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DE LAS FAMILIAS Y DE LA INFANCIA

Trafficking in persons for sexual exploitation and proposed social and pastoral action

TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS FOR SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

and proposed
social and
pastoral action



JUSTICIA Y PAZ



CONFER
Conferencia Española de Religiosos



Comisión Episcopal
de Migraciones



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Presentation

CONFER, Caritas, Justicia y Paz, and the Secretariats of the Episcopal Commissions on Migration and Social Pastoral of the Bishops' Conference, as bodies of the Spanish Church deeply concerned by the reality of trafficking in persons for sexual exploitation, present in this report the result of a process of collective reflection and firm commitment to fighting this scourge.

There are various reasons for this profound concern: the increasing scale of trafficking, its close link with the migratory phenomenon, its characteristics of slavery present in our society and of serious violation of dignity and human rights, its complexity and, lastly, its international connections.

The Church has been tackling this reality through reflection and direct social action with victims for many years. Its concern and its responses to this phenomenon have been broadened and adapted to the reality during the last two decades in particular, through first-hand observation of the changes that have occurred and the increase in frequency and scale of this kind of situation. Consequently, a need has been identified to jointly present a clear position and to call on the Christian community and on all society to fight efficiently and firmly against trafficking in human beings for sexual exploitation purposes.

At this time of profound global economic crisis, the concern of ecclesiastic entities is even greater as a result of the impact it is having and will continue to have on the most vulnerable sectors of the population which, due to a lack of opportunities, are increasingly becoming potential victims of traffickers.

Although aware of the existence and seriousness of other purposes of trafficking, such as labour exploitation, bonded labour, forced begging, forced marriage and organ trafficking, a decision was made to focus attention and action on trafficking for sexual exploitation purposes, since it is the most frequent kind of trafficking, based on the direct experience of work in this sphere conducted in many places in Spain with women in the context of prostitution. The link between these two phenomena is more than evident; however, this report focuses on the problem of trafficking, without entering into debate concerning prostitution, and from the standpoint of upholding respect for human dignity above all.

The fundamental aims of this document are:

1. To expose and condemn the reality of trafficking for the purposes of sexual exploitation
2. To disseminate and share the Church's vision and action in the fight against trafficking
3. To provide specific proposals for social and pastoral action

The report, addressed to Spanish society in general and the Christian community in particular, is aimed at fostering broad debate and raising personal and collective awareness of this problem. The aim is to disseminate a message of alert and to raise awareness of a reality that is often cloaked, in order to generate an effective commitment with its victims.

With this aim in mind, the report is structured into four parts. After a brief introduction including a basic clarification of the terms used, the first section offers a global vision of the phenomenon of trafficking showing the data existing both globally and nationally. The second section exposes the national and international initiatives developed in the legal and institutional sphere to combat trafficking, while the third section provides the Church's theoretical and practical vision in this pastoral field, as expressed in its official documents and its social action. In the last section, as a conclusion of the analysis conducted, we set forth our joint positions in regard to the issue and establish future commitments for action.

With this report, the participating institutions and ecclesiastic organisations would like to express the human and Christian concern which the scourge of trafficking triggers in us, as well as expressing our preference to side with the poorest and most disadvantaged people in our society, and our unequivocal will to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with the victims. Finally, from our daily work in this area, we wish to reassert our commitment to helping to eradicate this phenomenon, and our hope for social transformation towards a world that is more respectful of the inviolable dignity of persons.



Introduction

Before entering into the core content of this document, it is necessary to clarify and differentiate the terms which might serve as a guide in the use of the concepts and the denomination of the phenomena involved.

The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, in its Protocol to prevent, suppress and punish trafficking in persons, especially women and children, also called the Palermo Protocol, defines the trafficking of human beings as:

«The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs».

The terms *smuggling* and *trafficking*, which are different phenomena, although in reality very closely linked, are often confused. The smuggling of migrants, according to the Palermo Protocol, is defined as:

«The procurement, in order to obtain, directly or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit, of the illegal entry of a person into a State Party of which the person is not a national or a permanent resident». ■¹

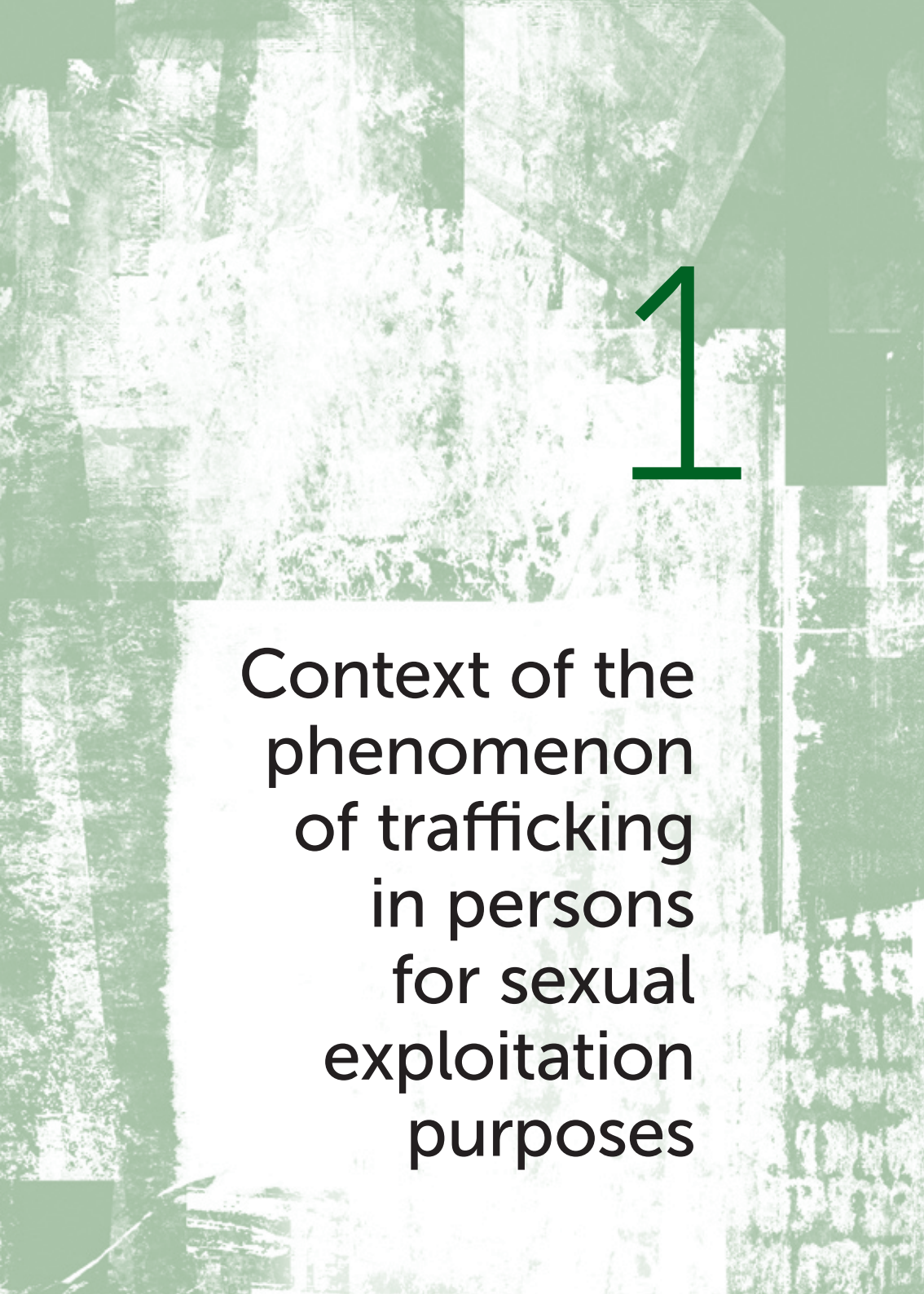
Consequently, the smuggling of persons is the action of transferring persons across international borders without following the legally-established entry or exit procedures. This practice is often conducted with at least a minimum level of consent of the persons being smuggled.

But what really distinguishes smuggling from trafficking is that, in the case of trafficking, there is always an element of coercion, force or threat by the traffickers, as well as kidnapping or other methods of depriving trafficked persons of their freedom, and the common practice of violence, abuse and exploitation.

Accordingly, to summarise: «The purpose of trafficking to exploit the person following their transfer, in most cases, from one place to another. The purpose of smuggling is to transfer persons illegally across national borders. Consequently, we might encounter victims of trafficking who reside legally in Spain, victims from European Union member states and even victims of Spanish nationality» ■².

■¹ Protocol to prevent, suppress and punish trafficking in persons, especially women and children, supplementary to the United Nations Convention on Transnational Organized Crime, 2000 http://www2.ohchr.org/spanish/law/pdf/protocoltraffic_sp.pdf

■² *Guía básica para la Identificación, Derivación y Protección de las personas víctimas de trata con fines de Explotación Sexual*. Madrid, APRAMP, segunda edición actualizada 2009



1

Context of the
phenomenon
of trafficking
in persons
for sexual
exploitation
purposes

1.1. Globalization and poverty

Trafficking for sexual exploitation purposes, mainly of women and girls, is a phenomenon located within the framework of a globalised world and profoundly linked to marginalisation and poverty.

