RENATE Annual Report 2024.

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RELIGIOUS IN EUROPE NETWORKING AGAINST TRAFFICKING AND EXPLOITATION



Welcome from the RENATE Co-Presidents, Marie Power, HFB, & Ivonne van de Kar.

On behalf of the RENATE Network, we are pleased to present you with the 2024 Annual report. It has been a year in which we once again achieved a lot together.

The RENATE Network is a large European community of members, active volunteers in the Task groups, country representatives on the RENATE Working Board & members of the Core group. Together, in Europe we form the religious network active in the fight against human trafficking & exploitation.

In 2024, the Law Task group achieved remarkable results following local research by RENATE members in 5 countries (Albania, Bulgaria, Romania, Spain & the United Kingdom). The law research was published 4 July 2024 with findings that much can still be improved for those working in the legal profession to support victims of human trafficking.

The Awareness-raising Task group accomplished its monumental task of providing information in schools in 28 of the 31 countries where RENATE is active. In two years, 6,000 students across Europe were informed about human trafficking & how to protect themselves. Another important RENATE project is the 'Empowerful Training,' in which survivors in shelters take a course to make them more resilient & increase their employment opportunities. This project was carried out in Albania & Greece.

In 2024, numerous webinars, training sessions & meetings were held. For example, a webinar about the consequences of war on the exploitation of women & children. The speakers came from Ukraine, Sudan & Kenya. A webinar was also held for the UN Women's Conference CSW68on the importance of education & awareness-raising about human trafficking & exploitation. After all, awareness-raising is one of the most important pillars of the RENATE network. Ivonne van de Kar gave a talk at the European Parliament for MEPs & spoke about the importance of the role of religious & churches in the work against human trafficking. our work. The work of the small INGO group active in Strasbourg should also be mentioned: they do important work.

In 2024, RENATE launched a short film about networking of religious against human trafficking in Europe & two more short films will be released in 2025. These can be found on the RENATE YouTube channel.

The mental health of volunteers& staff who carry out the work is very important to the RENATE network. For several years now, RENATE has offered them a spiritual retreat to stay grounded in the mission through consideration of relevant Bible verses & (time for) reflection. For that same reason, a training week was held for network members on trauma & mental health. Take good care of yourself too! Another important achievement this year was the meeting of RENATE members working in shelters across Europe. This resulted in the publication of a beautiful brochure in which the shelters introduce themselves & share best practices with each other. This is just a small selection of the many activities that the RENATE network & its member organisations organized in 2024. We ourselves are sometimes amazed at the wonderful & priceless work being done within this volunteer network.

Thank you to one & all!

Milestones in 2024 - Awareness - raising, Direct Action & prevention.

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Awareness-raising in

schools.

Combined with Year 1's impressive total of 6,071 students, the two-year project has now reached 8,982 students—an outstanding accomplishment achieved through the dedication of RENATE members.





01.

03.

Launch Law Research.

RENATE's latest research presents clear findings that those who are charged with legally supporting victims of human trafficking or modern slavery, very often, do so with limited support themselves. They work in challenging conditions, where the work is slow, the caseload is high, training is largely absent and all for very little remuneration.

Leadership programme for HT Survivors.

This type of leadership empowers survivors to take control of their narratives, redefine their identities beyond the trauma, and advocate for systemic change. It's about recognizing their inherent worth, their capacity for growth, and their potential to contribute to a brighter future.





3 new RENATE Network films.

Visceral Story telling, Humanizing the issue and Inspiring Action are the three impacts of film as a powerful means of communicating about human trafficking. Film can be a potent tool for social change, bringing an issue into the light, fostering empathy, and inspiring action.



02.



Milestones in 2024 - Awareness-raising, Direct Action & prevention.

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Publication of Shelters & Safe Houses Directory.

Immediate support, safety & shelter, empowerment, restoration of wellbeing...are just a few of the benefits referenced in this publication. The resource is available in the March News section of the RENATE website, as well as in the Library section of the RENATE website. A must-read.







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Virtual presence at CSW68

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CONTINUING TO RAISE AWARENESS AT THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE.

RENATE presented on the following: "The use of Digital Media to empower women & girls," "Strengthening legislation to be effective for victims of human trafficking," "Shelters & restoration to new life," "Human Trafficking as an issue for the Council of Europe," and "Human Trafficking awareness-raising."



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Contribution to M & E Instrument.

Covering a two-year period, the report examined the progress, achievements, and challenges across four core dimensions: (1) Direct Action and Prevention, (2) Capacity Building, (3) Advocacy, and (4) Research and Development pertinent to the RENATE Networks mission to combat human trafficking. 08



Milestones in 2024 - Awarenessraising, Direct Action & Prevention.

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The 10th International Day of Prayer & Awareness against Human Trafficking.

