40 days of Prayer
To Help End Human Trafficking in Europe
The Number 40 in the Bible

Whether it was 40 Days, 40 Nights or 40 Years, 40 always signified a period instigated by God where he was intensely at work, his purpose to perform. God at work in people, in communities, in kings, in governments and in nations.

What these periods of 40 all have in common, is that they resulted in a re-ordering, a period of restoration, of change, of new life occurring - A New Day.

Let us join as believers, as churches, as those working in this field of Human Trafficking and ask for God’s intervention which will hasten an end to the buying and selling of people in Europe and beyond.
Welcome to the European Freedom Network 40 Day Prayer Diary

Dear Reader – Thank you for praying with us.

The European Freedom Network is a strategic network of the Evangelical Alliance in response to the issue of Human Trafficking in Europe and in support of projects, ministries and members seeking to make a difference.

It is hoped that through participating with us in this concentrated period of prayer that you will gain a much better insight into this decade’s most prevalent global issue – Human Trafficking.

Each section of the Prayer Diary will have an introduction to the Region that you will be praying for and contain some simple prayer requests from just a handful of the organisations who are standing and working for change in those places.

Working at the coal face, giving love and care to the exploited and opposing organised crime can be a lonely place, working with some difficult and traumatic issues, often seeing change happen very slowly, one person at a time, one piece of legislation at a time, one court case at a time. It will provide a great deal of encouragement for the counter trafficking community to know that the churches across Europe are praying for us all to see a breakthrough.

Change is possible and we hope that you can feel that you are participants in this change through the next 40 Days and beyond.

Please pray for the work of the European Freedom Network and of its members.

On Behalf of the Adults and Children We Serve

Thank You

The European Freedom Network
PEOPLE TRAFFICKED ACROSS INTERNATIONAL BORDERS ANNUALLY:

600,000-800,000

>70% FEMALE
50% CHILDREN
THE FACE OF EUROPEAN TRAFFICKING

Trafficking is a relatively new word, though it is simply a way of describing a new dimension to a very old word – Slavery.

When you hear the word trafficking, it is perhaps simpler to just think Slavery. As while we are thinking of fresh strategies to combat this seemingly new global issue, as a movement of Gods people, we are more than familiar with how to respond and rise to action whenever this injustice comes to our attention.

For many nations whether they are in developing countries or in the developed world, they are discovering that this is not an ‘over there’ issue, but one which is on their own doorstep, either as a destination country, a country of supply or one where it is our own citizens who are those being exploited.

« 27 Million People are estimated to be currently enslaved as a result of trafficking and of these 1.2 Million new children are added to this number every year, that’s 2 children every 1 minute.
« Human Trafficking is the second largest of all organised crimes alongside guns and drugs and carries considerably smaller punishments and far fewer convictions.
« 90% of those trafficked into the EU are for sexual exploitation
« Many are trafficked for labour, begging, stealing, domestic servitude and sometimes organs
« 25% of those trafficked across international borders for sexual exploitation are from mainland Europe
« Of those 25% will be children

There are more people who are slaves in the world today than at any other point in history, however, there are far more of us to do something about it should we choose to do so.
The EU Anti-Trafficking Day has been established on 18 October of every year. The first Anti-Trafficking Day took place in 2007.

Anti Trafficking Day affords individuals, towns, cities and nations the perfect opportunity to raise awareness of the human rights violation which is the buying and selling of people. If this is the first time that you or your church have heard about this international day we are delighted that you are joining with us on the prayer journey. Can we encourage you to note the day in your Diary for next year and consider how you might make this issue more known in your community or how you might explore how you or your church can make a difference year round to help those caught in its grip or at risk of exploitation.

« Please pray for those who are lifting up a cry for justice in these days and are responding to this issue with Action

« Please pray for those who are caught in this exploitation that they would find hope in God to persevere and grow in the knowledge that they are not alone.

« Please pray for the Anti Trafficking movement that we would grow in our number, grow in our passion and strategies and that people in slavery would have a knowledge that there are those in pursuit of their freedom

« Consider becoming part of this movement for change this day.

“Never doubt that a small group of committed individuals can change the world, indeed it is the only thing that has.”

-Margaret Mead
19th October Region- Southern Europe

This region has the complexity of having many coastal waters and port towns which are known to be a critical element in the movement of people. Many of these countries will feature as destination, transit and supply countries as entry into mainland Europe, or as an exit point of European supply to a country of destination. Such places are also struggling with illegal migration and whilst a person’s journey may not have begun through trafficking, there are many waiting to force them into commercial slavery upon their arrival.

It is not uncommon for law enforcement, border authorities and port authorities to become overwhelmed by the sheer magnitude of the movement of people for exploitation. It is also not uncommon for some of them to be complicit in the trafficking process. Countries with collapsing or struggling economies are more likely to suffer from corruption and there will be more frequent instances of officials being complicit in trafficking or directly profiting. A common statement of survivors across the world is ‘how can I trust a policeman when he also uses the brothel’

Southern Europe is also a main area of entry for those being trafficked from Africa with Turkey being a significant crossing point. This section is a good place to highlight the dilemma of islands, surrounded by water they are an easy place of entry for traffickers and those being sold.

« Please pray for those who work to implement the law and who seek to see people having the freedom to move safely and legally across borders. Help them play a part in the identification of those who are being exploited so they can aid their journey towards freedom.

« Pray that God would enable those in the legal system to bring more Traffickers to justice as both low conviction rates and poor punishments remain an ineffective deterrent to traffickers

« Pray for Exploitation and Slavery of both adults and children to become unacceptable to the majority of every country’s population.
Cyprus is a beautiful country which in some respects is quite literally torn in two since the Turkish invasion over a conflict of sovereignty with Greece in 1974, which has led to a displaced Greek population in the south and a Turkish ruled north.

To a large degree the corruption and seemingly free reign of organised crime in the Turkish sector has made it a significant destination for traffickers and their trade in people, primarily for prostitution. The Greek south is impacted by trafficking primarily around the tourist season in the night club and bars which stretch across the coastal areas.

One issue that counter traffickers have identified is transient trafficking where traffickers will use readily available visa’s for ‘dancing and entertainment’ to ship girls in for forced prostitution before moving them onto other countries to continue their profitability at the end of the season.

« Please pray for those who are working in Cyprus with considerable risk to themselves
« Please pray that they are able to continue being strategic within the seasonal tidal wave of trafficking
« Please pray for the closure of legal loopholes which traffickers are using
You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy and to the poor, in your land.