Globalization has facilitated large-scale worldwide movements, often for economic reasons, but also based on the survival of the persons forced to move for humanitarian reasons. Trafficking in persons is closely linked to these cross-border movements of population, and, crucially, with social and economic inequalities.

The dynamism of the free market, characteristic of this globalisation, is linked to a neo-liberalism which might minimize the control of states and in which people might be dramatically affected; it is vital to take into account that people, as the Church's Social Doctrine recalls, are not merchandise: «Here we find a new limit on the market: [...] There are important human needs which escape its logic. There are goods which by their very nature cannot and must not be bought or sold»^{■3}.

Also within this context is the significant phenomenon of sexual tourism involving both the thousands of tourists and businessmen who often travel abroad and seek to have sex with women and/or girls, and people who travel for that sole purpose. Trafficking in persons also responds to these global trends.

The scourge of trafficking has a transnational and global dimension, as we have seen, which is largely due to socio-economic factors in countries of origin, and demand and exploitation in destination

■3 Encyclical *Centesimus Annus*, 40, John Paul II, 1991.

countries. There follows a list of these factors in line with origin and destination ■4:

Causes of the human trafficking in countries or regions of origin:

- Structural poverty and, in particular, the feminisation of poverty and how poverty affects men and women unequally, in accordance with a prevailing social and cultural system.
- Gender discrimination.
- The lack of political, social and economic stability.
- Situations of armed conflict, oppression and natural disasters.
- The absence of reasonable and real opportunities for human development, including access to education and information.
- Domestic violence and the disintegration of the family structure, as well as the vulnerability of children which derives from these factors.
- The reality of HIV-AIDS and AIDS orphans.

Causes of trafficking in persons in destination countries or regions:

- Market laws and the law of supply and demand: the priority are profits and profitability generated by the business, with no regard for the fact that human beings are never and should never be «objects» of trade.

■4 COATNET (Christian Organization Against Trafficking in Human Beings) Strategic Plan 2010-2015, *Created in the image of God, treated like slaves*.

1. Context of the phenomenon of trafficking in persons for sexual exploitation purposes

- Consumer societies: generally these are wealthier countries than those of origin in which demand for certain services, like prostitution, has increased.
- The «prostitutor»: his demand is one of the factors determining supply; however, he is rarely socially «rebuked». It is one more form of abuse of women.
- The lack of specific legislation on trafficking in persons and/or its inadequate and ineffective application.
- The erosion of moral standards and values and the prevailing consumerism.
- Lack of sufficient knowledge, action and mobilization by the authorities to combat trafficking in persons.
- Immigration policies and the ensuing closure of borders, which are liable to push immigrants into the hands of traffickers.

1.2. Worldwide reality

In analysing this complex phenomenon, involving different actors at various levels, one of the main difficulties is the complete absence of systematized data and reliable statistical information, to provide a global and clear vision of the question.

International bodies which research and act in this context, work with fragmentary data and different estimates, which must be treated with the utmost caution.

Internationally, we have three main sources, which provide data and information that help understand the magnitude and significance

of trafficking in persons for sexual exploitation purposes: The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Labour Organization and the United States State Department.

In its 2009 Global Report on Trafficking in Persons, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)^{■5} expressed its concern for the lack of standardised international data and refers to the crisis of «fragmented knowledge», which prevents the formulation of policies based on rigorous analysis.

This report is the result of a study on the situation of the global response to trafficking in persons and it is compiled based on information from 155 countries and territories.

The data relating to the actions undertaken by states in fighting trafficking in persons constitute only an indirect indicator of the nature of the problem, and are not representative of how widespread it is. However, the data relating to punishment, convictions recorded and the identification of victims provide important information about this crime.

With respect to the criminals themselves, the available information shows that the vast majority were nationals of the countries in which they were arrested, which might suggest that local criminal rackets «acquire» the victims in order to sell them on to criminal networks in the destination countries. However, in high-income destination countries the fact is that the criminals were mostly foreigners. The gender information compiled regarding the criminals in 46 countries also shows that women play a key role as perpetrators of the crime of trafficking in persons, in comparison to other crimes where their proportion is much smaller. This is especially true in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

■5 Global Report on Trafficking in Persons. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), 2009. <http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/global-report-on-trafficking-in-persons.html>

1. Context of the phenomenon of trafficking in persons for sexual exploitation purposes

As for the number of victims, only 111 countries provided this information. In 2006, more than 21,400 victims were identified in these countries, and in the 61 countries that specified gender and age, 66% were women and 13% girls. In the 52 countries that specified the form of exploitation, 79% of the victims were subject to sexual exploitation.

In Western and Central Europe, 7,300 victims were identified, but considering that only around 1 out of every 20 victims of trafficking are ever identified, that puts their number in Europe at around 140,000. 60% of identified victims came from the Balkans, Central Europe and the former Soviet Union, 13% from Latin America, around 5% from Africa and 3% from Asia^{■6}.

The information gleaned gives some idea of the flows of trafficking in persons, and helps identify three trends therein: an internal trend, where a country's own nationals are exploited; a regional trend, where the exploitation takes place in various countries in the same region; and an intercontinental trend, between different continents and regions.

Internal trafficking was detected only in 32 countries, although it is likely that due to restrictive definitions or less visibility, this form of trafficking is less widely identified, while in most cases the transfer takes place between different countries.

Most of the cross-border activity was conducted between countries of the same region, although there were also significant instances of long-distance trafficking. While in Western and Central Europe victims of very different origins were identified, victims from Eastern Asia have been identified in more than 20 countries in various regions in the world, although trafficking in persons in that region is such a diverse and complex phenomenon that it is worth studying in its own right. Other long-distance currents include the transfer from

^{■6} *Trafficking in persons to Europe for sexual exploitation*. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), 2010.

Africa and Latin America to Europe and North America, and from Eastern Europe and Central Asia towards Western Europe and the Middle East.

The International Labor Organization (ILO), the UN special agency on employment, labour standards and social protection, estimates that 12.3 million people in the world are victims of forced labour^{■7}. Of these, at least 2.4 million are victims of trafficking in persons.

In contrast, only a few thousand people per year are convicted for this crime; most victims are never identified as such and, as a result, never obtain justice for the harm caused to them. According to this report, despite the recent growth in awareness and the increasingly more efficient responses from states, trafficking in persons is still a low-risk criminal activity offering very high income. The global profits generated by the activity, according to ILO estimates, total 32 billion dollars per year.

With respect to the purposes of trafficking, the ILO calculates that approximately 43% of victims are sexually exploited, 32% are exploited for labour and 25% for both. Women and girls account for 98% of the victims of sexual exploitation.

In the countries of origin, the difficulty of finding dignified work in decent conditions is identified as one of the major causes of trafficking in persons. According to the ILO, the victims are among the most vulnerable groups of migrant workers, namely those whose socio-economic situation is most precarious, who have least access to information about their rights and who often experience situations of multiple discrimination based on their gender, race and ethnicity.

The economic situation and global crisis raises concerns that if this continues, there will continue to be dramatic increases in unemployment

■7 ILO Action Against Trafficking in Human Beings. International Labour Organization (ILO) 2008. http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_norm/---declaration/documents/publication/wcms_090356.pdf

1. Context of the phenomenon of trafficking in persons for sexual exploitation purposes

and poorly paid jobs which could affect more than 200 million workers, especially in developing countries, who will be condemned to extreme poverty. This increase in poverty makes people more vulnerable and makes them potential victims of trafficking, for both labour and sexual exploitation purposes.

Every year, the US State Department publishes a report on the action of foreign governments in the fight against trafficking in persons. Its main objective is to raise global awareness of this issue and boost the efforts of governments in this field.

These reports entail an analysis and evaluation of governments' responses to the phenomenon in 175 countries and issue recommendations to help create and improve prevention, protection and prosecution policies and programmes.

According to research conducted by the US government and concluded in 2006, some 800,000 people are victims of cross-border trafficking globally every year^{■8}. This figure does not include the millions of people who are the victims of this practice in their own country. According to this report, most of the cross-border victims of trafficking for sexual exploitation purposes are women.

In its 2010 report^{■9}, in contrast, the emphasis is on forced labour as the most widely practised form of trafficking.

To summarise, the following table shows the main estimates by international bodies, the scale of the scourge of trafficking in persons and the profiles of the victims.

