


Hello,

Welcome to **Week 21 MSCOS Community of Practice Update**, For those just joining us, we are a community of stakeholders, including professionals with lived experience, working across all disciplines offering forums for *sharing perspectives and linking practice* related to delivery of the **Modern Slavery Core Outcome Set**.

Look out for features on members speaking about their work, news of forthcoming online events, and also further academic research projects related to **MSCOS**. Check out this week's news, features, online pages and moderated **discussion forums**.

WE ARE HIRING!

	<p><u>MS-COS Community of Practice Facilitator Helen Bamber</u></p> <p>We are approaching the deadline for applications – Sept 29th!</p> <p>The MSCOS Community of Practice is seeking to recruit a part-time Facilitator who can join our friendly team and take us forward, using skills in web design, podcasting and social media as well as communications, administration and record-keeping.</p> <p>If the JD fits you, make sure you apply 😊</p>
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THIS WEEK'S FEATURE:

This week our feature is on national responses to [Safety from Any Trafficker or Other Abuser](#), which is a foundational requirement for all other **MSCOS Core Outcomes**. Below, we feature the new report [Trafficking in Human Beings in Ireland : The second Evaluation Report on the progress made and actions undertaken by the State to address and combat human trafficking, in all its forms](#) by Ireland's **National Rapporteur on Human Trafficking**. We consider the role of **National Rapporteur (or equivalent)**, a fully operational **multi-agency National Referral Mechanism**, and forthcoming amendments to the [EU Anti-Trafficking Directive](#) which can be found here: [European Commission Proposal amending Directive 2011/36/EU](#) and is in summary further below.

Please see below also for information on Shiva Foundation's new report, [Understanding the Potential of Licensing Frameworks and Teams to Tackle Modern Slavery in the UK](#) and webinar series, as well as [Step Up Cyprus: Joining Efforts to Combat Human Trafficking – A Criminal Justice Response](#)



In terms of national responses to trafficking, [Safety from Any Trafficker or Other Abuser](#) requires that each country has an **effective, multi-agency NRM**; and the *sustained appointment* of an **Independent National Rapporteur on Human Trafficking** or equivalent role. A National Rapporteur has the ability to scrutinise all relevant sectors, gathering information and guidance, reporting on issues and statistics and monitoring national progress in combatting human trafficking.

[Safety from Any Trafficker or Other Abuser](#)

Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner



Dame Sarah Thornton
IASC: 2019 –2022



Kevin Hyland OBE
IASC: 2014-2018

The role of the [Anti-Slavery Commissioner \(IASC\)](#) as set out in the **2015 Modern Slavery Act** is to encourage good practice in the prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of slavery and human trafficking offences and the identification of victims.

The UK has had two Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioners so far, both of whom consulted regularly and acted upon guidance from frontline practitioners across all related disciplines and survivor leaders, as well as stakeholders involved in policy, legislation and government.

The role has been vacant since Sarah Thornton's departure in April 2022. This role needs to be functional and sustained to further progress and build upon the UK's national and international anti-trafficking responses and ensure advocacy for the rights of victims and survivors. A lack of central and effective representation results in setbacks and gaps in protection.

Across the anti-trafficking sector, stakeholders agree that it should be a priority for the UK Government to ensure that a Commissioner with fully independent capabilities is appointed without further delay.