Deuteronomy 15:11

Wellspring was formed in Limassol, Cyprus just over two years ago, by a group of individuals desiring to reach out to and help disadvantaged and marginalised people. Cyprus is currently one of the top destination countries for many trafficked women from all over the world and a constant stream of women are ‘supplied’ to cabarets, clubs, casinos and bars, and ultimately into the sex trafficking industry.

Ineffective implementation of the relevant laws and limited resources to set up the necessary task force have bogged down an already bureaucratic system and in many cases of women identified as victims of trafficking, justice does not prevail. This is further compounded by difficulties in accessing women working in clubs and cabarets, labelled as dancers or artistes, and a general lack of awareness and sensitisation to the real issue of human trafficking especially in the context of a relatively small island community.

Wellspring has come into contact with various women, victims of human trafficking and victims of circumstance alike, meeting with them and assisting them with the provision of basic necessities, medical treatment and offering love, acceptance and friendship.

Please pray for the Lord to grant wisdom and strength as we go forward with official registration of Wellspring with the local authorities, and that the hearts of all those we encounter will be touched by God’s unfailing love for them and know that in Him freedom can be found.

“A proverb is a short sentence – based on a long experience.”
Cyprus stands accused by the US state department of having the worst record for human trafficking in Europe. Estimates say as many as 4,000 women a year are lured to the island and forced to work as prostitutes. (ALJAZEERA)

We are a team of practitioners offering: Support, advocacy and aftercare for women and girls who have been exploited and trafficked in the sex industry in Cyprus.

- **SUPPORT** – walking alongside women on their journey of recovery from exploitation
- **ADVOCACY** - assisting women to regain their voice in situations of injustice
- **AFTERCARE** – continuing to walk alongside women on the longer more complex journey to build a new life

Please Pray…
« For Women and Children – Strength, salvation, protection, freedom & Justice
« For governments - Against corruption.
« For Traffickers – Conviction, repentance, salvation,
« For increased awareness- People to be stirred to action.

“I am only one, but I am still one.
I cannot do everything, but still I can do something.
And because I cannot do everything,
I will not refuse the something that I can do.”
Cinderella’s house (hogar cenicienta) is a residential community in Southern Spain where women who are escaping sexual exploitation can live for a season, while they are being restored to wholeness. Our Vision is to bring freedom, healing and new life to survivors of trafficking and sexual exploitation through an encounter with the Prince of Peace.

Our strategy is to offer a safe place for survivors of sexual exploitation to live for a period while participating in a program of holistic care provided by an interdisciplinary team. The program offers emotional, spiritual and physical healing from the painful wounds of the past, while helping develop realistic dreams for a future with dignity, offered through relationship with Christ. We wish to empower and equip our residents in all areas of life skills, vocational and on the job training, discipleship and mentoring to prepare them for a safe reintegration into the community.

While we have faced many challenges in our efforts to get this program off the ground, we have also seen God’s hand at work in miraculous ways. We are most grateful for His provision of a wonderful house in which to carry out this ministry, along with all the necessary permits.

Our biggest challenge at the moment is to find all the personnel/volunteers necessary to provide care around the clock and provide a full programme of care.

« Please pray for us as we enter the final stages of preparation before opening our doors.

“All men dream: but not equally. Those who dream by night in the dusty recesses of their minds wake up in the day to find it was vanity, but the dreamers of the day are dangerous men, for they may act their dreams with open eyes, to make it possible.”

-T.E. Lawrence
Even youths grow tired and weary and young men stumble and fall. But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles, they will run and not grow faint.

Isaiah 40: 30-31

Esclavitud XXI (Slavery XXI) is a small association in Spain working mainly in raising awareness about human trafficking and prostitution. There is a link between Esclavitud XXI and the Spanish Evangelical Alliance and we are also members of the Catalan Network against Human Trafficking. We’ve organised some public conferences and workshops in churches, schools, cultural centres and also in the media. We’ve made a report about human trafficking for sexual exploitation that was used in the Spanish and European Parliaments and we’ve also done some pressure campaigns like asking the newspapers to remove their prostitution adverts and to the chocolate companies asking them to use traffic free cocoa. Our main campaigns are on the chocolate industry and on sexual exploitation because there are about 400,000 women in prostitution within a population of about 45,000,000 inhabitants in Spain.

Please pray because for these issues:

« They are preparing an anti trafficking law in Spain and Esclavitud XXI suggested some items to be added or considered. Pray for wisdom to those who are preparing the law and that it become really effective.
« We are involved in a film tool called Nefarious and want to make the most out of it.
« So that Spaniards understand what is the reality behind prostitution.
« For all the victims so that they can recover their dignity and worth.

“One never notices what has been done; one can only see what remains to be done.”

-Marie Curie
25th October Bulgaria- Stara Zagora

Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.

Mathew 7:7

We are a small group of women located in Stara Zagora, Bulgaria, a central city and strategic area in the human trafficking arena. Bulgaria is a top “source” country for trafficking, particularly sex slavery. Stara Zagora, as well as several nearby cities, especially Sliven, are represented across Europe. Girls from these cities, in many cases, those from impoverished minority groups, such as Roma/gypsy, can be found working the streets and windows of major European cities.

We currently visit women working on the Stara Zagora ring road twice per week, offering coffee, snacks, conversation and encouragement, as we seek to bring God’s light and love to this place of darkness. While we as of yet have no official status, we have developed close relationships with a number of girls and have taken opportunities to offer practical help, such as hospital visits to the sick, clothing to the women and their families, individual times of prayer and fellowship to girls open and available for such meetings, to name just a few. We aspire to increase our sphere of influence in the local church by partnering with other organizations to work on prevention and awareness, offering a monthly prayer meeting against human trafficking, and seeing more women join us in our outreach and ministry.

« Please pray for us. Our dream is to have the resources to offer women a viable alternative to prostitution, and see their lives transformed as they meet the Saviour in a personal, life-changing way.

« Furthermore, and most importantly, we hope to protect the next generation of young girls (and boys) from the dangers of sex trafficking.

“God save us from hotheads who lead us to act foolishly, and from cold feet that would keep us from acting at all.”
Bulgaria, in the heart of Eastern Europe, is supplying Daughters to much of the western world, especially currently to Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany, and Austria. The Daughters of Bulgaria challenges believers to open eyes and hearts within our communities to what is happening to our country’s daughters who are being abused and bound in sexual slavery both here and abroad, to join together to combat their prostituting and trafficking, and to offer Hope and Help to these daughters and their families. We are a rather new effort that networks believers in the redemptive work of Jesus Christ - believers who are passionate about prevention/awareness, outreach, and walking with women on the path to wholeness. Members of the DofB are actively “showing up” on the ring roads around Sofia and Stara Zagora to interact with prostituted Daughters, are traveling to other countries’ to assist with interpretation of the Bulgarian language, are assisting with the repatriation of Daughters who want to come home, and are assisting with the translation and publication of materials.

