

## **Committee: Social Humanitarian and Cultural Committee**

### **Issue: Eliminating slave trade of immigrants and refugees in Libya**

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**Position: Co-Chair**

### **Introduction**

The slave trade in Libya is a very crucial and at the same time complex issue, which affects thousands of immigrants and refugees who try to reach Europe. The issue was brought into light when CNN published an exclusive report including recorded footage of men auctioned for as little as \$400 each in November 2017, indicating how migrants are being sold by smugglers there. Apart from the inhuman living conditions characterizing detention centers in Libya, refugees and immigrants trapped there are highly susceptible to human trafficking, since many smugglers send them across the Mediterranean and sell them to buyers that use them as manual labor. As you can imagine, the standards of labor conditions are very low, their basic human rights are violated and their health is threatened as well.

The key geographical position of Libya, which can be clearly seen in figure 3, has made this country the main transit point for refugees and migrants trying to reach Europe by sea, with more than 150,000 having crossed Libya in 2015-2017 and more than 3000 having died according to the International Organization for Immigration (IOM). In addition to the abundance of vulnerable migrants, the political and socioeconomic instability in the country contributes largely to the slave trade taking place with a failed government incapable of solving the issue. Taking into account the high numbers of refugees getting involved in slave trade, the impact it will have in their lives as well as the insufficient current efforts towards combatting the problem, it is vital that the international community finds ways to support refugees in Libya and ensure the interruption of slave trade.<sup>1</sup>



**Figure 1: Slave trade in Libya**

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<sup>1</sup> Figure 1: Quackenbush, Casey. "Libyan Slave Trade: Here's What You Need to Know." Time, Time, 1 Dec. 2017, [www.time.com/5042560/libya-slave-trade/](http://www.time.com/5042560/libya-slave-trade/)

## Definition of Key-Terms

### Slavery

The term slavery is defined as the “ownership or control over another's life, coercion and the restriction of movement and by the fact that someone is not free to leave or to change an employer”.<sup>2</sup>

### Slave trade

The term slave trade refers to the capturing, selling, and buying of slaves.<sup>3</sup>

### Migrant Smuggling

“Smuggling of migrants is a crime involving the procurement for financial or other material benefit of illegal entry of a person into a state of which that person is not a national or resident.”<sup>4</sup>

In other words, migrant smuggling occurs when a migrant voluntarily agrees to pay an amount of money to a smuggler in order to illegally cross an international border and enter another country. People who are smuggled are often prone to crimes such as human trafficking and abuse, as they are illegally present in the country of destination.

### Human trafficking

“Human trafficking involves recruitment, harboring or transporting people into a situation of exploitation through the use of violence, deception or coercion and forced to work against their will”.<sup>5</sup>

It is very important to clarify the difference between human “trafficking” and “smuggling”, as the two terms are often referred to interchangeably. While trafficking is an exploitation-based offense against a person and does not require any kind of transportation, smuggling is transportation-based and requires movement across international borders. Moreover, “smuggling” typically needs the consent of the migrant involved, while “trafficking” is involuntary. However, many smuggled people become victims of human trafficking, when they are held and forced into the labor or sex trade in the country of destination.

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<sup>2</sup> UNESCO definition

<sup>3</sup> Britannica, The Editors of Encyclopaedia. “Slave Trade.” Encyclopædia Britannica, Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc., 13 Apr. 2018, [www.britannica.com/topic/slave-trade](http://www.britannica.com/topic/slave-trade).

<sup>4</sup> United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes (UNODC) definition

<sup>5</sup> “What Is Human Trafficking?” Anti-Slavery International, [www.antislavery.org/slavery-today/human-trafficking/](http://www.antislavery.org/slavery-today/human-trafficking/).

### Refugee

A refugee is “someone who has been forced to flee his or her country because of persecution, war, or violence”.<sup>6</sup>

### Migrant

The term migrant is defined as “A person who moves from one place to another, especially in order to find work or better living conditions”.<sup>7</sup>

The difference between migrant and refugee is that the former voluntarily leaves the country, while the latter is practically forced to leave because of war or violence.

