

**1st European Santa Marta Group Conference
Eradication of Modern Slavery – How can we succeed?
Human Trafficking and Labour exploitation in Europe**

8 / 9 February 2022
Online / Cologne, Germany

Objectives:

- 1) Follow the call of Pope Francis to eradicate modern slavery
- 2) Information and sensitization for the issue within Church and police structures
- 3) Encourage action within the Church and police, but also by other stakeholders, for the implementation of policies and good practices for the eradication of the crime and protection of victims
- 4) Encourage cooperation within the Church and among Church and other actors
- 5) Develop an action plan to which Church actors can commit

Target group: People in responsible positions in the Church (including people with administrative and financial responsibilities), officials of law enforcement, policy makers, representatives of financial institutions, advocates, academia, social workers and counsellors, doctors, entrepreneurs

Setting: One-and-a-half-day online conference (simultaneous translation German / English / Italian) with overall moderators. At a later stage a handover of the action plan to European stakeholders is foreseen.

Programme

Tuesday, 8 February 2022 (Feast of St. Josephine Bakhita)

8.00 **Holy Mass broadcasted from Cologne Cathedral**
celebrated by Bishop Ansgar Puff, Cologne, via domradio.de

10.00 **Opening**

Bishop William Kenney, Santa Marta Group, overall moderator
Helga Gayer, Federal Criminal Police Office and President of GRETA, overall moderator

Words of welcome

- Archbishop Dr Stefan Heße, President of the Migration Commission of the German Bishops' Conference
- Bishop Rolf Steinhäuser, Apostolic Administrator (Cologne)
- Ms Henriette Reker, Mayor of Cologne

- 10.30 **Session 1: Setting the scene**
- **Where do we want to go? Introduction and Prayer**
Cardinal Vincent Nichols, President Santa Marta Group
 - **Why are we failing in the fight against THB?**
Kevin Hyland (OBE), special adviser Santa Marta Group and member of GRETA, Ireland
 - **The contribution of the financial sector in combatting THB?**
Daniel Thelesklaf, Project Director, Finance against Slavery and Trafficking (FAST)
United Nations University – Centre for Policy Research
 - **How has Covid-19 changed the landscape? – Transnational organized crime in times of the pandemic**
Dr Judith Vorrath – German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP)
- Q&A**
- 12.00 Coffee break
- 12.30 **Session 2: Challenges of the Work against Trafficking for Labour Exploitation**
- **Activities of the EU against Trafficking for Labour Exploitation**
Diane Schmitt, EU Antitrafficking Coordinator, EU
 - **Procurer and Employer – Role and responsibility of state authorities**
Mag. Dr Wolfgang Spadinger, Director of Division, Border Issues and Antitrafficking, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Austria
 - **Procurer and Employer – Role and responsibility of the Church**
Sr. Alessandra Smerilli, PhD, Secretary *ad. int.* – Dicastery IHD, Vatican
- Q&A**
- 13.30 Lunch Break
- 14.30 **Session 3: What can we do? – Strengths, opportunities, and challenges with regards to cooperation**
- Panel with short statements:
- **The power of alliances in advocacy**
Genevieve Colas, Secours Catholique / Caritas France
 - **Allies for slavery free supply chains in Church institutions – where to start?**
Dr Alexander Trautrim, University of Nottingham Rights Lab, UK
 - **Fruitful cooperation on the fight against human Trafficking for Labour exploitation – Church and police perspective**
Natalia Holynska, Caritas Ukraine
 - **Cooperation against human Trafficking for sexual exploitation – Church and police perspective**
Sr. Linda Dearlove, Women at the well, UK
- Q&A and discussion**
- 15.30 Coffee break

- 16.00 **Session 4: Eradication of Modern Slavery**
- Human Trafficking for Labour exploitation – how do we stop it?**
Introductory remarks by Thomas Wissing, Advocacy and Partnerships Unit, ILO
- Moderated Panel with reactions on the subject:
- Jeroen Beirnaert, ITUC
 - Prof. Ulrich Hemel, BKU / UNIAPAC
 - Prof. Joachim von Braun, Pontifical Academy of Science
- Q&A and discussion**
- 17.15 **Introduction to the 2nd day**

Wednesday, 9 February 2022

- 14.00 **Commitments and action**
- Introduction to the afternoon and working groups
- Session 5: Voices from the “ground” – Where are the blind spots?**
Statements from a counsellor, a prosecutor, and police officers
Andrea Hitzke, counsellor and member of KOK Board (German NGO Network against Trafficking in Human Beings)
Christine Höfele, prosecutor, Berlin Public Prosecutor’s Office
Detective Chief Inspector Stephen Healy, Police Scotland
Detective Superintendent Filippo Capaldi, Police Scotland
- Q&A and discussion**
- 15.00 Coffee break
- 15.30 **Session 6: Putting recommendations into action**
Parallel working groups with selected moderators and rapporteurs based on 8 key recommendations presented beforehand; what actions would be necessary to implement these recommendations?
- a) **How to strengthen victim care?**
 - b) **How to improve the labour recruitment and inspection systems?**
 - c) **How to work on compensation?**
 - d) **How to strengthen prosecution/conviction?**
 - e) **How to foster slavery free supply chains in the Church?**
- 16.15 **Feedback from the working groups**
- 16.30 **The way forward and final statements**
Kevin Hyland (OBE), special adviser Santa Marta Group and member of GRETA, Ireland
Stefan Michel, BKA (Federal Criminal Police Office of Germany)
Bishop Ansgar Puff, President of the Working Group against Human Trafficking of the German Bishops’ Conference