KOK launches Twitter account

29/6 KOK newsletter 2/2020

20/6 World Refugee Day

trafficked minors' organised by the

24/6 Online seminar 'Introduction to

human trafficking among refugees'

as part of the KOK project 'Refugees and

awareness raising and protection'

29/6 EU Civil Society Platform on

Combatting Trafficking in

Human Beings

trafficking in human beings - prevention,

16/6 Working group

'Accommodation options for

International Social Service

Beings and Migration' with Studio 36 and KOK in Berlin

Hitzke (KOK Board/Dortmunder Mitternachtsmission)

amendments to Section 62c of the Residence Act [Aufenthaltsgesetz] - Complementary detention in preparation for departure

27/7 Press release on World Day

and Rights'

30/7 World Day against

1/7 Germany takes on

Siobhán Mullally becomes new UN special Rapporteur on trafficking in

16/7 Podcast 'Trafficking in Human

30/7 Podcast 'Discussions on asylum' by the Refugee Law Clinic and Andrea

16/7 Position statement on planned

against Trafficking in Persons

30/7 Publication of KOK's new book 'Trafficking in human beings in **Germany - Reflections on Protection**

Trafficking in Persons

EU Council presidency

10/8 Istanbul Convention Alliance Press release 'Preventing a massive influx by strengthening the Istanbul Convention'

28/8 Position statement in preparation for a report to the **National Regulatory Control** Council on Section 406g of the **German Penal Procedure Code** [Strafprozessordnung] and legislation on psychosocial support during court cases

11/8 Online training course organised by the AWO association on 'Human trafficking among refugees an introduction to trafficking in human beings and its impact on counselling work'

19/8 Virtual meeting of the Government-Länder Working Group on Trafficking in Human Beings

20/8 Online seminar 'Introduction to trafficking in human beings among

as part of the KOK project 'Refugees and trafficking in human beings - prevention, awareness raising and protection'

8/9 'Human trafficking among refugees - guidelines for better support for trafficked persons', jointly published by the AWO association and KOK

1/9 First State Report by Germany to GREVIO on the implementation of the Istanbul Convention

≾ 1/9 Virtual networking event organised by KOK

focusing on identification of trafficked persons

4/9 Constituent assembly of the **KOK Advisory Board**

16/9 Symposium on trafficking in human beings and labour exploitation organised by Diakonie Hamburg, talk by KOK

22/9 Expert discussion on trafficking in human beings and the SDGs at the Belgian Embassy in Berlin,

talk by Sophia Wirsching

25/9 Plenary working session of the **CEDAW Alliance Germany**

29/9 Plenary session of Forum Menschenrechte

1/10 Position statement on the Government's bill amending the Freedom of Movement Act/EU and a other legislation in line with EU law

14/10 Press release on EU Anti-Trafficking Day

18/10 KOK Report 'Defining the gap: data collection in the context of trafficking in human beings and exploitation in Germany - KOK's civil society approach'

18/10 EU Anti-Trafficking Day

5/10 Hearing on the Government's current bill amending the Freedom of Movement Act/EU and other legislation in line with EU law before the Bundestag Committee of Internal Affairs.

KOK appears as an expert

6/10 'Identifying trafficking in human beings in Thuringia and taking action symposium organised by EPCAT, OSTnet and Refugio Thurinigia, talk by KOK

15-16/10 Second KOK general assembly (online),

FIZ Switzerland becomes extraordinary member of KOK, discussions included topics such as the impact of the coronavirus on the work of specialised counselling centres

21/10 Virtual meeting of rapporteurs on trafficking in human beings and civil society stakeholders under the auspices of the EU Anti-Trafficking Coordinator talk by KOK

KOK Information Service 'Behind closed doors - female domestic workers trafficked for the purpose of labour exploitation and forced labour'

Policy Paper 'Identifying trafficked refugees: describing the problem and recommendations'

25/11 International Day for the Elimination of Violence against

3/11 Training course 'Human trafficking among refugees' organised by the AWO association for officers involved in asylum proceedings consultations

17/11 Online press conference with ECPAT. KOK and BKSF on the European Day on the Protection of **Children against Sexual Exploitation**

26/11 Joint virtual workshop organised by KOK and the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees Discussions between counselling centre staff working with trafficked persons and the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees special representatives in charge of cases of victims of trafficking in human

German NGO Network against Trafficking in Human Beings

ANNUAL REVIEW 2020

JULY 2020 **JUNE** 2020 SEPTEMBER 2020 OCTOBER 2020 NOVEMBER 2020 Dear readers,

As the coronavirus pandemic is raging across the globe, it is aggravating preexisting crises, and this is also true for trafficking in human beings. Sudden unemployment and lockdown measures have led to a dramatic rise in poverty. The risk of being exploited, for example as a result of debt, closed borders, bans on carrying out specific jobs or a lack of alternative means of subsistence, is much higher than a year ago.