### Internally displaced person (IDP's)

Internally displaced people are individuals who have to flee their homes without leaving their country because of armed conflicts, natural disasters, mass human rights violations or situations of violence. Remaining under the protection of their country's government IDP's move to nearby areas in order to find better humanitarian standards and security.

### Asylum Seeker

An asylum seeker is someone whose request for sanctuary has yet to be processed. Every year, around one million people seek asylum.<sup>8</sup>

### Detention center

The term “detention center” refers to a place (for example a camp) where individuals who have illegally crossed an international border can be kept for short periods of time.

## **Background Information**

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<sup>6</sup> United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) definition

<sup>7</sup> “English Dictionary, Thesaurus, & Grammar Help | Oxford Dictionaries.” Oxford Dictionaries | English, Oxford Dictionaries, en.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/migrant).

<sup>8</sup> UNHCR definition

### Migration and Detention Centers in Libya

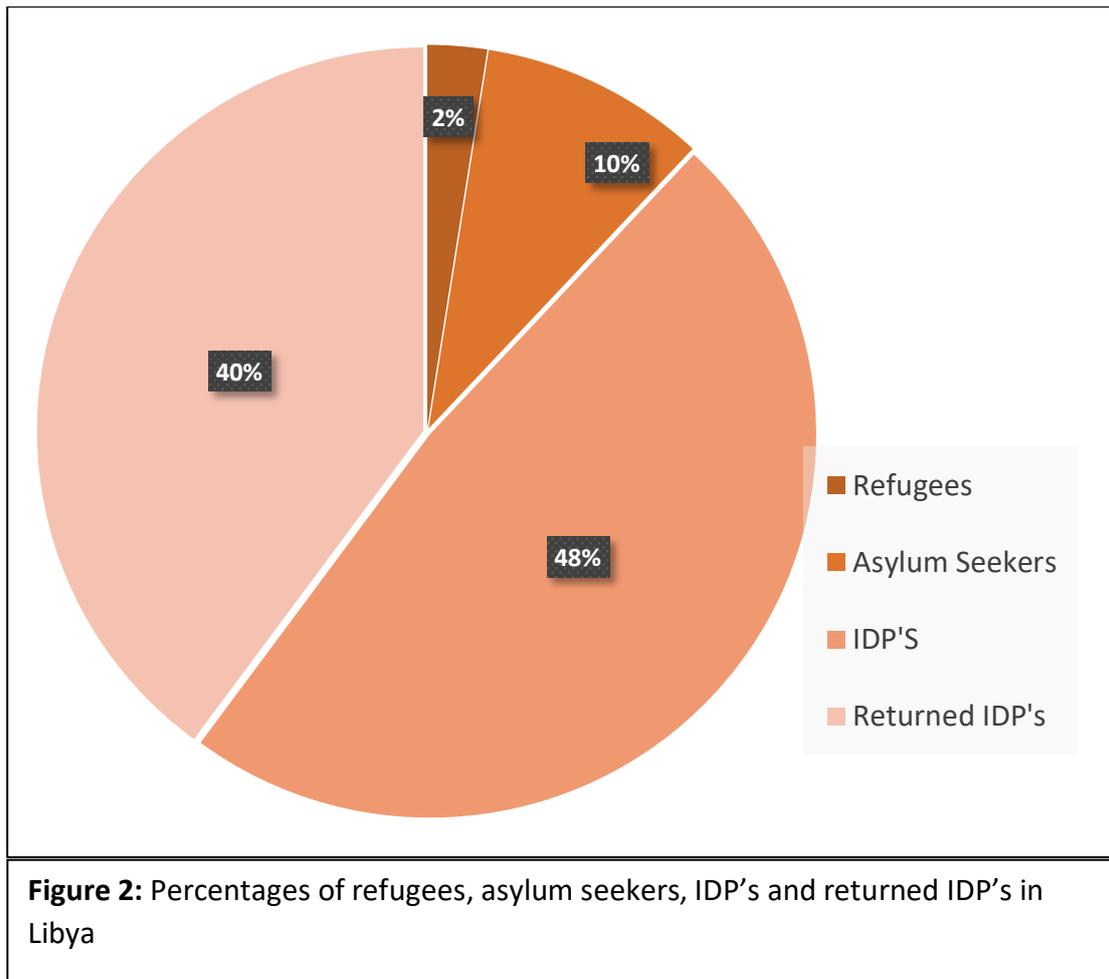
As mentioned before, Libya is currently facing one of the most complex migration crises in the world. The violent conflicts and the instability since October 2014 has caused massive internal displacement. According to the International Organization for Migration (IOM), more than 348,000 Internally Displaced People (IDPs) have been identified and located in Libya, while more than 1.3 million people in total are in need of humanitarian aid, especially in the east and south. In January 2017, IOM reported that 363,348 migrants reached Europe by sea in 2016, with 90% of them having departed Libya. The route between Libya and Italy proved to be the most dangerous one, with 4,579 dead or missing people in 2016. Moreover, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has reported 40,112 refugees and asylum seekers, coming from Syria, Palestine, Eritrea, Somalia, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Sudan, Iraq, Mali, Senegal and Ivory Coast and aiming to reach Europe through Libya.

