

STUDY GUIDE

UNWOMEN



Letter from Co-Secretaries-General

Esteemed delegates,

It is with great honor and gratitude that we welcome you all to the second edition of IHSANMUN. To us, this isn't just a conference; it's a community. A community of people who have seen hardship firsthand and emerged from it stronger. This conference impacts us deeply, as it is our opportunity to bring something that shaped us and built our character throughout the years to our own community at Ihsan. It is with great pleasure that we work tirelessly to bring this event to life, as it means educating fellow students about the issues in our world, helping them grasp things they may never learn in school, and developing skills they will need throughout their lives.

This year, our committees highlight a range of crucial topics in our world today. From JCC discussing the Castellammarese War, Marvel addressing the Sokovia Accords, and HUNSC debating the USA invasion of Iraq, to the Arab League focusing on foreign influence in the Arab world. Our committees also tackle pressing global concerns through SPECPOL regulating private military companies and mercenaries, UN Women preventing human trafficking, the World Bank mitigating aid dependency, and DISEC addressing the use of chemical weapons and working toward their elimination.

The world today is riddled with injustice and malice, and the degree of your subjection to such injustice is simply a matter of geographical luck. There is virtually nothing standing in the way of you continuing your everyday life or being forced to flee it in a matter of seconds.

What matters most is that we, as the international community, recognize our privilege and advocate for those who lack it. From this conference, learn that there is power in diplomatic dialogue. There is power in advocacy. **There is power in you.** We want you to take this opportunity to bring change and impact the world in your own way. The world is ours to live in and shape.

Let us all use that power to balance the scales once again, just as we've done before: only now, on a much bigger and far more impactful scale.

In pursuit of balancing the scales, Nada Alghory & Maizah Hassan
IHSANMUN'26 Secretaries-General

Letter from the Committee Board

Esteemed Delegates,

As the committee board of the UN-Women committee, it is a great pleasure for us to welcome you to this session of Ihsan Mun, IHSANMUN'26.

We are Maeda Zamani, serving as your Under Secretary General, Osama Osman, your President Chair, Mohammed Faiz Syed, your Deputy Chair, and Omama Hamid, as your academic assistant. Alongside our enthusiastic and devoted board members, we look forward to guiding you through what we promise to be a highly engaging and impactful debate.

The issue before this committee, human trafficking and sexual exploitation of women in conflict zones, requires both extensive understanding of the problem and reflective solutions. As conflicts continue to displace populations and weaken governments, women and girls remain as the primary victims of such horrid crimes against humanity. Rather than approaching this issue from a theoretical perspective, we encourage delegates to examine the root causes of this problem, and to propose realistic and sustainable solutions.

In this committee we strongly expect delegates to not only have a good grasp on their country's stance, but also to be prepared to have active participation and constructive discussions towards a common global goal. Delegates are encouraged to engage critically with the topic, build upon the ideas through negotiation, and contribute meaningfully to discussion.

We also want to express our appreciation to the Secretary Generals, dear Maizah Hassan and Nada Alghory, and the organization team of this wonderful conference for all of their efforts into making it an unforgettable event and for giving us a platform to discuss the world's most urgent issues.

We hope this guide supports you in building a strong understanding of the topic, and look forward to seeing you at IHSANMUN'26, in the spirit of balancing the scales.

Kindest Regards,

Maeda Zamani, Osama Osman, Mohammed Faiz Syed, Omama Hamid

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Committee Introduction

The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality of Women, also commonly known as UN-Women, was established in 2010 to accelerate progress on meeting the needs of girls and women worldwide. UN Women supports UN Member states, civil society, and international organizations to set laws, policies, and programmes to eliminate discrimination against women, strengthen women's empowerment, and to ensure that gender equality remains a central constituent of global peace and security efforts.

One of the organization's main priorities is addressing the vulnerabilities faced by women in situations of humanitarian crisis and armed conflicts. Conflict environments often generate circumstances in which systems of protection crumble and legal institutions weaken. These conditions cause growth in risks of human trafficking, forced labor, and sexual exploitation. Due to active gender inequalities and poor protection systems, women and girls are statistically more likely to be victims of such situations.

