



German NGO Network against
Trafficking in Human Beings

DECEMBER 2024 – NOVEMBER 2025



ANNUAL REVIEW
2025



Dear readers,

The year 2025 was marked by efforts to set the political direction in combatting trafficking in human beings and exploitation. With the adoption of the National Anti-Trafficking Action Plan (NAP THB) and the National Action Plan against Labour Exploitation and Forced Labour (NAP LE/FL), the Federal Government has set important measures in motion. KOK

has closely followed the process and published its assessment from a civil society perspective.

The two action plans provide the first comprehensive framework that brings together measures from various government departments. However, prerequisites for maximising their impact include clear responsibilities, adequate resources, and a binding implementation strategy between the Federal Government and the state governments. KOK calls for greater transparency in setting priorities and timelines, as well as for stronger coordination efforts. This is the only way to ensure that the right approaches are implemented in practice and that trafficked persons genuinely benefit.

Practice-based insights reveal the long-standing commitment of specialised counselling centres. Our members' anniversaries reflect decades of experience, dependable structures, and a continuous dedication to protecting and supporting trafficked persons.

Congratulations to all our specialised counselling centres: BEMA (15th anniversary), IN VIA Brandenburg (15th anniversary), KOOFRA (25th anniversary), FRANKA (25th anniversary), Nachtfalter (35th anniversary), FIZ (40th anniversary), Hydra (40th anniversary), and FIM (45th anniversary)!

Tasks are growing more complex, but funding remains precarious. Reliable, long-term support for trafficked persons depends on secure and sustainable funding for specialised counselling centres.

In the coming year, KOK will continue to work towards closer alignment between political measures, the legal framework, and practical support. Only in this way can the rights of trafficked persons be truly upheld.

Thank you for your interest and support.

Against trafficking in human beings – For human rights!

Sophia Wirsching, KOK Executive Director

Funded by:



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

13/12 25th KOOFRA anniversary
Coordination Centre against Trafficking
in Women

3/12 KOK Database of Case Law report:
Insights into criminal law decisions

18/12 KOK demands for the 2025
Federal elections

19/12 KOK Annual Review 2024

2–3/12 EU Civil Society Platform
against Trafficking in Human Beings
meeting

Brussels

5/12 Expert Forum on Trafficking in
Human Beings and Forced Prostitution
in North Rhine-Westphalia at the
Ministry for Children, Youth, Family,
Equality, Refugees and Integration of
the State North Rhine-Westphalia
*Trafficking in Human Beings 2.0 –
Digitalization in Context Trafficking in
Human Beings*

lecture, Düsseldorf

9/12 German Istanbul Convention
Alliance Meeting (BIK)

online

EVENT

POLITICAL EVENT

PUBLICATION

ANNIVERSARIES

15/1 Discussion with Federal Minister of the Interior Nancy Faeser and representatives of Forum Menschenrechte

Berlin

16–17/1 Forum Menschenrechte annual meeting

Wuppertal

27–28/1 KOK office and board meeting

KOK

JANUARY 2025

13/2 Comparison of the Federal election manifestos with KOK demands

23/2 Federal elections

3/2 and 18/2 Training on Trafficking in Human Beings for staff of the Adina Hotels chain

in cooperation with Claudia Robbe (KOK board/FiZ) and Margarete Mureşan (KOK board/IN VIA Berlin), online

10–12/2 Second Catholic Symposium against Trafficking in Human Beings, The Bishops' Conference of Germany Trafficking in Human Beings working group
Berlin

17/2 Meeting with KOK advisory board
online

20–21/2 Deutscher Sozialgerichtstag conference
Kassel

26/2 KOK Talk series: *Pursuing claims for damages in court*
online

8/3 Feminist Action Day**4/3 Discussion on Trafficking in Human Beings in the Context of the Feminist Migration Policy Conference, GIZ**

Berlin

KOK

12/3 Training for pension office staff/case managers in the context of the German Social Code, Part XIV

in cooperation with the Service Centre against Labour Exploitation, Forced Labour and Human Trafficking, online

13/3 Participation in the Social Democratic Party of Germany's Women's Policy Discussion marking Feminist Action Day