According to the Libyan law, all irregular migrants, refugees and asylum seekers (including “non-citizens who have entered the country without a valid visa, overstayed their residence permit, had their visa revoked, and/or had been sentenced to expulsion by a court”<sup>9</sup>) are susceptible to being arrested and held in detention centers, also known as “holding centers”. Such centers were firstly established in early 2000s, but the conditions and living standards started deteriorating in 2011, when the Libyan civil war began and more than 500,000 people became displaced. After 2011 uprising, militias and revolutionary brigades took over some detention centers, operating them without official control. International organizations, such as the Human Rights Watch (HRW) as well as the United Nations have raised multiple concerns about the conditions in detention centers in Libya. “The increasing absence of oversight at detention facilities, the involvement of militias in detaining foreigners, the lack of any legal process providing for detention, corruption and anti-black racism at detention facilities are some of the factors leading to the highly inhuman situation that refugees, migrants and asylum seekers have to deal with”.<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> 2017, August, et al. “Libya Immigration Detention Profile | Global Detention Project | Mapping Immigration Detention around the World.” Global Detention Project, [www.globaldetentionproject.org/countries/africa/libya](http://www.globaldetentionproject.org/countries/africa/libya).

<sup>10</sup> 2017, August, et al. “Libya Immigration Detention Profile | Global Detention Project | Mapping Immigration Detention around the World.” Global Detention Project, [www.globaldetentionproject.org/countries/africa/libya](http://www.globaldetentionproject.org/countries/africa/libya).