Many people have seen a decline in their quality of life and are finding it more and more difficult to enforce their rights and receive protection. Throughout the lockdown, our colleagues working for specialised counselling centres showed an incredible level of creativity, flexibility and commitment, managing to find solutions to carry on supporting their clients despite often limited resources and IT equipment. Protecting the health of clients and their support workers is, and will remain, crucial.

The work of these specialised counselling centres was highlighted by two publications produced in the past year. KOK's book Trafficking in human beings in Germany - Reflections on Protection and Rights was launched on World Day against Trafficking in Persons.

In October, we also published *Defining the gap: data collection in the field of trafficking in human beings and exploitation in Germany – KOK's civil society approach.* Both are key publications in the field of trafficking in human beings and exploitation in Germany.

Throughout the year, we also published various position statements on bills to highlight the specific challenges faced by trafficked persons and ensure the demands of specialised counselling centres are heard by the Federal Government. Thanks to this work, proposed changes, which would have had negative impacts on trafficked persons, have been abolished in the amendment of the Act on the General Freedom of Movement for EU Citizens [Freizügigkeitsgesetz/EU]. This measure would have had a disproportionately negative impact on many EU citizens, including trafficked persons.

Many of the planned networking, training and awareness-raising events had to be held online. By offering online training courses and virtual conferences, we were able to address trafficking in human beings and exploitation in a very new way. Although these formats are certainly workable options, they cannot entirely replace face-to-face meetings and personal encounters, which are crucial for any anti-trafficking work with partners. We very much look forward to resuming personal contact soon, hopefully next year.

We thank you for your interest in our work.

Sophia Wirsching, KOK Office

THE KOK IS FUNDED BY



Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth

EVEN POLITICAL EVEN

Second KOK newsletter on forced migration and trafficking in human beings sent to the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF) Special Representatives for victims of trafficking in human beings

3/12 Constituent assembly of the National Council against Sexual Violence against Children and Young People

3/12 Training course on trafficking in human beings and exploitation for police officers as part of the 'Basic module for witness protection measures' conducted by the State Office of Criminal Investigations of Hamburg and Lower Saxony

5-6/12 Meeting of the EU Civil Society Platform on Combatting Trafficking in Human Beings in Brussels 17/1 Bill on penalising cyber grooming attempts adopted by the German Bundestag

16-17/1 Annual meeting of Forum Menschenrechte

20/1 Meeting of the Government-Länder Working Group on Trafficking in Human Beings/Labour Exploitation

20/1 Meeting of the 'Violence against Women Support Hotline' Advisory Board

22-23/1 Victim Support and Victim Protection Day, organised by the Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection

22 and 28/1 KOK online seminar
Introduction to trafficking in human beings - understanding the context, identifying and protecting trafficked persons'

for government officials in charge of the registration procedure as per the German Act on Sex Worker Protection

20.2. World Day of Social Justice

1-2/2 Meeting of the KOK office and board

7/2 German Istanbul Convention
Alliance Meeting

18/2 Expert discussion between KOK and representatives of the Federal Police Force and the German Federal Criminal Police Office

19/2 Forum in preparation of the 64th session for the UN Commission on the Status of Women organised by UN Women and the National Council of German Women's Organizations at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

≥ 11/3 Publication of the
List of Issues Prior to Reporting by
the CEDAW Committee

20/3 KOK joins the Alliance for Legal Security

4/3 Press release 'Better protection for women against labour exploitation and forced labour' on International Women's Day

12/3 'No to European asylum rights reform at the expense of people, human rights and border countries' – joint declaration by 21 NGOs including KOK

8/3 International Women's Day

3/3 Evening on women's rights organised by the Social Democratic Party of Germany (SPD) parliamentary group for International Women's Day

4/3 Training course at the German Federal Criminal Police Office on trafficking in human beings/labour exploitation

5-6/3 First KOK general assembly, discussions included topics such as strategies to establish a national rapporteur on trafficking in human beings within the German Institute for Human Rights, the new compensation legislation and collaboration with NGOs in Romania upon the return of affected individuals

given by Claudia Robbe (FIZ/KOK board)

1/4 KOK newsletter 1/2020

9/4 KOK press release 'The rights of trafficked persons should not be ignored during any crisis'

3/4 First virtual plenary working session of the CEDAW Alliance Germany

24/4 Virtual PICUM general assembly, discussions included topics such as the impact of the pandemic on undocumented migrants

28/4 First virtual meeting of Forum Menschenrechte's Working Group on the Rights of Women and LGBTI* GAATW submission on the draft 'CEDAW Recommendations on

Trafficking in Human Beings'

KOK submission for the 3rd progress report on the implementation of EU anti-trafficking Directive 2011/36

4/5 Virtual meeting of
KOK's Working Group on
Data Protection and
Data Collection

07/05 Virtual meeting of the PICUM Working Group on 'Fair work'