■8 2008 *Trafficking in Persons Report*. United States, Department of State, 2008. <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2008/index.htm>

■9 2010 *Trafficking in Persons Report*. United States, Department of State, 2010. <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2010/index.htm>

Profiles of the victims according to the databases of the US government, the ILO and the UNODC ■10			
	US GOVERNMENT	ILO	UNODC
Main focus of attention	Global estimate of victims	Global estimate of victims	Data on victims identified in the countries studied
Number of victims	600,000-800,000 victims of trafficking in persons from one country to another in 2003 (estimate)	At least 2.45 million victims of internal and international trafficking between 1995 and 2004 (estimate)	21,600 victims in 2006 in 111 countries. 7,300 in Europe.
Type of exploitation			
a) Sex trade	66%	43%	79%
b) Forced labour	34%	32%	21%
c) Mixed and other	–	25%	–
Gender and age of victims	80% women and 50% minors	80% women and 40% minors	66% women, 13% girls
Definition of trafficking used	TVPA (Trafficking Victims Protection Act) 2000	United Nations Protocol	United Nations Protocol
Data compilation criteria	Transnational trafficking	Internal and transnational trafficking	Transnational trafficking

1.3. The reality of trafficking in Spain

The reality of trafficking in persons for sexual exploitation purposes in Spain is as follows:

«Spain is among the 10 destination countries with the biggest incidence. The victims are mainly from Brazil, Bulgaria, Colombia, Ecuador, Nigeria, Ukraine, Russia and Romania; their age ranges between 18 and 25 years. Furthermore, Spain is a country of transit towards other countries of the European Union, the United States or Canada». ■11

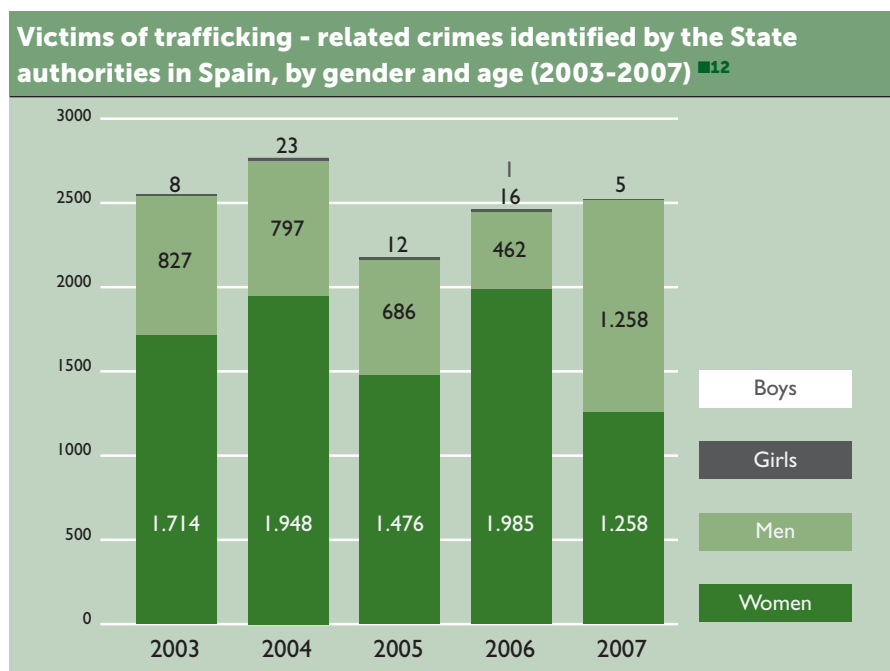
■10 COATNET (Christian Organization Against Trafficking in Human Beings) Strategic Plan 2010-2015, *Created in the image of God, treated like slaves*. Actualización propia.

■11 López Poveda G.; González Barbero M.^a (coord.). *La trata de personas con fines de explotación sexual: experiencia de trabajo de Cáritas*. La Acción Social, Cuadernos de formación social número 54. Madrid, Cáritas Española.

1. Context of the phenomenon of trafficking in persons for sexual exploitation purposes

Although the fight against trafficking has intensified considerably in the last few years, there are still difficulties when it comes to identifying victims, differentiating between cases of trafficking and illegal immigration, and the clear and uniform compilation of data by Spanish authorities.

The aforementioned UNODC report, in which the trafficking data of each country are analysed, includes the information provided on Spain by the Centre for Intelligence against Organised Crime (Centro de Inteligencia contra el Crimen Organizado - CICO). The following table shows the number of victims of trafficking and related crimes identified between 2003 and 2007.



■12 Global Report on Trafficking in Persons. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), 2009. <http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/global-report-on-trafficking-in-persons.html>

These data do not constitute a description of the reality of trafficking, so it is not possible to make deductions in regard to the global and real dimension of the phenomenon based thereupon. However, given the absence of data in this connection, this information does provide some elements for reflection.

Considering the existing limitations with regard to the compilation of accurate and reliable data on the victims of trafficking and, therefore, on the real scale of the problem, there follows an overview, conducted by the Ministries of Interior and Equality in early 2010, concerning the entry into force of Spain's plan to fight trafficking for the purposes of sexual exploitation (Plan Integral de Lucha contra la trata con fines de explotación sexual).

The Ministry of the Interior revealed that in 2009 a total of 1,300 victims were identified and supported, of whom 95% were women. The Police and Civil Guard arrested a total of 726 people for these crimes.

Nevertheless, Spain's Network against the Trafficking of Persons (Red Española contra la Trata de Personas), a civilian organisation involving more than 25 social bodies, conveys a very different message. In the meetings of the European project «*Towards Global EU-Action Against Trafficking in Human Beings*»^{■13}, held in March 2010, the Network voiced its concern for the lack of protection of victims and the focus on migratory control which pervades police action in Spain. It also asserted the need to advance, with the permanent help and support of NGOs, in fine-tuning mechanisms to adequately detect and identify potential victims of trafficking, as well as improving the systems of evaluation and implementation of corrective measures.

■13 Report of the Third National Networking Meeting, *Towards Global EU-Action Against Trafficking in Human Beings*, Madrid, 5 March 2010.

1.4. Especially vulnerable groups

The sectors of the population victims of trafficking are mainly women and girls, although trafficking in human beings knows no borders, age or gender limits.

The commitment of Caritas Internationalis^{■14} in fighting trafficking in human beings, expressed in the document «*Created in the image of God, treated like slaves*», identifies women and girls as especially vulnerable and notes the cruelty and perversity to which they are especially subject as victims of trafficking.

According to the figures and estimates of the main international sources, approximately 80% of transnational victims are women and girls, and up to 50% are minors. It is further estimated that most of the victims are exploited for the sex trade.

The criminal networks have many ways of recruiting and keeping the (mainly) women and girls. Some of them are listed below^{■15}:

- Servitude due to debt: financial obligations and honour commitments to pay off the debt.
- Isolation: limitations on contact with other persons, as well as measures to monitor all contact or to ensure contact is only superficial.
- Isolation from their family.
- Confiscation of passports, visas or identity documents.

■14 COATNET (Christian Organization Against Trafficking in Human Beings) Strategic Plan 2010-2015, *Created in the image of God, treated like slaves*.

■15 *Guía básica para la Identificación, Derivación y Protección de las personas víctimas de trata con fines de Explotación Sexual*. Madrid, APRAMP, updated second edition, 2009.

- Physical, psychological and sexual violence against victims or their families, as well as the threat of committing such violence.
- The threat of dishonouring victims by revealing their circumstances to their families.
- Intimidation and manipulation of victims making them believe that if they contact the authorities they will be sent to prison or deported for breaching the immigration laws.
- Control of victims' money (for example, offering to keep it «safe»).

Trafficking in women

The economic and social reality of women in many developing countries makes them hugely vulnerable to gangs of criminals involved in trafficking in persons.

Once they have been victims of trafficking, women are generally criminalised, punished, stigmatised and without rights of access to legal, medical or social help, or reinsertion services. The real possibilities of returning to their countries of origin are notably reduced.

Trafficking causes profound physical, mental, emotional and social suffering, not only to the women who endure it, but also to their families. The suffering originated by trafficking lasts for the rest of their lives and that is why long-term support is necessary in all spheres of the victims' lives.

The purposes for which women are victims of trafficking are, among others:

- Exploitation and forced labour in industrial activities (for example, in textile factories and other production segments in this sector), domestic service, agricultural sector, forced begging, etc.

1. Context of the phenomenon of trafficking in persons for sexual exploitation purposes

- Arranged marriages or systems of 'brides by correspondence'
- Extraction of organs for illegal trafficking.
- Illegal trafficking of narcotics (drug runners).
- Sexual exploitation.

Women who are trafficked face difficult and often dangerous life situations. They often face a plethora of obstacles which we list below:

- Negation and violation of their basic human rights.
- Criminalisation, persecution and criminal punishment when, as a result of police raids, the victims are seen as immigrants in irregular administrative status. In these cases, any help appears to depend on their cooperation with the authorities, without taking into account the danger which this can pose to the person trafficked and their family and wider context, in both the country of origin and destination.
- Although the victims of trafficking are entitled to a period of reflection of at least 30 days, the fact is this is often not granted. Furthermore, the special situation due to the process, as well as the stigmatisation and discrimination they endure often leads victims to avoid reporting their situation.
- The precariousness of policies, plans, programmes and measures —with suitable economic and human resources— to contribute to the integration of these people.
- Victims suffer from persistent panic even after they have been freed because of the power and the active presence of the traffickers and the ease of access which, in many cases, they

have to their families, not to mention the capacity for extortion and pressure that they may continue to exert on them.

Trafficking in girls

Girls are especially susceptible to becoming victims of trafficking for various key reasons, not least because decisions are made on their behalf by adults. In developing countries, it comes as no surprise that poor families «rent» or «sell» their children, sometimes as a temporary measure or sometimes as a chance to improve their quality of life.

In regions or countries devastated by war, natural disasters or ethnic conflict, etc., orphaned or displaced children may be potential victims of kidnapping by criminal gangs.