UN Women works firmly with other UN bodies and international organizations to strengthen legal frameworks, improve protection mechanisms, support survival assistance, and promote accountability for predators worldwide. This organization also plays a crucial role in development and implementation of national and international policies to prevent gender-based violence, sexual exploitation, and human trafficking especially in conflict and post-conflict environments.

Terminology

1. **Human Trafficking:** Human trafficking is the act of recruiting, transporting, transferring, harboring, or receiving individuals through force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of exploiting them for profit. This exploitation may include forced labor, sexual slavery, or other forms of commercial sexual exploitation. It is considered a serious violation of human rights and a form of modern slavery, a crime against humanity.
2. **Sexual Exploitation:** Sexual exploitation is any actual or attempted abuse of a position of vulnerability, differential power, or trust, for sexual purposes, including, but not limited to, profiting monetarily, socially or politically from the sexual exploitation of another.
3. **Gender-Based Violence (GBV):** Gender-based violence is violence directed against a person because of that person's gender or violence that affects persons of a particular gender disproportionately. According to UN Women, this includes physical, sexual, psychological, and economic violence, with women and girls being disproportionately affected
4. **Conflict Zones:** It refers to a territory experiencing active armed conflict, large-scale violence, or severe instability. These situations often lead to weakness of institutions, reduction of law enforcement, and humanitarian crises that increase the vulnerability of civilians to exploitation and trafficking.
5. **Sexual Violence in Conflict:** Sexual Violence in conflict has been defined in the Secretary General's annual report 2021/312 as "rape, sexual slavery, forced prostitution, forced pregnancy, forced abortion, enforced sterilization, forced marriage, and any other form of sexual violence of comparable gravity perpetrated against women, men, girls or boys that is directly or indirectly linked to a conflict.
6. **Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs):** Persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized state border
7. **Refugees:** A refugee is a person who was forced to flee their country of origin or residence due to an ascertainable situation of persecution due to race, religion, nationality, political opinion or belonging to a particular social group and is protected under international law, including the 1951 Refugee Convention

Terminology

9. Humanitarian Crisis: A humanitarian crisis is a series of events that poses a critical threat to the health, safety, security, and/or well-being of a large group of people

10. Accountability: The obligation of states and actors to explain, justify, and take responsibility for their actions and decisions.

11. Organized Crime Networks: Organized crime refers to transnational, national, or local groups of centralized enterprises that engage in illegal activities, most commonly for profit.

Introduction to the Agenda: Prevention of Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation of Women in Conflict Zones

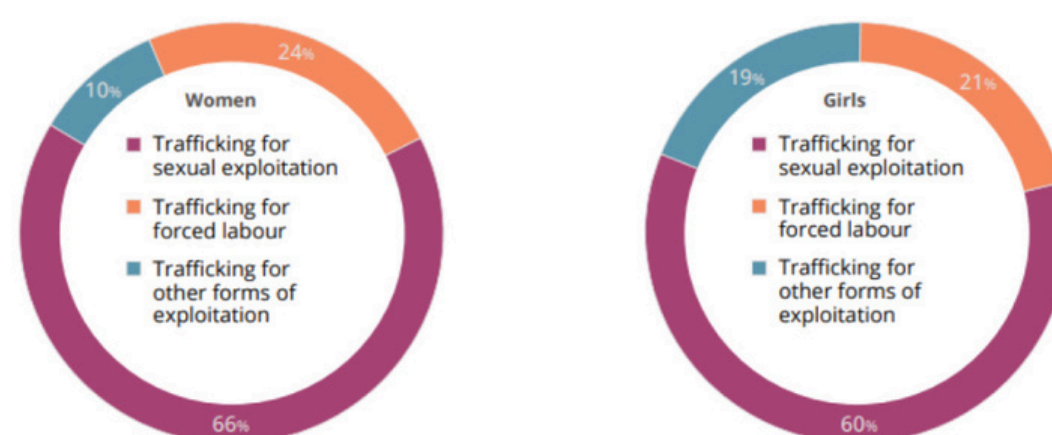
Sexual abuse and human trafficking represent two of the severe cases of human rights violation that disproportionately affects women and girls, especially in territories subjected to conflicts and humanitarian crisis. Armed conflicts create some of the most dangerous environments for civilian populations. In such territories state institutions falter or collapse entirely which leads to weakening of law enforcement, borders being more permeable, less access to essential healthcare and education and a vicious cycle of instability that progressively becomes difficult to reverse. The absence of accountability and protection mechanisms allows armed actors and criminal networks to operate with increased impunity.