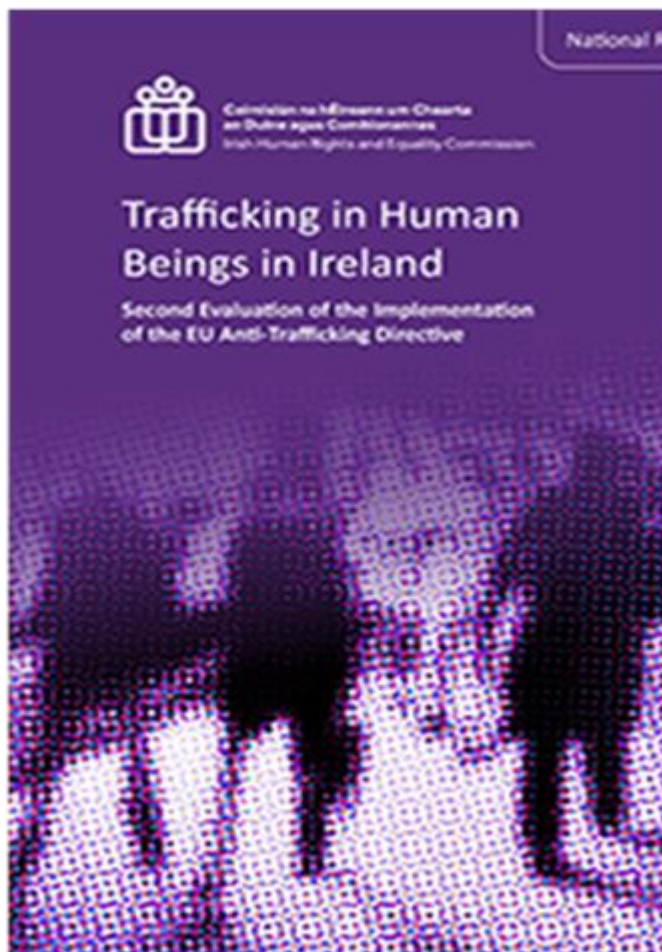


Coimisiún na hÉireann um Chearta
an Duine agus Comhionannas
Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission

In October 2020, the [Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission](#) was designated Ireland's National Rapporteur on Human Trafficking.

It is tasked with providing 'independent and meaningful oversight of the State's actions to combat human trafficking and to protect victims by highlighting the strengths, gaps, and identifying trends in the overall response. In addition to gathering data and measuring results, the Commission endeavours to contribute to the positive developments in the area aimed at achieving full compliance with modern human rights standards, as well as proactively responding to emerging and unforeseen issues.'

[Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission](#)



[Trafficking in Human Beings in Ireland: The second Evaluation Report on the progress made and actions undertaken by the State to address and combat human trafficking, in all its forms](#) is a resource for national policy makers, practitioners, researchers, and the general public.

It examines the pressing and emerging trends in trafficking, including **how technology is facilitating trafficking; the increase in labour exploitation and the impact of the war in Ukraine on increasing the risk of trafficking.** It details the drafting of a **new anti-trafficking National Action Plan**, the launch of the **Third Domestic, Sexual and Gender-based Violence Strategy** (recognising human trafficking as a form of gender-based violence) and the publication of the **General Scheme Criminal Justice (Sexual Offences and Trafficking) Bill**, establishing a **National Referral Mechanism (NRM)**. It assesses actions and outcomes undertaken during the reporting period (2022) with reference to the articles of the [EU Anti-Trafficking Directive](#) (see below)

The report's approach is centred in distinct procedures for adults and children, with reference to the international [OSCE/ODIHR NRM Handbook](#) and stating that *"Ireland's new NRM is an essential part of the anti-trafficking framework. Providing for a victim-centred identification pathway with clear assistance and support to victims in statute is significant. In this regard, the Commission will continue to advocate for the equal treatment of victims, regardless of their nationality, immigration circumstances or international protection claims."*



[European Commission Proposal amending Directive 2011/36/EU](#)


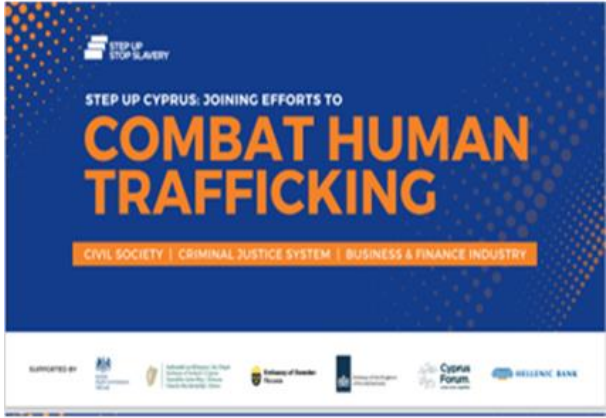
EU Anti-Trafficking Directive and proposed amendments

[Directive 2011/36/EU](#) ('the EU Anti-Trafficking Directive') provides a comprehensive legal framework for EU Member States, covering criminalisation of the offences, prevention, as well as protection in the criminal justice process, assistance and support. **Article 19** obliges EU Member States to **establish national rapporteurs (or equivalent mechanisms)** to assess trends, measure results of anti-trafficking actions, gather statistics and report.