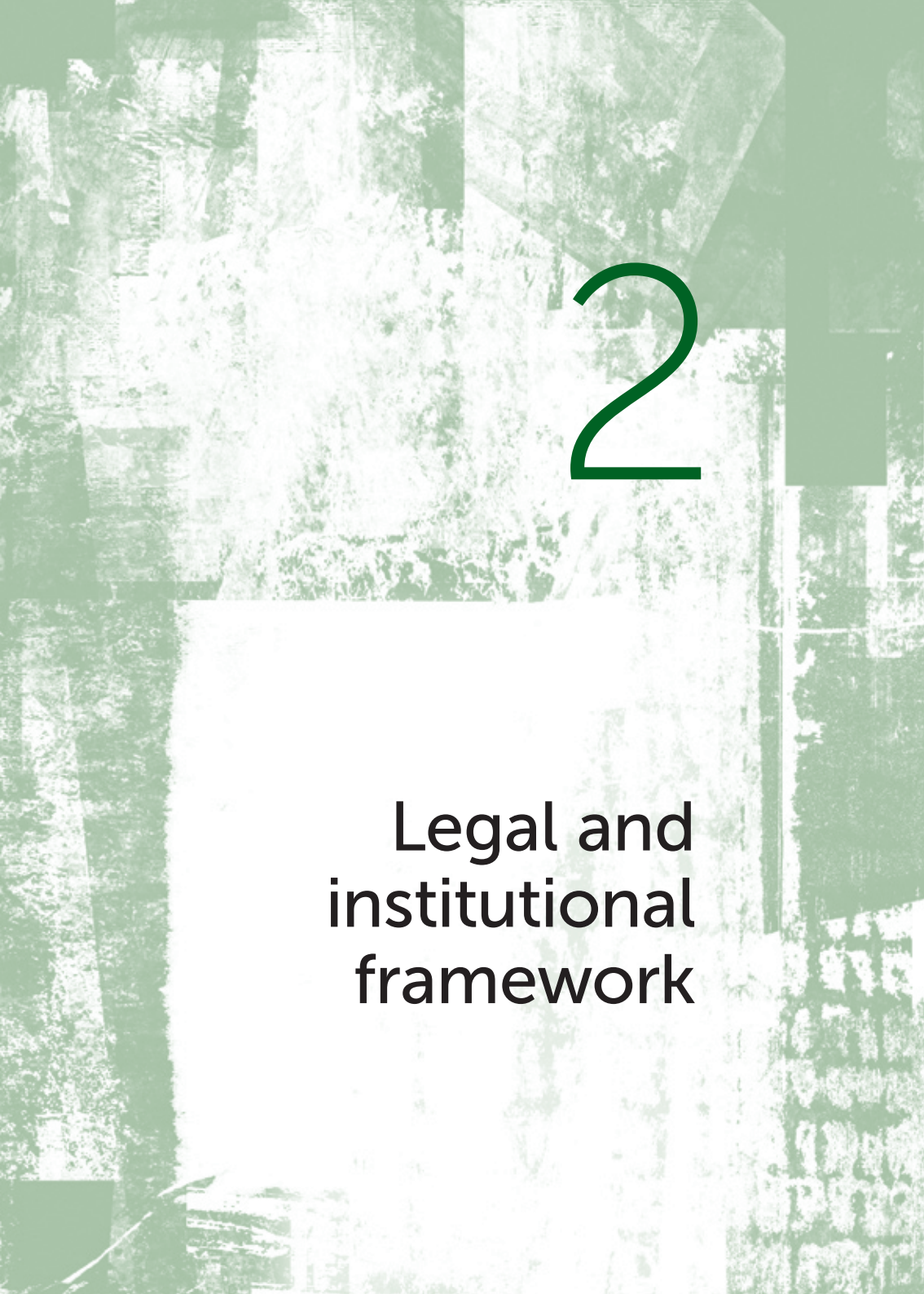
The main reasons and purposes for trafficking girls are, among others:

- Sexual exploitation, including child prostitution and paedophile pornography.
- Exploitation for servitude.
- Exploitation in the fishing industry or agricultural work.
- Exploitation for the sale, running or trafficking of narcotics.
- Exploitation as «camel riders» in camel races (a practice specific to Persian Gulf countries) or circus «artists».
- Deliberate mutilation and subsequent exploitation as «beggars» or pedlars.
- The harvesting of organs for illegal trading

1. Context of the phenomenon of trafficking in persons for sexual exploitation purposes

As well as being subject to extreme cruelty, girls who are victims of trafficking are taken away from their families and deprived of the opportunity to receive adequate love, affection and education so important in their childhood, so that the effects of this experience are devastating for their lives and their later personal and human development.

An added difficulty lies in the fact that it is highly complicated to identify girls as victims of trafficking, which leads them to sometimes be considered erroneously as «fugitives» or «undocumented and unaccompanied». They themselves tend to be unable to understand what is really happening to them and to explain their situation.



2

Legal and
institutional
framework

Trafficking is a very serious crime. It implies the exploitation of vulnerable persons, mainly women and children, by criminals who treat them as goods to be bought and sold. The seriousness and nature of trafficking in persons for sexual exploitation purposes has led this to be a phenomenon tackled by the United Nations and its organisational complex, the Council of Europe, the European Union and, in the internal sphere of Spain, all administrations, including central, regional and local governments. The fight against trafficking appeals to the defence of a set of principles that requires the committed involvement of all levels of authority from local to international, since we are faced with a practice which:

- Is an offence against human dignity.
- Is a violation of the most basic human rights.
- Is an illegal economic activity.
- Is one of the main sources of financing of organised crime.
- Is an activity that is conducted across international borders.

2.1. International framework

Trafficking is a problem tackled by various international bodies. Firstly, we will outline the action undertaken within the sphere of the United Nations. Secondly, we will look at the actions of the Council of Europe and, lastly, we will analyse the activity of the European Union.

United Nations

Trafficking is a recurring theme on the international agenda within the sphere of action of the United Nations. In 1949, a year after the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the United Nations approved the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others.

In the last three years, we highlight:

- 2008 United Nations General Assembly: Resolution 63/194, dated 18 December 2008, on improving the coordination of the efforts against trafficking in persons, and the other resolutions concerning trafficking in persons and other modern forms of slavery.
- 2008 Economic and Social Council: Resolution 2008/33, of 25 July 2008, on strengthening coordination of the United Nations and other efforts in fighting trafficking in persons.
- 2008 11th Summit of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, held in Sharm el-Sheikh (Egypt), on 30 June and 1 July 2008.
- 2008 Fourth Session of Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime, held in Vienna from 8 to 17 October 2008, in particular its decision 4/4, of 17 October 2008, entitled «Trafficking in Human Beings».
- 2009 Resolution 11/3 of Human Rights Council, of 17 June 2009, concerning trafficking in persons, especially women and children.

- 2009 15th Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Non-Aligned Movement, held in Sharm el-Sheikh (Egypt), from 11 to 16 July 2009, concerning how to foster the global action of the United Nations against trafficking in persons.
- 2009 Provisional open working group regarding trafficking in persons of the Conference of the Parties at its meeting held in Vienna on 14 and 15 April 2009.
- 2009 Interactive Thematic Dialogue of the General Assembly on taking collective action to end human trafficking, held on 13 May 2009.

We can currently highlight that the most important legal instruments agreed by the international community to fight against trafficking for the purposes of sexual exploitation are:

- a) The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.
- b) The Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime.
- c) The Optional Protocol of the Convention on Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography.
- d) The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
- e) The supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery.

From an institutional standpoint, we can highlight as central players in international action against trafficking:

- a) The United Nations General Assembly, via its resolutions, declarations and action programmes.
- b) The Human Rights Council, especially via the action of Special Rapporteurs like:
 - The Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children.
 - The Special Rapporteur on violence against women and its causes and consequences.
 - The Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.
 - The Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, its causes and consequences.
- c) The Secretary General's Special Representative on violence against children.
- d) The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.
- e) The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.
- f) The International Organisation for Migration.
- g) The International Labor Organization (ILO).
- h) The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.
- i) The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

Council of Europe

Since the end of 1980, the Council of Europe has adopted various initiatives in the sphere of trafficking in persons. The first activities are aimed at both awareness and action. It is worth highlighting, in particular, Recommendation N.º R (2000) 11 of the Committee of Ministers to member states on action against trafficking in human beings for the purpose of sexual exploitation.

Following the recommendation approved by the Committee of Ministers on 3 May 2005, the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings. This convention was based on the recognition that trafficking in human beings is a violation of human rights and an attack on people's dignity. The Convention is a global treaty aimed at:

- Preventing trafficking.
- Protecting the human rights of victims.
- Prosecuting traffickers.

The Convention applies to all forms of trafficking, whether national or international, linked or not to organised crime. It applies regardless of who the victims are: women, men or children. And regardless of the form of exploitation: sexual, labour, etc.

The measures set forth in the convention are:

- Raising awareness of the potential victims of trafficking.
- Actions aimed at discouraging «clients».
- The recognition of victims as victims and not as illegal immigrants or criminals.

- Physical and psychological assistance to victims.
- Aid in victims' social reintegration.
- Medical care, advice, information and accommodation.
- The right to compensation for victims.
- The right to a thirty-day period for recovering, escaping the traffickers and making a decision on cooperating with the authorities. A renewable residence permit might be granted to victims if their personal situation or an ongoing criminal investigation so requires.
- The consideration of trafficking as a crime and, consequently, the criminal prosecution of traffickers and their accomplices.
- The protection of victims' private lives and safety.
- The possibility of incriminating those who use the victim's services when they are aware that the person is a victim of trafficking.
- Freedom from prosecution for those victims who are coerced into participating in illicit activities.
- Cooperation between public authorities, non-governmental organisations and members of civil society.