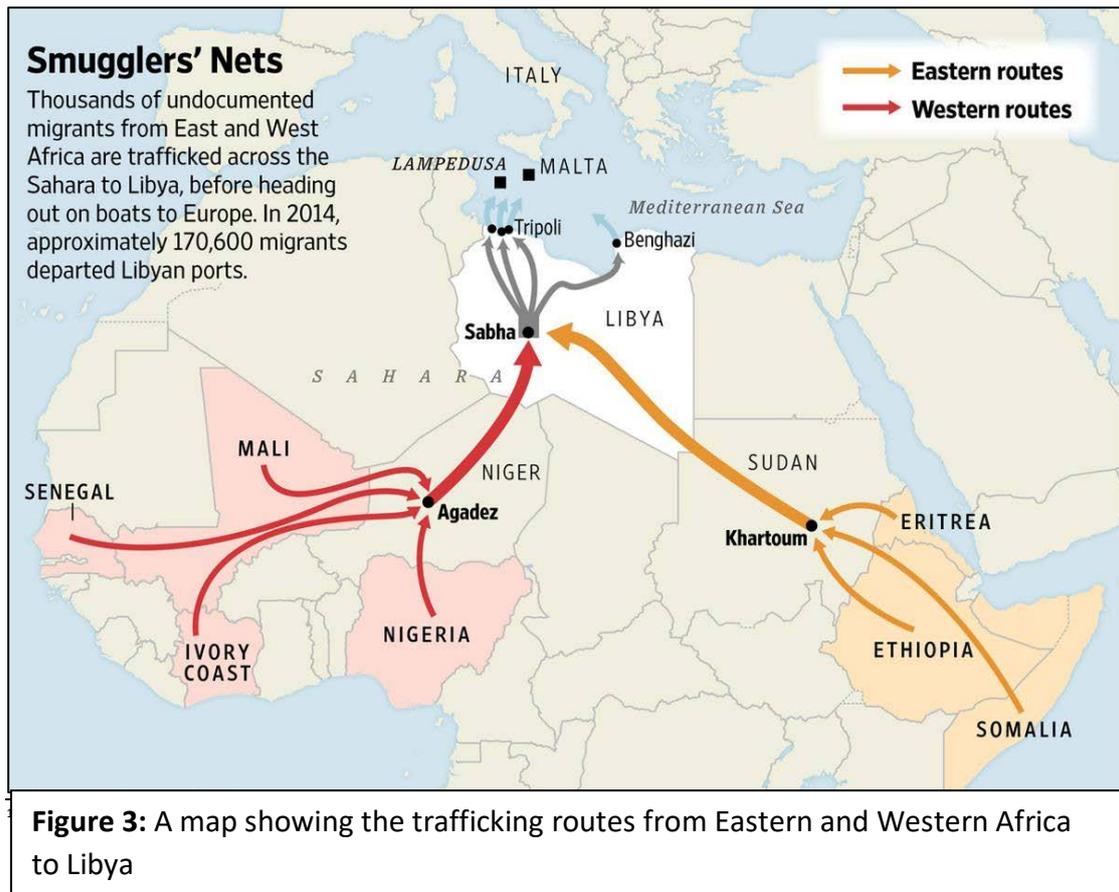
<sup>11</sup>More than 7,000 migrants, refugees and asylum seekers are being held in detention centers, without knowing if and when they will be released. Having little access to food, water and medical care, the humanitarian standards they live in are more than insufficient. Starting their journey with a hope for a better future, they find themselves in such camps, in which the poor infrastructure and sanitation, the lack of access to fresh air as well as the extreme numbers of people concentrated there, put their health in danger. In addition to the lack of necessities and sanitation, the human rights of the refugees and immigrants trapped there are violated, as they become victims of torture, raping, violence and slave trade. After visiting nine detention centers in 2014, Human Rights Watch (HRW) reported that male guards in government-controlled centers strip-searched women and girls and brutally attacked men and boys, including severe whippings, beatings, and electric shocks.<sup>12</sup>

As mentioned before, the political instability as well as the corruption of the country has a huge impact on detention centers. When Human Rights Watch visited a detention camp in 2014, an Eritrean migrant said that he had to pay \$1,000 to

<sup>11</sup> Data used in figure 2: "Libya." Nigeria 2017 Regional Refugee Response Plan | Global Focus, [www.reporting.unhcr.org/node/12003](http://www.reporting.unhcr.org/node/12003)

<sup>12</sup> "Libya: Whipped, Beaten, and Hung from Trees." Human Rights Watch, 9 July 2014, [www.hrw.org/news/2014/06/22/libya-whipped-beaten-and-hung-trees](http://www.hrw.org/news/2014/06/22/libya-whipped-beaten-and-hung-trees).

guards at Gharyan detention center to be freed, “while in a written testimony to Terre des Hommes in Sicily in 2014 a young migrant from Gambia wrote that he had been kidnapped by “armed robbers” colluding with police upon arrival in Libya after crossing the desert and given a telephone to contact his parents who had to pay for his liberation”.<sup>13</sup> Moreover, it has been found that even legal migrants have been set at detention centers due to disagreement with abusive employers, while in other cases work without payment was forced in exchange of release.



<sup>13</sup> 2017, August, et al. “Libya Immigration Detention Profile | Global Detention Project | Mapping Immigration Detention around the World.” Global Detention Project, [www.globaldetentionproject.org/countries/africa/libya](http://www.globaldetentionproject.org/countries/africa/libya).

<sup>14</sup> Figure 3: [globalsentinelnews1](http://globalsentinelnews1.com). “EUs Policy of Helping Libya Intercept Migrants Is Inhuman-UN.” Global Sentinel, 18 Nov. 2017, [www.globalsentinelng.com/2017/11/18/eus-policy-helping-libya-intercept-migrants-inhuman-un/](http://www.globalsentinelng.com/2017/11/18/eus-policy-helping-libya-intercept-migrants-inhuman-un/).



