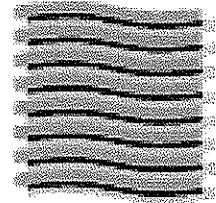


Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference
The BSPC Working Group on Civil Security



19 November 2010

Regarding trafficking in human beings

At the 18th Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference (BSPC), which was held during the summer of 2009 in Nyborg, Denmark, it was decided to launch a political working group on civil security/trafficking in human beings. The group consists of parliamentarians from national and regional parliaments in the Baltic Sea Region.

During the spring of 2010 the Working Group contacted various trade unions and employers' associations in the Baltic Sea States asking if these organisations have an action plan or program regarding the prevention of trafficking in human beings, and if they have made any initiatives that ensure the help to victims of human trafficking.

The overall conclusion from the answers that the Working Group received was that only a few initiatives have been taken, and there seems to be a need for a more focused effort regarding the prevention of human trafficking and the help to the victims.

Trafficking in human beings is very often associated with prostitution, but it is important to recognize that human trafficking is not just about sexual exploitation of women and girls. It is also about labour exploitation of both sexes, adults as well as children. Human trafficking and forced labour exist in all kinds of professions and industries. It is the conviction of the Working Group that the unique position of the trade unions and employers' associations, with their broad contacts with a wide range of sectors, enables them to make an important effort regarding the prevention of human trafficking.

Against this background, the Working Group would like to ask if it would be possible for your organization to incorporate the prevention of human trafficking on its agenda. The Working Group is very interested in having a dialogue with the trade unions and the employers' associations and welcomes any initiatives for further steps and discussion. You are most welcome to contact the Working Group at the address mentioned below.

On behalf of the BSPC Working Group on Civil Security/Human Trafficking

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Chairman of the Working Group

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