Prayers for Daughters of Bulgaria:
« Pray as we seek to unite Bulgarian believers in efforts of awareness and prevention
« Pray as we continue to discover and define this networked bridge for our Daughters to cross from brokenness to wholeness
« Pray we are able to partner with Christian shelters by providing funds, material and people resources
« Pray as we assist with training and employment opportunities for Daughters at acute risk and who want to come home
« Pray too for contacts, good relationships, and support from the local and national police force. Thank you for holding us before the Throne of His grace!

“How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single minute before starting to improve the world.”

-Anne Frank
The Bulgarian anti-trafficking network was started 2 years ago under the Women’s department of the Bulgarian Evangelical Alliance (BEA) in order to connect and network evangelical churches, organizations and persons who are involved or interested in anti-trafficking.

Bulgaria is on the crossroad of the human trafficking map and is a country of origin and transit. With the opening of the country and the growing immigration, human trafficking for sexual exploitation is becoming a huge problem. There is also trafficking for labour exploitation, for organs and trafficking of babies. The government is trying to fight the problem, but there is a need for the whole society to be involved and particularly the churches.

The goal of BAN is to raise awareness for the problem in the churches and the society, to do prevention, to prepare the churches to accept and help victims of trafficking by organizing prayer meetings, prayer chains, training people to do prevention in schools, orphanages and the society. Organized groups will be involved in reaching and helping the victims of sexual exploitation.

« Please pray that the evangelical community will be aware of the problem and will be involved in preventing and fighting this evil of today.

“Don’t Count The Days, Make The Days Count.” - Muhammad Ali
A short walk from the Acropolis you can find yourself deep within one of many brothel areas or amidst the illegal but poorly controlled street prostitution. A quick read through a tourist guide to be found in most hotels and you will see that you are in a setting where the sexualisation of culture is deeply imbedded. There will be adverts for brothels and where to locate specific nationalities alongside adverts for restaurants or places of historical interest.

Mythology would seek to suggest that Greece is the birthplace of prostitution and its long acceptance has made Greece a considerable destination for Trafficked Europeans and Africans. There are a considerable number of Nigerians who have been trafficked into Greece, often with false documentation which can also mask that an 18 year old who can legally work in prostitution is frequently much younger. Most girls trafficked from Africa have been put through a voodoo initiation ritual which makes them feel totally trapped with the only hope of freedom being when they have paid off a fabricated dept which is being dangled like a carrot, always out of reach.

The brothel districts are busy with men frequently hopping between brothels in search of a new face as if to further indicate how these women are viewed solely as commodities for sale.

« Please pray for the Nigerian girls that they would be free from the bonds of voodoo which leave them full of fear and often unwilling to leave

« Pray for stability in the country which will enable law enforcement to focus more on issues of Trafficking and exploitation

« Pray for better understanding in the legal systems in Greece so that survivors are not re victimised in the court system
Nea Zoi (New Life) seeks the restoration of individuals involved in prostitution in Athens in Greece by addressing their physical, emotional, and spiritual needs through outreach work, relationship building, and developing exit strategies in partnership with the local church and cooperation with local and governmental initiatives.

Motivated by Christ’s love, we visit the red light districts of Athens many times each week. We offer friendship, advice and opportunities for change, believing that a relationship with a loving God is the foundation for lasting transformation. At our drop-in center and office during the week, we welcome women and men for conversation, counseling and prayer.

Our vision is to develop this space into an epicentre of rest, growth, and life, rooted in the local church and community, where those in prostitution in Athens can find restoration and new life. We desire to see holistic change - in souls, spirits and bodies of women and men in prostitution regardless of their journey into that life.

« Please pray for the dozens of people enslaved in prostitution to find freedom and to trust their lives in the hands of the Almighty God.

« Pray for His church to become a refuge for the broken hearted and exploited.

You can only take as much Kingdom into the world as resides in you.
There is still hope.

"I feel lost and extremely tired. Life has been unfair to me. I need to trust in people again and to make a life changing decision because I know there is still hope!"

With a tremble in her voice and eyes in tears 'M' is trying to avoid eye contact with me. Her facial expressions portray the pain that she has been carrying for such a long time.

"Never in my life have I experienced family life and love. I don 't know the feeling of a parent' s hug, love or protection. From a very young age I have been physically abused by my family. At the age of 12 my own father, after abusing me, physically raped me. This is when my life took a down turn. My father ended up in prison and I ended up in the orphanage. I am not sure which was worse, to be abused by my parents or by the people that were taking care of me in the orphanage.

So the orphanage took the place of my home, then street begging took the place of the orphanage, and shortly after, I got trapped in the net of prostitution. Since I was underage people took advantage of me and exploited me. I thought I could make and save some of my own money and then stop. How foolish was I? The chains were wrapping around me, taking away my freedom.

From there, I was taken to different European countries to practice prostitution, I was sold from pimp to pimp, I witnessed a murder and went through the painful experience of nearly 20 abortions. And all this before the age of 24."

Suddenly, she looks into my eyes and a huge smile brightens her face.

"As I talk to you, I remember all the bright moments and the Godly people that came in my life at different stages," says 'M', "people like you, who truly cared for me and wanted to help. Now I know, that not all the people are bad and want to make money from me. I know there is a brighter side to life and I need to find it. I have to break the chain and take the first step out. You give me hope and show me that I am worthy of a better life."

A Survivor In Greece
On liberty and Slavery

Alas! and am I born for this,
To wear this slavish chain?
Deprived of all created bliss,
Through hardship, toil and pain!

How long have I in bondage lain,
And languished to be free!
Alas! and must I still complain--
Deprived of liberty.

Oh, Heaven! and is there no relief
This side the silent grave--
To soothe the pain--to quell the grief
And anguish of a slave?

Come Liberty, thou cheerful sound,
Roll through my ravished ears!
Come, let my grief in joys be drowned,
And drive away my fears.

Say unto foul oppression, Cease:
Ye tyrants rage no more,
And let the joyful trump of peace,
Now bid the vassal soar.

Soar on the pinions of that dove
Which long has cooed for thee,
And breathed her notes from Afric's grove,
The sound of Liberty.
Oh, Liberty! thou golden prize,

So often sought by blood--
We crave thy sacred sun to rise,
The gift of nature's God:

Bid Slavery hide her haggard face,
And barbarism fly:
I scorn to see the sad disgrace
In which enslaved I lie.