**Figure 4:** Illegal immigrants are seen at a detention center in Zawiyah, 45 kilometers west of the Libyan capital Tripoli, on June 17, 2017

*Note: I would recommend you to watch the following videos, including interviews with people kept in detention centers in Libya, so as to further familiarize yourselves with the situation there:*

- ✓ vicenews. YouTube, YouTube, 15 Sept. 2015, [www.youtube.com/watch?v=h3f380cYIPM](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h3f380cYIPM).
- ✓ vicenews. YouTube, YouTube, 16 Sept. 2015, [www.youtube.com/watch?v=aCCuOq xv8FU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aCCuOq xv8FU).
- ✓ vicenews. YouTube, YouTube, 19 Mar. 2015, [www.youtube.com/watch?v=TlpLRYTG9RQ](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TlpLRYTG9RQ).

### The impact of slave trade in Libya

Slave trade has a tremendous impact not only on the victims and their families but also on the wider society. Although slave trade highly affects the economy of Libya (in ways such as loss of human resources the country could have at its disposal) and causes further political instability, this study guide aims to focus on the social and the humanitarian aspect of the issue. Some of the most important consequences of slave trade are the following:

- **Violation of human rights:** Victims' basic human rights, such as freedom from slavery, right to life and freedom from torture, are completely violated, since

<sup>15</sup> Figure 4: Newsroom. "Rwanda Praised for Libya 'Slaves' Offer." *Alleastafrica*, 4 Dec. 2017, [www.alleastafrica.com/2017/12/04/rwanda-praised-libya-slaves-offer/](http://www.alleastafrica.com/2017/12/04/rwanda-praised-libya-slaves-offer/)

the people enslaving them force them to do hard work for many hours and use inhumane ways to punish them, if they oppose their demands.

- **Physical health issues:** Such inhumane working conditions expose them to health problems, as the inappropriate working environment and the exhausting conditions usually cause injuries or even deaths. In addition to that, the poor sanitation and shortage of water and food increase the risk of infectious diseases. All these health issues do not only affect victims, who may suffer from chronic diseases, but also wider populations too, as such conditions can even lead to infectious disease outbreaks.
- **Mental Health:** Both victims trapped in enslavement and survivors from such activities suffer multiple traumas and psychological problems during their entire life. Anxiety, insecurity, fear and physical pain have an important impact on the mental health of the victims. Symptoms of psychological trauma reported by trafficked persons include post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, sadness, disorientation and hopelessness about the future. Families of the victims may also suffer from psychological problems.
- **Stigma:** Victims of slave trade may face social disapproval and be confronted with a stigma in general.
- **Financial burden:** The enslavement of a member of a family, who may also be the only one making money (what we call a “breadwinner”), poses many financial problems.

## Major Countries and Organizations involved

### Libya

Located in the Maghreb region of North Africa and bordered by the Mediterranean Sea, Libya has a key geographical position, which attracts many refugees and migrants wishing to reach Europe. A political crisis is plaguing the country and causes instability and violence, as two governments, the UN-backed Government of National Accord (GNA), based in Tripoli and the Interim Government, also known as National Transitional Council (NTC), based in eastern Libya, compete for legitimacy and territorial control. Conflicts between forces and militias supporting the two authorities have ravaged the country’s economy and public services, including the public health system, law enforcement, and the judiciary, and have led to the internal displacement of over 200,000 people. “The Department for Combating Illegal Migration (DCIM), which is part of the GNA-aligned Interior Ministry, controls the formal migrant detention centers, while smugglers and traffickers ran informal ones”<sup>16</sup>, in which most crimes and violations of human rights are reported.

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<sup>16</sup> “World Report 2018: Rights Trends in Libya.” Human Rights Watch, 18 Jan. 2018, [www.hrw.org/world-report/2018/country-chapters/libya](http://www.hrw.org/world-report/2018/country-chapters/libya).

## Italy

Due to its geographical position, the majority of African refugees and migrants reach Italy in order to continue their journey to other European countries. Italy has agreed to help the Libyan coastguard by training, equipping and financing it in order to facilitate the safe return of migrants to Libya. The European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) alleges that Italy's plan to support the Libyan coastguard, which has forced thousands of people to return to Libya, is inhuman, as refugees and migrants are often subjected to beatings, starvation and slave trade.

