodation.

2. SOS Children Village has the contract for 3 years, 5 persons are entitled to get services (unaccompanied minors, minor victims of THB and also minor victims of sexual abuse) (1173 euros per month and preparation funds 20% of the cost of the services in month). They have several houses in different places in Estonia.

3. AS Medicum has the contract for 3 years and offers medical services.

Translation services

Translation is available for the services which are offered under victim support service (medical help, counselling services, communication with the state and LG-s).

How long the services are available?

- Services are provided until the need for them ceases; the existence of the need is decided by the coordinator for services related to THB under the Estonian National Social Insurance Board.
- If a criminal proceeding is not initiated, provision of the specific services for the victim of trafficking in human beings will stop. However, a person retains eligibility for general victim support services – counselling and assistance in communicating with national and local government authorities and legal persons.



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Thank you for your attention!

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