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The theme of "JOURNEYING IN DIGNITY: LISTEN, DREAM, ACT," was interpreted in a variety of ways throughout the RENATE Network in the month of February. It was wonderful that four young nominees from the RENATE network were able to act as Ambassadors of Hope in Rome. Check out www.renate-europe.net for more information.





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Attendance at Talitha Kum Assembly.

RENATE's latest research presents clear findings that those who are charged with legally supporting victims of human trafficking or modern slavery, very often, do so with limited support themselves. They work in challenging conditions, where the work is slow, the caseload is high, training is largely absent and all for very little remuneration.

Capacity Building- Spiritual retreats for RENATE members.

RENATE places a special emphasis on the provision of the well-being of those working with victims of human trafficking. Our mission is a challenging and emotionally draining field, and spiritual retreats can be incredibly beneficial for those involved. More at www.renate-europe.net





RENATE Network Task groups on the ground.

With a reach extending thousands of kilometres across the European continent, the RENATE Network is actively engaged at grassroots level through its 8 Task groups: Advocacy; Awarenessraising; Communications & Social media; Council of Europe; Development; Law; House of Prayer; Shelters & Safe Houses. **12**

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SOME FIGURES OF NOTE.



Awareness-raising in schools.

Reached over 10,000 participants in 250 schools, focusing on critical topics like human trafficking, gender-based violence, and online safety.



Capacity Building.

16,000 participated in RENATE campaigns, trainings, workshops, seminars- online & inperson.

DIRECT ACTION & PREVENTION.

87.5% membership engaged- Primarily in the following Primary Services;

Protection & legal services; Psycho-social Services; Healthcare; Social reintegration & livelihood.

> IN THE AREA OF PSYCHO-SOCIAL SUPPORTS. 3,700 individuals were supported.

Support to nearly 8,100 individuals displaced by the war in Ukraine.

Advocacy.



- Continued presence /representatives at the Council of Europe-Conference of INGOs.
- The National Anti-Trafficking Coalition of Shelters in Albania Presented thoughts on the current Human Trafficking Protection Programme.
- Active engagement & participation by RENATE's Youth Ambassadors at the Talitha Kum Assembly .

Capacity Building.

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Provision for both online and in-person capacity building.

In order to bring attention to the issue of 'The effect/consequences of wars/war-situations on trafficking and exploitation - esp. for women and children, the RENATE Europe network held three morning events/webinars online, each of three hours duration, 14-16 May, 2024. Thanks to the first-hand experiences of the presenters who work at grass-roots level in the UKRAINE; South Sudan and Kenya, participants were provided first-

hand information about the realities of living and trying to function in areas of conflict, where traffickers ply their trade taking advantage of newlyvulnerable people.

Religious in Europe Nagainst Trafficking and Image: Strain Stra

CHILDREN OF WAR

WHO CARES FOR THE CARER?

Trauma & mental health of those working in the area of anti-human trafficking, is a recurring theme which this in-person training sought to address. Full report at www.renate-europe.net



Capacity building:- Empowerful Leadership training- Survivors of Human trafficking.

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Empowering leadership is crucial for survivors of human trafficking, offering a beacon of hope and support in their journey to healing and rebuilding their lives.. It involves creating spaces for survivors to share their stories, access resources tailored to their unique needs and participate in decision-making processes that directly impact their lives.

In Albania & Greece, the programme consisted of six sessions over four days, between August & December 2024 and was designed to empower participants both personally and professionally; to enhance self-esteem, identify personal talents, and build concrete strategies for personal development.

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We are encouraged by the impacts of our work in the past and previous years where we aim to make a significant difference in the lives of those who need it the most..

HIGHLIGHTS

Empowering young generations.

Awareness-raising initiatives and meaningful activities in schools across the network.

Publicaton of legal research.

Highlighting the lack of training in the legal professions, on the issue of human trafficking.

Leadership training of victims of human trafficking.

Empowered and enabled survivors of human trafficking with newfound purpose & career prospects..

Launch of Shelters & Safe Houses Directory.

Providing a lifeline for survivors, offering them a safe space to heal, recover and rebuild their lives.

RENATE Task Groups.

Grassroots action across the network by means of task groups dedicated to action. ctitioners' work
ns of human trafficking

uired to undertake this work and aid them in five countries: Albania, mania, Spain and United Kingdom







Creation & launch of 3 short films against Human Trafficking.



The Team!

RELIGIOUS IN EUROPE NETWORKING AGAINST TRAFFICKING AND EXPLOITATION



Marie Power, HFB. Co-President.



Ivonne van de Kar.

Co-President



Marjana Meshi.

Core Group



Stanka Orsolic, CND.

Core Group.



Rania Ioakeimi dou. Core group.



Anne Kelleher.

COMMUNICATIONS TEAM..



Artan Toska. Finance Officer.



Sorcha Mallen

COMMUNICATIONS TEAM.



RENATE Working Board members 2024.



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