



**TRAFFICKING WOMEN AND  
CHILDREN  
VIOLATION HUMAN RIGHTS**







# RISKY SITUATION IN THE ORIGIN

- Wars. Armed conflicts leave especially vulnerable groups being recruited by trafficking networks.
- Search for improved economic, social and political conditions.
- Poor people.
- Lack of job alternatives.
- High rate of illiteracy.
- Moving populations, transnational and internal displacements.
- Natural disasters.
- Proslavery tradition. The populations who suffered slavery are more prone to exploitative situations.
- Countries where the migration of women and children are the groups most vulnerable to rights, with a special mention to single mothers, victims of domestic violence and victims of sociopolitical violence.



ENDEMIC

TRAFFICKING





# Trata destino

La generación de beneficios de la Trata de Seres Humanos que se equipara al tráfico de drogas y de armas.

Búsqueda de mano de obra barata. Es la demanda de personas para desarrollar trabajos en situaciones de irregularidad administrativa y en situaciones de vulnerabilidad para los trabajadores.

Tráfico de órganos

Industria del sexo en crecimiento transnacional.

Prevalencia de objetivos económicos antes que valores sociales.

La incorporación de nuevos estados a la Unión Europea ha fomentado la existencia de una trata interna.



# MIGRATORY CONTEXT

*Physical environment: desert and populations with high rejection and racism.*

*Social environment: lack of resources, house, no social relationships, poor access to transit societies, no job, no education, no health*

*Legal Environment: anti immigration laws and lack of protection for asylum seekers and refugees.*

*Policy measures: expulsions and deportations also encouraged by the policies promoted from Europe.*

*Dramatic tests that have psychological effects: hunger, thirst, extreme fatigue, poor travel conditions (walking distance, falling the train, urinate on himself on trucks transiting the desert, falling of the trucks and run up to find it).*

