

TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS AFFECTS SOULS.



Marie H el ene Halligon, OLCGS, RENATE representative at the Council of Europe shares with us some research presented in the past week at the 5th anniversary of the Joint Declaration.

Forced migration experience is often a traumatic and unpredictable experience. Migrants fleeing their countries of origin rarely expect to encounter the worst hazards, like kidnapping, human trafficking and confinement.

In Medenine and Zarzis in southern Tunisia, a conversation with 15 refugee and migrant women from ten Sub-Saharan countries gives insight into the often harrowing experiences of women and children seeking a better life.

All stories are unique, yet their accounts show commonalities in the factors that forced them to leave their homes. Common themes included development related issues such as poverty, conflict related concerns like insecurity, and the risk of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), including harmful practices such as forced marriage or female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/C).

And each of them wanted, most of all, a better future, a future free from poverty, conflict or abuse.

The unknown migratory pathways expose migrants of all genders and ages to sexual violence. Many lose their relatives and belongings and are trafficked in deplorable conditions.

For more:

<http://refugeeresearchonline.org/how-faith-can-help-refugee-and-migrant-women-to-heal-from-sexual-and-gender-based-violence/>

Sandra Iman Pertek is a Doctoral Researcher in the School of Social Policy at University of Birmingham and part of an international research initiative - SEREDA led by the Institute for Research into Superdiversity (IRiS). To contribute to Sandra's research: <https://t.co/E4GWFEVe9x?amp=1>