Within these unsteady settings, sexual abuse and exploitation arise as the systematic threats. Women and girls are disproportionately exposed to different forms of gender-based violence, specifically sexual violence used as a tactic of war, torture, and terrorism which causes devastating physical and mental health damages that destroys both lives and communities' social fabrics. The collapse of social and legal structures often leaves survivors without access to supportive and judicial services. Depending on the context in which it is committed – especially as part of a widespread or systematic attack against civilians – it may be regarded as a war crime or crime against humanity.

Parallel to this, human trafficking thrives in situations of instability and undermined governance. Trafficking networks and criminals leverage the chaos of war to recruit, transport, and exploit victims within or across borders. While trafficking takes many forms, it always involves the purpose of exploitation. Victims are trafficked for exploitation in forced labour in different sectors, from agriculture to mines. They are also trafficked to serve as domestic servants, for sexual exploitation, with women and girls being the most affected group. Conflict environments not only increase the risk of sexual exploitation but also creates pathways that facilitate trafficking.

The overlap between these issues highlights the complexity in addressing them, as they are deeply interconnected and reinforced by the same structural vulnerabilities, including gender inequality, poverty, displacement and deterioration of legal protections. Therefore addressing these issues requires a coordinated and comprehensive approach.

Fig. 39 Share of detected female victims of trafficking, by form of exploitation, 2022 (or most recent)*



Source: UNODC elaboration of national data.

* Based on a total of 19,621 woman and 9,323 girl victims detected in 81 countries and territories in 2022 (or most recent).

Structural Drivers of Trafficking in Conflict Settings

Human trafficking in humanitarian crisis areas is driven by a complicated set of structural factors that develops opportunities for exploitation. These drivers often emerge as a direct outcome of war and humanitarian emergencies. Protection and prevention of conflict-related sexual violence require understanding the drivers and how they may interact, including to reach the most vulnerable or at-risk populations or areas. Responding also calls for a survivor-centered approach that puts survivors' needs, wants and dignity at the heart of every activity.

One of the most significant drivers is economic liability. Instability of national economies, destruction of local industries, and the limitation in the access to employment are some of the direct outcomes of wars. Individuals are often left with no choice but to seek work through informal channels, which increases the risk of exploitation.

Another factor that frequently gets overlooked is the forced displacement of populations and their irregular movements as a consequence of the conflict. Without protected pathways, people are forced to migrate through dangerous routes which may be controlled by criminal groups and smugglers.

Social and cultural factors can further contribute to vulnerability. One of the societal drivers of human trafficking is the absence or lack of enforcement of laws addressing violence against women. It creates an environment of impunity, where perpetrators face little to no consequences. This makes women easier targets for trafficking, especially in conflict zones.

The combination of said factors with many more demonstrates that trafficking in combat zones is not solely a criminal issue but also is a reflection of socioeconomic challenges that must be addressed through long-term strategies.

The Role of Armed Groups and Criminal Networks in Sexual exploitation and Trafficking

In the context of armed conflicts, those that perpetrate trafficking in persons can be categorized in two main profiles: armed groups and opportunists. Armed groups make use of their military power to exploit civilians and opponents for different purposes. Opportunists are criminal groups or individuals who, motivated by profits, engage in human trafficking by leveraging the criminal opportunities created by the conflict.

