

Translation from Uzbek into English of an awareness-raising leaflet prepared in the framework of the Rule of Law Platform - Central Asia, a project funded by the European Union (© European Union)

Title	<b>Rights of victims of human trafficking</b>	
Author	Bahrom Eshmurodov	Lawyer, law firm “Barrister”

▶ ***What do you need to know about human trafficking?***

▶ ***How does the state protect victims of human trafficking?***

▶ ***Who provides assistance to the citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan – victims of human trafficking abroad?***

▶ ***What rights does a child - victim of human trafficking have?***

### HUMAN TRAFFICKING – DANGEROUS TYPE OF ORGANIZED CRIME

Human trafficking now has become one of the most dangerous types of transnational organized crime, so issues of combating this phenomenon are addressed in Uzbekistan at the state level.

To take effective measures to prevent and combat human trafficking **the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On Combating Trafficking in Human Beings”** was adopted, which stipulates that: “human trafficking is recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of people for their exploitation by threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability, or by giving payments or benefits to achieve consent of a person having control over another person. Exploitation of people means exploitation of prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labor or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, serfdom or removal human organs or tissues”.

New wording of Article 135 of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan has extended the acts for which punishment for crimes related to human trafficking is provided. Thus, sales person or their recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt for the purpose of their exploitation shall be punished with imprisonment from three to five years, human trafficking committed by kidnapping, violence or threats of violence or other forms of coercion, against two or more persons from five to eight years, the same actions committed against a person under 18 years of age that caused death of the victim or other serious consequences shall be punished with imprisonment from eight to twelve years.

In accordance with **article 13 the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On Combating Trafficking in Human Beings”**, persons found guilty of human trafficking shall reimburse the full costs associated with maintenance and rehabilitation of victims of human trafficking.

### LIBERATION OF VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING FROM LIABILITY

Do you know that in accordance with **article 12 the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On Combating Trafficking in Human Beings”**, victims of human trafficking are released from civil, administrative and criminal liability for acts committed under coercion or threat.

### PROTECTION OF YOUR RIGHTS AND LEGITIMATE INTERESTS

If you are a victim of human trafficking, you should know that **National Security Service, Ministry of Interior, Foreign Affairs, Health and diplomatic missions and consular offices of the Republic of Uzbekistan** are public authorities directly engaged in activities to combat trafficking in human beings.

For assistance refer to **the Republican and the Interdepartmental Commission on combating human trafficking** (*see their addresses and contact telephone numbers below*).

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, diplomatic missions and consular offices of the Republic of Uzbekistan are mandated to provide the following assistance to the citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan trafficked abroad:

- facilitate their return to Uzbekistan;
- in case of absence of documents to take measures to establish their identity;
- issue documents to such persons entitling them to return to Uzbekistan without consular and other fees.

We remind you that social rehabilitation of victims of human trafficking is carried out **at the expense of the State Budget** of the Republic of Uzbekistan and other sources in order to return them to their normal lifestyle and includes:

- legal assistance;
- psychological, medical, vocational rehabilitation;
- employment;
- temporary housing.

You should be aware that the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of the Republic of Uzbekistan established **National rehabilitation center to assist and protect victims of human trafficking**, which main tasks are the following:

- providing victims of trafficking favorable living conditions and personal hygiene, as well as food, drugs and medical devices;
- providing emergency medical, psychological, social, legal and other assistance to victims of trafficking;
- ensuring security of victims of trafficking;
- assisting to establish contacts with relatives of victims of trafficking;
- providing information about the rights and legitimate interests of victims of trafficking to the victims of trafficking, their families and caregivers;
- assist in rehabilitation of victims of trafficking.

You, being a victim of human trafficking, after departure from rehabilitation center can use the services of the rehabilitation center for legal advice, medical support to full return to normal life.

#### **WHAT ASSISTANCE IS PROVIDED TO CHILDREN - VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

The heads of specialized agencies in the event of information at their disposal about the children - victims of trafficking must immediately report it to guardianship bodies.

- In case of placing children - victims of trafficking to specialized institutions they should be kept separately from adults.
- They shall have an opportunity to attend public educational institutions.
- If children - victims of human trafficking are deprived of parental care or are not aware of the location of their families, measures shall be taken to search for their parents or persons replacing parents.

**WHERE CAN I APPLY FOR ASSISTANCE?**

**National rehabilitation center to assist and protect victims of human trafficking**

Tashkent city, 100115, Chilinzar district, 3- massive, 18.

Telephone: (+99871) 277-66-92, 277-65-83, 277-65-38

Fax: (+99871) 277-66-91

**Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan**

Tashkent	+998 (71) 233-3939, 233-2233, 232-0330
Karakalpakstan	(361) 222-5676
Andijan	(374) 224-8750
Bukhara	(365) 224-6486
Djizzak	(372) 226-0302
Kashkadarya	(375) 221-8245
Navoi	(436) 223-0671
Namangan	(369) 226-6055
Samarkand	(366) 233-0000
Surhandarya	(376) 227-2551
Syrdarya	(367) 225-3330
Tashkent oblast	(371) 264-1832
Ferghana	(373) 224-2908
Khorezm	362) 226-3710

**Social network on combating human trafficking in Uzbekistan**

Tashkent	(371) 276-94-44
Andijan	(374) 235-37-78
Bukhara	(365) 223-27-80
Gulistan	(367) 225-32-23
Djizzak	(372) 226-02-70
Nukus	(361) 222-91-98
Samarkand	(366) 233-58-84
Nukus	(361) 222-58-27
Ferghana	(373) 222-28-63

Termez (376) 273-77-21

Urgench (362) 225-66-14

Karshi (375) 225-00-66

**Agency for foreign labor migration**

Helplines: +998 (71) 2145436, 2143076

**Regional Bureau for employment of citizens abroad**

Tashkent: (371) 1502156

Bukhara: (365) 2234755

Karshi: (375) 2241121

Nukus: (361) 2225827

Ferghana (373) 2222863