## European Union (EU)

The European Union has been particularly active in Libya in order to prevent refugees and migrants from dangerous journeys to and from Libya, put an end to slave trade and human trafficking, and protect migrants in accordance with the international law. All efforts of the EU to solve the issue are conducted in cooperation with the United Nations and international organizations working in this field. "The EU in collaboration with the African Union and United Nations set up a joint Task Force to accelerate the plan of the International Organization for Migration for assisted voluntary returns from Libya to countries of origin and the emergency transit mechanism of the UNHCR, to evacuate people in need of international protection"<sup>17</sup>. However, The EU policy has been intensely criticized, as it is believed that the idea of helping Libyan authorities intercept people trying to cross the Mediterranean and hold them in detention centers is inhuman.

## African Union (AU)

While slave trade in Libya is an issue that affects many African countries, the contribution of the African Union is very important. The African Union has asked for "an investigation on the Libyan authorities regarding the 'slave markets' of African migrants"<sup>18</sup> and has collaborated with the European Union multiple times to find feasible ways to support Libya.

## United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes (UNODC)

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes was established in 1997 and is a United Nations office, which works to put an end to the issues of illicit human trafficking and abuse of drugs, international terrorism and political corruption and to prevent through the required legislation crimes in general. "The work that UNODC

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<sup>17</sup> "EU ACTION IN LIBYA ON MIGRATION." "PDF." [https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/sites/homeaffairs/files/what-we-do/policies/european-agenda-migration/20171207\\_eu\\_action\\_in\\_libya\\_on\\_migration\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/sites/homeaffairs/files/what-we-do/policies/european-agenda-migration/20171207_eu_action_in_libya_on_migration_en.pdf)

<sup>18</sup> rim.haidar. "United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime." Strengthening Capacity to Counter Terrorism in Nigeria, [www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/index.html](http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/index.html).

does to combat human trafficking and the smuggling of migrants is underpinned by the United Nations Convention on Transnational Organized Crime and its protocols on trafficking in persons and migrant smuggling<sup>19</sup>. The “Subregional Programme Office for the Maghreb Countries” is the part of UNODC responsible for Libya.

#### International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Established in 1951 the International Organization for Migration collaborates with governmental, international and non-governmental organizations, focusing on the humane and orderly migration worldwide. Since 2014, IOM has ensured the safe return of 3,045 migrants coming from more than 20 countries and in response to the humanitarian crisis plaguing migrants and refugees in Libya, IOM has distributed basic necessities, as well as health products to people in need. In addition, IOM has offered humanitarian support to plenty of migrants found in the Mediterranean through the provision of clothing, non-food products, psychological support and health care.

#### United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

The United Nations High Commissioner for refugees (UNHCR) is a UN program, which aims to save refugees, ensure their rights and build a better future for them. Established in 1950, it is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland and has won the Nobel Peace Prize twice, once in 1954 and once in 1981. In 2017, UNHCR managed to visit and monitor all official detention centers in Libya, offered 49,240 non-food products to migrants and refugees in detention centers and released 1,430 asylum-seekers and refugees from such centers.

#### Human Rights Watch (HRW)

Human Rights Watch is an international Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) that presses governments, organizations and human rights abusers to respect human rights. Established 40 years ago, HRW’s task is the accurate fact-finding and the impartial reporting in cooperation with local human rights groups. Human Rights Watch publishes annually more than 100 reports on human rights conditions in more than 90 countries. Human Rights Watch works with the United Nations, its Members and regional groups such as the African and European Union to promote globally human.

#### Anti-Slavery International

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<sup>19</sup> “Libya Slave Trade.” CNN, Cable News Network, 28 Nov. 2017, <https://edition.cnn.com/specials/africa/libya-slave-auctions>.

Anti-Slavery International is an international Non-Governmental Organization (NGO), which was established in 1839. It is the oldest human rights organization. Based in the United Kingdom, it organizes projects in Europe, Africa and Asia and its campaigning work covers the whole world. In collaboration with local organizations, Anti-Slavery International works to end slavery by ensuring the freedom of those affected by slavery and pressing for efficient implementation of laws against slavery.

