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ΚΕΝΤΡΟ ΕΡΕΥΝΑΣ ΚΑΙ  
ΣΥΜΒΟΥΛΕΥΤΙΚΩΝ ΥΠΗΡΕΣΙΩΝ

## Seminar Invitation

### Trafficking in women for sexual exploitation: The mental effects on the victims

Wednesday May 9th  
8:30 - 13:00

UNESCO amphitheatre - University of Nicosia

Supported by



Ministry of Interior as Coordinating Body for Combating  
Trafficking in Human Beings



## **Trafficking in women for sexual exploitation: The Mental effects on the victims**

Trafficking in human beings is a human rights violation of global proportions that affects women, men, boys and girls. Women and girls are overwhelmingly (96 %) the victims of trafficking for purposes of sexual exploitation and the majority (75 %) of victims of trafficking for all purposes, while being 26 % of those trafficked for labour exploitation and 52 % of those trafficked for other forms of exploitation. In Cyprus, according to the [2017 Trafficking in Persons Report](#) of the US Department of State: "The government identified 21 trafficking victims, compared to 40 in 2015. Of these, 10 women were subjected to sex trafficking, three men to forced labor, and seven women and one man to forced criminality (16 men and six women to forced labor, 13 women to sex trafficking, two children and a woman to forced criminality, and two children to forced begging in 2015)". This makes this crime a gender specific one. It is evident that trafficking affects women, men and children in different ways and to differing degrees. According to the study 'The Gender Dimension of Trafficking in Human Beings (2016)' of the European Commission: *"The harms from trafficking are gender specific. The harms from trafficking for purposes of sexual exploitation are different from the harms from trafficking for purposes of labour and other forms of exploitation. Their seriousness is related to the specific ways that the bodies of trafficked women are abused. There are severe, brutal and long-term, gender-specific physical, gynaecological and mental health harms, risks to life and traumas from trafficking for purposes of sexual exploitation. Specialised service provision needs to be gender specific. It needs to take account of complex intersections with other forms of disadvantage and vulnerability. It needs to recognise the gender-specific longer recovery time from the harms of trafficking for purposes of sexual exploitation as compared with other forms. The provision of specialised services to victims of trafficking needs to be appropriate to their needs. These are different according to the form of trafficking to which they have been subjected, and hence gender specific"*.

This free half day seminar aims at deepening the knowledge of mental health professionals about sex trafficking. Mental health professionals will be equipped with up to date information that will assist them in supporting the victims of sex trafficking in a holistic way. The objectives of the seminar are to improve the coordination amongst the health professionals through the sharing of best practices between agencies in order to support victims more effectively.

***\*This invitation is open to up to 40 health care professionals including psychiatrists, psychologists, psychiatric nurses and other mental health professionals in public and private sectors in Cyprus.***

**RSVR BY 7 May 2018**

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## Programme

8.30- 9.00	Coffee and Registration
9.00- 9.15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ms Sanna Korpela, Clinical Psychologist and Program Manager, Psychosocial Support Specialist, Wellspring Association</li> <li>- Mr. Constantinos Petrides, Minister of Interior</li> <li>- H.E. Mr. Timo Heino, Ambassador of Finland to Cyprus</li> <li>- Mr. Christos Panayides, Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences UNIC</li> </ul>
9.15- 9.40	<p>Key note Speeches</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Setting the frame: Supporting sex trafficking victims in health care settings, Dr. Becca C. Johnson, Licensed Psychologist, International Training Director, Rescue: Freedom International</li> <li>- National Referral Mechanism: Cyprus Case. Ministry of Interior</li> </ul>
9.40-10.00	<p>Session 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- US Department of State: Trafficking in Persons Report, Hilary Marie Johnson, Political and Economic Officer, Embassy of the United States</li> <li>- Trafficking in Women for Sexual Exploitation, a form of violence against Women. Josie Christodoulou, Mediterranean Institute of Gender Studies (MIGS)</li> </ul>
10:00- 10:20	Coffee break
10:20- 12:20	<p>Workshops</p> <p>Led by Stella Petronda, Psy.D, Clinical Psychologist and Practicum Coordinator of the Doctoral Clinical Psychology program of the University of Nicosia and Tonia Loizidou, MSc, Clinical Psychologist and Psychotherapist at Cyprus Refugee Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Theme 1: Relation between medical and therapeutic support for victims – best practices at the moment</li> <li>- Theme 2: Coordination between governmental and services offered by NGOs</li> <li>- Theme 3: The biggest challenges in victim support in Cyprus –how to fill the gaps?</li> <li>- Theme 4: Multicultural aspect to mental health services</li> <li>-</li> </ul>
12:20- 13:00	<p>Moderated by Ms Sanna Korpela, Clinical Psychologist and Program Manager, Psychosocial Support Specialist, Wellspring Association</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Conclusions and Reporting of findings</li> <li>- Wrapping up and next steps</li> </ul>