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**The Brazilian programme to prevent and
combat the trafficking of human beings**

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The Brazilian Programme to Prevent and Combat the Trafficking of Human Beings

The trafficking of human beings can be distinguished from other types of trafficking, such as drugs, and predominantly has an international flow, with some variations in the countries involved. Academic studies show that the countryside of the states are being involved in the trafficking, in an increasing problem.

Therefore, the trafficking of young people from Thailand to Japan for sexual exploitation is different from the trafficking of people for forced labour in Spain.

In spite of the existing international instruments and internal laws for combating these crimes against human nature, there is a lack of international definitions about trafficking of human beings, which is nowadays discussed all around the world.

In Brazil, studies and works from the last decade identified the different expressions of sexual exploitation (prostitution, sexual tourism and trafficking), and its relation with the trafficking of women and children for sexual purposes.

Researchers produced many works showing that the sexual tourism is an increasing industry which violates the human dignity, based on the trafficking of women and children.

The concept of trafficking of human beings should be developed to include many aspects that are postdated. For example, the trafficking of women is legally considered only when it involves violence, deception or coercion. By this way, the description does not permit an approximation to the social and legal aspects involved.

Some writers base their studies in the definition of migration. According to this idea, women are interested in and conscious about their participation in sexual exploitation involving different countries. In another way, we can introduce the term trafficking, which includes the participation of men, as responsible for the prostitution too, as managers of the crime. The burden of the situation, according to this second idea, is divided between men and women involved, which does not happen in the idea of migration.

Therefore, these formal problems must be clarified to present a specific definition that reveals the forms of voluntary and involuntary trafficking, the wedding market and migration. The category of trafficking is not reduced, and migration is deeply related to it.

The smuggling and the trafficking usually happen in countries where immigration policies have restrictions to accept women and lack in contribution to face this challenge related to these stigmatized women. We must consider the obligation that these women have in relation to the tutors and other people who are controlling them, that can be, e.g., their husbands.

Women from Latin America, Asia, Caribbean and Africa are trafficked to Europe because there is a sexual market that emphasizes the beauty and "exotic" aspects of women from these places. This idea is based on a cultural concept of women. As a cultural concept based on symbolism, it shows the relation based on gender domination between man and woman.

The Brazilian government, in accordance with the International Centre for Migration Policy Development, the Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women, Coalition Against Traffic in Women and End Child Prostitution, elaborated a programme called "Programme to Prevent and Combat the Trafficking of Human Beings in Brazil" (the "Programme"). The Programme's implementation includes the involvement and cooperation of the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention.

When it turns to Brazilian women, the basic cliché is that they are patient and erotic. The erotism in women is combined with the natural conditions of the country, such as its hot climate, the exuberance of the nature, and the tropical songs. Women are only described as black or brunette, with wonderful and sun-tanned bodies. These ideas and clichés are based on the European colonialism.

The symbols are fixed according to the interests of certain social groups, and are distributed among the population to serve to determined social exploitation promoted by the capitalism, that explores specific differences, such as: sex, nationality, race, and uses them when necessary.

This way, prejudice and sexism have an important role in the political and institutional relations in everyday situations regarding to developed countries. This evidence can be noticed by a member of a minority ethnic group, even when young. This kind of prejudice has a central function in the economic and social stability of these countries, once that it divides the workers of a country in selected groups, creating a lack among them against solidarity.

Statistics shows that the majority of people victims of sexual exploitation are women and female teenagers. In Brazil, we have the same situation. According to the Ministry of Justice, of 1.335 denounces of sexual exploitation from February 1997 to April 2000, 81% of the denounces were related to girls, 6% related to boys and 13% were not identified. About the criminals, 40% were men, 21% were women and 39% were not identified.

According to the Brazilian Federal Police, sexual exploitation for trafficking usually begins in the following cities and states:

- Goiânia;
- Recife;
- Fortaleza;
- Belém;
- Rio de Janeiro;
- Espírito Santo;
- São Paulo;
- Mato Grosso do Sul.

According to Federal Police the main routes are:

- Goiânia-Rio- Europe (Spain, Holland, Germany, Italy);
- Recife-Fortaleza-Rio-São Paulo (Spain, Holland, Germany, Italy);
- Belém-Surinam-Holland;

- Rio-Israel;
- Rio (Spain, Holland, Germany, Italy);
- Paraná-Rio (Spain, Holland, Germany, Italy)

The Programme Against Trafficking in Human Beings consists on the combination of actions, and is a pilot project to combat the organized crime overseas. To do so,, considers: the social and historical analysis of Brazil, while a state and a nation, compromised with the human rights; the territorial extension of Brazil and its population; the autonomy of each state of the federation.

The main objective of the system is to study the trafficking of human beings in Brazil; promote educational and preventive public awareness campaigns; install data bank; increase the installation of inquiries and processes; training of law enforcement officials and agents from the civil society to deal with this problematic situation.

The methodology of the Programme allows the creation of democratic spaces in this system, where the target is the group learning process, through the changes of ideas and services, specially the victim's awareness. From the analysis, considering the aimed objectives, the system to prevent and combat the trafficking in human beings is formed from the social reality of each Brazilian state, where the number of trafficked people is alarming, offering a political-technical-methodological support to the national* and international actions*.