Dear Liberty! upon thy breast,
I languish to respire;
And like the Swan unto her nest,
I'd to thy smiles retire.

Oh, blest asylum--heavenly balm!
Unto thy boughs I flee--
And in thy shades the storm shall calm,
With songs of Liberty!

George Moses Horton
Born into Slavery 1797

« Pray today for those men, women and children who continue to find themselves enslaved on European streets.
The countries in this region of Europe are primarily dealing with issues relating to destination and demand for trafficked persons. There has been considerable exploration of addressing prostitution laws as an attempt to impact the numbers being trafficked for sexual exploitation. Border enforcement has also been a critical issue to address. With the hub of the European Union being in Belgium it has become a focal point for collaboration and promoting European laws such as the EU Declaration on Human Trafficking. Many of those trafficked here are from Eastern Europe but there are also people trafficked from Africa and as far afield as South East Asia and Arabic speaking nations.

With Human Trafficking being one of the top 3 crimes of choice for criminal organisations, it is evident that its growth is because of its success as a business. The buying and selling of people is only big business as long as there is demand. Addressing demand continues to be an area that only a few groups are tackling but it is a critical aspect of prevention.

Street outreach has become bridge in identifying those who have been forced into prostitution because of trafficking and as such provide a lifeline of hope. They are also Christ’s image bearers to all concerned.

It is worth noting that in countries which nurture a culture of demand for sexual services, this demand is not limited to those brought across international borders. There can be an equal or larger number of its own citizens both adults and children who are in forced prostitution, whether this be the Ukraine or the United Kingdom.

« Please pray today for those working in this area of Europe
« Pray for those who are working alongside those trapped in on street and off street prostitution in Europe
« Pray for those working on prostitution laws as a means of addressing demand
« Pray too for multiple strategies to rise up which will impact cultural demand
I appeal to you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship

Romans 12:1

Love146 is an international charity working to end child trafficking and exploitation. The United Kingdom is primarily a destination country for traffickers, and of those who become enslaved here, many are children. It is unacceptable that children trafficked here from abroad are being found, only to become lost once more from a failing care system. Much better residential care is given to Adults now in the UK which is progress, but such specialised care is not given to children.

Counter Trafficking organisations are beginning to work together to address this issue and Love146 is working hard to use its experience in residential care for trafficked children to see this gap closed.

Love146 has a solutions based approach and works hard to find innovative tools to prevent vulnerable young people from being exploited across borders and within their own communities.

Addressing this issue requires a movement of people who are connecting across countries to play a part in seeing child exploitation and trafficking come to an end in our lifetime. Our Task Forces are a way that church and community groups can receive training and begin to play a part in seeing change happen.

« Please pray for the continued success and resourcing of the Escape Prevention Magazine currently in its second year of distribution in Moldova

« Pray for truly great survivor care to be implemented to greet children trafficked into the UK

« Please pray we can see a similar tool begin in the UK to address the grooming and pimping of children which is a significant problem for our children

« Please pray for continued success in our training young people as community advocates in Romania

« Please pray too for greater collaboration which can enable strategic outcome across Europe

Believers have creeds and promises
Christians have bumper stickers and catch phrases
Disciples have scars and stories”

www.love146.org www.146taskforce.org
Is this not the kind of fasting that I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice, and untie the chords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? 

Isaiah 58:6

Beyond the Streets is a UK charity working to end sexual exploitation. Our vision is to see a world where people are free from exploitation, and where those involved in prostitution have the option to pursue genuine alternatives, free from constraints such as drug use, abusive relationships and poverty. In order to do this we:

- Work to increase the number, quality and effectiveness of projects that work with people involved in prostitution/trafficking.
- Work to raise awareness of the issues relating to sexual exploitation, ensuring that the needs of those being exploited are adequately represented in the public arena.
- Work to provide opportunities for individuals to be engaged in helping those affected by the issues of exploitation.

Beyond the Streets specifically works to equip churches and Christian organisations to be able to respond to prostitution/trafficking, gender-based violence and to engage with marginalized groups.

Please pray:

« The voices of women who have been affected by sexual exploitation are all too often not heard. With our intention to ‘help’ we often make our own assumptions and speak on behalf of others; the unintended consequence can be to silence them once more. Pray that these voices are asked and heard both in policy and practice.

« So many projects engaged in this area are having to vie for media coverage and financial support. Pray that we all see the bigger picture in order to work as the body of Christ - committing to work in partnership rather than in competition or isolation.

« Labels abound in this area of work – ‘trafficked victim’, ‘prostitute’, ‘pimp’, ‘sex slave’. Pray that we see beyond the label and see the real person for who they are, created in God’s image.

“If you have come to help me, you are wasting your time. But if you have come because your liberation is bound up with mine, then let us work together.”

Lila Watson, Aboriginal Activist.
International Teams is committed to seeing lives and communities transformed by the power of God. Since 2008 we have a stronger mission focus on the Trafficked and the Enslaved. We seek to loose the chains of Injustice (Is. 58:6). Globally, and also in Europe, we are growing ministries addressing a broad spectrum of needs to end slavery; from prevention to support and restoration of those enslaved.

« Please, pray for all the workers in Europe, who work in this dark ministry, that He will give Divine thoughts, new perspectives and endurance to continue

« Pray too for continued collaboration amongst groups working to end trafficking and care for survivors

« Pray for those trapped in slavery, that they would know people are in pursuit of their freedom

“Living is not every breath that you take
– but every moment that takes your breath away”
Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

Ephesians 3:20-21

Kirkenes (Church) Integration Services (KIT) work in collaboration with an international church in Copenhagen initiated the project EXIT. This helps a group of volunteers engage in street work. EXIT aims to help women out of the environment and into a decent future - either at home or in Denmark.

EXIT co-operate with Nest International, police taskforce, Centre against Human Trafficking and internationally with other anti-trafficking organizations.

The trafficking that takes place in Denmark and Europe are organized across the borders by international criminal masterminds who operate very professionally - there are millions of dollars involved. There is a need for a comprehensive solution, which involves a co-ordinated international effort at borders. We work to give each individual woman, a chance to live a dignified life.

We are working with others in Nigeria to enable a good process of reintegration so women who are returning continue to receive restoration. KIT are also working on prevention work with young people and communities in Nigeria to inform them of the dangers of trafficking.

« Please pray that our work with the women who are here and that our response to care and prevention in the country of origin continues to develop well and with the provision of resources required.