The entry into force of the Convention, on 1 February 2008 signalled the launch of its safeguard mechanisms. In the first place, GRETA, the Group of Experts in Action against Trafficking and, in second place, the Committee of the Parties, comprising representatives of the Committee of Ministers of the Parties to the Convention and representatives of the Parties who are not members of the Council of Europe. GRETA regularly

compiles reports evaluating the measures implemented by signatories to the treaty. Furthermore, the Committee of the Parties may adopt recommendations aimed at one Party who does not fully comply with the provisions of the treaty.

So far, the Convention has been ratified by 30 countries and signed by another 13. Spain ratified it in April 2009.

European Union

The European Union only started to worry about trafficking in persons very late. In November 1993, the Council of the European Union adopted a series of recommendations to fight against trafficking in human beings.

In June 1996, the Commission held its first conference concerning trafficking in women. The conference was attended by representatives of all sectors (universities, NGOs, police and immigration services, governments, parliaments, etc.). Among the measures proposed at the conference was the establishment of a global action plan, providing specific solutions to fight against the phenomenon of trafficking in women from other countries who are transferred to the European Union and sexually exploited under threat. Following the boost at this Conference, the European Union has developed measures for police cooperation against trafficking and the STOP and DAPHNE programmes.

The Council is currently working to strengthen efforts to combat trafficking in the sphere of Justice. The Council meeting of 19 June 2009 called for action against organised crime and criminal networks. The cornerstones of this work are:

- The framework decision to combat trafficking on 19 July 2002, currently under review.

- The directive of 29 April 2004 on the residence permit issued to third-country nationals who are victims of trafficking in human beings.

Based on this framework, the Union pursues the following objectives:

- To strengthen cooperation and coordination among member countries and other countries.
- To join together with other countries and international organisations in the fight against trafficking.
- To improve the research in this area.
- To prevent the causes of trafficking such as poverty, the lack of opportunities, gender inequality and conflicts.
- To protect and shelter victims.
- To control European borders.

In this area, the European Parliament, in its resolution dated 10 February 2010 on preventing trafficking in human beings, urges countries, among other measures, to offer unconditional assistance to trafficking victims, as well as to devise a simplified family reunification policy for victims, particularly where this is required for their protection.

2.2. National framework

In Spain, firstly we will highlight the Global Plan to Combat Trafficking (Plan Integral de Lucha Contra la Trata). Secondly, we

will outline the current legislation and the recognised rights of victims. Lastly, we will discuss some of the most interesting initiatives developed at local and regional level.

Global Plan Against Trafficking

The Global Plan Against Trafficking in human beings for the purpose of sexual exploitation was approved and implemented on 12 December 2008. The Plan came into force in 2009 and will remain in force until 2011. The Plan aims to reform legislation to adapt it to international regulations (in particular with respect to the Council of Europe Convention), to strengthen police measures to pursue traffickers and to guarantee social assistance to victims, upholding the 30-day period of reflection during which the victims are guaranteed the necessary subsistence and social and legal assistance. The Plan seeks to boost the action of NGOs and regional and local governments to guarantee social assistance to women and girls.

The Plan approaches the problem from four standpoints, which are the guiding principles of all the measures included:

- Gender perspective.
- Perspective of violation of fundamental human rights.
- Perspective of transnationality that requires international cooperation.
- Perspective of treatment as a crime, which requires police and legal action.

The measures implemented under the Plan are aimed at tackling all areas of the problem integrally:

- Awareness, prevention and investigation.
- Education and training.
- Assistance to and protection of victims.
- Legislative, procedural, coordination and cooperation measures.

The objectives of the Plan are:

- To raise society's awareness to promote reactions of «zero tolerance» to criminal acts linked to trafficking in persons for sexual exploitation purposes.
- To combat the causes of trafficking via active policies for cooperation with countries of origin and through preventive measures in countries of origin, transit and destination.
- To develop measures with a comprehensive approach in the judicial, social, educational, police, administrative and immigration fields, with the involvement of non-governmental organisations.
- To guarantee, as a pivotal axis, the assistance to and protection of victims of trafficking, ensuring protection of their rights and best interests.
- To fight unwaveringly against the trafficking of human beings for sexual exploitation purposes and against the active intervention in the phenomenon of traffickers and pimps.

Legislative framework and victims' rights

The legislative framework in Spain against trafficking and to protect victims includes:

- Organic Law 2/1986 on Security Forces.
- Criminal Procedure Act.
- The Criminal Code, amended by Organic Law 5/2010.
- Law 35/1995 on help and assistance to the victims of violent crime and crimes against sexual freedom.
- Organic Law 19/1994 on the protection of witnesses and experts in criminal cases.
- Organic Law 4/2000 on the rights and freedoms of foreigners in Spain and their social integration, reformed by Organic Law 2/2009, to incorporate the directive of 29 April 2004 concerning temporary residence permits for third-country nationals who are victims of trafficking. Due to the delay in its transposition, Spain was fined by the European Court of Justice.
- Instruction 1/2010 of the Secretary of State on Security concerning the Transitory Application to the Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings of Article 59/bis of Organic Law 4/2000.

Within the framework of this regulation, the victims of trafficking are recognised the following rights in the sphere of Spanish legislation:

- Adoption by the authorities of the necessary measures to identify victims.
- The right to a period of recovery and reflection of at least thirty days.
- The right to be informed of these rights.

- The right to temporary residence during said period and the suspension of the execution of expulsion or return orders.
- The right to subsistence, safety and protection.
- The right to return to their country.
- The right to authorisation for residence and work if necessary as part of the investigation.

In the case of the victim's cooperation against criminal networks, the law recognises the following rights:

- The guarantee of non-expulsion and the waiving of administrative liability.
- The right of information by the competent authorities of this right.
- The right to return to their country or to receive a work and residence permit in Spain.

The amendment made to the Criminal Code through Organic Law 5/2010 put an end to the previous regulation which was clearly inadequate, finally separating the criminal treatment of crimes involving trafficking in persons from clandestine immigration. The reform is due to enter into force on 23 December 2010 (Official State Gazette - BOE - No. 152, 23 June 2010)■¹⁶.

Regional and local framework

Within the regional and local framework, public administrations have launched various initiatives of different kinds linked to the

■¹⁶ <http://www.boe.es/boe/dias/2010/06/23/pdfs/BOE-A-2010-9953.pdf>

trafficking of women for sexual exploitation. Only some of them are mentioned here, namely those initiatives that focus especially on the trafficking of women and on victims' human rights, and extend beyond measures to regulate prostitution or those included in equal opportunities instruments.

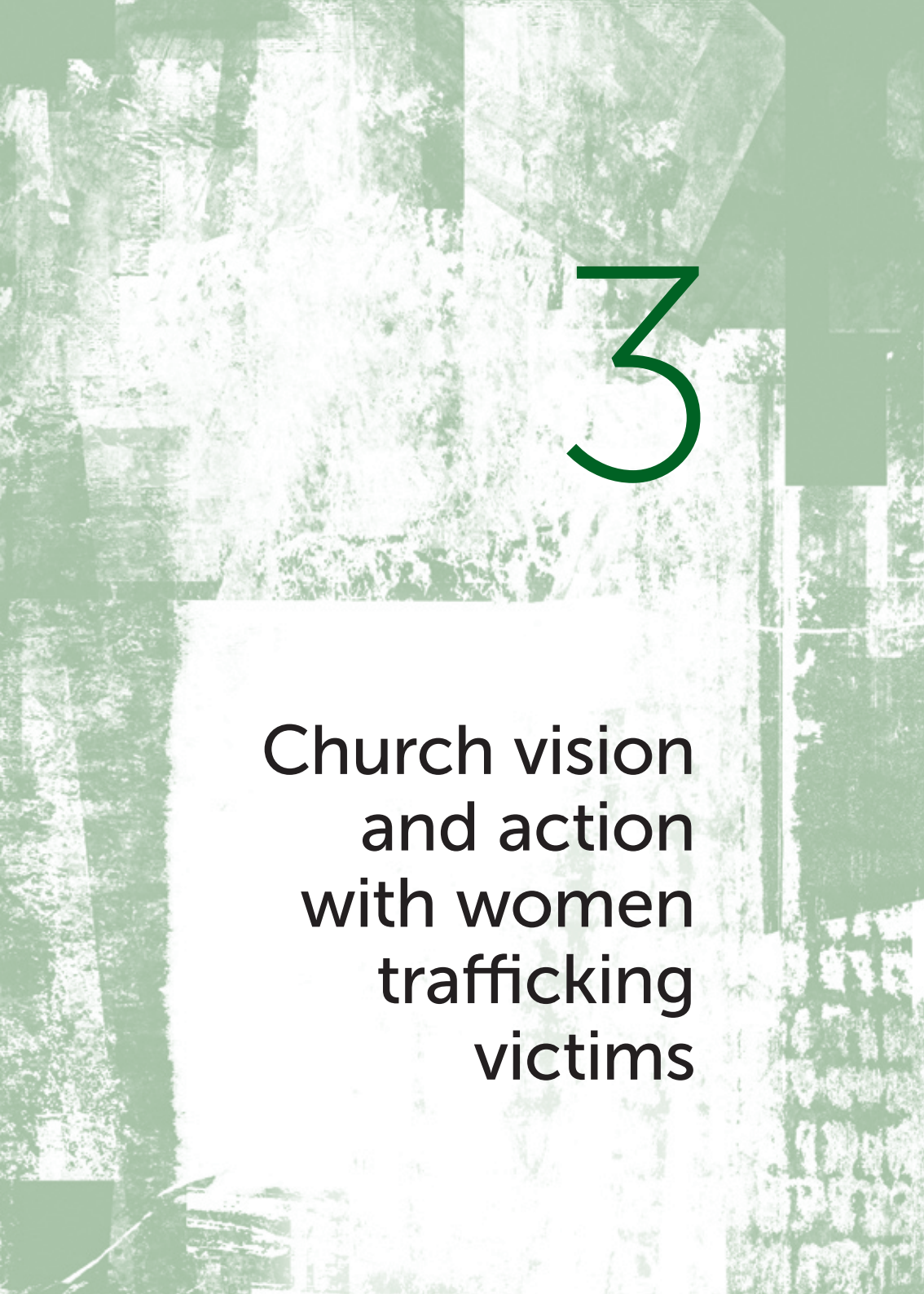
In 2004, the Madrid city council launched a Plan against Sexual Exploitation, involving various government areas and actions aimed at women in the context of prostitution, clients, society in general and professionals directly and indirectly intervening in the area. A new plan has now been devised which takes into account and indeed highlights the intervention with women who are victims of trafficking for sexual exploitation, which is pending approval in a Plenary Session.