Armed groups engage in trafficking in persons in different ways and for different reasons. These groups may recruit children, for instance, to have more fighters; may use generalized sexual violence to spread terror among local populations and to control territories. Women and girls are often abducted for forced labor, sexual exploitation or domestic servitude. These forms of exploitation hinge on high levels of violence and coercion and often blend together with the brutality that characterizes conflict situations.

In conflict situations, there are more than just armed groups engaging in trafficking in person. There are a range of other actors, such as criminal groups, 'lone' traffickers, and even friends and family members, taking advantage of people's increased vulnerabilities to carry out trafficking. They take advantage of poor borders and weak law enforcement to transport victims across regions. The trafficking networks often operate transnationally to smuggle victims in areas where they might be exploited to sexual abuse. The complex structure of these networks makes them difficult to dismantle.

Key Challenges and Gaps

– Weak Enforcement of Existing Laws

While sexual exploitation and trafficking has been recognized as heinous offenses by plenty of international conventions and national laws, enforcement remain inconsistent, especially in war affected areas. The primary legal instrument, the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons (The Palermo Protocol), has been ratified by 181 parties, yet its application often collapses in war settings. According to the UNODC Global Report on Trafficking in Persons, in conflict regions, the conviction of perpetrators remains near to zero because of the disruption of judicial systems and the destruction of legal records allowing traffickers to operate with impunity. Furthermore, the UN Security Council Resolution 2331 specifically addresses the link between traffickingi sexual violence, and terrorism, but it lacks a mandatory enforcement mechanisms leaving a gap between internatinal convention and actual prosecution.

- Deficiency of Cooperation Between Actors

A considerable gap lies in limited coordination among international organizations, governments, NGOs, and local actors. These separated efforts lead to duplication of services in high profile areas while leaving remote regions in a state of total negligence. In the absence of unified strategies the effectiveness of prevention, protection, and prosecution mechanisms remains insufficient to meet the scale of crisis.

- Underreporting of Sexual Abuse and Data Limitation

Despite several resolutions it was only a little more than a decade ago in 2008 that the United Nations (UN) first acknowledged sexual violence as a war strategy and commenced adopting methods to combat and react to such violence on a worldwide scale. This delay and lack of worldwide attention are the result of a number of long-held ideas regarding rape, sexual assault, and consent, as well as an understanding of conflict-related sexual violence as inevitable. Increased international attention has not yet resulted in the accountability required to deter conflict-related sexual violence. Due to underreporting, CRSV is sometimes undetectable, rendering it impossible to determine the scope of its transmission, even when it is prevalent. The conditions under which it occurs, as well as the identity and motivations of offenders, are often obscure, further hindering any preventative efforts.

Key Challenges and Gaps

- Inadequate Protection of Displaced Populations

Refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) are among the most vulnerable groups of societies, yet protection mechanisms in camps and host communities are often inadequate. As of 2025, the UNHRC reported that over 117.3 million people had been forced to flee their homes globally due to persecution, conflict or violence, a scale that has overwhelmed existing infrastructures. As a consequence, the 2024 UNODC Global Report on Trafficking states that displaced children face a 33% higher risk of being targeted for sexual exploitation than non-displaced children in the same regions. This highlights a crucial truth: overcrowding and poor security creates an environment where exploitation can occur unnoticed.

- Socio-Cultural Stigma and Reintegration Barrier

Being rescued or escaping do not bring an end to the challenges faced by victims of sexual abuse or trafficking. In many conflict-affected societies, victims often encounter deep socio-cultural stigma and become subjects of intense social isolation. As their traumas frequently are viewed through the lens of dishonor and shame to the family and society, the process of long-term social reintegration becomes extremely difficult to sustain. While many international programs focus on immediate rescue they often overlook the importance of necessary social and psychological support for survivors. According to the interviewed practitioners the top services most needed by victims of trafficking when exiting exploitation are:

- i. provision of medical assistance, especially counselling, mental health services, drug treatment, and psychosocial support for all victims;
- ii. reintegration services focusing on economic empowerment, compensation and income support, job placement, education and vocational training.