Berlin

KOK

17/3 KOK working group meeting on the implementation of the revised EU Anti-Trafficking Directive**17–19/3 DISRUPT 2025 Conference*****Breaking the Chain: Using Online Evidence to Tackle Trafficking***

lecture by Dr. Adina Schwartz (KOK Board/JADWIGA), Malta

KOK

24/3 Training for Violence against Women Helpline counsellors on Trafficking in Human Beings and Exploitation

in cooperation with the Women's Counselling Centre Düsseldorf, Cologne

27–28/3 KOK General Assembly

Berlin

31/3–1/4: 25th OSCE Conference of the Alliance against Trafficking in Persons

Vienna

EVENT

POLITICAL EVENT

PUBLICATION

ANNIVERSARIES

10/4 KOK Newsletter 01/2025

4/4 Training *Introduction to Trafficking in Human Beings and its Links to Refugee Movements and Asylum* for IOM Return Counselling Centres
in cooperation with the specialised counselling centre NADESCHDA, online

28/4 German Institute for Human Rights (DIMR) board meeting
Berlin

29/4 KOK Talk series: *Pursuing Claims for Damages and Compensation for Pain and Suffering before the Civil and Criminal Courts*
online

APRIL 2025

14/5 Press release 20th anniversary of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings – Taking Human Rights Obligations Seriously

KOK 6/5 Workshop for KOK member organizations on IT security for clients and councellors

in cooperation with Forensik.IT GmbH, Berlin

10/5 Workshop on violence, trafficking in human beings and exploitation in sex work at the pro familia conference *Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights of Sex Workers*

Workshop by Andrea Hitzke (KOK Board/Dortmunder Mitternachtsmission), Offenbach am Main

KOK 14/5 Training for pension office staff/case managers in the context of the German Social Code, Part XIV
in cooperation with the Service Centre against Labour Exploitation, Forced Labour and Human Trafficking, online

22/5 DIMR advisory board meeting, Trafficking in Human Beings Reporting Office
online

23/5 Advisory board meeting, Violence against Women Helpline
online

KOK 28/5 Training at the Bavarian Civil Service College, Police Department: *Introduction to the Topic of Trafficking in Human Beings in the Context of Refugee Movements*
online

24/6 KOK statement on the *National Anti-Trafficking Action Plan (NAP THB)* and *National Action Plan to Combat Labour Exploitation and Forced Labour (NAP LE/FL)*

2/6 Participation in the workshop at Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs on the Implementation of the NAP LE/FL with Claudia Robbe (KOK Board/FiZ), Berlin

2–3/6 KOK training and networking event on the topics of *learning from each other in the KOK network* and *networking with the BAG Homeless Aid* Berlin

4/6 Training for the German Federal Police on *Trafficking in Human Beings and Victims' Rights. Cooperation between the Federal Police and specialised counselling centres* together with Dr. Adina Schwartz (KOK Board/JADWIGA), online

23/6 BAG Homeless Aid Migration Conference 2025 lecture, Leipzig

23–24/6 Joint information stand with the JADWIGA specialised counselling centre at the 30th German Prevention Congress Augsburg

24/6 Launch event at the Federal Ministry for Education, Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth on the *National Anti-Trafficking Action Plan* lecture together with Margarete Mureşan (KOK Board/IN VIA Berlin), Berlin

24/6 Meeting of the joint Government-Länder Working Group on Trafficking in Human Beings at the Federal Ministry of Education, Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth Berlin

24–25/6 UN Voices of Resilience – Global Forum for Human Trafficking Survivors participation Dr. Adina Schwartz (KOK Board/JADWIGA), Vienna

10/7 KOK Newsletter 02/2025

**14/7 New edition of the KOK flyer
*Specialised Counselling Centres for
Trafficked Persons***

**28/7 Press release *World Day against
Trafficking in Persons: KOK warns of
protection loopholes in European
refugee policy***

**29/7 KOK statement on the *Draft Law
to Modernize and Digitize the Fight
Against Illegal Employment***

**30/7 World Day against Trafficking in
Persons**

**14/7 Launch workshop of the sub-work-
ing group of the joint Government-
Länder Working Group on trafficking
in human beings to develop a National
Referral Mechanism**

led by KOK and the National Rapporteur on
Trafficking in Human Beings within the
German Institute for Human Rights, online

**17/7 Launch meeting of the KOK
working group to develop a concept
for a central online contact point for
trafficked persons
online**