In Sevilla, the city council has approved an integral Action to Promote the Eradication of Trafficking, Prostitution and other Forms of Sexual Exploitation 2010-2015. The Plan is structured around five action areas:

- I. Awareness, prevention and investigation measures.
- II. Training and education measures.
- III. Integral assistance to and protection of victims or persons at risk.
- IV. City council regulatory and disciplinary measures.
- V. Measures to reorganise, strengthen, coordinate and cooperate.

In Galicia, on 18 January 2010, as a result of the agreement between the regional government and the Regional Attorney General's Office, a Protocol for Institutional Action on the Adoption

of Preventive Measures, Investigation and Treatment of Women Victims of Trafficking for Sexual Exploitation was signed. The Protocol includes a definition of the rights and obligations of victims, prevention and victim assistance measures and a swathe of measures in the spheres of police, NGO action, labour inspection, judicial and institutional cooperation.



3

Church vision
and action
with women
trafficking
victims

3.1. Vision

The Church's concern in the fight against trafficking has been a constant in the last two decades. During this period, the Conferences of Bishops of all continents have quite often spoken out very clearly. Particularly significant are the declarations on the matter within the Post-synodal Apostolic Exhortations of Africa (1995), America and Asia (1999) and Europe (2003).

In Spain's case, it is worth highlighting the important document published by the Bishops' Conference on 27 April 2001 at the end of the LXXXVI Plenary Assembly^{■17}, containing a profound analysis of this problem since Spain is one of the main destination countries of trafficked women.

Very recently (2009), the Pontifical Council for Migrants and Itinerants, in the first European Meeting for Pastoral Care of the Road/Street (Vatican City, 2009), discussed, in a series of conclusions and recommendations, the complex human and pastoral reality of the liberation of women. And quite a few ecclesiastic institutions and organisations have issued statements regarding trafficking in women, which they describe as a profound moral and human drama which is accompanied by other elements that further undermine women's dignity, such as kidnapping, torture, the consumption and trafficking of drugs, among others. Nevertheless, the problem of trafficking should not be separated from the situation of poverty in which so many of the excluded population live.

Ecclesiastic institutions that have issued statements regarding trafficking in women note that there is a link between female migration, prostitution and other factors such as the drugs and

■17 *El drama humano y moral del tráfico de mujeres. Statement by the LXXXVI Plenary Assembly of the Spanish Bishops' Conference. Madrid, 27 April 2001.*

arms trade, and the relationship between poverty, violence and conflicts, as well as forced begging and internal trafficking^{■18}. Also part of this reality are: kidnapping, torture, auctioning of persons, passing on from one gang to another, extreme violence^{■19}. Some women, since they were children or adolescents, have been subjected to multiple forms of violence inside and outside their homes: rape, servitude and sexual harassment; inequalities at the workplace, in politics and in the economy; advertising exploitation by many social media, which treat them as profit-making objects^{■20}.

The daily lives of these women subjected to trafficking are in many cases similar to the slavery of the past. Frequently subjected to ill-treatment and inhuman living conditions, when they decide to return to a dignified and free life their return journey is plagued with difficulties. In addition to the threats and reprisals from the mafia gangs, the psychological problems, the rejection of their families and society, they usually also have to overcome various kinds of legal problems (ibid).

The Church has denounced any form of trafficking as a crime^{■21}. And any kind of violence against women, whether against body or spirit, as sin: «violence during war, sexual or physical violence at home, trafficking and enslavement of women and girls forced to become prostitutes, media exploitation showing women in a degrading way or sexual violence depicted as mere entertainment»^{■22}. The church wishes to express its solidarity with victims in this kind of situation.

■18 First European Meeting for Pastoral Care of the Road/Street, Vatican City, 2009.

■19 *L'esclavage de la prostitution*. Commission Sociale des Evêques de France, 2000.

■20 V General Conference of Latin American and Caribbean Bishops, 2007.

■21 *Statement on Human Trafficking*. Committee on Migration, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2007.

■22 Letter on violence against women. Council of European Bishop Conferences (CCEE) and Conference of European Churches (CEC), 1999.

There are moral *factors* nurturing this situation: the consumer society in which we live, dominated in particular by market laws; the banal treatment of sexuality and a certain social and legal tolerance towards traffickers^{■23}. In fact, there are societies where the moral degradation is evident as women are considered as objects of pleasure at the service of the macho sexual instinct of many men. This is a macho mentality which has created in society a distorted vision of the mission and dignity of women^{■24}.

We ask ourselves the following questions^{■25}: How long will our society bear these innumerable acts of violence? How long will these victims be abandoned to their suffering, reduced to silence, plundered of their will to live? Why are women almost always the target of these humiliations? Is it their greater vulnerability what makes men abuse them?

Based on the proposals drawn up by the Conferences of Bishops, we urge immediate action in the following priority areas:

1. The prosecution, condemnation and fight against criminal networks and traffickers in human beings. Although it is not the Church's job to prosecute these criminals, it can help to eradicate this kind of crime, by helping victims, reporting abuses and contributing to create fairer and more dignified conditions to render it more difficult, and even impossible, for these criminal activities with human victims to be carried out^{■26}.
2. To help the victims break this cycle and to support families whose children are in situations of risk.

■23 Letter on restoring the Dignity of Nigerian Women. Catholic Bishops' Conference of Nigeria, 2002.

■24 Letter coinciding with the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women. Bishops of Guatemala, 2002.

■25 Les violences envers les femmes. Commission Sociale des Evêques de France, 2003.

■26 La Iglesia en España y los Inmigrantes. Conferencia Episcopal Española, XC Asamblea Plenaria. Edice, Madrid, 2007.

3. To increase efforts by politicians in the legislative and educational spheres to make citizens increasingly aware of the problem (ibid). ■27
4. Specifically, we call for the collaboration of national governments and European authorities to combat the trafficking of women and to protect them both in their countries of origin and in their destination countries. ■28
5. At European and global level, international bodies are encouraged to make a firm commitment to fight the position of some European states where prostitution is or might be regulated, to make it into a job. Similarly, it is necessary to urge those states that have not yet ratified the International Convention of 2 December 1949 «for the Suppression of Trafficking in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others» to do so immediately.
6. Special attention must be paid to training pastoral agents for them to become actively involved in eradicating trafficking ■29. Specifically, parishes are called upon to become centres where awareness of this situation is raised and to be used as a platform of action to help victims and denounced traffickers.
7. The interventions must always be aimed at the person, who has a unique history, and must be based on a relationship of trust.
8. Operating as a network is fundamental to provide specific responses, both within the Catholic Church and at NGOs and governmental services involved in solving these problems. As institutions representing the Spanish Church, we want to offer an initial gesture of cooperation and coordination in this regard.

■27 Op.cit. *L'esclavage de la prostitution*. Commission Sociale des Evêques de France, 2000.

■28 Conference on women and families in migration. Turkey, 2002.

■29 Op. Cit. *Statement on Human Trafficking*. Committee on Migration, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2007.

3.2. Action of Caritas and CONFER

The Church's vision and commitment are expressed and materialised through a major social action developed in favour of women victims of trafficking or in contexts of prostitution. The reflection, thought and positioning shoulder-to-shoulder with the persons who suffer most, namely the victims of exploitation and of the new forms of slavery, come with a direct action aimed at caring for and supporting them.

For more than ten years, the institutions, congregations and bodies of the Church in Spain, and in particular among them Cáritas Española and Conferencia Española de Religiosos (CONFER), have been conducting a series of specific actions at various levels in order to fight the phenomenon of trafficking and sexual exploitation of women. These actions have increased in number and their responses to this complex and little-known phenomenon have become more comprehensive.

Some female religious congregations whose specific charisma is to look after women in difficulties and some Diocesan Caritas have entered into contact with the reality of these women through their interventions in the context of prostitution, and they have created and adapted projects and programmes throughout the country. There are currently more than 30 actions of this kind, in various locations in Spain, some of which are executed jointly and in cooperation between the two bodies. These actions are based on a significant experience in the issues relating to prostitution and are aimed at all women immersed in this context.