Proposed amendments to Anti-Trafficking Directive include:

- Adding forced marriage and illegal adoption among the forms of exploitation explicitly covered in the Directive;
- Explicitly referring to the misuse of the internet, social media, to commit trafficking offences; strengthening the sanctions for companies (Legal persons) held accountable for trafficking offences introducing a mandatory sanctions regimes;
- Formalising the National Referral Mechanisms, which deal with identification of victims and their referral to protection, assistance and support services;
- Requiring Member States to criminalise the knowing use services exacted from victims of trafficking in human beings;
- Formalising an annual data collection on trafficking indicators.

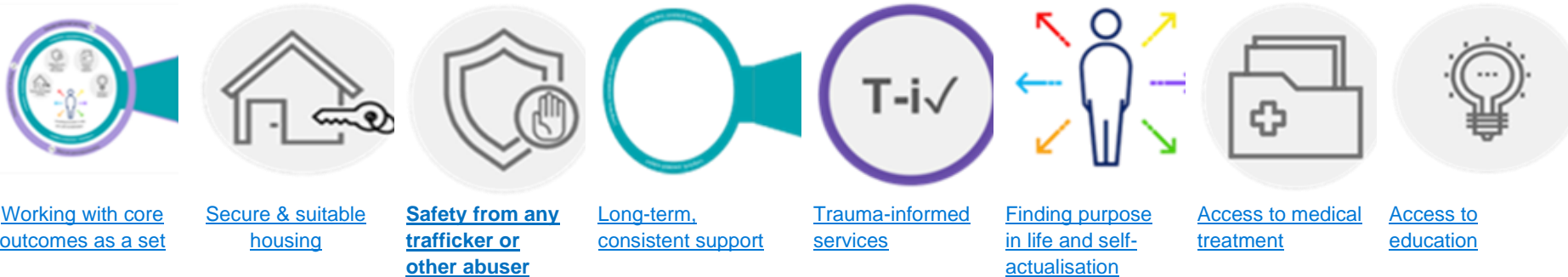
LOOK OUT FOR:

 The logo for the Shiva Foundation, featuring the word "SHIVA" in a large, stylized font with a blue-to-purple gradient, and "FOUNDATION" in a smaller, grey font below it.	<p>In the next update: we continue our focus on licensing in a discussion with Phillipa King, Managing Director of Shiva Foundation on the new report, <u>Understanding the Potential of Licensing Frameworks and Teams to Tackle Modern Slavery in the UK</u></p> <p>Join Shiva's deep dive into three key areas with specialist guest speakers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. <u>Empowering licensing teams</u> - Tuesday 10th October (1-2pm)2. <u>How to raise awareness amongst licence holders</u> - Thursday 12th October (1-2pm)3. <u>Partnership working with law enforcement</u> - Tuesday 17th October (1-2pm)
 A blue poster with white and orange text. At the top left, it says "STEP UP STOP SLAVERY". Below that, "STEP UP CYPRUS: JOINING EFFORTS TO COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING". At the bottom, it lists "CIVIL SOCIETY CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM BUSINESS & FINANCE INDUSTRY". The bottom of the poster features logos for various supporting organizations, including the Ministry of Labour, the Cyprus Forum, and Hellenic Bank.	<p>We will also be sharing news from <u>Step Up Cyprus: Joining Efforts to Combat Human Trafficking – A Criminal Justice Response</u>, which brings together stakeholders from civil society, criminal justice, finance and industry, together with international stakeholders to encourage the full establishment and implementation of a National Referral Mechanism (NRM) in Cyprus.</p>

DID YOU KNOW?

If you've joined our mailing list recently, over the last **21 weeks** we have covered a variety of outcomes, highlighting best practice models and frameworks. You can access them in PDF [here](#). Please forward MSCOS to any colleagues or network connections that you think may be interested in our work, and they can sign up to receive newsletter invites via our contact form [here](#), or by direct email to mscos@kcl.ac.uk.

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www.mscos.online



The **MSCOS Community of Practice** is hosted by the Helen Bamber Foundation, working in collaboration with **MSCOS project partners**: Kings College London, Survivor Alliance, University of Nottingham Rights Lab and the University of East London. It was devised as an integral component of the MSCOS study at Kings College London by Dr Sian Oram and Dr Sharli Paphitis, with the MSCOS Research Advisory Board, and was designed and established by Rachel Witkin and Queenie Sit.