Legal Frameworks and International Instruments

1- UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000):

UNSCR 1325 serves as the foundational document for the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) agenda. It was the first formal acknowledgement by the Security Council of the disproportionate effects of conflict on women and girls. It calls on all parties of conflict to take special measures to protect women and girls from gender-based violence, particularly rape and other forms of sexual abuse, in situations of armed conflict. The resolution provides a number of important operational mandates, with implications for Member States and the entities of the United Nations system. It also urges all actors to increase the participation of women and incorporate gender perspectives in all United Nations peace and security efforts.

2- The Palermo Protocol (2000) :

This protocol which is also referred to as The UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons is the world's primary legal instrument to combat human trafficking. The protocol was adopted by the United Nations in November 2000 as part of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. It provides a vital tool for the identification of victims, whether men, women or children, and for the detection of all forms of exploitation which constitute human trafficking. Countries that ratify this treaty must criminalize human trafficking and develop anti-trafficking laws in line with the Protocol's legal provisions. They must provide protection and assistance to victims of human trafficking and ensure that their rights are fully respected.



Legal Frameworks and International Instruments

3- United Nation Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons (2010) :

It was by the General Assembly on 30 July to urge Governments worldwide to take coordinated and consistent measures to try to defeat the scourge. The Plan calls for integrating the fight against human trafficking into the United Nations' broader programmes to boost development and strengthen security around the world. It also calls for the setting up of a United Nations voluntary trust fund for victims of trafficking, especially women and children. The Plan of Action - which focuses on preventing trafficking, prosecuting offenders and protecting victims - also stresses the importance of obtaining more research, data and analysis about the problem.

4- United Nations Security Council Resolution 1820 (2008) :

It recognizes sexual violence as a weapon and tactic of war; Notes that rape and other forms of sexual violence can constitute a war crime, a crime against humanity, or a constitutive act with respect to genocide, stresses the need for the exclusion of sexual violence crimes from amnesty provisions in the context of conflict resolution processes and calls upon the Member States to comply with their obligations for prosecuting persons responsible for such acts, to ensure that all victims of sexual violence, particularly women and girls, have equal protection under the law and equal access to justice, and stresses the importance of ending impunity for such acts as part of a comprehensive approach to seeking sustainable peace, justice, truth, and national reconciliation.

5- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women(CEDAW) for Youth:

The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women is an international legal instrument that requires countries to eliminate discrimination against women and girls in all areas and promotes women's and girls' equal rights. It is often described as the international bill of rights for women, and is one of the key international agreements that guides the work of UN Women in achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls. CEDAW for Youth is a youth-friendly version of CEDAW, that was authored by a young woman and young man.

Case Studies

- Libya

Trafficking in persons has been documented in the context of the armed conflict in Libya. The absence of an effective central government has created a fragile security situation in which armed groups have taken control over parts of the country's territory. Libya is a transit and destination country for men and women from sub-Saharan and Asia trafficked for the purposes of forced labor and commercial sexual exploitation. Although precise figures are unavailable, foreign observers estimated in 2008 that about one to two percent of Libya's 1.5 to 2 million foreigners may be victims of trafficking. Migrants and refugees crossing Libya are constantly targeted by armed groups and criminals who see them as a potential source of profit. 136 Different groups are involved in trafficking in and through Libya, and some transnational organized crime networks based in Libya may have connections to intermediaries in origin countries. Since 2022, reports say Libya has a steady, countrywide risk of human trafficking, made worse by both mass migration from countries like Sudan, and a divided Libyan government. The US Trafficking in Persons reports for 2024 and 2025 still have Libya labeled as a "Special Case", because traffickers are rarely punished, migrants are treated as criminals, and there are no effective protections or services for victims.