EVENT

POLITICAL EVENT

PUBLICATION

ANNIVERSARIES

9/8 40th Anniversary of the UN Women's Rights Convention in Germany

25/8 25th FRANKA anniversary

25/8 Release of new KOK website

KOK 20/8 Meeting with KOK advisory board online

25/8 Training at the Refugee Law Clinic on Migration Law Challenges, Berlin

**25/8 Lecture *Acting Against Trafficking in Human Beings* as part of the anniversary celebration of FRANKA
Kassel**

KOK 27/8 KOK Talk series: *Social Benefits Received by trafficked persons*, online

AUGUST 2025

4/9 15th Anniversary of Berliner Beratungszentrum für Migration und Gute Arbeit (BEMA)

19/9 45th Anniversary of FIM – Women's Rights are Human Rights

23/9 40th Anniversary of Hydra

12/9 Article in the journal Kriminalistik *Cooperation between Authorities and Civil Society in the Field of Trafficking in Human Beings*

30/9 KOK handout *Quality Standards for Specialised Counselling Centres Working with Trafficked Persons*

1/9 German Federal Criminal Police Office special training course on Trafficking in Human Beings lecture, Wiesbaden

9/9 joint Government-Länder Working Group on combatting Labour Exploitation and Forced Labour at the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs Berlin

17–19/9 Anniversary Conference of La Strada International *30 Years Anti-Trafficking Work in Europe & Supporting Victims' Rights* Warsaw

22/9 Panel on *The Impact of the Reformed EU Anti-Trafficking Directive on Child and Youth Welfare* by the National Council against Sexual Violence against Children and Adolescents Berlin

30/9–1/10 Workshop *Trafficking in Human Beings and the Internet* by the Federal Criminal Police Office project THB LIBERI II Mainz

18/10 40th Anniversary of FIZ Fachstelle Frauenhandel und Frauenmigration

29/10 35th Anniversary of Nachtfalter – Specialised Counselling Centre

2/10 KOK handout *Safety in Dealing with Smartphones and Social Media – Recommendations for Safe Everyday Online Use in Specialised Counselling Centres for Trafficked Persons*

14/10 KOK Data Report 2025 and press release *New data on Trafficking in Human Beings and Exploitation for the Year 2024*

16/10 KOK Newsletter 03/2025

18/10 EU Anti-Trafficking Day

7–8/10 UNODC Constructive Dialogue on Trafficking in Persons

participation Dr. Adina Schwartz (KOK Board/JADWIGA), Vienna

14/10 Lunch Talk presenting the report *Data Collection in the Context of Trafficking in Human Beings and Exploitation in Germany: Survey Period January–December 2024* together with Claudia Robbe (KOK Board/FiZ), online

23–24/10 Workshop of the sub-working group of the joint Government-Länder Working Group on Trafficking in Human Beings to develop a National Referral Mechanism led by KOK and the National Rapporteur on Trafficking in Human Beings within the German Institute for Human Rights, Berlin

27–28/10 KOK General Assembly online

1/11 15th Anniversary of IN VIA Coordination and Counseling Center for Women Affected by Trafficking in Human Beings in the State of Brandenburg and IN VIA Street Work in the State of Brandenburg and the cross-border region of Poland

**19/11 Aide-Mémoire, Forum Menschenrechte
*The Impact of the Recognition of Safe Countries of Origin on the Situation of Victims of Forced Marriage using the Example of the Balkan States***

27/11 KOK statement on the *German Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection Draft Act to Strengthen the Criminal Prosecution of Trafficking in Human Beings and Sexual Exploitation and to Implement EU Anti-Trafficking Directive 2024/1712*

**5/11 KOK Talk series: *Special Residence Permits for Trafficked Persons*
online**

**5/11 Working Plenary of the CEDAW Alliance Germany
Berlin**

**11–12/11 *Nürnberger Tage für Migration 2025*, Federal Office for Migration and Refugees
Nuremberg**

12/11 KOK working group meeting on the implementation of the new EU Anti-Trafficking Directive

19/11 Training on Recognising Trafficking in Human Beings, NetSWork Specialist Counselling together with Andrea Hitzke (KOK Board/Dortmunder Mitternachtsmission), online

19–21/11 Federal Conference of the BAG Homeless Aid lecture by Andrea Hitzke (KOK-Vorstand/Dortmunder Mitternachtsmission), Berlin

**21/11 Training for Violence against Women Helpline counsellors
in cooperation with the Dortmunder Mitternachtsmission, Cologne**

**27/11 IN VIA Brandenburg Symposium
lecture, Potsdam**