The union and alliance between CONFER and Caritas in this field, where in general their objectives are shared, is a combination of efforts which helps intensify actions to influence and foster the resources of direct attention and thereby benefit the women.

Another considerable potentiality of these two organisations which is especially important when it comes to working with a phenomenon of a clear transnational nature is their dual national and international dimension. Both Caritas and CONFER belong to structures and networks of the Church organisations which have global scope and act in many countries. This opens up infinite possibilities of creating synergies in different kinds of action, direct intervention, advocacy, awareness-raising and analysis.

In this regard, the actions currently being implemented are structured around four main global lines:

- Victims' protection and assistance
- Prevention and awareness-raising
- Analysis of the reality
- Networking and advocacy

In the line of victims' assistance the programmes being implemented include:

- Street units, to facilitate access and identification of women in places where prostitution takes place (on the street, in apartments and other venues).
- Shelters, offering housing, meeting basic needs and offering social care, and in some cases safe houses, to hide women from criminal gangs.
- Day centres, where information and legal, psychological, health, social insertion and labour guidance is offered, as well as personal and family support.
- 24-hour helplines and advice.

The working methodologies may vary from one project to another, but all the activities are carried out by mixed teams of professionals from various sectors and by volunteers.

In the line of prevention and awareness various activities are conducted:

- The publication and dissemination of information materials (leaflets, bulletins, etc.)
- The organisation of and participation in meetings and working sessions, research, awareness and exchange.
- The creation of materials for dissemination and to promote awareness (ads, stickers, etc.)
- The creation of websites.
- Presence in the media (press, radio, etc.)

With respect to the line of analysis of the reality in some areas there have been and continue to be:

- Research and studies on women in the context of prostitution and victims of trafficking, from various perspectives.
- Permanent analysis of the changing reality, using information deriving from the intervention itself.

Lastly, essential work is also carried out in the line of operating as networking and advocacy, in order to report grave breaches of human rights affecting women who are victims of trafficking and to improve the policies and public actions in this regard.

With this objective in mind, both CONFER and Caritas promote collective reflection and work as a network, both internally within

their own structures, and externally with other social organisations and public administrations. These actions are conducted nationally and internationally.

At national level:

- The two organisations belong to the Spanish Network against Trafficking (Red Española de Lucha contra la Trata), CONFER as a member and Caritas as a collaborating body. This is a national network in constant contact with public administrations, influencing the legislative developments, exerting pressure on the political parties and proposing all kinds of measures to help enhance the safeguarding of victims' rights. The Network took part in work to devise the Global Plan against the Trafficking of Persons for sexual exploitation purposes, which the government approved in 2008.
- Caritas is a member of the Social Forum on Trafficking (Foro Social contra la Trata), created by the Ministry for Equality in order to monitor the measures set forth in the Plan and to create an informal area for reflection and the exchange of solutions.
- CONFER is working to set up a network of congregations to work in the field of combating trafficking in order to systematise the various experiences, hold common intervention criteria, and set up a database to facilitate care for women who are often on the move.

At international level:

- CONFER is in contact with and will belong to the Network of Women Religious against Trafficking.
- Caritas is an official member of COATNET (Christian Organisations Against Trafficking NETwork), comprising Catholic,

Protestant and Orthodox organisations which work as a platform for communication and exchange of best practices in tackling the problem of trafficking in persons. It promotes international cooperation and collaboration as a network to find responses to this reality. Since October 2009, Caritas Internationalis has been in charge of this network.

- Cáritas Española works directly with Caritas from other countries in combating trafficking in women. It currently supports specific action and awareness interventions in Ukraine and Armenia, and is developing a network project with Caritas France, Caritas Romania and Caritas Russia in Bulgaria.



4

Positioning and commitments

Faced with the reality of trafficking for sexual exploitation purposes set forth in this report, the Church bodies: CONFER, Cáritas, Justicia y Paz and the Secretariat of the Episcopal Commissions on Migrations and Social Pastoral Social of the Spanish Bishops' Conference,

POSITION OURSELVES shoulder-to-shoulder with the victims and we assert that:

The global phenomenon of trafficking in persons for sexual exploitation purposes is a very serious violation of human rights, which reduces the human being, created in God's own image and after his likeness, to a state of servitude and slavery.

WE DENOUNCE that:

- The information and awareness of the reality of trafficking and its victims is very limited.
- The link between this phenomenon and the entry and residence of immigrants in irregular administrative situations jeopardises victims' rights.
- Public policies do not always provide adequate responses to the reality of victims and do not act on the structural causes of the phenomenon of trafficking.
- The established measures for the protection of and assistance to victims are still insufficient to guarantee that their rights will be upheld.
- Coordination with other actors involved is often scant and ineffective.

WE UNDERTAKE to intervene in the following fields through these specific actions:

1. Raising awareness

- To report on the phenomenon of trafficking for exploitation purposes and on its causes and its consequences for victims.
- To educate Christian communities and society in regard to the various areas that impact on this phenomenon: legal, social, psychological, etc.
- To learn to make visible and identify possible victims of trafficking in our immediate surroundings: parishes, social projects, health centres, etc.
- To participate in meetings, conferences and working groups that enable us to learn more in depth about a rapidly-changing reality.
- To develop educational programmes aimed at learning more about the phenomenon, its consequences for young people, families and society, by involving parents, educators and collaborators.
- To disseminate this document so that Christian communities and any other sector of society may read it and that it might encourage them to become committed in fighting this reality which so clearly violate human rights.
- To unlock all the potential of the Church's universality in raising awareness of trafficking in countries of origin, transit and destination.
- To raise awareness in society so that it takes a zero tolerance approach to situations of violence such as those endured by the victims of trafficking and recovers its capacity to become indignant and to mobilise against this new form of slavery.

- To stop favouring and contributing to the profitable business of prostitution, so closely linked to trafficking, by discouraging demand and eliminating advertising of sexual offers in the social media, so as not to be accomplices in this market of human beings.
- To inform companies, social agents and tourist bodies so that they become aware of this situation of exploitation and act, rather than contributing to sexual tourism.
- To recover education in moral values, such as respect for others as human beings and for their dignity, and to reject all instances of discrimination of persons and of their use as mere instruments.

2. Support for advocacy actions

- To urge the executive, legislative and judicial powers to implement measures and laws against trafficking in persons that protect victims of trafficking.
- To foster global policies to combat poverty and gender inequality and to create dignified living conditions for all.
- To voice our critical opinion of all the different social, political, economic and other measures that are not aimed at helping the women who are the victims of trafficking.
- To demand the development of the Plan to Combat Trafficking, implementing in practice the measures included therein, from the coordination of all public initiatives (Inter-ministerial Group) and private projects (networks, forum) to the protection of victims, awareness actions, etc.

- To ask that the situation of women and girl trafficking victims be considered as a violation of their human rights and not a crime of illegal immigration.
- To establish a mechanism to identify and refer victims, granting a major role to the organisations that work with them.
- To urgently provide with financial resources the measures and initiatives envisaged by the Plan to Combat Trafficking so that they may be effective.
- To apply the legal instruments for effective international cooperation.
- To establish lines of support to developing countries and countries of origin of women and children who are victims of trafficking.

3. Shelter and protection of the rights of victims of trafficking in persons

- To provide protection and assistance from the human rights standpoint.
- To foster and support shelter resources and projects for women who are victims of trafficking.
- To carry out actions to help women and girls who are victims of this practice in various spheres: social, psychological, legal and administrative, in cooperation with public bodies seeking to achieve the same aims.
- To facilitate the return to their own countries or residence permits, as well as work permits and facilities for the social

integration of persons who decide to denounce or cooperate in the fight against trafficking.

- To guarantee access to the recovery and reflection period for presumed victims of trafficking.
- To share responsibility in the prevention, denouncing and collaboration to help all victims of trafficking in persons.
- To collaborate with NGOs who combat trafficking.

4. Operating as a network

- To create and foster between Caritas, CONFER and Justicia y Paz, areas of coordination and intra-ecclesial synergy.
- To take part in networks and platforms that work in this reality, loyal to our conviction that what is important are the women who are victims of trafficking, and their dignity.
- To foster international efforts in networks from the Church's presence in the various countries of origin, transit and destination
- To create a strong and solid network of coordinated resources to respond adequately to the victims of trafficking and to protect their rights.
- To devise intervention protocols which involve all social agents and promote the rights of trafficking victims and their integral care.



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- 27 **Convention on Children's rights relating to the sale of children, child prostitution and the use of children in pornography**. <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/law/crc-sale.htm>
- 28 **Protocol to prevent, suppress and punish trafficking in persons, especially women and children**, supplementary to the United Nations Convention on Transnational Organized Crime, 2000. <http://www.unodc.org/documents/treaties/UNTOC/Publications/TOC%20Convention/TOCebook-e.pdf>
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- 31 **Trafficking in persons to Europe for sexual exploitation**. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), 2010.
- 32 **Una vida sin violencia para mujeres y niñas**. Amnistía Internacional (Spain), 2009.
- 33 **V General Conference of Latin American and Caribbean Bishops**, 2007.