« Please pray for a potential partnership with a Catholic church locally here where we wish to use their building to open a ‘Coffee Shop’ in the red light area as part of the outreach work and in expanding our volunteers serving women there.

“Preach the gospel at all times, and if necessary, use words”  
- St Francis
Many countries in this region of Europe are still recovering from various degrees of economic collapse following the fall of the Soviet Union in 1991, in particular this has taken a heavy toll on those in Eastern Europe. This has meant that some of these nations are amongst the poorest in Europe and as such this has created the perfect condition for people to become exploited and trafficked both within their nations and through transportation to various destination countries.

For context, a third of Moldova’s population are now abroad, many having been trafficked and an estimated 90,000 Ukrainians are trafficked abroad with a further 100,000 being exploited internally.

Eastern Europeans make up a considerable percentage of those trafficked across Europe and the World. It is therefore critical that we have good prevention work and increased vigilance in shaping laws. It is also important to have good repatriation, safety and recovery made available to those who have become exploited.

« Pray for those who work in such countries to protect the indigenous population from exploitation through education and training.

« Pray for the economic recovery and restoration of national identities in these countries

« Pray too for those who are being exploited commercially within their own communities, towns and nations across Europe
The European Freedom Network is a connecting place for organisations and individuals working to combat human trafficking in Europe.

My name is Charlie and I work as a solicitor in the Czech Republic and Geneva. I have reached the five-year-mark of pursuing the eradication of human trafficking, please pray the following for me:

« For the Lord to give me and GHNI personnel opportunities to share Jesus Christ with many non-believers we will meet who are involved with the United Nations in Geneva-Vienna-New York;
« For the Lord to supply the critical funding to sustain myself and all others working in the Counter Trafficking mission field in Europe
« For the Lord to lead me to a great job in the next few months where I can apply my law education and training and continue my time in Geneva
« For the Lord to grant me open doors of influence & anoint my words/actions so I will be invited to present my solutions, including the Community Based Law Enforcement Model
« For us to identify those who can help advance our Criminal Law Policy Centre which will be a catalyst that moves governments and organizations to take immediate action to eliminate all forms of human trafficking

“A positive attitude may not solve all your problems, but it will annoy enough passive people to make it worth the effort”

www.globalhopenetwork.org/leadership/criminal-law-policy-center
Romania is a primary country of origin for people trafficked globally. In some European cities one in every two new girls in forced prostitution is Romanian. Like its East European neighbours, Romania remains a recruiting focal point for traffickers. Educating communities and young people is very important as many who became trapped abroad did not know about trafficking until it was too late.

Open Your Eyes is a long term campaign formed through collaboration with Romanian and International NGO’s and the countries Anti Trafficking Police and is directed by the Ratiu Centre for Democracy.

Through radio adverts, poster, literature and a website it seeks to make young people aware of the dangers of accepting jobs abroad. Bogus job adverts are an effective way traffickers are recruiting people for exploitation. The campaign has led to the training of young people as advocates on the issue of trafficking in cities which have been identified as most under attack from professional exploiters. The general theme is ‘Be sure that your dream job abroad, is not a nightmare’.

« Please pray that the awareness raising and advocacy training can continue to multiply in its reach and its impact in Romanian communities and institutions.
« Please pray for the empowerment of local Romanian young people and communities to put their foot down on trafficking
« Please pray for resources needed to expand the work being carried out through the partnerships there
« Pray too for greater collaboration with communities so we begin to work with them, not just do thing for and to them.

“I hear and I forget, I see and I remember, I do and I understand”

www.deschideochii.org
Go home to your friends, and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how He has had mercy on you.

Mark 5:19

The Salvation Army of Georgia stands in prayer for all who are trapped in forced prostitution or forced labour. We cry out against this injustice in our world and open our hearts to those who are vulnerable or marginalized by this injustice.

The Salvation Army of Georgia has been speaking out against such evil through our Women’s Ministry Outreach. Together, our women pray for those who are victims. Together, we share information and educate others on this dark issue. Likewise, our youth programs build relationships with the neediest in the community so that they belong to a safe family environment.

In Micah 6:8, we find a call to justice, “He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.”

May God help us to answer this call to act in justice and mercy. We must not turn our face away and ignore those who are hurting from this injustice.

We ask that you pray for our Women’s Ministry groups, Youth Programs and officers as we build relationships with those who are on the edge of society. May they know God’s love. May they reject any offers that could trap them in trafficking situations.

“Mission was never meant to find space on our agenda, Mission is the agenda”
Moldova was a regular feature in the UN Trafficking in Persons report throughout the last decade with it featuring on the nation tier which would indicate a considerable number of people being trafficked and a lack of government will to see anything change. More than this, the reality in Moldova was high level of corruption at every level of Government and institutions for its participation or profiting from the buying and selling of people.

It is not unique to Moldova but one issue concerning the trafficking of children is the number of economic orphans who are in care institutions, and the word care should be used loosely. One orphanage near the country’s capital had approximately 75 children in its care, 74 of them because the parents are now abroad due to trafficking or fleeing the economic hardship. A third of the population has left Moldova and sadly many more plan to follow a dream/fantasy of a better life abroad.

There have been a considerable number of instances of care home staff working with traffickers to prepare children for exploitation. Some traffickers pay home directors to give better food to pretty girls to keep them healthy and not too skinny. The girl is then picked up by the trafficker when she is made to leave the home at 15 or 16 and told she has a debt that she needs to work off.

In 2008 approximately 60 licensed travel agencies had their permits revoked due to their involvement in the trafficking of Moldovan citizens.

There are indications that things are improving in Moldova with Police and Government departments tasked with addressing this issue but the change this produces is yet to be significantly evidenced. There are people in positions of power in Moldova today who gained their position through selling people to places like Russia by the bus load. In Moldova they ask this question of people in power or position who appear to be legitimately concerned with the country and this issue; ‘Where did they make their first million?’

« Please pray for a stable and honest Government to become established in Moldova

« Moldova has great beauty and was once a prized holiday destination in the Soviet era, it also has famous wine production, yet all of this is clouded in its current reknown – please pray that it will become known for good things once more.

« Please pray that should Moldova find itself a tourist destination again, that it does not become a destination for sex tourism which is one concern.
11th November Moldova - Beginning of Life Foundation

We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers. We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labour prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Thessalonians 1:2-3

Moldova is a beautiful country with a rich heritage and with equally beautiful people. It is therefore such a shame that it has become known internationally, more for the ugliness of human trafficking and this impact it has made upon its people.