### Timeline of Events

1839	Establishment of Anti-Slavery International
December 10 <sup>th</sup> , 1948	Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) is adopted by the UN General Assembly
1950	Establishment of United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
1951	Establishment of International Organization for Migration (IOM)
September 1 <sup>st</sup> , 1969	Muammar Gaddafi becomes the leader of the country
November 2000	Adoption of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime Adoption of the Palermo Protocols
March 2007	Establishment of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons (ICAT) Establishment of the United Nations Global Initiative to fight Human Trafficking (UN.GIFT.HUB)
2010	Beginning of Arab Spring in Tunisia Establishment of the Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Human Trafficking
September 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2011	Establishment of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSML)
October 2014	Beginning of second civil war in Libya
October 2017	A CNN team travels to Libya and witnesses men auctioned for as little as 400\$ each
November 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2017	CNN publishes a report indicating how migrants are being sold by smugglers
November 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2017	Libya starts investigating slave markets operating in the country

### UN involvement: Relevant resolutions, treaties and events

## The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime

It was adopted in November 2000 by the UN General Assembly and is the main international instrument in the fight against transnational organized crime, including human trafficking and migrant smuggling. Along with the Convention, there are three Protocols, dubbed the Palermo Protocols, which try to tackle specific areas and manifestations of organized crime:

1. The Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children;

Adopted by the General Assembly resolution 55/25 of November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2000, and entered into force on December 25<sup>th</sup>, 2003, it assists Member States in strengthening national anti-trafficking strategies and providing the necessary means to implement them. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) is responsible for implementing the protocol.

2. The Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air;

Adopted on November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2000, and entered into force on January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2004, this protocol is aimed to protect the rights of migrants and the reduction of the influence of organized criminal groups that abuse migrants.

## United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL)

Established on 16 September 2011 by UN Security Council Resolution 2009 (2011), UNSMIL is a political mission to assist Libya's new transitional authorities in their post-conflict reconstruction efforts. UNSMIL condemned slave trade of migrants and refugees after the CNN report, which showed migrants being sold for 400\$.

## Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)

Adopted by the UN General Assembly on 10 December 1948 in France the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) is a document which includes 30 articles "affirming an individual's rights which, although not legally binding in themselves, have been elaborated in subsequent international treaties, economic transfers, regional human rights instruments, national constitutions, and other laws."<sup>20</sup> The Universal Declaration starts by recognizing that "the inherent dignity of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world" and includes civil and political rights, such as the right to freedom from

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<sup>20</sup> "Universal Declaration of Human Rights." United Nations, United Nations, [www.un.org/en/universal-declaration-human-rights/](http://www.un.org/en/universal-declaration-human-rights/).

slavery and the right to free speech and privacy. Economic, cultural and social rights, like the right to education are also granted.

#### Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Human Trafficking

Established in 2010, the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons provides legal, humanitarian and financial help to victims of human trafficking through the coordination of governmental, international, and local organizations.

#### The Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons (ICAT)

Established in March 2007 by the resolution 61/180, the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons (ICAT) targets to improve cooperation between UN agencies and other relevant international organizations so as to prevent and combat human trafficking.

#### United Nations Global Initiative to fight Human Trafficking (UN.GIFT.HUB)

Established in March 2007 by the United Nations, the Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking (UN. GIFT) aims to combat human trafficking as well.



**Figure 5:** A Libyan coastguardman stands on a boat carrying migrants off the coastal town of Zawiyah

### Previous attempts to solve the issue

<sup>21</sup> Figure 5: France-Presse, Agence. "UN Evacuates Refugees to Italy from Libya for First Time." The National, The National, 23 Dec. 2017, [www.thenational.ae/world/mena/un-evacuates-refugees-to-italy-from-libya-for-first-time-1.689918](http://www.thenational.ae/world/mena/un-evacuates-refugees-to-italy-from-libya-for-first-time-1.689918).