- Ukraine:

In 2008, Ukraine was a source, transit, and destination country for men, women, and children trafficked transnationally for the purposes of commercial sexual exploitation and forced labor. In 2008 the Government of Ukraine did not fully comply with the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking; however, it was making significant efforts to do so. While there was little evidence of efforts to curb trafficking complicity of government officials and of concrete steps to protect and assist trafficking victims at the national level, local governments made some progress on victim assistance. During the 2022 refugee crisis stemming from the Russian invasion, numerous cases of human traffickers targeting women and children were reported. The UN Refugee Agency has recognized that many refugees fleeing to borders find themselves in a state of extreme danger, vulnerable and exposed to predators whose main purpose is exploitation. Since women are at the highest risk and the most susceptible the UNHCR is on high alert and warning refugees on the risks of predators and criminal networks who may attempt to exploit their vulnerability or lure them with promises of free transport, accommodation, employment or other forms of assistance.

Case Studies

- Democratic Republic of Congo:

In 2010, the country was a source and destination country for men, women, and children subjected to trafficking in persons, specifically conditions of forced labor and forced prostitution. The majority of this trafficking was internal, and much of it was perpetrated by armed groups and government forces outside government control within the DRC's unstable eastern provinces. In 2010 the Government of the Democratic Republic of Congo did not fully comply with the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking and did not make significant efforts to do so. The government did not show evidence of progress in prosecuting and punishing labor or sex trafficking offenders, including members of its own armed forces, providing protective services for the vast majority of trafficking victims, or raising public awareness of human trafficking. In addition, the government's anti-trafficking law enforcement efforts decreased during the 2010 reporting period.

- Syrian Arab Republic:

The Syrian civil war was an armed conflict that began with the Syrian revolution in March 2011, when popular discontent with the Ba'athist regime ruled by Bashar al-Assad triggered large-scale protests and pro-democracy rallies across Syria, as part of the wider Arab Spring. . The Syrian Civil War is a modern representation of how armed conflict has a direct relation to human trafficking and sexual exploitation of women and girls. This war created one of the major displacement crises of the world, with more than 13.4 million people being displaced, creating an immense population of refugees with little to no protection. Women and girls are disproportionately affected due to their increased vulnerability in displacement settings. In refugee camps with low security many women face sexual abuse by armed or opportunists. Armed groups operating during the conflict have been documented to use sexual violence strategically as a war tactic against populations. According to the United Nations High Commissioner for refugees, displacement and lack of protection leads to significant increase the risk of being trafficked among Syrian women. The transnational nature of this crisis further complicates enforcement and accountability.

Overall , Syria demonstrates how protracted conflict creates vulnerabilities that form an environment where trafficking and sexual exploitation can thrive.

Case Studies

– Afghanistan:

After the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan in 2021, Afghanistan has faced a huge decline in women's right to education, employment, and their participation in public life. This is one of the main drivers of exploitation in this state.

In many cases families facing severe poverty force the women in their lives to early marriage as a coping mechanism. Girls are often transferred among families or across regions with little to no consent, and once they are married they may face domestic servitude or sexual exploitation with no legal rescue.

In addition, internally displacements caused by conflicts increased vulnerability of women among rural populations. Women and girls who have been displaced often lack identity documentation, making them easier targets for trafficking networks.

Afghanistan represents a case where the legal and social system can also directly contribute to trafficking vulnerability of women and girls.

Parties Involved

UN-Women:

UN-Women is a key actor in promoting gender equality and protecting women and girls in war regions. War, violent conflict, terrorism and violent extremism have differential and devastating consequences for women and girls. In the face of this, UN Women works to prevent gender-based violence support victims and ensure that women's essential needs are integrated into peacebuilding measures. UN Women also plays a crucial role in setting global standards, policy making and advocacy.

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC):

As the guardian of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, UNODC is the primary legal actor for anti-trafficking efforts. It administers the Palermo Protocol, providing countries with technical and logistics support to help criminalize trafficking. Especially in conflict zones, UNODC works on strengthening the role of law and governments to help and prevent sexual abuse and human trafficking.