A small but significant country in between Ukraine and Romania, it has had to wrestle through issue of high level corruption in regard to trafficking and to recover from the poverty produced by economic collapse at the end of the Soviet Era.

Beginning of Life foundations have consistently invested in a rising generation of young people recognising that it is not just a case of preventing their exploitation, but also a case of seeing young people made whole, so that they can be the best that they can be and play their part in seeing Moldova restored. Escape magazine has been one of Beginning of Life's projects where a 40 page youth culture magazine is produced every 2 months packed with stories which help shape a positive world view and keep them free from exploitation. Escape has had a readership of 100,000 young people since it began with 12 editions in circulation. It is created in such a way that it can easily be used in other countries in the region or further afield.

It is important to provide for those survivors who are returned to Moldova from abroad, it is also important to stop people being trafficked across borders in the first place through education and alternatives.

« Please pray that young people in Moldova would continue to find a desire to stay and participate in shaping the future of this beautiful country

« Please pray too that resources continue to be available to see Escape magazine play its part in prevention exploitation for more and more vulnerable young people.

« Pray for critical financial needs so we can continue to see a group of young people grow strong, safe and confident who are making Moldova all that she was meant to be in Gods eyes

“A friend is someone who knows the song in your heart and can sing it back to you when you have forgotten the words”

www.escape4you.org
Freedom Home Moldova is a long term restoration home for women who have been trafficked into prostitution. It is not an institution or a clinic. It is a home and a place of refuge for women who have been made in the image of God. These women, discarded by the side of the road, are not forgotten by God. He placed them in a family. At Freedom Home Moldova, we are that family. We provide a safe and spacious place of redemption, healing, and restoration. Through Christ we offer freedom from fear and shame, new life and a living hope.

Having escaped the brothels, young women come to Freedom Home thinking they are free, only to discover they are still enslaved to the memories, the pain and the shame. Pray for them to find true freedom from all the chains of the past—the trauma, the condemnation, and the hopelessness.

« The women come to us without hope. They have no hope for a future, for healing, for a family or friends. They do not believe in their ability to survive outside the home. Pray that they have hope for a family of their own, close friends, and nurturing relationships in the church. Pray they have hope and motivation for education, vocational training and a job in the future. Help them see that they can provide for themselves and make it outside the home with God’s help.

« When women walk into Freedom Home, they are filled with shame and condemnation. They are rejected by family and friends. Pray for them to find complete forgiveness and grace in Christ Jesus. Most of the women come to us without a good earthly father. It is difficult for them to understand God wants to be their loving, heavenly Father. Pray they can see Abba Father loves and cares for them immensely.

« Our ministry team faces a stressful job as they walk alongside broken women. They encounter personal attacks and spiritual warfare on a daily basis. This work causes them to confront their own brokenness and need for inner healing. Ask the Lord to strengthen the staff at Freedom Home Moldova. Ask the Lord to comfort and heal their own pain. Pray for wisdom and grace every day.

Freedom Home Moldova opened October 31, 2008 and has met the needs of many women. Currently we have 8 women and six children in the home.

“If God can restore you, he can restore a community; if he can restore a community he can restore a city; if he can restore a city is able to restore a nation.”
Kids Outreach International is an Australian-based international, interdenominational Christian charity administering humanitarian aid to children in emerging nations of Eastern Europe and West Asia, with a particular focus on Russia and Estonia. The ministry began in 1992 and has access to 3,000 youth camps across Russia hosting 5 million children each summer. We also work with, and support children’s homes and Rehabilitation centres across Russia.

Although Russia is a transit and destination country it is a major source for traffickers: 35,000 to 57,500 girls are trafficked out of the Russian Federation each year. We have identified that there is a lack of awareness as to what is taking place or the mind-set that ‘this won’t happen to me’.

With the access we have to reach masses of children and youth we are currently running trafficking prevention programs throughout the camps. We hope to spread this program into schools and orphanages. We have a relationship established with the education department and the police academy through which we also hope to make a bigger impact against human trafficking.

“Please pray for the recipients of this program that they would have ‘ears to hear’, that doors would open to spread the program so it would reach further, that the Lord would place a burden on the hearts of the officials we meet and please pray against the enemies schemes to kill, steal and destroy!”

“Inaction Is A Weapon Of Mass Destruction”

-Maxi Jazz

www.kidsoutreach.org
Central and Western Europe is diverse in that it contains countries struggling with extreme poverty, those seeking to rebuild in the wake of recent wars and those countries which are deemed to be financially stable, having established legal systems and with progressive economies employment opportunities.

Borders continue to be an issue here because countries have to contend with multiple nations on their borders with differing laws, degrees of policing and concerns regarding the trafficking of people. Throughout the time a person is trapped in trafficking, they may find themselves moved across multiple borders as demand, economies and in the case or forced prostitution, the need for fresh faces dictates movement. Many victims have no idea what city or country they are in from one day to the next and often they do not speak the language of the country, this adds to the fear that they have of attempting escape.

Since the opening of borders and special visas for countries forming their own partnerships like those in the Schengen agreement, the jury is out as to whether the eased movement of people is helping or hindering traffickers or the prompt identification of victims.

Frequently these countries are destinations for sex tourism which is fast becoming normalised for stag parties or as an easier setting for the purchase of sex. This is a more recent and much needed area for ministry.

« Pray for those who work to confront and educate users to begin to see those caught in this vast sex industry as people, not commodities

« Please pray for those who are struggling to see a future for themselves within their own countries

« Please pray for those who struggle in tough financial circumstances as they stand against trafficking

« Pray for countries who have been effected by war or regimes that they would quickly regain their cultural identity and strong communities which will keep their own people safe
Nation Profile - Germany

15th November

Trafficking in the context of forced prostitution is a strong narrative in the counter trafficking community and here in Germany it is no exception. It is important to wrestle and find balance in how we all respond to both what is seen, and what is invisible. Exploitation for Labour or Domestic Servitude can be more hidden that those exploited in Prostitution.

Germany has legalised both prostitution and brothels in recent years and has legislated that prostitution is now a legitimate form of work. Its hope was that it would bring standards of working conditions in line with that of other working environment. In reality little has changed in those working conditions since legalisation in 2002. The government has stated that the plan has backfired as it it has led to a massive influx of women from Eastern Europe and readily admits that this is now over run with trafficking and that it has lost control of the situation. It is reasonable to be suspicious of legislation which means that the Government can increase revenue by taxing prostitution as a normal form of employment.

There have been issues exposed on the press where those on benefits have been offered work in brothels by employment agencies, risking losing their benefits for not considering work there.

