



THE TRAPS OF TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS – YOU, TOO, CAN FALL VICTIM

YOU DON'T BELIEVE IT?



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You left home and went abroad to seek better future for yourself and your family, to find a safety and new home. You 'happen' to encounter someone who is willing to 'help' you. They told you they would get you a visa and a travel document. For free. They know someone who will take you across the border, and some else who will wait for you on the other side. They told you to keep quiet if anything goes wrong at the border crossing or if the police happen to stop you. Of course, you will have to sleep somewhere. Where? You don't know. They say that you will work for their friends and be decently paid. Is this work in a bar? In a massage parlour? In an apartment or workshop? On a building site? On a farm? Or in the streets, where you will have to beg for money or play an instrument or sell your body? Although you don't understand the Slovene, Italian, English, German language, this is no problem; you will learn it quickly. They may even introduce you to your future husband or wife.



IS SOMEONE EXTORTING YOU, THREATENING YOU?

DO YOU OWE SOMEONE MONEY FOR THE TRAVEL TO THE EUROPE?

DO YOU TRULLY KNOW A PERSON TO WHOM YOU ARE TRAVELLING?

DO YOU KNOW YOU CAN TRUST THEM?

DO THEY HAVE A LOT OF MONEY, FRIENDS AND A GOOD CAR? WHERE DOES THE MONEY COME FROM? WHO ARE THESE FRIENDS?

ARE YOU ALLOWED TO KEEP YOUR DOCUMENTS WITH YOU?

ARE YOU ALLOWED TO USE THE PHONE OR DO YOU ALWAYS NEED TO ASK FOR PERMISSION?

IS EVERYTHING GOING AS YOU AGREED?

DO YOU KNOW WHO YOUR EMPLOYER WILL BE AND HOW MUCH YOU WILL EARN?

WHAT ABOUT AN EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT? ARE YOU ENTITLED TO DAYS OFF, SICK LEAVE, WORK FOR A MAXIMUM OF 8 HOURS PER DAY?


DO YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE AND THE RIGHT TO SAY 'NO'?

CAN YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND AND LEAVE IMMEDIATELY?

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DEMAND ANSWERS TO THESE QUESTIONS BEFORE YOU LEAVE!

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Human trafficking is illegal and means treating people as objects. In Slovenia and in Europe, human trafficking is a serious criminal offence.

Forms of exploitation: exploitation of prostitution or other forms of sexual abuse, forced labour, slavery, servitude, begging, forced criminality, forced marriages or similar partnership, and trafficking in organs, tissue and blood.

Traffickers use physical, psychological, economic and sexual violence. Through fraud and emotional distortion, they take advantage of your vulnerability when you need help, or they offer you payment and benefits if you consent to exploitation.



**IF YOU FIND YOURSELF IN THIS SITUATION, DO NOT
BLAME YOURSELF!**



**MUSTER
UP THE
COURAGE
AND SEEK
HELP!**

SELF-PROTECTION MEASURES

TRAVELING: Tell at least one other person when, where and with whom you are travelling. Have your mobile phone with you and do not forget to save important telephone numbers: the embassy of your home country, the police and organisations that offer help. Even better, memorise these numbers. Do not give your travel document to anyone.

Additionally, have several photocopies of important documents and keep them in different garments or save them in the “cloud” or on e-mail.

WORK ABROAD: Be careful about your source of information about potential employment abroad. Find details about the employer and check the information on the Internet. Before starting any job, make an agreement on the working conditions and demand a contract, which should be checked by an expert – you can even call the Society Ključ.



SOCIAL MEDIA: Don't forget that social media allow anonymous communication, and that some people you might encounter on social media do not tell the truth. If you arrange to meet someone in person, be very careful.

FALLING IN LOVE: In Slovenia and around the world, some men in criminal networks play crucial roles as lover boys seducing women and girls, only to hand them over later to human traffickers. If a man has a lot of money and connections abroad, but does not have a regular job, think about it. These men seem kind; they might buy a woman presents, take her on trips or shopping abroad, so that she becomes emotionally attached and completely trusts them. This is the perfect opportunity for them to take the woman somewhere and sell her.



Also, be careful when entering romantic relationships. Sometimes, in exchange for security, a roof over your head, and other goods necessary for survival, people demand that you enter into a romantic relationship with them, where the balance of power is not equal. Many times such a marriage can end in extortion, physical, psychological, sexual and economic violence. Be careful who you get into an intimate/romantic relationship with, take the time to get to know the person well and don't make hasty decisions because of the predicament you find yourself in - instead contact one of the refugee aid organizations in the country, in which you are located.

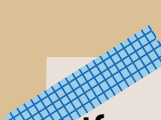
DO YOU NEED HELP?

Society Ključ is the only NGO in Slovenia that specialises in combating human trafficking. We offer free concrete help to victims of human trafficking, both foreigners who are subject to sexual or any other form of abuse in Slovenia, and Slovenian citizens who fall victims at home or abroad.




Forms of assistance:


- telephone counselling,
- in-person counselling,
- psycho-social assistance,
- basic legal assistance, advocacy,
- information,
- help escaping a threatening situation,
- help contacting law enforcement authorities,
- help obtaining permits to reside in the Republic of Slovenia
- transfer to a safe house,
- inclusion in a (re)integration programme,
- help returning to the country of origin.



If you are being exploited in another European Union country, you can contact the Red Cross, which operates in most EU countries, other aid organizations, or inform the police.

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