

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003723/25
to the Commission
Loucas Fourlas (PPE)
(25 September 2025)**

Subject: Strengthening the fight against human trafficking in the EU

Human trafficking remains a serious problem within the EU, with victims mainly women and children. Despite existing legislation, criminal organisations continue to exploit vulnerable individuals.

In view of the above:

1. What measures does the Commission intend to put in place to strengthen the implementation of the legislation on trafficking in human beings?
2. How will the protection and rehabilitation of victims, in particular the most vulnerable groups, be ensured?

Submitted: 25.9.2025

**Answer given by Mr Brunner on behalf of the European Commission
(28 November 2025)**

The amended Anti-Trafficking Directive ⁽¹⁾ has to be transposed into national laws by 15 July 2026. The Anti-Trafficking Directive obliges Member States to criminalise new forms of exploitation, provides reinforced tools for public authorities to investigate and prosecute trafficking offences and significantly strengthens the victim assistance measures.

The Commission supports Member States in the implementation by organising transposition workshops and facilitates exchanges of best practices through the EU Network of National Anti-Trafficking Coordinators and Rapporteurs.

In addition, the Commission established the EU Anti-trafficking Hub on 5 June 2025, which amongst others helps to implement the directive and the EU Strategy combating trafficking in human beings ⁽²⁾.

Furthermore, trafficking in human beings remains a primary crime area under the European Multi-disciplinary Platform Against Criminal Threats in 2026-2027, ensuring strong multi-agency law enforcement cooperation in the EU against the trafficking of human beings.

Stronger support of the victims will be achieved by the establishment of formal referral mechanisms in Member States, as well as single national focal points for cross border referrals.

Through the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund ⁽³⁾, the Commission supports national and cross-border initiatives aimed at enhancing the identification, assistance and integration of trafficking victims.

Moreover, victims of trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation will also benefit from the measures of support and protection laid out in the directive on combating violence against women and domestic violence, which is to be transposed by June 2027 ⁽⁴⁾.

⁽¹⁾ Directive (EU) 2024/1712 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 June 2024 amending Directive 2011/36/EU on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims (OJ L, 2024/1712, 24.6.2024).

⁽²⁾ COM/2021/171 final.

⁽³⁾ https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/funding/asylum-migration-and-integration-funds/asylum-migration-and-integration-fund-2021-2027_en.

⁽⁴⁾ Directive (EU) 2024/1385 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 May 2024 on combating violence against women and domestic violence (OJ L, 2024/1385, 24.5.2024).