On other occasions work advertised by employment agencies as ‘bar work’, have turned out to be prostitution.

This aspect of the sex industry has found itself a veneer of respectability in major cities with controlled brothel areas which can have council erected sign posts directing people there. This is far from the experience for trafficked women who work there and in the escalation of exploitation taking place away from the bright city lights.

« Please, pray for Germany as you feel led today. Ask God what he would like you to focus your prayer towards.
Germany is a destination for thousands of young ladies in search for a job. Prostitution was legalised in 2002 and modern day slavery is on the rise. We have a major problem with lots of victims who do not want to leave the prostitution because their future is bleak. They can earn quite a lot of money if their pimps allocate some money to them. This is still more than they would be able to earn in their home countries and usually they are given just enough for them to feel trapped, that they are giving their family hope.

Girls who try to run away are always in great danger, they never know who to trust and for good reason. We see the need for help, and we seem to be helpless.

« Please pray for those who are being victimised. They need great courage to leave their plight.

« Pray too for much needed jobs to offer to the victims. Most of them need money and they want to work, so that their families in Eastern Europe and Africa will be fed. Helping them transition from being trapped to prostitution to another livelihood is part of helping to free them from the control of pimps and an economic trap.

« Please pray also for the German government. They need to improve the legislation in many points, i.e. concerning residence and work permits for victims of trafficking, penalty for the offenders and regulations concerning brothels.

“Courage is not the absence of fear, but the presence of it, yet the will to carry on”
The legalization of prostitution in Germany has put the country on the map as a leading destination point for human trafficking. It is also a transit nation due to its central location within Europe.

The Justice Project works in close partnership with the Evangelical free churches in southern Germany to organize prayer initiatives, lead outreaches within red light districts and offer restorative transition opportunities for women who are rescued from forced prostitution as well as those who leave the sex industry on their own.

“Please pray with us for the advancement of the Kingdom in to these dark places and for a way of escape for those trapped and forced in the commercial sex industry of Germany.

“Tomorrow is the most important thing in life, it comes to us at midnight, very clean. It’s perfect when it arrives and puts itself into our hands. It hopes we’ve learned something from yesterday.”

- John Wayne

www.thejusticeproject.net
Alabaster Jar started in Berlin in 2006 and registered with the German Government in 2008, is a Christian outreach to women engaged in prostitution in Berlin. Prostitution is legal in Germany and 75% of the estimated 6-8,000 women working in Berlin are non-German, mostly from Eastern Europe. Some arrive because of poverty, some believe it will provide money for a dream future, others are victims of human trafficking. Regardless of reason, none of them dreamed that they would one day do this job when they were children.

The goals are to share the love of Christ through friendship and by offering hope and spiritual, practical and emotional support, and to promote self-worth, restore dignity and help them realize that they have options for viable alternative lifestyles.

Weekly outreaches are conducted on two streets, and also a weekly ‘Cafe Afternoon’ and ‘Evening’ on one of the streets. Outreach volunteers offer love, friendship, hot drinks, food, small gifts and practical assistance to the women. As communication is a major frustration with the non-German speaking women we give Christian literature in their languages. Many of the women like to read and ask for books and Bibles.

In an environment when all trust has been abused, the restoration of trust through sustained love and friendship becomes very important. Alabaster Jar also networks with many similar organisations throughout Germany and Europe.

« Pray for the work of Alabaster Jar and for more creative ways of working with the women and to combat human trafficking

“Friendship, like freedom, is free, but it must cost us something. For how else will we know its value? “

www.alabasterjar.de
Dry bones, listen to what the LORD is saying to you, I, the LORD God, will put breath in you, and once again you will live. I will wrap you with muscles and skin and breathe life into you. Then you will know that I am the LORD.”

Ezekiel 37:4

"Resource Office for Human Trafficking" is an initiative of "Sh.K.B.SH" Prison Ministry in Albania.

Resource Office is working in Albania on prevention, sharing information for trafficking issues with churches and other organization. We are helping victims of trafficking and girls that are in risk who are able to live by themselves, with rented houses, daily needs, and finding safe houses for young girls that can’t live alone or at shelters.

We are trying to refer cases to other organization that have appropriate service depending from case and need. For many years Albania has been known as ‘furnisher place” for other countries with young girls whom are made slave on sexual slavery. Albanian girls are still on the road to different cities of Europe forced to sell their body.

Today’s trafficking in Albania has change its way of operating and is hidden. It is developing more inside country than outside. Our dream is to be able to identify victims and bring to them hope and real salvation from any kind of slavery and to bring peace between families and victims and acceptance from their family. As an office we want to be a good resource for everyone, individual/organization/ church that need assistance or information about this issue.

« Please pray that we can play a part in seeing the tide turn on the trafficking of people from and within Albania
Nova Zena is the name of our NGO and is translates as New Woman. The aim is to serve women who are in need in many aspects of life, including those who experience violence or suffering as a result of discrimination, those who are trafficked and those who are in prostitution.

We seek to work with women and children who are impacted in this way – to help them stand on their own feet once more as unique individuals and to walk with their heads held high. This is through meeting their physical, emotional, psychological and spiritual needs. This kind of restorative work can bring hope and healing to those who have been exploited, but it also contributes to prevention because a person who is strong and whole is less likely to become exploited in the first place. We work to see women play their important part in society, in work, in family, and the home.

It is important that we work towards changing mind sets and problems with society at a national level. We need to see a change in how men view abuse and molestation and for both men and women to contribute well to a good society as co citizens. There is little will to act on such issues from the police and government.

Our Motto: Stable Woman – Stable Family – Stable Church – Stable Society

« Please pray for our work as it expands to other Serbian cities.
« Pray that an intervention would happen soon to deal with demand
« Pray for our staff and volunteers as we give ourselves to this work of service.
« Pray for more training, education in the field and for more partners and financial provision
« Pray for opportunities to make this issue more widely known

“Even though a person does not yet know Christ for themselves, have they not already met him as we work as his hands, as his feet and as his image bearer?”
Vienna is a historically world-renowned city, known for its cultural heritage. Here thousands of tourists marvel daily at the many sights, museums and palaces. But Vienna has another side – the approximately 400 brothels, studios, bars and clubs that are scattered throughout the city. There are also two red-light streets where women and transvestites work all night long. The law allows refugees and migrant workers from Eastern Europe to work as prostitutes under the umbrella of self-employment. Everything else is impossible for them unless they are able to fulfill the practically unattainable requirements.