The combined forces of justice and security form the committees among institutions that are responsible for deliberating on macro-policy definitions. The seven centers for reference are responsible for the technical and methodological development specialized in this crime. An institutional data based net aims to give policy and social support to satisfy the demands for the Programme. According to it, this Programme combines the policy power from the different actors of the civil society (non-governmental organizations, mass media, universities), and from the executive, legislative and judiciary.

The Programme is initiating a public policy in accordance with the exercise of democratic efforts to realize partnerships and fine-tuned with the human rights. The solution to the problem of facing organized crime overseas requires effective participation of different governmental entities, public and particular institutions. Using a systemic approach, the Programme aims to construct integrated actions, the development of the institutions related to public security in our country, permitting them to work together.

The Programme is based on the following principles: ethic, compromise, partnership, public transparency, interdisciplinary, legality and respect to the human rights. By this way, the Programme is attending, during its nine months of installation in Brazil, about 28 cases and 245 victims. Its social and policy net is represented by 288 institutions.

* States where Programme is being consolidated: Pernambuco, Bahia, Rio de Janeiro and Mato Grosso do Sul. States where the Programme is starting: Pará and São Paulo. The state of Pernambuco deals with all the Brazilian northeast, except the state of Bahia, where the reality of trafficking demands a specific state program. The state of Rio de Janeiro attends the demands of Espírito Santo and Minas Gerais. The state of Mato Grosso do Sul attends the state of Mato Grosso. The Distrito Federal is responsible for monitoring and fine-tuning in all the country, and attends the south region and the state of Goiás.

The coordination and the interdisciplinary team responsible for the implementation of this public policy, is working in a voluntary scheme. They are professionals that give their time, knowledge, experience and talent to construct a pioneering system to face organized crime overseas.

The participating institutions and the organized civil society are validating the Programme as an important initiative in the country, considered essential to the construction of a world based on friendship.

Following this idea, it is important to say that the emphasis on some compromises on security and justice do not make less relevant the compromises related to the social policies and human rights, that are going through all the actions and democratic proposals related to this public policy that is under construction.

The Ministry of Justice expresses through the directorate committee of Global Programme Against Trafficking in Human Beings, that includes the Human Rights Secretary, Public Security and National of Justice, the interest of joining the efforts of these three areas with the objective of integrating the action through this system, and facing assessments to combat organized international criminality.

The Brazilian government is convicted that through international cooperation, states, local governments and the civil society will construct a lot to preserve the effectiveness of security, justice and human rights policies.

As to the trafficking of children and teenagers for sexual exploitation, we can observe a commercial context related to the sex industry, defined as violence based on culture, legal statements, work and market. It is a relation based on gender and sexuality, used as a commercial situation, with its benefits to the adults involved, causing social, emotional and cultural problems to the victims that are people who are already being formed. In addition, sexual exploitation is a crime against the rights of children and adolescents.

Trafficking of children happens with the collaboration of the family and the commercialization nets for children and adolescents. Difficulties related to sex, age, social condition, race, domestic violence and poverty, make the situation much more complex to these people.

According to the Brazilian Penal Code, trafficking means the promotion of the way in and out of children and teenagers from the country with the proposal of prostitution. The national plan to combat the sexual violence against children and teenagers aims the contribution of people and society to change internal laws about sexual crimes, and the adoption of coercitive assessments to prevent trafficking in human beings and victims protection. The following excerpt from the parliamentary investigation about sexual exploitation in Parana/1998, shows this idea: The Brazilian Constitution, in the article 227, rules that: "Family, State, and Society are obligated to give and make secure to the children and teenagers the right to dignity, to respect, to freedom and to the family and social environment, and protect them against all kind of negligence, prejudice, exploitation, violence related to children and teenagers". The fourth paragraph, of the article 227, of the Federal Constitution, goes straight to the point when says that: "... the law will severely punish the abuse, the violence and the sexual exploitation of the child and the teenager".

This instrument defines child as person from 0 to 12 years old not completed, and teenager the person from 12 to 18 years old.

Another target of the Programme is related to the development of the sexual tourism, specially using poor and black from developing countries. The way that sexual tourism developed cannot be understood out of the developing process of tourism as a whole. So, trafficking in women and children cannot be separated of the analysis of the negative aspects of global tourism, linked to the trajectory of sexual tourism.

The effects of globalization in the poorest population and the supremacy of market instead of the civil society, enables the development of trafficking as an economic model, articulated to global capitalism.

The hegemonic speech tries to suggest a neutral development among genders in the globalization process. But, what is noticed is that in the process of structural fine-tuning, the instable relation between man and woman is redesigned. The whole process produces a punishment. Women, teenagers and children from poor areas, historically exploited by law market, form the weak social side in the globalization.

Despite the increasing interest of state government in tourism, among what can be understood, in the coast and borders regions of the country, tourism is already developed without the necessary programme.

In Brazil, the trafficking for sexual exploitation happens in prostitution areas, motels, avenues and through Internet. Besides that, occurs forced labour and trafficking in human organs. These aspects are historically determined by the relation of social domination in Brazilian regions.

To finish, we would like to say that this is a response of the Brazilian government in accordance with the civil society to the increasing violence numbers and criminality in the country, promoting the best fine-tuning with the proposals of the National Plan On Public Security and in the Human Rights National Plan.