

Request for information about human trafficking in your country and your work in this field:

- *Please share important details of the recent developments of human trafficking situation in a written form. Thanks to this individual effort we will be able to gather a valuable package which will be shared with all the Membership.*
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News from Hungary

In the Catholic Church there are very little steps towards more awareness of the challenge of human trafficking. The “Sara team” is a reflection team which is working step by step (perhaps Gabriella or Erika, who are in that team will write about this more). Otherwise the Church is still in silence. I work with a foundation which does not belong the Catholic Church.

More positive news come from other parts of the Hungarian society. New movements surface among the NGO-s and little churches make efforts in the various field of fighting against human trafficking.

- At the end of April the foundation “Anonymous Way” organized with the Calvary Church an interactive exhibition in the center of Budapest with the title: How much are you worth?

The goal of the exhibition was to share information with the society about the problem and try to make the visitors more sensitive to the existence and challenge of human trafficking. The exhibition was open for only two days; however already many cities, local governments asked the organization to bring this exhibit to their places. That means that this exhibition became a traveling exhibition in Hungary. It was really exciting that so many people were interested about it. During those two days in Budapest more than 2000 visitors attended.

Some photos about the exhibition on the official Face book site of the AW:

https://www.facebook.com/543844395790389/photos/?tab=album&album_id=576716932503135

- Before the start of the exhibition they tried to make more aware the media, and there was a campaign: “True men never buy women!” Famous actors, reporters, singers, church members etc. made a photo with that title and their face for the Face book campaign. These people are like celebrities for the teenagers. This movement helps young men to understand that prostitution is an exploitation of women and it is against the dignity of both women and men. Famous women celebrities held posters with the text: “This is not a commodity!” In various media (on-line, TV, radio etc.) they made interview or report with the organization or the celebrities about the campaign.

Photos about the campaign:

https://www.facebook.com/543844395790389/photos/?tab=album&album_id=543859295788899

- The same foundation – where I work as a volunteer – prepared with an expert artist’s group a play with the title: “Do I stand by you?” It is a performance for kids,

especially for teenage girls in orphanages, who are the most vulnerable group of human trafficking. The play is about their life – how the pimps can tell them a lie about love and better life in other countries. Although it is in a form of fairytale it can help to understand more the severe reality. The actors prepared a workshop for the kids after the play – they can express their feelings, beliefs, and they can discuss with the actors about their role play. This play was already performed in some orphanages. The actors are ready to take the stage to other cities, other orphanages too. The wide audience could visit this play during the exhibition.

Some photo about the play:

https://www.facebook.com/543844395790389/photos/?tab=album&album_id=596751503833011

- The foundation recognizes that many organizations: NGO-s, churches, foundations, state institutes etc. work for the victims of human trafficking, or against the exploitation but unfortunately they do not have relevant information what other organizations do. During the time of exhibition they organized a conference and workshop for the experts of the organizations. More than 100 people registered to participate and I was among them. During the workshop there was group work where the different organizations had the opportunity to learn more about each other and to think together. It was a very much fruitful meeting. The next meeting is planned in October.