The employees and volunteers of an organization known as Herzwerk - Ecumenical Initiative for People in Prostitution visiting approximately 100 people weekly in their places of work. Their desire is to show these people the utmost respect and to offer hope and a new perspective for the future.

Several churches are supporting this initiative and have offered cleaning jobs to people wanting to leave prostitution. Herzwerk has also developed a sense of political responsibility for those who are being exploited. Most of the people they encounter come from Nigeria or Eastern Europe. Many have been deceived and are working for so-called “Lover boys” bogus boyfriends who become pimps. For others “poverty” is the pimp. They work for their families, their children and their brothers and sisters. Most of the women from Nigeria were promised a good job in “golden Europe” and have been brutally betrayed and sold.

Herzwerk desires to be “a voice for the voiceless” and speaks on their behalf with politicians, the police and churches. We see ourselves as part of a movement of God who wants His body to take responsibility for the foreigner and those who have been exploited and repressed.

Isaiah 42:22 b: They have become a prey, with no one to deliver them, a spoil, with no one to say: Restore them! (Amplified bible) Isaiah 43:6: I will say to the north, give up and to the south keep not back. Bring my sons from far and my daughters from the ends of the earth.

“History repeats itself – It has to if no-one is listening”
It is important that we all get to hear about new ways of working which are making an impact on Human Trafficking. It is possible that it might show us ‘how’ something should be done, but also importantly it builds our hope that something ‘can’ be done.

The Swedish Model

Having begun in Sweden it has fast become referred to as the Scandinavian model with other countries in the region adopting it to address demand. Scotland is one of many countries outside the region which is exploring the adoption of this model and many governments and even Catholic bishops from Ireland have visited Sweden as a result of its progress.

The laws on prostitution in Sweden make it illegal to buy sexual services, but not to sell them. Pimping, procuring and operating a brothel are also illegal. The criminalisation of the purchase, but not selling, of sex was unique when first enacted in 1999, but since then Norway and Iceland have adopted similar legislation, both in 2009.

Evidence is that such laws are making a considerable impact on the trafficking of people for profit into those countries, though it is unclear if it has made any impact on the global numbers of those in modern slavery who are simply sold in other countries.

« Please pray for good strategies and breakthroughs to be known beyond our borders.
« Please pray for there to be a great many stories to be told in the days ahead concerning new ideas which are making a difference and hastening change
« Please pray too for greater synergy between Governments, NGO’s and Charities
« Christian groups still make up a considerable number of the organisations in the field – Please pray for all of those with faith and those of none, who are standing against this injustice
23rd November For all in captivity

« Pray for all those in captivity this day in every far flung corner of the world.

« Pray for those hidden in plain site in our own communities.

« Pray for those waiting in the shadows to be found.

« Pray that there would be enough of us:
  • that are ENRAGED enough
  • COURAGEOUS enough
  • BOLD of TONGUE and OF ACTION

« Pray that they would all know that WE ARE COMING FOR THEM!
24th November Restoration

Putting A Smile Of Restoration On The Survivors Face.

The Greatest Artist

God is the greatest artist
To whom no one can compare,
Streaking sunsets very beautiful,
Painting rainbows in the air.

Brushing green the hillside scene,
Blotting blue the sky above,
Splashing flowers 'cross the ground beneath,
Shading white clouds with His glove.

Of the wonders God has made
There is none that is so fair
As the smile He paints upon your face
When you realize He's there.

« Please pray for those who are today coming to terms with their trauma and their loss of liberty. Please pray for those in all forms of exploitation that they would know that God knows their name.
25th November  Call to Adopt a Project

*For as the soil makes the sprout come up and a garden causes seeds to grow, so the Sovereign Lord will make righteousness and praise spring up before all nations*

*Isaiah 61:11*

Continued Prayer

Today we would like to invite you to consider adopting some of the issues, projects and countries for continued prayer and support. If it is simply adding a note to the door of your fridge to continually be mindful of this issue or of a group’s response to it, or if you would like to help in more practical ways, it will be of value.

If you would like to make a connection with one of the projects in this prayer diary or inquire about others, please do contact us and we will pass your details on.

“Prayer is not an asking, it is a longing of the soul. It is a daily admission of one’s weakness. It is better in prayer to have a heart without words, than words without a heart.”

info@europeanfreedomnetwork.org
It is important that more and more people know about this issue and have an opinion regarding their thoughts and feelings which they can articulate to others. People carrying story, concerns and regard for an issue is an important and vital aspect of how Movements happen – every day ordinary people saying that something cannot continue as it has, that something has to change.

Meet Lisa (her REAL name)

She was abused within her family as a child but managed to wrestle her way through to school age and an education as best she could. At the age of 19 she was approached at a petrol station by an older man who told her everything she ever wanted to hear and began to lavish her with gifts and in the weeks that followed she was repeatedly raped and beaten but he still manipulated her into believing she was loved.

Many girls across Europe were recruited by what is termed ‘lover boys’, people who will later sell them on, perhaps across communities or nation borders or even become their pimp. Lisa’s pimp forced her into drug addiction and whether she was being sold by pimps or by drug dealers the cycle of drugs and prostitution continued into her 30’s which resulted in a child being taken into care. It is important to note that people who are trafficked and exploited may find themselves in Hell on Earth for a great many years.

Lisa’s world began to change when a Christian outreach team across her path on the streets and built a friendship with her. Lisa began a process of various stages of exiting, recovery and self-acceptance saying, “It was an important moment for me when I accepted that none of this was my fault, this was something that others did to me, I was the victim”. Lisa now helps others who are in recovery and notes something she was told herself during recovery “you don’t have to believe in God, but God always believes in you”. Lisa says, “I am amazed. God healed me and I don’t care what people say about me but instead, what He says about me”.

26th November - A Call to Action - God Knows Their Name
A Call to Action—cont.

Our hope as the European Freedom Network is that many of you will have made it through this 40 Days of Prayer to Help End Human Trafficking in Europe, and that you will feel challenged and better informed about this issue. However, it must become more than an issue to each and everyone one of us; it is important that real people are seen no longer as statistics and people frequently stripped of even their true name. We want to restore their name, their worth, and their identity in God.

People can and do recover from these experiences, but very few people who are trafficked are currently finding rescue, intervention, and a way out. Those who find a way out do not always find themselves in context of care and recovery, and those who find their way home through repatriation, often find themselves re-exploited back in the communities they were trafficked from.

The Good News—God’s Church Can Bring Hope And Change.

There is much that can be done, through Prayer, but also through Action.

Is God asking more than prayer from you? Let us know if we can help!

On Behalf of the European Freedom Network & The Men, Women and Children We Serve

Thank You.