*Duration of transit makes the risks of violence bigger.*









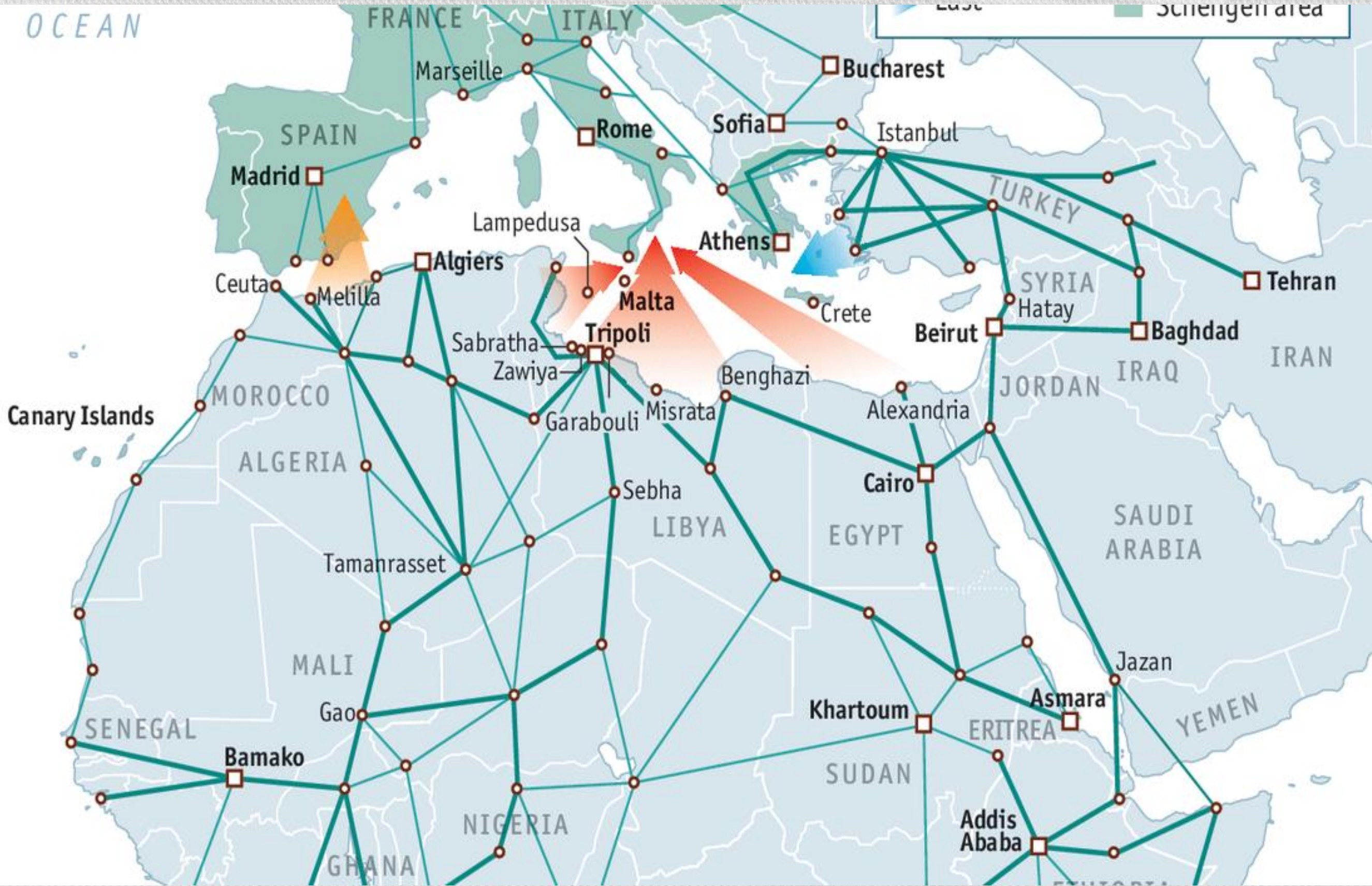
- **BORDERS**

- **NO RIGHTS LAND**



- Primacy of bilateral agreements on national and international laws.
- Permeable border to generate profit.
- Strengthening networks of trafficking in Human Beings.
- Increase of Torture and inhuman and degrading treatment.
- Increased number of victims that generates migration control.
- This fight hides a serious violation of human rights of people who are considered only as clandestine and suffering deportations and detentions without guarantees and imprisonment.
- Criminalization of migration.
- Deported from border to border and placed as far as possible from the gates of Europe.







## Recruitment stage:

Three factors in the ability of resilience VT (victim of trafficking) the life story of the victim (especially those factors associated with exposure to violence and sexual abuse), b) the quality and access to care services and c) epidemiological and socioeconomic conditions in the country origin.



- Reasons to migrate. The decision to migrate is related to past and present factors in the life history of the person (poverty, exposure to violence, discrimination, lack of opportunities, unemployment, social instability). Although trafficked persons are considered passive, the decision to leave the situation reflects initiative, courage and strength.
- History of violence and abuse. It is repeated in women and children. These experiences weaken the protection capacity of these populations to trafficking because the consequences of prior victimization are associated with low self-esteem, feelings of shame and vulnerability.
- Recruitment through trust and deception. The vast majority of trafficking victims report that they were recruited by someone they knew and trusted. Once exposed to the situation of trafficking victims feel betrayed by those whom they trusted but in turn develop feelings of guilt (self-blame), complicity and shame for having trusted, believed and "participated" in the situation which they are now exposed.







# The Journey

- STAGE PRIOR TO TRANSIT

- Illusion
- Risk denial
- Anxiety
- Guilt, shame and self-blame. In the case that before the journey they are aware of the deception.

- STAGE OF TRANSIT

- Awareness of the risk
- Anxiety
- Stress and hypervigilance
- Inability to concentrate
- Dissociation (division between thoughts and emotions)







# Transit Risk Factors

- **Geography/ Desert**
- **Peace or Conflict situation. Libyan example.**
- **Economy.**
- **Social Services.**
- **Discrimination.Racism.**
- **Sound legal framework.**
- **Corruption levels.**







# Transit Risk Factors

- **Loneliness and Isolation**
- **Control.**
- **Collective deportations.**
- **Systematic violation of rights.**
- **No access to fundamental rights.**
- **Limiting freedom of movement.**



# **SUPERVIVIENTES (Victimes) OF TRAFFICKING PROFILES**

- **They suffered sexual or labor exploitation.**
- **They have suffered physical and psychological abuse: they have been deceived, abused, threatened, raped and tortured.**
- **They are afraid of the exploiters, for their safety and that of their families.**
- **They may suffer from sexually transmitted diseases and / or induced addiction by their exploiters.**
- **They do not trust the authorities or institutions.**
- **Lack of contacts for help.**
- **They have no legal status in the country where they are, they have taken away their documents and they are worried about possible deportation. In the case of children, it is possible that your documents are false or are manipulated.**
- **They do not want their families and their home communities know they have been or are being victims of sexual exploitation.**



# Exploitation

- Pay a debt to the network, but also provide financial support for themselves and their children, they send money to their families back home.







These are single-mother family units in which the mother takes on the responsibility for the children, even in cases where there is a partner or father

- Other women take care of their children.
- The network extorts the mother, requiring her to pay additional money for her child's upkeep.
- Clandestine childcare facilities run by members of the community, where children may be neglected.



- Some social service organizations explain that government agencies think they are bad mothers because they have a different approach to motherhood, and because their situation of social and economic vulnerability does not allow them to interact legally with the host society and its institutions.



The children of victims should be considered victims as well, and specific protections and assistance should be put in place for them. Because of this lack of legal tools, prosecutors and child protective agencies place great pressure on social service organizations to issue reports supporting dependency findings for the children.

The MENAS Protocol (Protocol on Unaccompanied Foreign Minors) because there is a gap in the legal system that cannot be closed, and in order to justify the removal of children from their mothers, the government cites the protocol.

The women are not well informed, receive no legal advice, and lack the means and resources to assert their rights.