UN Security Council (UNSC) :

The Security Council treats human trafficking and sexual abuse not just as a crime against humanity, but as a threat to international peace and security. Through resolutions like Resolution 2331 (2016), the UNSC officially recognized trafficking as a tactic of war. They have the power to administrate peacekeeping missions with specific mandates to protect civilians and can impose targeted sanctions on individuals or groups involved in trafficking.

International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) :

Since human traffickers operate across borders, INTERPOL acts as the communication hub for national police forces. Their Human Trafficking Expert Group, they can coordinate global operations to break and dismantle the supply chains of organized crime.

Parties Involved

Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) :

A non-governmental organization (NGO) is defined as a non-profit organization, group or institution that operates independently from a Government and has humanitarian or development objectives. In this agenda, NGOs play a critical role in addressing both sexual exploitation and human trafficking by supporting survivors and raising awareness, particularly in conflict affected areas.

Armed Non-State Actors :

These parties also known as violent non-state actors are individuals or groups that are wholly or partly independent of governments and which threaten or use violence to achieve their goals. These actors are closely linked to this agenda as they are frequently perpetrators of both human trafficking and sexual exploitation.

Possible Solutions

Addressing sexual exploitation and human trafficking in conflict zones demands a comprehensive and coordinated approach targeting both immediate danger and long term structural causes. It is important to keep in mind that numerous states do not meet international standards, thus it is extremely crucial to keep working on the topic and create more effective solutions.

Strengthening legal frameworks remains as the fundamental step, as member states must adjust their national legislations with international standards. However, beyond legislation effective enforcement is critical as the words on paper mean little if not backed by strong actors. In conflict areas where judicial system crumples and governments weaken, traffickers operate with impunity. This displays the urgent need for a functional and fierce justice system.

Equally important is the protection of vulnerable populations, particularly women in different segments of society, refugees and internally displaced persons. In many conflict settings, lack of security and oversight in camps and host communities gives the criminals the impunity desired to commit horrible crimes against humanity. By improving monitoring systems, implementing gender-sensitive protection measures, and creating safe shelters there will be a significant decrease in risks of being trafficked and sexually abused.

The transnational nature of trafficking networks calls for stronger and more effective international cooperation. Amplified intelligence sharing among member states, alongside coordinated cross-border efforts can more effectively break the trafficking paths and dismantle criminal organizations.

A sustainable response must be built around the survivors. Victims of sexual exploitation and trafficking not only need immediate rescue but long-term support throughout different stages of their lives. These measures should include healthcare, psychological services and opportunities for economic reintegration. A survivor-centered approach is the most efficient way to bring the victims back to life.

Possible Solutions

Prevention strategies should also focus on inclusion and representation. Increasing women's participation in the peace and security process leads to more effective policies, especially in addressing gender-based violence and exploitation.

Awareness raising plays an important role in prevention of such horrible crimes against human rights. These initiatives should transcend general message to provide targeted, context-specific education regarding tactics used by traffickers and the risks of exploitation. Informing vulnerable individuals and communities empowers them to make safer decisions.

In conclusion, successfully confronting human trafficking and sexual exploitation in conflict zones necessitates a holistic approach that combines strong legal enforcements, survivor-centered services, international cooperation and awareness raising. While these steps provide a solid substructure, they are not thorough. The complex and evolving nature of traffickers and abusers, especially in conflict settings, illustrates the need for continuous adaptations and further discussions among member states.

Questions to be Addressed

- How can Member States strengthen legal frameworks to specifically address and criminalize human trafficking for sexual exploitation?
- What measures can be taken to ensure efficient enforcement of anti-trafficking laws in conflicted affected areas with weak governance?
- What type of survivor-centered systems (medical, psychological, legal) should be prioritised, and how can access to them be facilitated in conflict zones?
- How can humanitarian operations ensure accountability and prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse?
- In what ways can data collecting and monitoring frameworks be improved to facilitate evidence-based strategic response to human trafficking and sexual exploitation?
- How can member states and international organizations improve transnational cooperation and measure, ensuring that trafficking networks are being tracked and dismantled?
- How to improve women and girls' safety in refugee camps to mitigate the risks of sexual exploitation and human trafficking?

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