Websites of interest

- Christians Organizations Against Trafficking in Human Beings
<http://www.coatnet.org/en/>
- United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice
<http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/CCPCJ/index.html>
- The Human Rights Council
<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrcouncil/>
- Council of Europe
<http://www.coe.int/>
- US Department of State
<http://www.state.gov/>
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
<http://www.unodc.org/unodc/index.html?ref=menutop>
- Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights
<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/>
- International Labor Organization
<http://www.ilo.org/global/lang--en/index.htm>
- International Organization for Migration
<http://www.iom.int/jahia/Jahia/lang/en/pid/1>
- UNICEF
<http://www.unicef.org>
- Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
www.osce.org
- Red Española contra la Trata de Personas
<http://www.redcontralatrata.org/>

Caritas and CONFER projects in the sphere of prostitution and trafficking

Diocese Almería

Congregation: Oblatas del Santísimo Redentor • **City:** Almería

Name of project: Oblatas • **Year started:** 1970

Telephone: 950 262 514 • **E-mail:** redereli@cajamar.es

Congregation: Oblatas y Adoratrices - Almería • **City:** Almería

Name of project: Encuentro • **Year started:** 2002

Telephone: 950 232 100 • **E-mail:** centrop.encuentro@gmail.com

Congregation: Adoratrices del Santísimo Sacramento • **City:** Almería

Name of project: Emáus • **Year started:** 1999

Telephone: 950 232 100 • **E-mail:** almeria@adoratrices.com

Diocese Barcelona

Congregation: Oblatas del Santísimo Redentor • **City:** Barcelona

Name of project: El lloc de la dona • **Year started:** 1984

Telephone: 934 412 809 • **E-mail:** info@llocdeladona.org

Congregation: Adoratrices del Santísimo Sacramento • **City:** Barcelona

Name of project: Sicar cat • **Year started:** 2002

Telephone: 679 654 088 • **E-mail:** sicar@adoratrius.cat

Diocese Bilbao

Congregation: Oblatas del Santísimo Redentor • **City:** Bilbao

Name of project: Leiho zabalik • **Year started:** 1998

Telephone: 944 169 456 • **E-mail:** oblatas-lehio-z@euskalnet.net

Diocese Burgos

Congregation/Cáritas: Adoratrices del Santísimo Sacramento/Cáritas Burgos

• **City:** Miranda del Ebro

Name of project: Centro de acogida Betania • **Year started:** 1996

Telephone: 947 202 316/256 219 • **E-mail:** burgos@adoratrices.com/
betaniaburgosa@yahoo.es

Diocese Canarias

Congregation: Villa Teresita-Auxiliares del Buen Pastor • **City:** Las Palmas

Name of project: Villa Teresita-Las Palmas • **Year started:** 1971

Telephone: 928 462 293 • **E-mail:** villateresitalaspalmas@yahoo.es

Cáritas: Cáritas Canarias • **City:** Las Palmas

Name of project: Centro de atención Lugo • **Year started:** 1988

Telephone: 928 247 759 • **E-mail:** centrolugo@caritas-canarias.org

Diocese Cartagena-Murcia

Congregation: Oblatas del Santísimo Redentor • **City:** Murcia

Name of project: Oblatas-Murcia

Telephone: 968 235 598 • **E-mail:** proyectomurcia@telefonica.net

Diocese Granada

Congregation: Adoratrices del Santísimo Sacramento • **City:** Granada

Name of project: Nova • **Year started:** 1999

Telephone: 950 201 930 • **E-mail:** granada@adoratrices.com

Cáritas: Cáritas Granada • **City:** Granada

Name of project: Caminando juntas • **Year started:** 1996

Telephone: 958 265 029/202 611 • **E-mail:** caritas@caritasgranada.org

Diocese Huelva

Cáritas: Cáritas Huelva • **City:** Huelva

Name of project: Ammar • **Year started:** 1992

Telephone: 959 814 622 • **E-mail:** comunicacion@caritashuelva.org

Diocese Lugo

Cáritas: Cáritas Lugo • **City:** Lugo

Name of project: Servicio de atención a mujeres • **Year started:** 1998

Telephone: 982 251 274 • **E-mail:** programamujer_lugo@yahoo.es

Diocese Madrid

Congregation: Oblatas del Santísimo Redentor • **City:** Madrid

Name of project: Tu casa • **Year started:** 1982

Telephone: 914 628 937 • **E-mail:** residencia.tucasa@telefonica.net

Congregation: Villa Teresita-Auxiliares del Buen Pastor • **City:** Madrid

Name of project: Villa Teresita-Madrid • **Year started:** 1963

Telephone: 913 002 108 • **E-mail:** villateresitamadrid@yahoo.es

Congregation: Adoratrices del Santísimo Sacramento • **City:** Madrid

Name of project: Esperanza • **Year started:** 1999

Telephone: 913 860 643 • **E-mail:** info@proyectoesperanza.org

Congregation/asociac: Encuentro en la noche-Intercongregacional • **City:** Madrid

Name of project: Prostitución de calle

Telephone: 619 126 680 • **E-mail:** murrayparla@yahoo.es

Diocese Mallorca

Congregation: Oblatas del Santísimo Redentor • **City:** Palma de Mallorca

Name of project: Casal Petit • **Year started:** 1981

Telephone: 971 722 707 • **E-mail:** casalpetit@telefonica.net

Congregation: Adoratrices del Santísimo Sacramento • **City:** Palma de Mallorca

Name of project: Pont d'esperança • **Year started:** 2001

Telephohne: 971 730 335 • **E-mail:** palma@adoratrices.com

Diocese Mondoñedo-Ferrol

Congregation: Oblatas del Santísimo Redentor • **City:** Ferrol

Name of project: O'mencer • **Year started:** 1989

Telephone: 981 358 562 • **E-mail:** omencermuller@telefonica.net

Diocese Orense

Congregation: Adoratrices del Santísimo Sacramento • **City:** Orense

Name of project: Erguete • **Year started:** 2008

Telephone: 988 371 153 • **E-mail:** orense@adoratrices.com

Cáritas: Cáritas Orense • **Ciudad:** Orense

Name of project: Proyecto Alumar • **Año inicio:** 2000

Telephone: 988 244 650 • **E-mail:** caritasourense@gmail.com

Diocese Orihuela-Alicante

Congregation: Oblatas del Santísimo Redentor • **City:** Alicante

Name of project: Centro acogida • **Year started:** 1974

Telephone: 965 241 186 • **E-mail:** alicantech@oblatas.com

Diocese Oviedo

Congregation: Adoratrices del Santísimo Sacramento • **City:** Gijón

Name of project: Centro Sicar • **Year started:** 2001

Telephone: 985 334 709 • **E-mail:** info@sicarasturias.org

Diocese Pamplona

Congregation: Villa Teresita-Auxiliares del Buen Pastor • **City:** Pamplona

Name of project: Villa Teresita-Pamplona • **Year started:** 1942

Telephone: 948 239 199 • **E-mail:** villateresitapamplona@yahoo.es

Diocese Salamanca

Congregation: Adoratrices del Santísimo Sacramento • **City:** Salamanca

Name of project: Jorbalán • **Year started:** 2001

Telephone: 923 212 012 • **E-mail:** salamanca@adoratrices.com

Diócesis Santander

Cáritas: Cáritas Santander • **City:** Santander

Name of project: Centro de la Mujer La Anjana • **Year started:** 1988

Telephone: 942 313 050 • **E-mail:** roperomujer.cdsantander@caritas.es

Diocese Santiago de Compostela

Congregation/Cáritas: Oblatas del Santísimo Redentor/Cáritas Santiago

• **City:** Santiago de Compostela

Name of project: Vagalume • **Year started:** 1990

Telephone: 981 585 515 • **E-mail:** pvagalume@gmail.com

Diocese Sevilla

Congregation: Adoratrices del Santísimo Sacramento • **City:** Sevilla

Name of project: Damaris • **Year started:** 1999

Telephone: 954 614 208 • **E-mail:** sevilla1@adoratrices.com

Congregation: Oblatas del Santísimo Redentor • **City:** Sevilla

Name of project: Al Alba • **Year started:** 2005

Telephone: 954 901 283 • **E-mail:** centroalalba@hotmail.com

Congregation: Villa Teresita-Auxiliares del Buen Pastor • **City:** Sevilla

Name of project: Villa Teresita-Sevilla • **Year started:** 1982

Telephone: 954 923 951 • **E-mail:** villateresitasevilla@yahoo.es

Diocese Tenerife

Congregation: Oblatas del Santísimo Redentor • **City:** Sta. Cruz de Tenerife

Name of project: La Casita

Telephone: 922 246 336 • **E-mail:** oblataslacasita@telefonica.net

Diocese Valencia

Congregation: Villa Teresita-Auxiliares del Buen Pastor • **City:** Valencia

Name of project: Villa Teresita-Valencia • **Year started:** 1978

Telephone: 963 920 853 • **E-mail:** villateresitavalencia@yahoo.es

Cáritas: Cáritas Valencia • **City:** Valencia

Name of project: Jere-Jere • **Year started:** 2001

Telephone: 963 153 287 • **E-mail:** jerejere.cdvalencia@caritas.es

Diocese Valladolid

Congregation: Oblatas del Santísimo Redentor • **City:** Valladolid

Name of project: Albor • **Year started:** 1998

Telephone: 983 250 148 • **E-mail:** oblatasvalladolid@hotmail.com

Diocese Zaragoza

Cáritas: Cáritas Zaragoza • **City:** Zaragoza

Name of project: Fogaral • **Year started:** 1988

Telephone: 976 440 200 • **E-mail:** fogaral@caritas-zaragoza.es