# TRAFFICKERS

- **Individual:** usually foreign persons / as who are looking for a loving relationship, inviting them to travel and then using them to servile marriages or prostitution. Similarly it happens with pedophiles for sexual exploitation. They could be defined as "customers" as they work alone but it is believed they may be connected together via the Internet
- **Local networks:** composed of nationals recruited from areas of transit and they exploit them during the transit
- **Regional networks:** transnational transit that covers the demands of the regional countries.
- **Family networks:** the recruiter is a relative or close acquaintance who is responsible for providing work abroad. It may be a link in the chain with links to international networks
- **Structured networks:** networks are diverse and they are operating as as companies moving large numbers of people. They are usually composed of national and foreign people.



- Recruiters
- Lenders
- Intermediary
- Connection Man
- Administrator
- Madames
- Guard and controller
- Pimps
- Owner/ Managers
- Employers
- Civil servants.



- **Wide mobility. Use the same circuits which operates drug trafficking and weapons (linked to Islamic terrorism).**
- **The sensors can be people with ample social impact. (Role of churches in transit).**
- **There are areas in which part of the network gives social prestige.**
- **They use the emotional and community engagement for network maintenance**







# Contexts of violence

- Psychological violence: threats, closures, insults.
- Physical violence: public beatings, whippings or throw hot water on the body.
- Sexual violence: gang rape, sodomy, sexual torture, kidnapping, sexual harassment (dance naked in front of the authorities), sexual exploitation and forced prostitution.
- More traumatic violence is sexual violence because it is not assumed to take hunger, thirst or corruption.
- Sexual violence is hidden and has psychic and sexual and reproductive health of women important effects.



- Violence in private spaces:
  - Among members of the community own intra or inter community physical and sexual violence are made of sub-Saharan women in their community or another community men.
  - "Conjugal" road Husbands, boyfriends, husband. Violence
- Violence in public spaces (especially in border):
  - Individual or collective aggression.
  - Aggression representatives of authority, police, military and gendarmes.



# Social intervention

- GUILT • Stigma
- Shame •
- Self-reproach •
- Failure •
- Rejection
-



# What about authorities?

- Fear of punishment and risk by traffickers.

Knowledge of immigration controls and laws regarding the activity in which they are exploited.

Many people do not perceive themselves as victims of trafficking, but perceive the situation as the product of their own mistakes.

Victims people believe they have committed a crime and fear being judged and imprisoned for it.

- Victims people suspect that the authorities are associated with the traffickers and do not want to run the risk of being captured or fear being portrayed.



# Why can they decide not to participate in judicial proceedings?

- Due to the invisible and illegal activity, many victims may **not know** much about the activities of their exploiters and the judicial causes are rejected.
- Fear of reprisals against them or their families. It is important to properly evaluate this fear
- The procedures they can discourage them to participate in the process, because they do not feel safe and sufficiently supported or with their emotional needs completely satisfied. Usually those persons end up feeling victims of the research because they feel pressured to provide information.
- It is not just dismissing cases with the idea that victims would not provide information or cooperate with the investigation because they fail to remember particularly traumatic events and they feel re-victimized by the judicial system
- Trafficking may have represented an emotionally troubled experience and the judicial process involves contradiction to sue those who were not only for them their traffickers, but in many cases also their "friends" or "couples"



# Psychosocial Intervention

- **Reintegrate the violated fundamental rights of the trafficked person**
- **The reintegration of victims in society, in a safe, dignified and sustainable manner, and the**
- **recovery of normal life.**
- **Integral assistance and an inter-institutional work.**
- **Respect their individuality.**
- **Promote the recovery of autonomy in making their own decisions.**
- **Ensure their physical safety**
- **Initial relieve their needs and desires.**
- **Ensure the welfare and comfort.**
- **Ensure continuity of medical and psychological assistance**



- Gender approach
- Rights approach
- Multicultural approach
- Power Approach
- Contextual Approach / Assimilation of transnationalism
- Social exclusion approach
- Approach child protection
- Temporal approach (moment of trafficking in which the victim is)











# A case from Nigeria

- An initiation joins you and makes you belong to a group.
- The network as a group that although its laws and rules are perverse belongs.
- Disenrollment is a grieving process.
- The breaking of secrecy, betrayal group exists as a guilt







- The network operates as a transmitter of femininity for women is the initiation process.
- S obesity born in the trafficking network belong to the family or to the network?



- . The spiritual question of Juju.
- The right of habit within the Juju.
- Secret societies



# A case from Camerún

- Networks few members with emotional attachment.
- Introduce women / girls in Nigerian established networks.
- Transnational networks with destinations to European countries and the Middle East.







# Teen-agers

- . Sexual exploitation.
- Drug couriers.
- For begging purposes



- **. Children / as women and girls treated.**
- **Children / as young children to sexual exploitation**







- The superior interests of the child
- no discrimination
- Right to protection
- Right to life, survival and development
- Right to participation
- Right to family unity
- Respect for cultural identity and cultural and linguistic mediation
- information



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