There have been many attempts by the international community to put an end to the slave trade taking place in Libya in recent years. More specifically, the African Union has asked for an investigation on the Libyan authorities in November 2017<sup>22</sup> and has focused on the evacuation of migrants, especially women and children, from the Libyan camps, while the European Union has taken many measures to support Libya. In May 2014, the European Union adopted the EU Integrated Border Management Assistance Mission in Libya in order to improve the security of the country's borders. In May 2015, the European Union launched the Common Security and Defense Policy (CSDP) creating the European Union Naval Force — Mediterranean Operation Sophia (EUNAVFOR Med—Sophia), to counter human trafficking and smuggling in the Central Mediterranean. EU's missions as well as the Italian Coastguard have also been engaged in training the Libyan Navy and Coastguard to improve their ability to perform search and rescue activities, disrupt smuggling and trafficking actions and boost the overall security in Libyan territorial waters.<sup>23</sup> Moreover, following the shocking report of CNN, published in November 2017, the U.N.-backed Libyan government has launched a formal investigation into the allegations, aiming to both convict those responsible for these inhumane acts and identify the location of victims so as to bring them to safety and return them to their countries of origin.<sup>24</sup> Libya has also agreed to open a transit center for vulnerable refugees, where they can stay before they are resettled or sent to a third country, and to allow the International Organization for Migration to frequently visit detention camps, where refugees and migrants face inhumane conditions.<sup>25</sup> Finally, as mentioned in the previous part of the study guide, international organizations, such as the International Organization for Migration (IOM), in collaboration with the United Nations, have been particularly active in solving the issue through the provision of financial, humanitarian and legal assistance.

## Possible solutions

There is much that can be done by the international community in order to protect refugees and migrants and eventually interrupt the slave trade taking place in Libya. Delegates should consider the following aspects, in order to create effective and implementable resolutions:

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<sup>22</sup> AfricaNews. "African Union Calls for a Probe into Libya 'Slave Market'." Africanews, Africanews, 21 Nov. 2017, [www.africanews.com/2017/11/21/african-union-calls-for-a-probe-into-libya-slave-market/](http://www.africanews.com/2017/11/21/african-union-calls-for-a-probe-into-libya-slave-market/).

<sup>23</sup> "EU-Libya Relations - EEAS - European External Action Service - European Commission." EEAS - European External Action Service, [eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage\\_en/19163/EU-Libya-relations](http://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage_en/19163/EU-Libya-relations).

<sup>24</sup> Said-Moorhouse, Lauren. "Libya Opens Investigation into Slave Auctions Following CNN Report." CNN, Cable News Network, 17 Nov. 2017, [edition.cnn.com/2017/11/17/africa/libya-slave-auction-investigation/index.html](http://edition.cnn.com/2017/11/17/africa/libya-slave-auction-investigation/index.html).

<sup>25</sup> Quackenbush, Casey. "Libyan Slave Trade: Here's What You Need to Know." Time, Time, 1 Dec. 2017, [time.com/5042560/libya-slave-trade/](http://time.com/5042560/libya-slave-trade/).

- **Raising awareness** —all people and especially the most vulnerable ones should be aware of the danger of getting involved in slave trade, their rights as well as the severe consequences their enslavement may have in their lives. Therefore, further campaigns, including workshops, informative events and the use of social and mass media should be organized.
- **Monitoring and investigating detention centers** —although the International Organization for Migration has managed to visit all government-run detention centers, many detention centers controlled by militias and human traffickers remain unmonitored and people’s rights there are highly violated. Therefore, the IOM, the UN, the EU, the HRW, and other organizations should ensure the investigation of all centers and the frequent report of the situation there.
- **Victim identification** —relevant committees and officials, including those working in detention centers, should be accordingly trained, so that they are able to accurately identify victims of slave trade.
- **Legal support** —it is crucial that international organizations support Libya’s judicial system and strengthen legislation against slave trade in order to ensure both the victims’ right to freely participate in legal proceedings and the punishment of people involved in such crimes.
- **Protecting slavery survivors** —taking into account the fact that slavery survivors suffer from multiple problems and are often vulnerable to re-enslavement, delegates should find feasible ways to protect them. Moving the enslaved people to a safe place, providing access to health care and other necessities, assessing their traumas and offering the necessary psychological support are some basic steps towards their protection.

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